

From: [Ostern, Christine \(DNR\)](#)
To: [Mark Johnson](#); [Joe Pavelko](#)
Cc: [Wilder, Kelly \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: RE: DNR extensions & RCs
Date: Tuesday, December 29, 2020 3:16:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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Hello,

Please accept the language below as additional information for the ML18 Forests for the Future extension request per your request via Kelly Wilder (copied). Please let me know if there are any questions or if you need any additional information.

Thank you, Christine

Minnesota DNR Division of Forestry requests an extension of the ML2018 3(c), Minnesota Forests for the Future Phase VI (\$1,473,000 appropriation).

We are requesting an extension of this appropriation which is set to expire June 30, 2021 in order to complete acquisition of conservation easements that are currently in the pre-appraisal and appraisal phases. Delays in work on these easement acquisitions have been due in part to complications from the Covid-19 pandemic including difficulties in accomplishing landowner meetings, site visits and field work and in addition to delays in contractor and staff ability to conduct pre-appraisal business and real estate transactions. In addition, a \$900,000 federal grant was acquired from the US Forest Service as match which requires additional acquisition due diligence adding to the delays already existing.

Approximately \$755,000 has been spent of the appropriation on the acquisition of 472 acres of fee title property. We are requesting an extension to utilize the remaining \$718,000 for acquisition of conservation easements on six properties currently in progress for over 1,200 acres of conservation easement. With the extension and acquisition of six conservation easements, we will far exceed our target of 630 acres of conservation easement.

Christine Ostern

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