

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Action Agenda Item Memo

DATE: December 12, 2013
SUBJECT: 2014 Legislative Appropriation Recommendation Bill
PRESENTER: Heather Koop

Background:

On September 20, 2013, the council made its appropriation recommendations for fiscal year 2015 and directed project managers to draft accomplishment plans that reflected those recommendations. The council reviewed and progressed the draft accomplishment plans at the November 14, 2013 meeting. The appropriations recommendations bill before the council reflects the program accomplishments anticipated with Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars.

Motion:

Motion to approve the recommended appropriation bill as presented/amended and forward to legislative leaders for consideration during the 2014 session.

Suggested Procedure:

Place a motion to approve the recommended appropriation bill language before the Council. Members question project managers as needed; project managers have been requested to attend this meeting. Members offer and vote on any amendments. Council votes on appropriations bill as amended. Nine votes are necessary to forward appropriations recommendations bill to legislative leadership.

Agenda Item: 8

Section 1. Outdoor Heritage Appropriation

The sums shown in the columns marked “Appropriations” are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the outdoor heritage fund for the fiscal year indicated for each purpose. The figures “2014” and “2015” used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, respectively. The “first year” is fiscal year 2014. The “second year” is fiscal year 2015. The “biennium” is fiscal years 2014 and 2015, respectively. The appropriations in this act are one-time.

Section 2. Outdoor Heritage Fund

Subd. 1. Total Appropriation **\$102,990,000**

This appropriation is from the outdoor heritage fund. The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Prairies **\$36,435,000**

(a) DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition, Ph. VI

\$8,145,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire land in fee for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8 and to acquire land in fee for scientific and natural area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 5. Of this amount, \$4,250,000 is for the Vermillion River WMA addition in Dakota County. Any funds not spent on the Vermillion River WMA addition must be used for acquisition of land in the seven-county metropolitan area. Development of a recreational trail on land acquired under this paragraph constitutes an alteration of the intended use of the interest in real property and must be handled according to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 15. The trail alignment and type, for the development of a recreational trail, must be submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for approval. No recreational trail development or recreational trail use is allowed unless it is approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisition of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land and permanent conservation easement acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(b) Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Acquisition, Ph. VI

\$9,850,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire land in fee for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8. Lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisition of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes,

section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project, Ph. V

\$3,440,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with The Nature Conservancy to acquire native prairie, wetland, and savanna and restore and enhance grasslands, wetlands, and savanna. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan and must be consistent with the priorities identified in the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan. Wildlife lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisition of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. Annual income statements and balance sheets for income and expenses from land acquired with this appropriation must be submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council no later than 180 days following the close of The Nature Conservancy's fiscal year.

(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition, Ph. V

\$2,450,000 in the second year to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with The Nature Conservancy in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land in fee or permanent conservation easements within the Northern Tallgrass Prairie Habitat Preservation Area in western Minnesota for addition to the Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge. Wildlife lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisitions of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan and must be consistent with the priorities in the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan.

(e) Accelerated Protection of Grassland and Prairie Habitat with RIM and NPB Easements

\$3,000,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources and \$2,450,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to implement the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan through the acquisition of permanent conservation easements to protect native prairie and grasslands. Up to \$112,000 is to the Department of Natural Resources and up to \$65,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for establishing monitoring and enforcement funds as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. Lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisitions of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

(f) Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water, Ph. IV

\$2,200,000 in the second year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements to protect and enhance habitat by expanding the clean water fund riparian buffer program for at least equal wildlife benefits from buffers on private land. Up to \$112,500 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. Lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

(g) Cannon Rivers Headwaters Habitat Complex, Ph. IV

\$1,430,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Trust for Public Land to acquire and restore lands in the Cannon River watershed for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8. Lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. Priority must be given to acquisition of lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(h) Accelerated Prairie Restoration and Enhancement on DNR Lands, Ph. VI

\$1,530,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to accelerate the restoration and enhancement of prairie communities on wildlife management areas, scientific and natural areas, aquatic management areas, state forest land, and land under native prairie bank easements. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(i) Anoka Sandplain Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Ph. III

