

Outdoor Heritage Fund – ML2020 DRAFT Recommendation Bill Language

For Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Approval

12/10/2019

ARTICLE 1

OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS

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 “2020” and “2021” used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, respectively. The “first year” is fiscal year 2020. The “second year” is fiscal year 2021. The “biennium” is fiscal years 2020 and 2021. The appropriations in this article are onetime appropriations.

Appropriations Available for the Year Ending June 30	
2020	2021

Section 2. OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND

Subd. 1. Total Appropriation	\$0	\$119,500,000
-------------------------------------	------------	----------------------

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	\$0	\$37,298,000
--------------------------	------------	---------------------

(a) DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition, Phase XII

\$2,375,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire in fee and restore and enhance lands 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. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules 6136.0900, 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.

(b) Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program, Phase XII

\$3,841,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire in fee and restore and enhance lands for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules 6136.0900, 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, Phase X

\$2,891,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Nature Conservancy to acquire land in fee and restore and enhance native prairie, grasslands, wetlands, and savanna. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules 6136.0900, 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. 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*.

(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition, Phase XI

\$2,142,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Nature Conservancy, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to acquire land in fee or permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance lands within the Northern Tallgrass Prairie Habitat Preservation Area in western Minnesota for addition to the Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules 6136.0900, 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) Lower Wild Rice Corridor Habitat Restoration, Phase III

\$2,168,000 the second year is to acquire land in permanent conservation easement and to restore river and related habitat in the Wild Rice River corridor. Of this amount, \$173,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Wild Rice River Watershed district; and \$1,995,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, of which up to \$91,000 is 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 acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(f) Martin County DNR WMA Acquisition, Phase IV

\$2,750,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and restore and enhance strategic prairie grassland, wetland, and other wildlife habitat within Martin County for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8 as follows: \$2,028,000 to Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc., \$618,000 to Ducks Unlimited, and \$104,000 to the Conservation Fund. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(g) RIM Grasslands Reserve, Phase II

\$2,987,000 the second year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance grassland habitat under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.501 to 103F.531. Of this amount, up to \$52,000 is 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.

(h) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley, Phase VI

\$1,990,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society, to acquire land in fee, and restore and enhance lands within the southern Red River Valley for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8 or to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules 6136.0900, 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.

(i) Heron Lake Area Conservation Partnership

\$4,157,000 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 or to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; to acquire land in permanent conservation easement; and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat within the Heron Lake Watershed as follows: \$1,321,000 is to Ducks Unlimited; \$974,000 is to Pheasants Forever; \$801,000 is to Heron Lake Watershed District; and \$1,061,000 is to The Minnesota Land Trust of which up to \$120,000 to The Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing monitoring and enforcement funds as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(j) Cannon River Watershed Habitat Complex, Phase IX

\$1,304,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Trust for Public Land, in cooperation with Great River Greening, to acquire lands in fee in the Cannon River watershed for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; to acquire lands in fee for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; to acquire lands in fee for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7; and to restore and enhance lands in the Cannon River watershed. Of this amount, \$1,000,000 is to The Trust for Public Land and \$304,000 is to Great River Greening. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring 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 and restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(k) Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program, Phase II

\$3,683,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited, in cooperation with Pheasants Forever and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to acquire permanent conservation “working lands” easements and to restore wetlands and prairie grasslands. Of this amount, \$2,603,000 is to Ducks Unlimited and \$1,080,000 is to Pheasants Forever. A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(l) DNR Grassland Enhancement, Phase XII

\$4,385,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to accelerate the restoration and enhancement of prairies, grasslands, and savannas in wildlife management areas, in scientific and natural areas, in aquatic management areas, on lands in the native prairie bank, in bluff prairies on state forest land in southeastern Minnesota, and in waterfowl production areas and refuge lands of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(m) Enhanced Public Land – Grasslands, Phase IV

\$2,625,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to enhance and restore grassland and wetland habitat on public lands. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 3. Forests **\$0** **\$12,716,000**

(a) Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Protection Program, Phase VIII

\$2,259,000 the second year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, in cooperation with the Morrison County Soil and Water Conservation District, to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance forest wildlife habitat within the boundaries of the Minnesota National Guard

Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape and Army Compatible Use Buffer. Up to \$104,000 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources is to establish 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) Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Phase VIII

\$3,120,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: (1) \$1,300,000 to The Nature Conservancy to acquire lands in fee for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7; and for aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 14; and restore and enhance wildlife habitat; (2) \$930,000 to The Trust for Public Land to acquire lands in fee for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7; and for aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 14; and (3) \$890,000 to Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat, of which up to \$96,000 is to establish 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) Northern Forest Habitat Conservation

