

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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Office of the Commissioner

651-259-5555



February 2, 2009

The Honorable Ellen R. Anderson, Chair
Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Budget Division
Minnesota State Senate
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 120
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

The Honorable Satveer S. Chaudhary, Chair
Minnesota Senate Committees Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Minnesota State Senate
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 205
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

The Honorable Jean Wagenius, Chair
Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division
Minnesota House of Representatives
449 State Office Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

The Honorable Representative Kent Eken, Chair
Environment Policy and Oversight Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

The 2008 Minnesota Legislative Session appropriated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) capital bond funds for acquisition and development of State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) for the purpose of providing habitat and public recreation for public benefit. As part of the capital bonding bill, the DNR was directed to develop a plan for biomass harvest specifically on the management of native prairie lands and harvesting of native prairie vegetation for use for energy production in a manner that does not devalue the natural habitat, water quality benefits, or carbon sequestration functions. (Minnesota Session Laws 2008, Chapter 179, Sec. 7, Subd 14)

This plan attached meets this legislation's requirement and is submitted to the Chairs on Environment and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark Holsten'.

Mark Holsten
Commissioner