

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Game and Fish Fund Report



For the
Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2016

Game and Fish Fund

Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

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Letter from the Commissioner

I am pleased to submit the Annual Game and Fish Fund Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 as required by Minnesota Statute 97A.055 Subdivision 4. This report contains a summary of fiscal year activities including revenues, expenditures and outcomes for the Game and Fish Fund (GFF). Given the importance of this fund for Minnesota, I would like to highlight a few critical issues relating to the fund, and in particular the Game and Fish Operating Account.

- The Game and Fish Fund (GFF) includes 15 accounts including 3 direct appropriated accounts (GFF Operating Account, Heritage Enhancement Account, and Peace Officer Training Account), 11 statutory accounts, and an account for lifetime license fees.
- Total FY 2016 expenditures across all accounts were below annual sources (\$110 million versus \$113 million) allowing the overall fund balance to grow to \$42 million.
- FY 2016 expenditures in the Game and Fish Fund Operating Account were slightly above annual sources (\$92.3 million versus 91.6 million) reducing the fund balance in this account to \$19.4 million.
- Federal Dingell-Johnson and Pittman-Robertson revenues are projected to decline from a peak in the FY 16-17 biennium.
- The operating account has a structural deficit reducing the projected fund balance in that account to \$1.5 million by FY 2019. Projections for future years include an ongoing structural deficit of \$3.4 million which will lead to a projected fund deficit in this account by FY 2020.
- The Game and Fish Fund November Forecast will reflect updated projections through FY 2021 not included in this report.

Due to the projections in the GFF Operating Account, the August 2016 Citizen Oversight Report on Game and Fish Fund Expenditures included the following recommendation:

- The DNR should develop a comprehensive package of funding, including license fee increases for fishing, hunting, ice shelter and the like, which will ensure the solvency of the Game and Fish Fund for the next decade, without a reduction in the level of management effort.

I look forward to working with the 2017 Legislature in resolving the structural imbalance of the GFF Operating Account.

Sincerely,



Tom Landwehr
Commissioner DNR



Game and Fish Fund

Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

Creation and Purpose of the Fund

The legislature created the Game and Fish Fund in the state treasury (M.S. 97A.055). Funds are credited to the game and fish fund for all money received under the game and fish laws and all income from state lands acquired by purchase or gift for game or fish purposes.

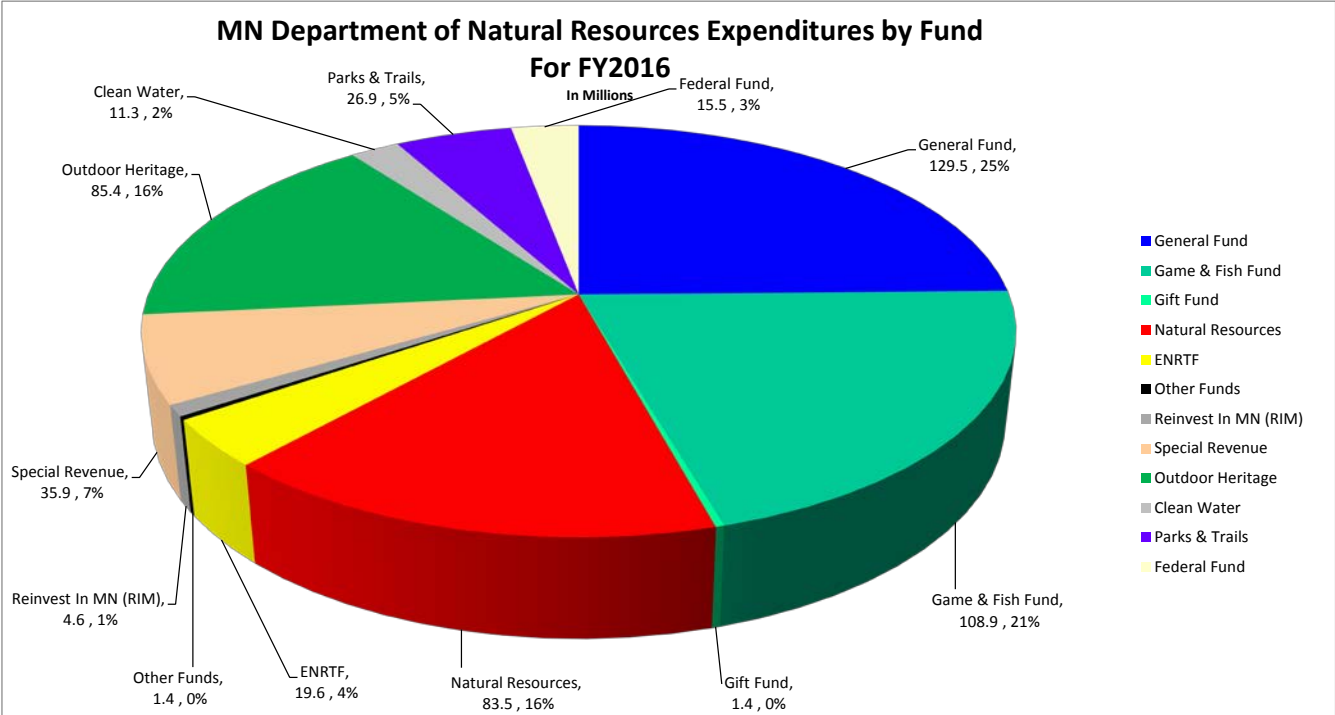
Game and Fish Annual Report Requirements

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is required under Minnesota Statutes 97A.055 Subdivision 4 to submit by December 15 each year to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over appropriations and the environment and natural resources reports on revenues and expenditures made from the accounts within the game and fish fund. The report must include the commissioner's recommendations, if any, for changes in the laws relating to the stamps and surcharge for programs under the Game and Fish Fund. The DNR is also required to submit a report that is a summary and comments of citizen oversight committee reviews.

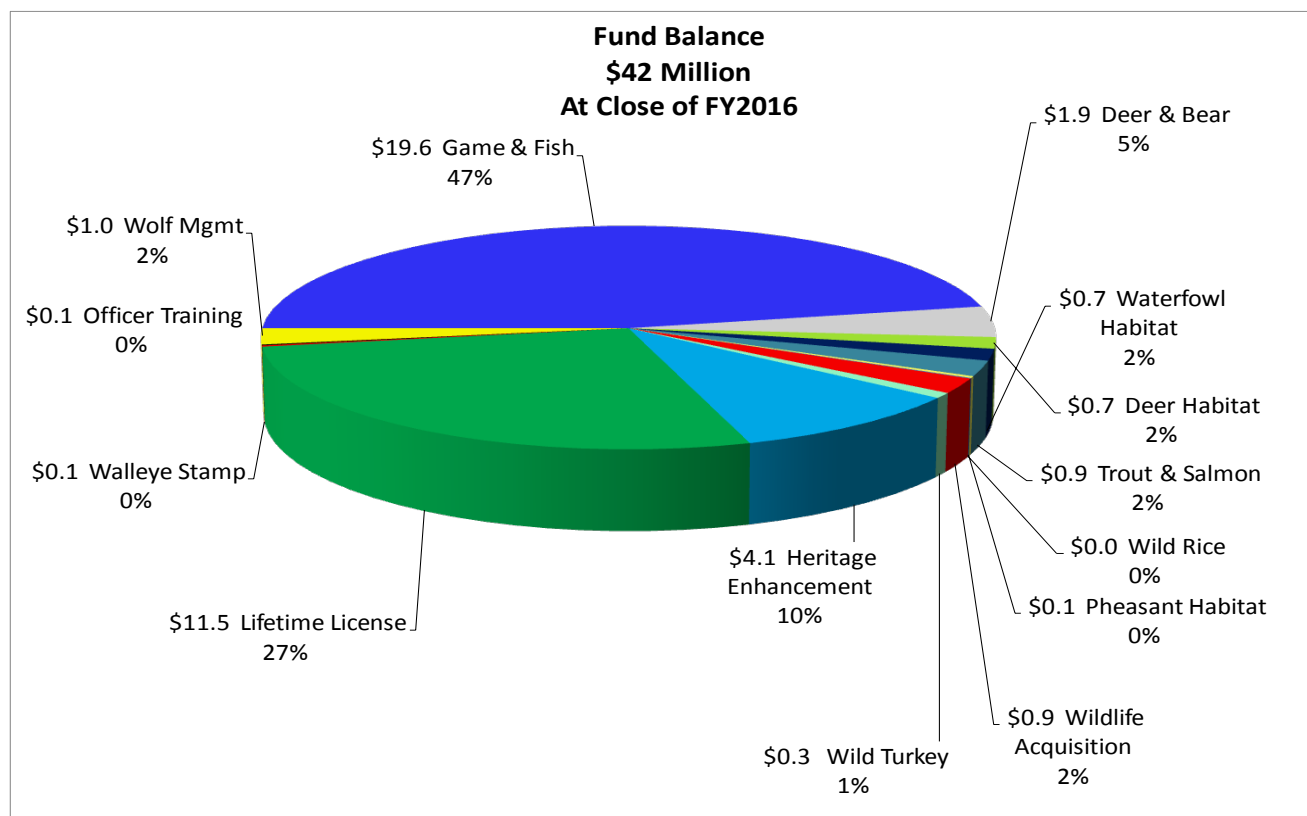
The DNR views the production of the annual Game and Fish fund Report as much more than an exercise in meeting the statutory requirements. In preparing and distributing the report, the DNR has the opportunity to communicate with individuals, stakeholder groups, the Game and Fish Oversight committees, legislators, and DNR staff. The annual report requires the DNR to be accountable to these audiences on its financial management and game and fish program outcomes. The report fosters discussion on the planning for future operations, setting priorities, articulating outcomes, and reviews of assumptions used in the financial forecast for management of the state's game and fish natural resources.