\$2,970,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire forest land in fee that will be permanently protected and managed by St. Louis County as county forest lands. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) DNR Forest Habitat Enhancement

\$2,033,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance wildlife habitat within the northern forest region on wildlife management areas, scientific and natural areas, aquatic management areas, and state forests. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(e) Southeast Forest Habitat Enhancement, Phase II

\$1,132,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance forests in southeastern Minnesota. A list of proposed land enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(f) Young Forest Conservation, Phase III

\$1,202,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the American Bird Conservancy to enhance publicly owned, permanently protected forest lands for wildlife management purposes. A list of proposed forest land enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 4. Wetlands **\$0** **\$12,839,000**

(a) Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition Program, Phase XII

\$4,233,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to acquire land in fee and restore and enhance wetlands and grasslands to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(b) Shallow Lake and Wetland Protection and Restoration Program, Phase IX

\$4,341,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to acquire land in fee for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes 86A.05, subdivision 8 and to restore and enhance prairie lands, wetlands and land buffering shallow lakes. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Wetland Habitat Protection Program - Phase V

\$2,345,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance prairie, wetland, and other habitat on permanently protected conservation easements within high-priority wetland habitat complexes in the prairie and forest/prairie transition regions. Of this amount, up to \$216,000 is to establish 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 conservation easement acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancement, Phase XII

\$1,920,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance and restore shallow lakes and wetland habitat statewide. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Subd. 5. Habitats **\$0** **\$56,287,000**

(a) Protecting Coldwater Fisheries on Minnesota's North Shore

\$2,075,000 the second year to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat within priority coldwater tributaries to Lake Superior. Of this amount, up to \$192,000 is to establish 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 conservation easement acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(b) Metro Big Rivers, Phase X

\$5,866,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance natural habitat systems associated with the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers and their tributaries within the metropolitan area as follows: \$800,000 to Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; \$300,000 to Friends of the Mississippi River; \$366,000 to Great River Greening; \$2,800,000 to Trust for Public Land; and \$1,600,000 to Minnesota Land Trust, of which up to \$144,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish 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 and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(c) Resilient Habitat for Heritage Brook Trout

\$2,608,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitat within targeted watersheds of Southeast Minnesota to improve heritage brook trout and coldwater communities as follows: \$408,000 to The Nature Conservancy; \$300,000 to Trout Unlimited; \$1,000,000 to Trust for Public Land; and \$900,000 to Minnesota Land Trust, of which up to \$96,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish 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 and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(d) Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes, Phase VI

\$3,248,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and in permanent conservation easements, and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat to sustain healthy fish habitat on cold water lakes in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties as follows: \$1,030,000 to Northern Waters Land Trust; and \$2,218,000 to Minnesota Land Trust, of which up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(e) Accelerating Habitat Conservation in Southwest Minnesota

\$2,266,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance high quality wildlife habitat in southwest Minnesota. Of this amount, up to \$144,000 is to establish 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 conservation easement acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(f) Targeted RIM Easement Program to the Individual Parcel: Pine and Leech Watersheds, Phase I

\$2,083,000 the second year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire and restore permanent conservation easements of high quality forest, wetland, and shoreline habitat. Of this amount, \$103,000 is for an agreement with the Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District. Up to \$104,000 of the total amount is 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 acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(g) Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project, Phase V

\$3,375,000 the second year is to acquire lands in fee and restore wildlife habitat in the Mississippi headwaters. Of this amount, \$2,087,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: \$76,000 is to the Mississippi Headwaters Board and \$2,011,000 is to The Trust for Public Land; and \$1,288,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, of which up to \$130,000 is 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 acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(h) Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program, Phase II

\$3,396,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hennepin County, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitats in Hennepin County. Of this amount, \$446,000 is to Hennepin County and \$2,950,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$312,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is 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 permanent conservation easements and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(i) Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase XII

\$1,434,000 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 cold water rivers, lakes, and streams in Minnesota. A list of proposed land acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(j) DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase III

\$4,386,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance aquatic habitat in degraded streams and aquatic management areas, and to facilitate fish passage. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(k) St. Louis River Restoration Initiative, Phase VII

\$2,625,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore priority aquatic and riparian habitats in the St. Louis River estuary. A list of proposed restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(l) Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation, Phase V

