

Subject Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

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Overview

This bill includes the recommendations of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for the 2025 session. It includes fiscal year 2026 appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund (ENRTF), a constitutionally dedicated trust fund funded by proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery.

The LCCMR is made up of 17 members with ten legislators and seven citizens (five legislative members from each body, five citizen members appointed by the Governor, one citizen member appointed by the House of Representatives, and one citizen member appointed by the Senate). The LCCMR is tasked with making recommendations on how money in the ENRTF is spent.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Appropriations.
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Technical.

2	Minnesota resources.
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Subd. 1. Total appropriation. Provides a total appropriation of \$103,326,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the ENRTF.

Subd. 2. Definition. Technical.

Subd. 3. Foundational natural resource data and information. Provides a total appropriation for natural resource data and information projects of \$22,084,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 4. Water resources. Provides a total appropriation for water resources projects of \$11,812,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Section Description

Subd. 5. Environmental education. Provides a total appropriation for environmental education projects of \$11,965,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 6. Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. Provides a total appropriation for invasive species projects of \$6,713,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 7. Air quality, climate change, and renewable energy. Provides a total appropriation for air quality and climate change projects of \$11,744,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 8. Methods to protect or restore land, water, and habitat. Provides a total appropriation for protection, restoration, and enhancement projects of \$12,188,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 9. Land acquisition, habitat, and recreation. Provides a total appropriation for land acquisition, habitat, and recreation projects of \$19,553,000 in fiscal year 2026.

Subd. 10. Administration, emerging issues, and contract agreement reimbursement. Provides a total appropriation of \$7,267,000 in fiscal year 2026 for certain administrative expenses and an emerging issues account.

Subds. 11 to 17. Provides project requirements that apply to all recipients. The LCCMR recommends similar requirements each year, which include: specifying the availability of appropriations; data requirements; specific project requirements, including requiring ecological restoration and management plans; and requiring easements to be permanent and have a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan. Extends several previous appropriations set to expire.

3 Foundational natural resource data and information.

Modifies a previous appropriation for a grant to Monarch Joint Venture to allow net income generated as part of the project to be reinvested in the project if approved in the work plan.

4 Methods to protect or restore land, water, and habitat.

Modifies a previous appropriation for a grant to Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District to eliminate a requirement that prioritized areas only be within Hubbard County.



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