Game and Fish Fund Within the DNR's Funding Structure

For fiscal year 2016 (FY2016) the Game and Fish Fund comprised 21 percent (\$108.9 million) of the total DNR expenditures. Dollars include both operating expenditures and pass-thru costs.



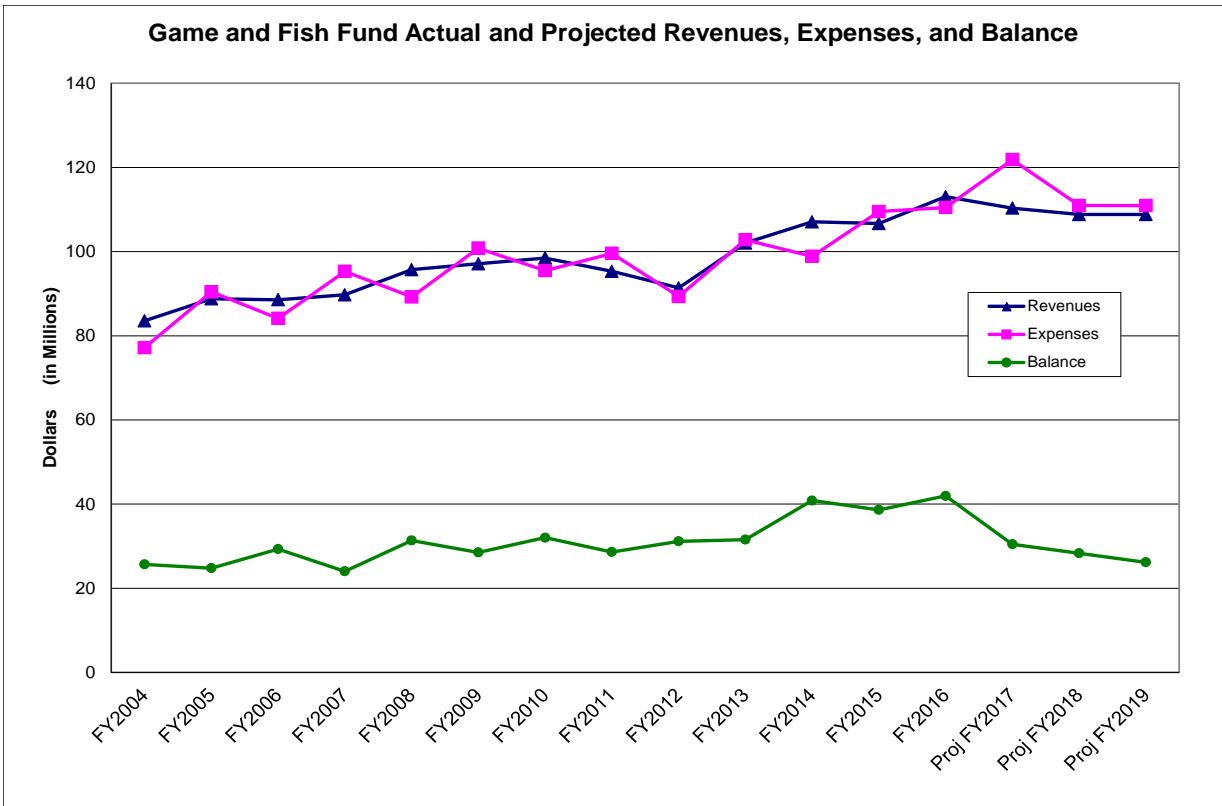
Game and Fish Fund Balance



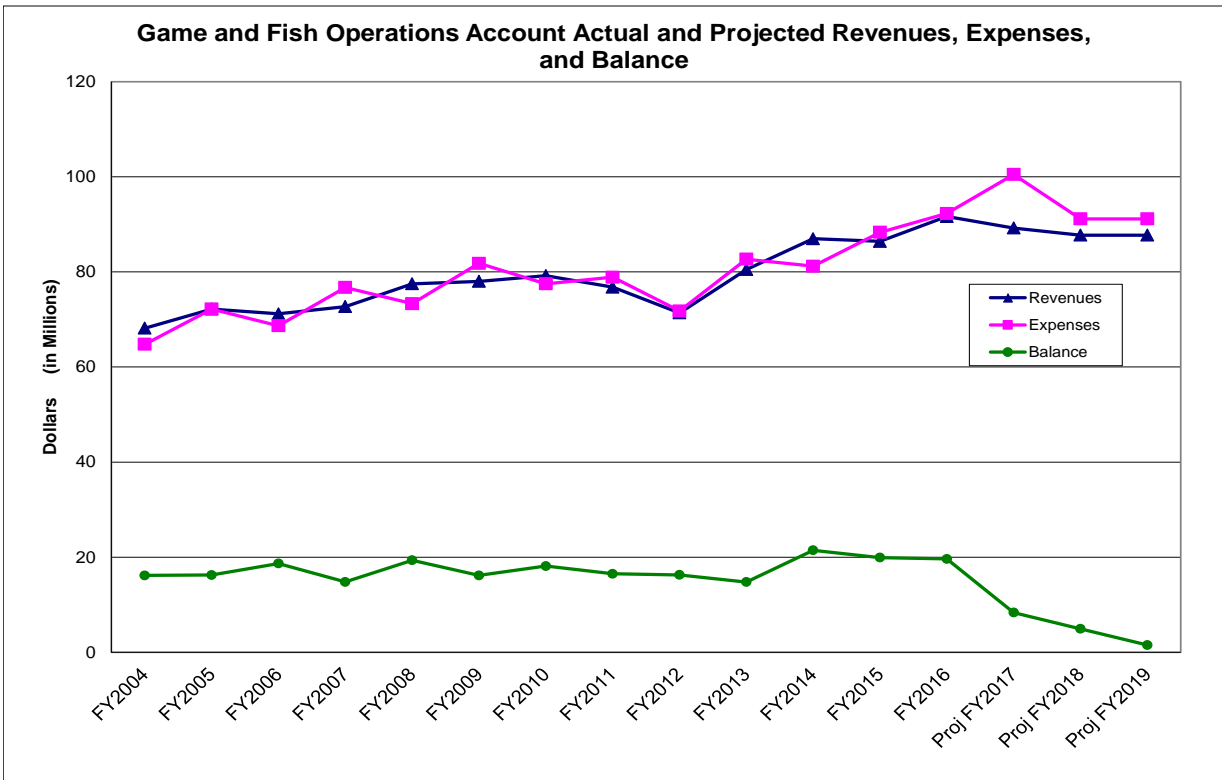
Fund Analysis

The Game and Fish Fund balance at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2016 was \$42 million including a \$19.6 million balance in the Game and Fish Operating Account. The remainder of the fund balance is from the dedicated accounts of which a large part is from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund at \$11.5 million.