\$1,190,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on public lands in Anoka, Benton, Isanti, Morrison, Sherburne and Stearns counties as follows: \$155,000 is to the Anoka Conservation District; \$79,000 is to Isanti County Parks Department; \$901,000 is to Great River Greening; and \$55,000 is to Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(j) Crow-Hassen Prairie Complex Restoration and Enhancement

\$370,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Three Rivers Park District to restore and enhance prairie habitat within the Crow-Hassen Park Reserve. A restoration and enhancement plan and a list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(k) Prairie and Oak Savanna Restoration along the Mississippi and Rum River

\$380,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Anoka County to restore and enhance riparian and upland habitat in the Rum River Central Regional Park/Cedar Creek Conservation Area complex and in the Mississippi West Regional Park. A restoration and enhancement plan and a list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 3. Forests

\$13,600,000

(a) Preventing Forest Fragmentation and Protecting and Restoring Lake and Stream Habitat in the St. Louis River

\$2,800,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to acquire lands in fee in the St. Louis River watershed to be managed for fish and wildlife purposes. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(b) Northeastern Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Program, Ph. V

\$3,150,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever in cooperation with the Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Society to acquire and enhance lands in Aitkin, Carlton, Kanabec, Pine, and St. Louis counties for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8. Lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Protecting Pinelands Sands Aquifer Forestlands

\$1,050,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire forest lands in Cass, Hubbard, and Wadena counties for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8; acquire land in fee for scientific and natural area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 5; or to acquire land in fee for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) Protect Key Forest Lands in Cass County, Ph. V

\$880,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with Cass County to acquire land in fee in Cass County for forest wildlife habitat or to prevent forest fragmentation. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(e) State Forest Acquisitions, Ph. II

\$950,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire lands in fee and permanent management easements, including habitat purposes in the Richard J. Dorer State Forest

under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(f) Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Ph. II

\$4,770,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8; to acquire land in fee for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 5; and for state forest purposes under 86A.05, subdivision 7; and for permanent conservation easements; and to restore and enhance habitat on publicly protected lands as follows: \$4,000,000 to The Nature Conservancy; \$770,000 to the Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$120,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. Lands acquired or lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of proposed acquisitions, permanent conservation easements, and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 4. Wetlands

\$23,130,000

(a) The RIM-WRP Partnership, Ph. VI

\$9,210,000 in the second year is to the Board of Soil and Water Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore wetlands and associated upland habitat in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture and Ducks Unlimited, including \$645,000 for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to provide technical and bio-engineering assistance. Up to \$180,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

(b) Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition, Ph. VI

\$6,900,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with Pheasants Forever to acquire land in fee to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Living Shallow Lakes and Wetland Initiative, Ph. IV

\$4,910,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to assess, enhance, and restore shallow lakes and wetlands, including bio-engineering, technical assistance, feasibility investigation, survey and design to develop new enhancement and restoration projects for future implementation. A list of proposed enhancements and restorations to be constructed through this appropriation must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) Wild Rice Shoreland Protection Program, Ph. III

\$197,700 in the second year is to the Department of Natural Resources for the acquisition of land in fee and \$862,300 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements on wild rice lake shoreland habitat for native wild rice bed protection. Of this amount, up to \$70,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed fee land acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan by the Department of Natural Resources and a list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report by Board of Water and Soil Resources

(e) Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement, Ph. VI

\$1,050,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance and restore shallow lakes statewide. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 5. Habitats

\$28,940,000

(a) DNR Aquatic Habitat, Ph. V

\$2,560,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire interests in land in fee for aquatic management purposes under Minnesota Statutes sections 86A.05, subdivision 14 and 97C.02, and to restore and enhance aquatic habitat. A list of proposed land acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(b) Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes

\$2,130,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements with the Leech Lake Watershed Foundation and the Minnesota Land Trust to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements to sustain healthy fish habitat on lakes in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard counties as follows: \$1,150,300 to Leech Lake Watershed Foundation; \$979,900 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$120,000 is to the Minnesota Land Trust for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Habitat Protection in Dakota County, Ph. V

\$1,190,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a contract with Dakota County to acquire permanent conservation easements and land in fee and restore and enhance habitats in rivers and lake watersheds in Dakota County. Up to \$15,000 is to Dakota County for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. . Lands acquired or lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of proposed land acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) Metro Big Rivers, Ph. V

