

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: **Agenda Item # 7**

DATE: October 6, 2015

SUBJECT: Accomplishment Plan Amendment, ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd 5(k)
Evaluate the Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies

PRESENTER: Don Hickman, Vice President for Community & Economic Development, Initiative
Foundation

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Councilmember X to approve the amendment as presented.

Background:

This request seeks to use \$20,000 from the Contracts line of the budget to fund a second AIS Summit with this appropriation, no budget shifts are required.

As a reminder, the first AIS summit, successfully held on January 2015, was presented and approved by the Council at the December 11, 2014 meeting. In accordance with the Appropriation Language and Accomplishment Plan, the AIS Summit's purpose was to inform prospective applicants of current work in the field and best practices and development of an evaluation template to be used by recipients of pilot grants. The amendment at that time shifted \$71,000 into the contract budget line for evaluation development, communication and Summit planning. It also added \$49,000 in leverage from AIS Summit Revenues.

Appropriation Language: "\$4,040,000 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, including pilot projects conducting education and outreach, inspection and decontamination, enforcement, and other activities. All pilot projects must be conducted on a reimbursement basis and require a match of nonoutdoor heritage fund dollars. A required evaluation of results must be funded with nonoutdoor heritage fund dollars. The required evaluation must evaluate the efficacy of inspection and decontamination activities utilized in any of the pilot projects in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. A list of pilot projects must be included in the required final report. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2019. The accomplishment plan must accelerate the start of the pilot project."

Suggested Procedure:

Place the motion before the Council for discussion. Council votes on procedure amendment as needed.