- Game and Fish Operations Account (Fund 2200)
 - Federal revenues from the Wildlife Restoration Act are projected to decline from a high of \$19.5M in FY2016 (actual) to an anticipated \$17M in FY2019. See appendix A for Fund Statement.
 - Due to a projected structural imbalance (annual appropriations exceed annual projected revenues) the balance is projected to decrease to \$1.5 million by the end of FY2019. Starting in FY2019 the annual projected structural deficit is \$3.4M per year.
 - The November 2016 forecast will include projections for FY2020 and FY2021. Given the structural imbalance, the account will be projected to go negative beginning in FY2020.
- Lifetime License Trust Fund (Fund 2210) will continue to grow and become a larger part of the total fund balance, until activation costs exceed license sales.
- Heritage Enhancement account (fund 2209) balance increased due to a strong year in lottery sales.



- * Transfers-in and transfers-out are included in revenues and expenses, respectively.
- * Projected expenses are based on current direct appropriations amounts and estimates for statutory appropriations.
- * Projected revenues are based on current statutory fee rates.



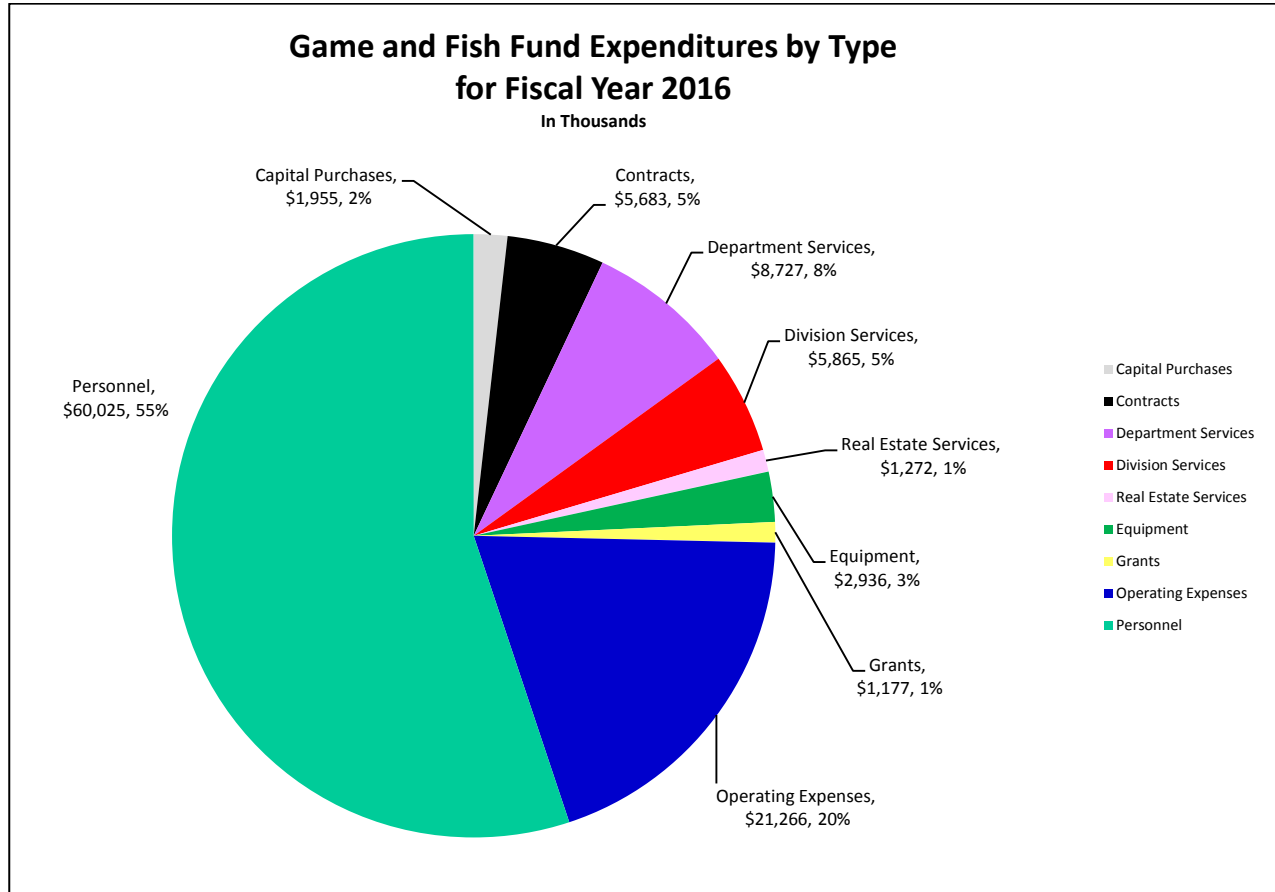
Game and Fish Fund Revenues

The DNR deposits an array of receipts into the Game and Fish fund. The majority of the funds relate directly to the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Other revenue includes:

- **Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson or DJ)** – Reimbursement from the federal government for 75 percent of allowable expenses up to federal apportionment amount.
- **Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson or PR)** - Reimbursement from the federal government for 75 percent of allowable expenses up to federal apportionment amount.
- **Lottery in Lieu of Sales Tax** – Allocation of Lottery In Lieu of Sales Tax receipts.
- **License Issuing and Application Fees** – Electronic Licensing System (ELS) license issuing fees and fees for hunting applications.
- **Sale and Lease of Natural Resources** – Lease of lands, easements, timber sales, mineral revenues, wild rice licenses, sale of fish eggs, etc.
- **All Other Receipts** – Refunds from prior periods, reimbursement of excess agency direct charges, credit rebates, cash over/short, fines & restitution, hunter education, firearm safety training, aeration permits, credit card fees, and miscellaneous revenue.
- **Transfers of Police State Aid** – Distribution from MMB of insurance premium taxes to cover part of the enforcement officer's pension costs.

Receipts and Transfers-in					
Fiscal Years					
(In Thousands)					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Hunting Licenses	\$20,264	\$20,473	\$22,301	\$20,736	\$21,383
Fishing Licenses	20,670	23,343	28,085	27,614	26,651
Sports Licenses (Hunting and Fishing)	4,524	5,494	6,022	5,822	5,605
Hunting and Angling Stamps	2,179	2,155	2,178	2,200	2,211
Small Game Surcharge	1,752	1,669	1,629	1,613	1,580
Lifetime Licenses	1,149	1,373	576	671	762
Commercial Licenses	355	354	346	355	347
Federal Grant Fisheries (Dingell-Johnson)	11,996	14,957	12,515	12,547	14,532
Federal Grant Wildlife (Pittman-Robertson)	9,813	12,549	14,278	15,717	19,506
Lottery In-lieu-of-sales Tax	12,193	13,304	12,434	12,841	13,909
License Issuing and Application Fees	3,488	3,557	3,659	3,476	3,429
Sale and Lease of Natural Resources	1,050	1,114	1,154	1,245	1,162
Investment Income	144	151	156	164	191
All Other Receipts	938	711	811	745	744
Transfer-in: Police State Aid	859	847	919	937	1,046
Total Receipts and Transfers-in	\$91,376	\$102,050	\$107,064	\$106,683	\$113,058

Game and Fish Fund Expenditures



Notes:

- Department Services includes costs for Leadership (Commissioner's Office and Regional Operations), Shared Services (Human Resources, Management Resources, Facilities, Office of Management & Budget Services, and Office of Communications and Outreach), and MNIT services (computer and technology support).
- Division Services includes the division's administrative support costs.
- The purchase of a Helicopter (Enforcement) (\$2.57M) is included in the Equipment expense amount above and FY 2016 Enforcement expenditures below.