\$2,650,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and in permanent conservation easement and to restore and enhance natural systems associated with the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers as follows: \$600,000 to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; \$160,000 to the Friends of the Mississippi; \$400,000 to the Great River Greening; \$590,000 to the Minnesota Land Trust; and \$900,000 to the Trust for Public Land. Up to \$77,000 is to the Minnesota Land Trust for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. . Lands acquired or lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(e) Mustinka River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor Rehabilitation

\$2,440,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Bois de Sioux Watershed District to acquire in fee and to restore natural systems associated with the Mustinka River located within the Bois de Sioux Watershed. . Lands acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(f) Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Ph. VI

\$1,900,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited to restore and enhance habitat for trout and other species in and along coldwater rivers and streams in Minnesota. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(g) St. Louis River Restoration Initiative, Ph. II

\$2,040,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore habitat in the lower St. Louis River estuary. Of this appropriation, up to \$580,000 is for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust. A list of proposed restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(h) Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation, Ph. II

\$1,410,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Lake Superior Steelhead Association to enhance trout habitat in the Knife River watershed. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(i) Restoration and Enhancement of Washington County's Public Lands

\$430,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Washington County to restore and enhance habitat on public lands in Washington County. A

restoration and enhancement plan and a list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(j) Wirth Park Enhancements

\$600,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park Board to enhance riparian and upland habitat within Wirth Park in Hennepin County. A restoration and enhancement plan and a list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(k) Evaluate Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies

\$3,650,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Central Minnesota Initiative Fund to develop a series of pilot projects to enhance aquatic habitat by preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. All pilot projects must be conducted on a reimbursement basis and require a one-to-one match of non-outdoor heritage fund dollars. A required evaluation of results must be funded with non-outdoor heritage fund dollars. A list of pilot projects must be included in the required final report.

(l) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program, Ph. V

\$4,300,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a program to provide competitive, matching grants of up to \$400,000 to local, regional, state, and national organizations for enhancing, restoring, or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies, and habitat for fish, game or wildlife in Minnesota. Grants shall not be made for activities required to fulfill the duties of owners of lands subject to conservation easements. Grants shall not be made from appropriations in this paragraph for projects that have a total project cost exceeding \$575,000. Of this appropriation, \$380,000 may be spent for personnel costs and other direct and necessary administrative costs. Grantees may acquire land or interests in land. Easements must be permanent. Grants may not be used to establish easement stewardship accounts. Land acquired in fee must be open to hunting and fishing during the open season unless otherwise provided by state law. Lands acquired or lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. The program shall require a match of at least ten percent from non-state sources for all grants. The match may be cash or in-kind resources. For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the commissioner shall provide a separate, simplified application process. Subject to Minnesota Statutes, the commissioner of natural resources shall, when evaluating projects of equal value, give priority to organizations that have a history of receiving or charter to receive private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. If acquiring land or a conservation easement, priority shall be given to projects associated with or within one mile of existing wildlife management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 84.033 and 86A.05, subdivision 5; and aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 14, and 97C.02. All restoration or enhancement projects must be on land permanently protected by a permanent covenant ensuring perpetual maintenance and protection of restored and enhanced habitat or by a conservation easement or public ownership or in public waters as

defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005, subdivision 15. Priority shall be given to restoration and enhancement projects on public lands. Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 13, Project Requirements, applies to grants awarded under this paragraph. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2018. No less than five percent of the amount of each grant must be held back from reimbursement until the grant recipient has completed a grant accomplishment report by the deadline and in the form prescribed by and satisfactory to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The commissioner shall provide notice of the grant program in the game and fish law summaries that are prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.051, subdivision 2.