\$782,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Zeitgeist, a nonprofit corporation, in cooperation with the Lake Superior Steelhead Association, to restore and enhance trout habitat within the Knife River watershed. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(m) Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program, Phase IX

\$1,802,000 in the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Shell Rock River Watershed District to acquire land in fee, restore, and enhance aquatic habitat in the Shell Rock River watershed. A list of proposed acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(n) Rum River Wildlife and Fish Habitat Enhancement Using Bioengineered Bank Stabilization

\$822,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Anoka County Soil and Water Conservation District to restore and enhance riverine habitat within the Rum River utilizing eco-sensitive, habitat-building, and bioengineering approaches. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(o) Roseau River Habitat Restoration

\$3,207,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Roseau River Watershed District to restore and enhance riverine habitat within the Roseau River and the Roseau River Wildlife Management Area.

(p) Sauk River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration, Phase II

\$4,045,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance wildlife habitat in the Sauk River watershed as follows: \$500,000 to Sauk River Watershed District, \$1,884,000 to Pheasants Forever, and \$1,661,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(q) Southeast Wetland Restoration

\$1,541,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Mankato to acquire land in fee within the City of Mankato for wetland and grassland restoration. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

(r) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat, Phase XII

\$10,726,000 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, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife in Minnesota. Of this amount, at least \$3,422,000 is for grants in the seven-county metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or greater. Grants must not be made for activities required to fulfill the duties of owners of lands subject to conservation easements. Grants must not be made from the appropriation in this paragraph for projects that have a total project cost exceeding \$575,000. Of the total appropriation, \$475,000 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 law. The program must require a match of at least ten percent from nonstate sources for all grants. The match may be cash or in-kind resources. For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the commissioner must provide a separate, simplified application process. Subject to Minnesota statutes, the commissioner of natural resources must, when evaluating projects of equal value, give priority to organizations that have a history of receiving, or a charter to receive, private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. If acquiring land in fee or a conservation easement, priority must 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; or 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, by a conservation easement or public ownership or in public waters as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005, subdivision 15. Priority must 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, 2023. 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 must provide notice of the grant program in the summary of game and fish law prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.051, subdivision 2.

Subd. 6. Administration

\$0

\$360,000

(a) Contract Management

\$210,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for contract management duties assigned in this section. The commissioner must provide an accomplishment plan in the form specified by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council on expending this appropriation. The accomplishment plan must include a copy of the grant contract template and reimbursement manual. No money may be expended before the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council approves the accomplishment plan.

(b) Technical Evaluation Panel

\$150,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a technical evaluation panel to conduct up to 25 restoration and enhancement evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, 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, 2023. For acquisition of real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2024, if a binding agreement with a landowner or purchase agreement is entered into by June 30, 2023, and closed no later than June 30, 2024. Funds for restoration or enhancement are available until June 30, 2025, or five years after acquisition, whichever is later, in order to complete initial restoration or enhancement work. If a project receives at least 15% of its funding from federal funds, the time period of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years provided the federal funding was confirmed and included within the original approved accomplishment plan. 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, 2020, 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 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council 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.

Subd. 10. Carryforwards

- (a) The availability of the appropriation in Laws 2016, chapter 172, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph (j), Roseau Lake Rehabilitation, is extended to June 30, 2022.
- (b) The availability of the appropriation in Laws 2017, chapter 91, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, paragraph (f), Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection, Phase VI, is extended to June 30, 2022.
- (c) This subdivision is effective the day following final enactment.

Subd 11. Technical Amendments

- (a) The appropriation in Laws 2017, chapter 91, article 1, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), Carnelian Creek Conservation Corridor is amended to read: \$2,458,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements in Washington County. Of this amount, up to ~~\$120,000~~ ~~\$30,000~~ is 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 permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2022.
- (b) The appropriation in Laws 2019, first special session, chapter 2, article 1, section 2, paragraph 5(a) St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration, Phase I is amended to read: \$3,751,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: (1) \$2,209,000 to The Trust for Public Land to acquire land in fee and to acquire permanent conservation stream easements in the St. Croix River watershed using the payment method prescribed in Minnesota Statutes, section 84.0272, subdivision 2. Of this amount, up to \$20,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources to deposit in the Natural Resources Conservation Easement Stewardship Account established by Minnesota Statutes section 84.69 as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17; (2) \$1,377,000 to Minnesota Land Trust to acquire

permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance natural habitat systems in the St. Croix River watershed. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17; and (3) \$165,000 to the St. Croix River Association to coordinate and administer the program under this paragraph. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

DRAFT