Expenditures and Transfers-out Fiscal Years (In Thousands)					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fish and Wildlife	\$54,941	\$63,980	\$63,126	\$71,711	\$70,358
License Center	4,244	4,292	4,198	4,241	4,249
Ecological & Water Resources	4,281	4,300	3,876	3,931	3,907
Enforcement	20,477	21,093	21,156	22,586	25,758
Parks and Trails	1,080	3,463	1,869	2,642	1,877
Forestry	1,216	1,348	1,135	1,277	1,121
Lands and Minerals	1,072	1,576	635	350	333
Operations Support	746	72	-	-	-
Statewide Indirect	625	1,021	1,189	1,151	1,303
Transfers-out	657	1,675	1,691	1,618	1,572
Agency Total Expenditures	\$89,339	\$102,820	\$98,876	\$109,508	\$110,478

Game and Fish Fund Expenditures by Division and Fund

Fiscal Year 2016 Expenditures by Division and Fund

Division	Fund	Expenditures
Fish and Wildlife	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 56,658,035
	Deer & Bear Management	\$ 713,841
	Deer Habitat Management	\$ 1,210,228
	Waterfowl Habitat Improvement	\$ 500,384
	Trout & Salmon Management	\$ 938,013
	Pheasant Habitat Improvement	\$ 488,843
	Wild Rice Management	\$ 40,000
	Wildlife Acquisition	\$ 1,529,464
	Wild Turkey Management	\$ 175,064
	Heritage Enhancement	\$ 7,919,306
	Walleye Stamp	\$ 74,834
	Wolf Management	\$ 110,000
Total for Fish and Wildlife		\$ 70,358,013
License Center, Fish and Wildlife	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 4,213,119
	Deer & Bear Management	\$ 35,813
Total for License Center		\$ 4,248,932
Ecological & Water Resources	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 2,226,635
	Heritage Enhancement	\$ 1,680,842
Total for Ecological and Water Resources		\$ 3,907,477
Enforcement	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 24,088,528
	Heritage Enhancement	\$ 1,535,871
	Peace Officer Training	\$ 133,318
Total for Enforcement		\$ 25,757,718
Parks and Trails	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 1,877,160
Total for Parks and Trails		\$ 1,877,160
Forestry	Heritage Enhancement	\$ 1,121,307
Total for Forestry		\$ 1,121,307
Lands and Minerals	Game & Fish Operations	\$ 332,972
Total for Lands and Minerals		\$ 332,972
Statewide Indirect Costs		\$ 1,302,841
Total Expenditures		\$ 108,906,421

Accounts in the Game and Fish Fund

For fiscal year 2016, the Game and Fish Fund is made up of accounts dedicated for a specific purpose. These accounts include:

Account Name	Sources and Uses of the Account Funding
Game and Fish Fund (2200)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include licenses and permits issued, all income from state lands acquired by purchase or gift for game or fish purposes, fines and forfeited bail, sales of contraband, wild animals, and other property under the control of the division, fees from advanced education courses for hunters and trappers, reimbursements of expenditures by the account, contributions to the account, and Federal aid reimbursements. (M.S. 97A.055) • Funds pay for game and fish activities and related activities. Funds use are restricted by the federal aid in Wildlife Restoration Act and the federal aid in Fish Restoration Act. (M.S. 97A.057)
Deer and Bear Management Account (2201)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include \$1 from deer, bear, and super-sports license fees. • Funds pay deer and bear management programs, including the computerized licensing system. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1c)
Emergency Deer Feeding and Wild Cervidae Health Management Account (2201)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues includes \$.50 from deer and super-sports license fees. • Funds pay for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1d)
Deer Habitat Improvement Account (2202)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include \$2 from deer and super-sports license fees. • Funds pay for deer habitat improvement or deer management programs. (M.S. 97A.075, subd. 1b)
Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Account (2203)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include ninety percent of the revenue from the Minnesota migratory waterfowl stamps. • Funds pay for development of wetlands and lakes in the state and designated waterfowl management lakes for maximum migratory waterfowl production including habitat evaluation, the construction of dikes, water control structures and impoundments, nest cover, rough fish barriers, acquisition of sites and facilities necessary for development and management of existing migratory waterfowl habitat and the designation of waters. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 2)
Trout and Salmon Management Account (2204)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include ninety percent of the revenue from trout and salmon stamps. • Funds pay for the development, restoration, maintenance, improvement, protection, and preservation of habitat for trout and salmon in trout streams and lakes, including, but not limited to, evaluating habitat; stabilizing eroding stream banks; adding fish cover; modifying stream channels; managing vegetation to protect, shade, or reduce runoff on stream banks; and purchasing equipment to accomplish these tasks, rearing trout and salmon, including utility and service costs associated with coldwater hatchery buildings and systems; stocking trout and salmon in streams and lakes and Lake Superior; and monitoring and evaluating stocked trout and salmon, acquisition of easements and fee title along trout waters, identifying easement and fee title areas along trout waters; and research, and special management projects on trout streams, trout lakes, and Lake Superior and portions of its tributaries. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 3)

Account Name	Sources and Uses of the Account Funding
Pheasant Habitat Improvement Account (2205)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include ninety percent of the revenue from pheasant stamps. • Funds pay for the development, restoration, and maintenance of suitable habitat for ring-necked pheasants on public and private land including the establishment of nesting cover, winter cover, and reliable food sources, reimbursement of landowners for setting aside lands for pheasant habitat, reimbursement of expenditures to provide pheasant habitat on public and private land, the promotion of pheasant habitat development and maintenance, including promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for pheasant habitat, and the acquisition of lands suitable for pheasant habitat management and public hunting. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 4)
Wild Rice Management Account (2206)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues from the sale of wild rice licenses. • Funds shall be used for management of designated public waters to improve natural wild rice production. (M.S. 84.0911)
Wildlife Acquisition Account (2207)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues from the small game surcharge. • Funds are used for acquisition and development of wildlife lands, and maintenance of the lands, in accordance with appropriations made by the legislature. (M.S. 97A.071)
Wild Turkey Management Account (2208)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include \$4.50 from each turkey license sold, except youth licenses. • Funds pay for the development, restoration, and maintenance of suitable habitat for wild turkeys on public and private land including forest stand improvement and establishment of nesting cover, winter roost area, and reliable food sources, acquisitions of, or easements on, critical wild turkey habitat, reimbursement of expenditures to provide wild turkey habitat on public and private land, trapping and transplantation of wild turkeys, and the promotion of turkey habitat development and maintenance, population surveys and monitoring, and research. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 5)
Heritage Enhancement Account (2209)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include lottery payments in lieu of sales tax on lottery tickets. • Funds are only for activities that improve, enhance, or protect fish and wildlife resources, including conservation, restoration, and enhancement of land, water, and other natural resources of the state. (M.S. 297A.94)
Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund Account (2210)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues are from Lifetime license sales. • Funds use – transfer from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund to the Game and Fish Fund an amount equal to the amount that would otherwise have been collected from annual license fees for each lifetime license. (M.S. 97A.4742)
Walleye Stamp Account (2211)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues are from walleye stamps sales. • Funds may pay only for stocking walleyes purchased from the private sector in waters of the state. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 6)
Peace Officer Training Account (2212)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue from the portion of the surcharges assessed to criminal and traffic offenders. • Funds may only be spent for peace officer training for employees of the Department of Natural Resources who are licensed to enforce game and fish laws. (M.S. 97A.052)
Wolf Management and Monitoring Account (2213)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues include \$.50 from each deer and super-sports license. • Funds are only for wolf management, research, damage control, enforcement, and education. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 7b)

Functions

Fish and Wildlife

The Fish and Wildlife division (FAW) supports DNR's three-part mission to support interrelated values of economic development, recreational use, and natural resources protection. The division serves DNR's mission by managing fish and wildlife populations, conserving aquatic and upland habitats, responding to fish and wildlife disease and habitat challenges, and providing economic benefits at local and statewide levels.

Fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife watching annually provide people with:

- An estimated 34.3 million days of fish and wildlife related outdoor recreation, including 21.7 million fishing days, 5.6 million hunting days, and 7 million wildlife watching (away from home) days, and direct annual expenditures in Minnesota of \$3.8 billion.