(m) Conservation Partners Legacy Metro Grant Program

\$3,640,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a program to provide competitive, matching grants of up to \$400,000 to local, regional, state, and national organizations for enhancing, restoring, or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies, and habitat for fish, game or wildlife in the seven-county metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or greater. Grants shall not be made for activities required to fulfill the duties of owners of lands subject to conservation easements. Grants shall not be made from appropriations in this paragraph for projects that have a total project cost exceeding \$575,000. Of this appropriation, \$70,000 may be spent direct and necessary administrative costs. Grantees may acquire land or interests in land. Easements must be permanent. Grants may not be used to establish easement stewardship accounts. Land acquired in fee must be open to hunting and fishing during the open season unless otherwise provided by state law. Lands acquired or lands with easements acquired under this appropriation may not be used for emergency haying and grazing in response to federal or state disaster declarations. The program shall require a match of at least ten percent from non-state sources for all grants. The match may be cash or in-kind resources. For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the commissioner shall provide a separate, simplified application process. Subject to Minnesota Statutes, the commissioner of natural resources shall, when evaluating projects of equal value, give priority to organizations that have a history of receiving or charter to receive private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. If acquiring land or a conservation easement, priority shall be given to projects associated with or within one mile of existing wildlife management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 84.033 and 86A.05, subdivision 5; and aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 14, and 97C.02. All restoration or enhancement projects must be on land permanently protected by permanent covenant ensuring perpetual maintenance and protection of restored and enhanced habitat or by a conservation easement or public ownership or in public waters as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005, subdivision 15. Priority shall be given to restoration and enhancement projects on public lands. Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 13, applies to grants awarded under this paragraph. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2018. No less than five percent of the amount of each grant must be held back from reimbursement until the grant recipient has completed a grant accomplishment report by the deadline and in the form prescribed by and satisfactory to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The commissioner shall provide notice of the grant program in the game and fish law summaries that are prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.051, subdivision 2.

Subd. 6. Administration

\$885,000

(a) Contract Management

\$150,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for contract management duties assigned in this section. The commissioner shall provide an accomplishment plan in the form specified by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council on the expenditure of this appropriation. The accomplishment plan must include a copy of the grant contract template and reimbursement manual. No money may be expended prior to Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council approval of the accomplishment plan.

(b) Legislative Coordinating Commission

\$570,000 in the second year is to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for administrative expenses of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and for compensation and expense reimbursement of council members. Funds in this appropriation are available until June 30, 2016. Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281 applies to this appropriation.

(c) Technical Evaluation Panel

\$100,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a technical evaluation panel to conduct up to ten restoration evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 10.

(d) High Priority Pre-Transaction Service Acceleration for Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

\$50,000 in the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to provide land acquisition pre-transaction services including, but not limited to, appraisals, surveys, or title research for acquisition proposals under consideration by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. A list of activities must be included in the final accomplishment plan.

(e) Legacy Web Site

\$15,000 in the second year is to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Subd. 7 Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2017. For acquisition of real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2018, if a binding agreement with a landowner or purchase agreement is entered into by June 30, 2017, and closed no later than June 30, 2018. Funds for restoration or enhancement are available until June 30, 2018, or five years after acquisition, whichever is later, in order to complete initial restoration or enhancement work. If a project receives federal funds, the time period of the appropriation is extended to equal the availability of federal funding. Funds appropriated for fee title acquisition of land may be

used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

Subd. 8. Payment Conditions and Capital Equipment Expenditures

All agreements referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures directly related to each appropriation's purpose made on or after July 1, 2014, or the date of accomplishment plan approval, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. For the purposes of administering appropriations and legislatively authorized agreements paid out of the outdoor heritage fund an expense must be considered reimbursable by the administering agency when the recipient presents the agency with an invoice, or binding agreement, with the landowner and the recipient attests that the goods have been received or the landowner agreement is binding. Periodic reimbursement must be made upon receiving documentation that the items articulated in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by progress reports approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash flow needs, support future management of acquired lands, or match a federal share. The advances must be approved as part of the accomplishment plan. Capital equipment expenditures for specific items in excess of \$10,000 must be itemized in and approved as part of the accomplishment plan.

Subd. 9. Mapping

Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must provide geographic information to the Department of Natural Resources for mapping of any lands acquired in fee with funds appropriated in this section and open to the public taking of fish and game. The commissioner of natural resources shall include the lands acquired in fee with money appropriated in this section on maps showing public recreation opportunities. Maps shall include information on and acknowledgement of the outdoor heritage fund, including a notation of any restrictions.