

# DNR's advisory groups – an overview

*Purpose: The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) uses a variety of external advisory groups and task forces as one way to work with Minnesotans for the department's mission.*

## About advisory groups

These are groups formed by the DNR as a public engagement opportunity and a communications channel. Some groups are open-ended and others are limited in duration. Membership design differs according to the purpose and sometimes provisions in an enabling authority. The purpose and outputs of each group varies according to group purpose. Participation in one of these appointed roles is one way that Minnesotans can contribute ideas and perspectives.

## DNR's advisory groups at a glance

| Group  | Purpose  | DNR contact   |
|--|--|---|
| <a href="#"><u>Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Advisory Committee</u></a>                 | Provides advice and recommendations for AIS programs and activities, and achieve shared understanding among committee members of AIS issues and their impacts on citizens, lakeshore property owners, and recreationalists, as well as public, private, business, and non-profit organizations | <a href="#"><u>Heidi Wolf</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Ecological and Water Resources Division                       |
| <a href="#"><u>Natural Heritage Advisory Committee</u></a>                               | Makes recommendations to several DNR programs concerning biological diversity, management of rare resources, research opportunities, and related communications and outreach   | <a href="#"><u>Jan Wolff</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Ecological and Water Resources Division                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area Citizens Advisory Council</u></a>    | Provides direction for management planning and advice about major management decisions   | <a href="#"><u>Jonah Moline</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Parks and Trails Division                                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Deer Advisory Committee</u></a>   | Forum to enhance two-way dialogue with stakeholders on specific deer management topics   | <a href="#"><u>Barbara Keller</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Fish and Wildlife Division                                |
| <a href="#"><u>Game and Fish Fund Citizen Oversight</u></a>                              | Reviews the DNR's annual Game and Fish Fund Report, including expenditures, budgets, spending plans and other information related to the Game and Fish Fund  | <a href="#"><u>Beth Carlson</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Office of Policy and Planning, Operations Services Division |
| <a href="#"><u>Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program</u></a>                 | Makes recommendations to DNR commissioner on grant priorities, projects to receive grant funding, and the program's annual administrative budget   | <a href="#"><u>Amber Westerbur</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Ecological and Water Resources Division                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Mille Lacs Fisheries Advisory Committee</u></a>                           | Forum to enhance two-way dialogue with stakeholders about Mille Lacs Lake fisheries management   | <a href="#"><u>Tom Heinrich</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Fish and Wildlife Division                                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Minnesota R3 Council for recruitment, retention, and reactivation</u></a> | The public's voice in developing strategies recruiting, retaining, and reactivating hunters and anglers in Minnesota   | <a href="#"><u>James Burnham</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Fish and Wildlife Division                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee (PTLAC)</u></a>                | Champions the 25-year <i>Parks and Trails Legacy Plan</i> through recommendations to enhance promotion, coordination, and accountability for implementation of the plan  | <a href="#"><u>Laura Preus</u></a> (link sends email)<br>Parks and Trails Division                                    |

### DNR advisory groups webpage

[Advisory groups | Minnesota DNR \(https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/advisory-groups.html\)](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/advisory-groups.html)

### Commitment to diversity

The DNR is committed to appointing a diverse mix of Minnesotans who bring a variety of knowledge and interests to its advisory groups.