The division fulfills its mission through the following strategies:

1. FAW monitors and manages for healthy and productive fish and wildlife populations that support high quality and abundant fishing, hunting, trapping, and wildlife recreation viewing opportunities. Recreational opportunities and species sustainability are grounded in well-managed fishing, hunting, and trapping seasons based on scientific population surveys.
2. FAW protects, enhances and restores habitats that are crucial for healthy and productive aquatic and terrestrial fish and wildlife populations. This is achieved by conserving and managing habitat on state lands. Typical practices include creating waterfowl impoundments, conducting prescribed burns, restoring and enhancing wetlands, managing timber harvest, conducting wildlife lake assessments, improving fish spawning areas, restoring aquatic plants, removing dams, restoring channels, and reclaiming lakes.
3. FAW provides for technical assistance, public participation, planning, and coordination which support citizens who are knowledgeable about the social and ecological value of healthy environments. This enables citizens to become supportive of the conservation of natural resources and ecological systems. DNR provides effective citizen partnerships to manage fish and wildlife resources.
4. FAW delivers outreach, recruitment, and retention efforts that results in increased multicultural, urban, and youth participation and appreciation of the state's outdoor heritage as well as retention of current fish and wildlife recreation participants. This work includes implementing mentored hunts, managing the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP), providing skills-based training through youth and women's programs, working directly with the Southeast Asian and other ethnic communities, investing in youth education through the MinnAqua program, and enhancing skills through the Becoming An Outdoors Woman/Family program (BOW), and Fishing In the Neighborhood (FIN).

License Center

The License Center serves citizens seeking licenses, registration and titling. This includes distribution of licenses, stamps and permits required for hunters, anglers and commercial game and fish interests. An Electronic Licensing System (ELS) is used by nearly 1,550 sales agents, 170 deputy registrars, and DNR license center staff to process these transactions. In fiscal year 2016, sales agents handled approximately 92 percent of all transactions with another 7 percent via online and mobile. The remaining 1 percent, including issuance of commercial and lifetime licenses, were sold at the License Center in the DNR's St. Paul central office.

Nearly 2.4 million licenses, permits, stamps, and license validation transactions were processed through ELS, generating \$65.3 million in revenue for the year.

Ecological and Water Resources

The Ecological and Water Resources division (EWR) promotes and delivers integrated land and water conservation to ensure healthy surface water, groundwater, and contributing landscapes.

Game and Fish operating fund dollars support traditional game and fish activities. Appropriations to EWR have remained relatively constant over the past several years. The division uses these funds on a variety of programs that are designed to conserve and/or enhance aquatic and upland habitats that are critical for fish and wildlife populations. In fiscal year 2016, Game and Fish operating funds were directed at nine programs: lake habitat assessment, river habitat assessment and restoration, grassland habitat monitoring, environmental review, natural resource damage assessment and cost recovery, tracking wetland change, wildlife education, planning and coordination, and information management. For many of the programs listed, the work described was also supported by other funding sources.

The division fulfills its mission through the following strategies:

1. EWR surveys, monitors and assesses aquatic, wetland and upland habitats and ecosystems that are critical for healthy and productive fish and wildlife populations so that information is available on the current status of those habitats/ecosystems, how they are changing over time, and to guide how land management or implementation projects are designed.
2. EWR protects, enhances and restores river systems that are crucial for healthy and productive aquatic terrestrial fish and wildlife populations. This is achieved by working with multiple partners to design and/or implement practices to create healthier river systems and associated fish and wildlife communities. Typical practices include removing dams, restoring channels, modifying culverts that restrict fish passage, and stabilizing banks.
3. EWR provides survey, monitoring and technical assistance to improve prairie, wetland and forest habitat management on public and private lands.
4. EWR conducts environmental review of projects to ensure that fish and wildlife needs are being appropriately addressed, works with Fish and Wildlife (FAW) to authorize lake aeration activities that prevent winterkill and help sustain fishing opportunities, and works with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) when natural resources have been damaged by spills to assign responsibility and recover damages.
5. EWR administers the falconry and wildlife rehabilitation programs that permit approximately 90 falconers and 50 wildlife rehabbers. Falconer and wildlife rehabilitator exams are administered, inspections conducted, and information and education are provided.
6. EWR provides technical assistance, public participation, planning, and coordination that support citizens who are knowledgeable about the social and ecological value of healthy environments. This enables citizens to become supportive of the conservation of natural resources and ecological systems.
7. EWR delivers outreach and education to support better public understanding of the importance of habitat protection, the value of healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and to increase the expertise of natural resource specialists and planners so that more effective projects are designed and implemented.
8. EWR invests in information management so that its vast data resources are available, integrated, and organized to help inform good natural resource decision making.

Enforcement

The Enforcement division (ENF) is the primary conservation law enforcement agency in Minnesota, protecting natural resources and public safety. The role has grown from traditional game and fish enforcement to broader natural resource protection responsibilities that impact quality of life and economic sustainability.

The Enforcement division fulfills its mission through the following strategies:

1. Fishing Regulation - Includes angler license checks, enforcement of regulations including experimental and special regulation waters, shelter house regulation, inspection of commercial activities, protection of spawning fish populations, and public information/education service.

2. Hunting Regulation - Includes hunting license checks, enforcement of recreational and commercial regulations relating to big game, small game, migratory waterfowl & trapping, assistance to wildlife with survey and census of animal populations, response to priority species such as lynx captures and moose mortality, and public information and education services.
3. Hunter Training Programs – includes Youth/Adult Firearm Safety (FAS), Advanced Hunter Education, Bow Hunter Education, turkey and bear clinics and Becoming an Outdoor Woman. These programs promote safe firearm handling, basic law information, game identification, hunter ethics, and hunter/landowner relations.
4. Invasive Species – protect habitat and property values by slowing the spread of harmful invasive species by enforcing regulations addressing the transportation of water-related equipment.

Parks and Trails

The vision of the Parks and Trails division (PAT) is to create unforgettable outdoor recreation experiences in parks, on trails, and on water. These experiences serve to inspire people to connect to the outdoors and pass that love along to current and future generations. The Game and Fish funds ensure that Minnesotans have access to public waterways for activities like boating, canoeing, kayaking, and angling. The funds support boating access, state water trails, safe harbors on Lake Superior, and fishing piers. In fiscal year 2016, the Game and Fish Fund provided \$1.9 million or 21% of the total funds expended on the water recreation system

Minnesota is ranked third in the nation for the number of registered boats (810,000 in 2015) which has been stable for the past six years. The total annual economic impact of recreational boating in Minnesota is \$5.5 billion.

Parks and Trails utilize Game and Fish funds for public water access acquisition and development, and fishing pier operation and maintenance. These programs improve the quality of boating and fishing access throughout the state. Currently the focus for boating access is to expand and improve existing boating access sites, with a lower focus on adding new facilities. The focus of the fishing pier and shore fishing program is to maintain what we have by replacing the ageing fishing piers before adding new facilities.

Forestry

The 4.2 million acres of state forest lands, including acquired, consolidated conservation (con-con) and school trust lands, administered by the DNR Division of Forestry (DoF) create great economic, social, and environmental benefits for all Minnesotans. Investments in forest management and invasive species control and educational efforts are needed to ensure diverse, healthy, and reliable forests for today and tomorrow. Minnesota's forests provide two-thirds of our state's clean drinking water; a majority of the wood used by our state's forest industry; a multitude of bird-watching, skiing, camping, snowmobiling, and hunting opportunities; clean air; and storage of 1.6 million metric tons of atmospheric carbon. Our forest management, which includes tree planting, harvesting, controlling invasive species, and stand improvement activities, results in a healthy, diverse, and sustainable forest system. Our forest management benefits wildlife habitat.

We use Game and Fish funds to implement the Ecological Classification System (ECS) and Terrestrial Invasive Species (TIS) programs. Each of these programs directly benefits wildlife habitat. The ECS program inventories current vegetation (flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees), soil types, and the site's position in the landscape to determine which forest cover is best suited for the site. Foresters, and other resource managers, use ECS to select the right management activity for the site to ensure a healthy, vigorously growing forest. A healthy forest makes great wildlife habitat.

The TIS program educates people who use our forests about the threat of invasive species, removes invasive species from state lands, and trains other resource managers about TIS. Forests that have been overrun by TIS have less species diversity and thus have a lower value to wildlife. Invasive species include emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, garlic mustard, buckthorn, oriental bittersweet, tansy, and many others.

Lands and Minerals

The Lands and Minerals division (LAM) provides professional real estate and mineral services to the State that promote conservation excellence, provide world-class recreational opportunities, and support the State's economy. LAM manages all state-owned mineral rights and provides real estate services for the DNR's various land-managing divisions. Monies from the Game and Fish Fund directly supports the Land Record System (LRS), which is the application maintained by LAM which inventories all DNR-managed land and mineral assets. The LRS replaced DNR's previous database tool, the AS400, in 2013. The LRS improves performance in the management of the real estate portfolio. Currently the program is used by over 600 DNR professionals statewide. The records are vital to the acquisition and ongoing management of fish and wildlife resources, parks and trails, forestry, scientific and natural areas – virtually every DNR program.

Operations Support

Operations Support provides;

- Leadership and direction for the department and management of regulatory and government relations activities.
- Leadership and assistance for Regional Offices for interdisciplinary delivery of DNR services at the local level including:
 - Coordination of natural resources management programs in the regions
 - Technical assistance and outreach
 - Emergency preparedness and disaster response (non-fire emergency)
- Leadership and management of integral business services to the DNR as set forth in Minnesota Statute such as: accounting; contracting and budgeting; data practices; planning and performance management; fleet; facilities and asset management; publication of regulations and other information; state employment; labor relations and state retirement; safety; human rights and accessibility.
- Leadership and management for developing and maintaining the IT infrastructure at DNR to support daily activities.

Department Services, which includes Leadership (Commissioner's Office and Regional Operations), Shared Services (Human Resources, Management Resources, Facilities, Office of Budget & Management, and Office of Communications and Outreach), and MNIT services (Computer and Technology support), are charge to each division through internal allocation processes. In fiscal year 2016, \$8.7 million was spent out of the Game and Fish Fund on department services. These costs are shown in the chart on page 5.

Real Estate

Real Estate Services are operated as a centralized service within the DNR. Services are provided by the Lands and Minerals division to land-managing divisions through service level agreements and professional service rates. Game and Fish funds are used by land-managing divisions to pay for Real Estate Services for activities related to the purpose of the fund. Total charges to the Game and Fish Fund for real estate services in fiscal year 2016 were \$1,272,000. See expenditure chart on page 5.

In fiscal year 2016, LAM performed the following work under Service Level Agreements with the Divisions of Ecological and Waters Resources, Fish and Wildlife, Forestry, and Parks and Trails:

- Real estate leases
- Land records and data reporting
- Assemblage of information for and reporting for PILT
- Review and processing of payment of taxes and assessments
- Review of tax forfeited land exchange proposals (Class B land exchanges)
- Review of proposals to place lands in tribal trust status
- Tax forfeited land sale reviews
- Review and processing of miscellaneous notices
- Lands related legislation, including the omnibus lands bill
- Public inquires related to lands issues

- Staffing for strategic land asset management
- Management, fiscal and support staffing for the above-listed areas.

In addition to the SLA work, LAM also provided the following types of transactions or services as professional services to the divisions:

- Acquisitions of land
- Appraisals
- Surveys, and related legal description reviews
- Land exchanges involving DNR managed land
- Sale of DNR lands
- Transfers of custodial control
- Transfers of administrative control
- Lands and Minerals' attorney work
- Grant appraisal review and associated advice for the grant programs
- Management, fiscal, and support staffing for the above-listed areas.



Game and Fish Operations Account

Game and Fish Fund Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report

Creation and Purpose of the Account

The Legislature created the Game and Fish Fund in the state treasury. (M.S. 97A.055). Funds are credited to the game and fish fund for all money received under the game and fish laws and all income from state lands acquired by purchase or gift for game or fish purposes, except for certain dedicated revenues.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

The major sources of revenue for the Game and Fish Operations Account are hunting and fishing licenses, License issuing fees, application fees, federal reimbursements for hunting (Wildlife Restoration Act [Pittman-Robertson] and fishing (Sport Fish Restoration Act [Dingell-Johnson]) activities, sale of natural resources (timber sales, mining, etc.), fines, forfeits, & restitution, occupational permits, non-occupational permits, Police State Aid, and interest income.

Money accruing to the state from fees charged for hunting and angling licenses shall not be used for any purpose other than game and fish activities and related activities under the administration of the commissioner.

Description of Revenues

- **Fishing Licenses** – Includes fishing and spearing licenses, and fishing contests.
- **Hunting Licenses** – Including deer, bear, elk, small game, furbearing, and trapping licenses.
- **Sports Licenses** – Includes sports and super-sports licenses – allows certain types of hunting and fishing with one license.
- **Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson or DJ)** – Federal reimbursement for 75% of allowable fishing related expenses up to federal apportionment amount.
- **Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson or PR)** - Federal reimbursement for 75% of allowable wildlife expenses up to federal apportionment amount.
- **License Issuing and Application Fees** – ELS license issuing fees and fees for hunting applications.
- **Hunting Surcharge** – Surcharge on non-resident hunting licenses and surcharge on bonus deer licenses.
- **Fishing Surcharge** – Surcharge on non-resident fishing licenses
- **Sale and Lease of Natural Resources** – Lease of lands, easements, timber sales, mineral revenues, sale of fish eggs, etc.
- **Fines, Forfeits, and Restitution** – Receipts due to law enforcement actions.
- **Occupational Permits** – Commercial hunting and fishing licenses.
- **Non-occupational** – Hunter education, safety training and aeration permits.
- **Investment Income** – Monthly interest paid on balance in fund.
- **Other** – Refunds from prior periods, reimbursement of excess agency direct charges, cash over/short, credit card fees, credit rebates, and miscellaneous revenue.
- **Transfers of Police State Aid** – Distribution from MMB of insurance premium taxes to cover part of the enforcement officer's pension costs.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$19,931,793
Prior year adjustment	\$332,212
Receipts	
Fishing Licenses	\$25,574,923
Hunting Licenses	\$18,485,294
Sports and Super-Sports Licenses	\$5,605,008
Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson)	\$14,531,579
Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson)	\$19,506,300
License Issuing Fees	\$3,231,617
Fishing Surcharge	\$1,075,703
Hunting Surcharge	\$151,911
Sales of Natural Resources	\$1,152,977
Fines, Forfeits, and Restitution	\$307,372
Application Fees	\$139,283
Occupational Permits	\$346,661
Non-occupational Fees	\$204,624
Investment Income (Interest)	\$188,485
Other	\$96,279
Transfers-in (Police State Aid & Transfers from Federal Funds)	<u>\$1,045,624</u>
Total Revenues and Transfers-in	91,643,640
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	\$56,658,035
Fish and Wildlife Licensing	\$4,213,119
Ecological & Water Resources	\$2,226,635
Enforcement	\$21,520,743
Enforcement - Aviation Services	\$2,567,786
Parks and Trails	\$1,877,160
Lands & Minerals	\$332,972
Statewide Indirect Costs	\$1,302,841
Transfers-out (FMIA, Invasive Species, Venison Donation, and Walk-in-Access)	<u>\$1,571,502</u>
Total Expenditures and Transfers-out	\$92,270,794
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$19,636,851</u>
Net change for FY2016	(\$294,942)

Note: See fund statement for detail.

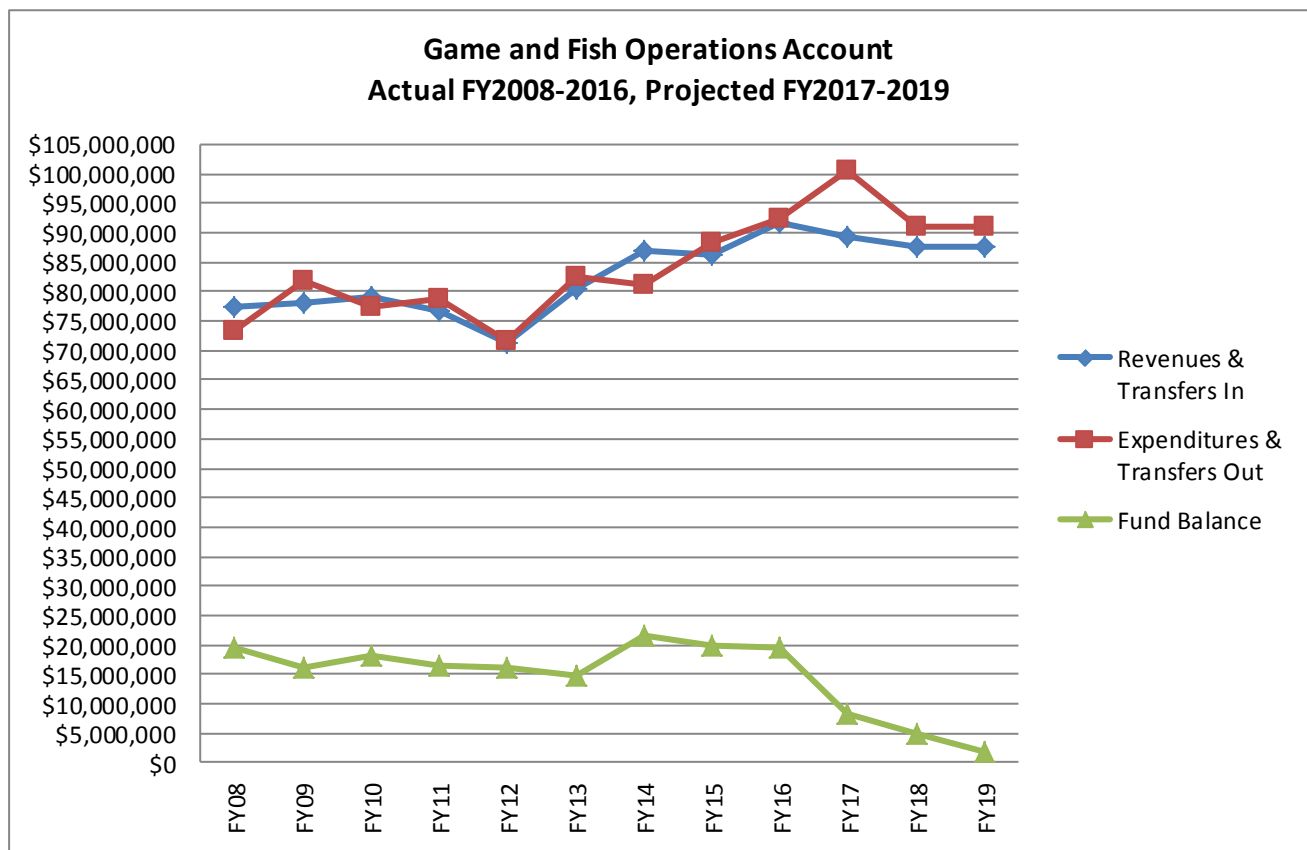
Account Analysis

The Game and Fish Fund Operations Account balance is expected to decline over time. Excluding one-time appropriations and short-term increases in the federal revenues from the Wildlife Restoration Act, the fund has a structural deficit. The fund is managed at a higher level in years following fee increases. Over time inflation costs increase and available balances are expected to decline. Current projections have the account solvent through FY2019.

Some additional trends are;

- Fish licenses sales are expected to stay level.
- Deer hunting license revenues are expected to increase due to more liberal hunting regulations in future years as the deer populations increase to goal levels.
- Sport Fish Restoration Act revenues are expected to stay level in future years.
- Wildlife Restoration Act revenues are expected to decline and then plateau at some lower level over time. Federal apportionments increased greatly in fiscal years 2014 through 2016 due to increased firearm and ammunition sales. Those sales are declining now and the federal apportionments are expected to decrease.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Expenditure projections are based on spending authorized in law for the current biennium and carried out through 2019. The department will manage levels of spending to ensure the account does not go negative as shown above.



Deer and Bear Management Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for deer and bear management.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

\$1 from each annual deer, bear, and super-sports license and \$1 annually from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, established in section M.S. 97A.4742, for each license issued under section M.S. 97A.473, subdivision 4, shall be credited to the deer and bear management account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1c)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

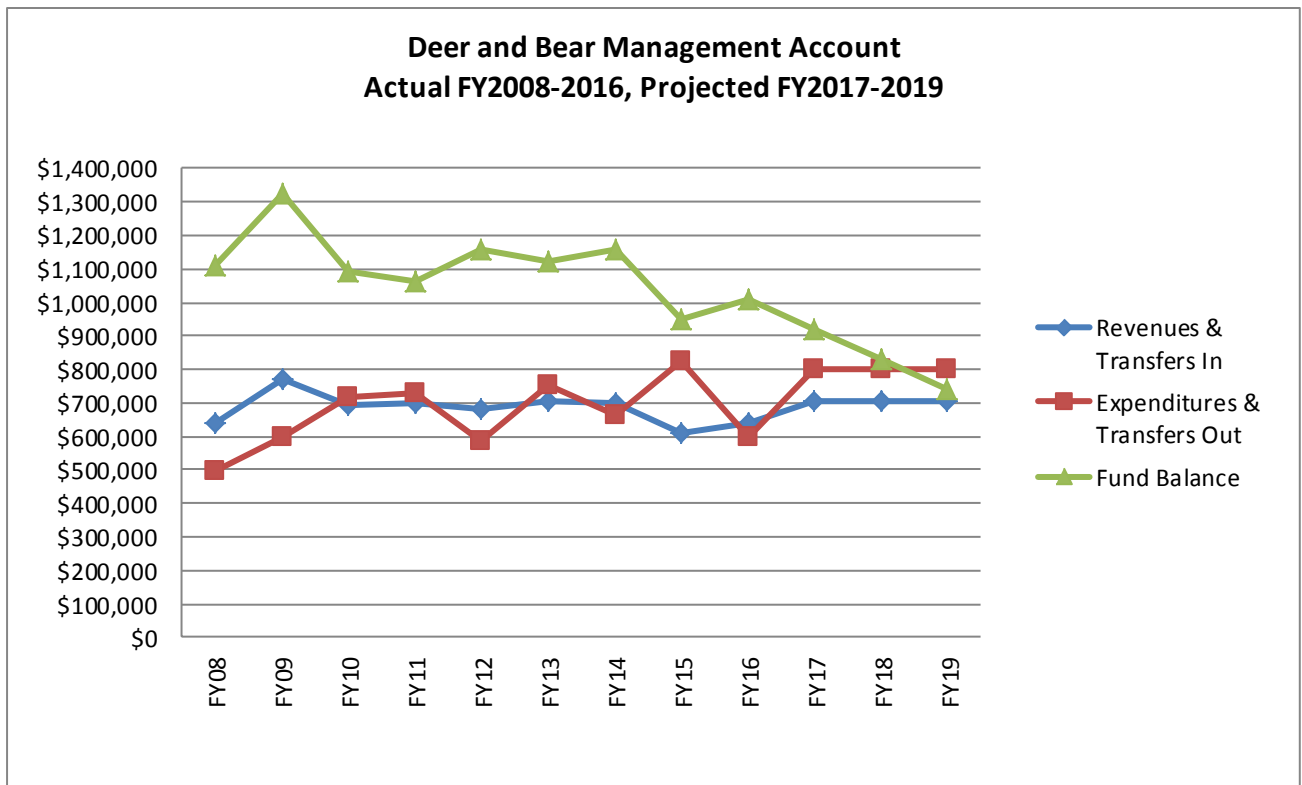
Deer and bear management programs, including a computerized licensing system.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$952,156
Prior year adjustment	\$15,798
Receipts	
Hunting License	\$583,744
License Issuing Fees	<u>\$58,013</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$641,757
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	\$562,339
License Center	<u>\$35,813</u>
Total expenditures	\$598,152
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$1,011,558</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$59,402

Account Analysis

Revenues credited to the Deer and Bear Management Account were still down slightly in fiscal year 2016 compared to long-term due to continued conservative regulations resulting in continued depressed bonus deer permit sales. Revenues have started to rebound and are expected to continue to increase in future years as deer populations are increasing toward goal levels, regulations are becoming more liberal, and more bonus deer permits are becoming available. The division of Fish and Wildlife continues to spend down the current balance over time while maintaining sufficient funds to meet cash flow needs.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Emergency Deer Feeding and Wild Cervidae Health Management Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Fifty cents from each deer and super-sports license is credited to the emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1d)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

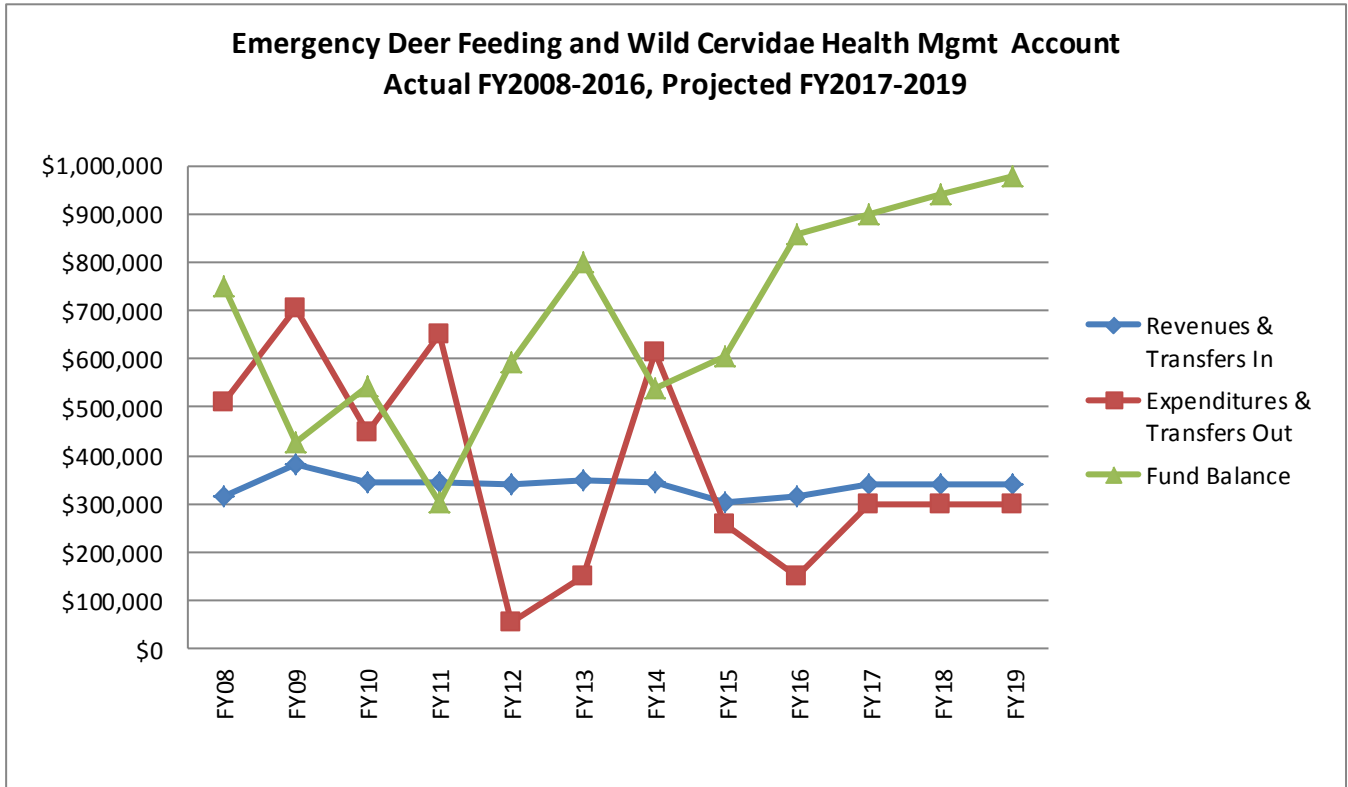
Emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management. Funds are available until expended. When the unencumbered balance in the appropriation for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management exceeds \$2,500,000 at the end of a fiscal year, the unencumbered balance in excess of \$2,500,000 is canceled and available for deer and bear management programs and computerized licensing.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$607,166
Prior year adjustment	\$85,777
Receipts	
Hunting License	<u>\$317,469</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$317,469
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$151,502</u>
Total expenditures	\$151,502
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$858,909</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$251,743

Account Analysis

Revenues credited to the account were still down slightly in fiscal year 2016 compared to long-term due to reduced bonus deer permit sales because of conservative hunting regulations. Revenues have started to rebound and are expected to continue to increase in future years as deer populations increase to goal levels, regulations become more liberal, and more bonus deer permits are sold. The DNR is managing the account to build a reserve balance of \$1 million to ensure the ability to meet the needs of an emergency cervid disease outbreak.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Deer Habitat Improvement Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for habitat improvement and deer management programs.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

\$2 from each annual deer and super-sports license and \$2 annually from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, established in section M.S. 97A.4742, for each license issued under section M.S. 97A.473, subdivision 4, shall be credited to the deer management account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1b)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

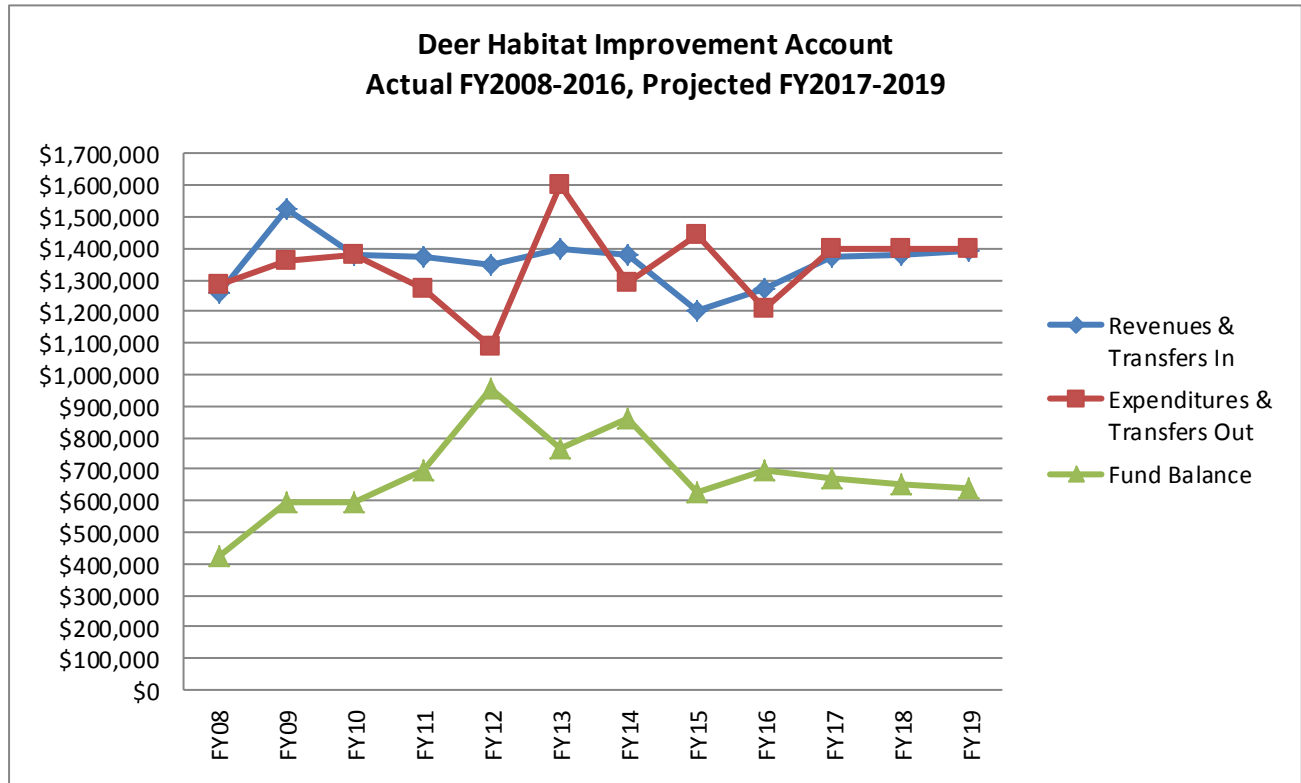
Deer habitat improvement or deer management programs.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$627,887
Prior year adjustment	\$8,694
Receipts	
Hunting License	\$1,269,868
Refunds of Prior Year Expenditure	<u>\$0</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$1,269,868
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	\$1,210,228
Total expenditures	\$1,210,228
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$696,221
Net change for FY2016	\$68,334

Account Analysis

Revenues credited to the Deer Habitat Improvement Account were still down slightly in fiscal year 2016 compared to long-term due to continued conservative regulations resulting in continued depressed bonus deer permit sales. Revenues have started to rebound and are expected to continue to increase in future years as deer populations are increasing toward goal levels, regulations are becoming more liberal, and more bonus deer permits are becoming available. The division of Fish and Wildlife continues to spend down the current balance over time while maintaining sufficient funds to meet cash flow needs.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for the improvement of waterfowl habitat.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Ninety percent of the revenue from the Minnesota migratory waterfowl stamps must be credited to the waterfowl habitat improvement account and is appropriated to the DNR (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 2). Currently, the Waterfowl stamp is \$7.50 (M.S. 97A.475, Subd. 5)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

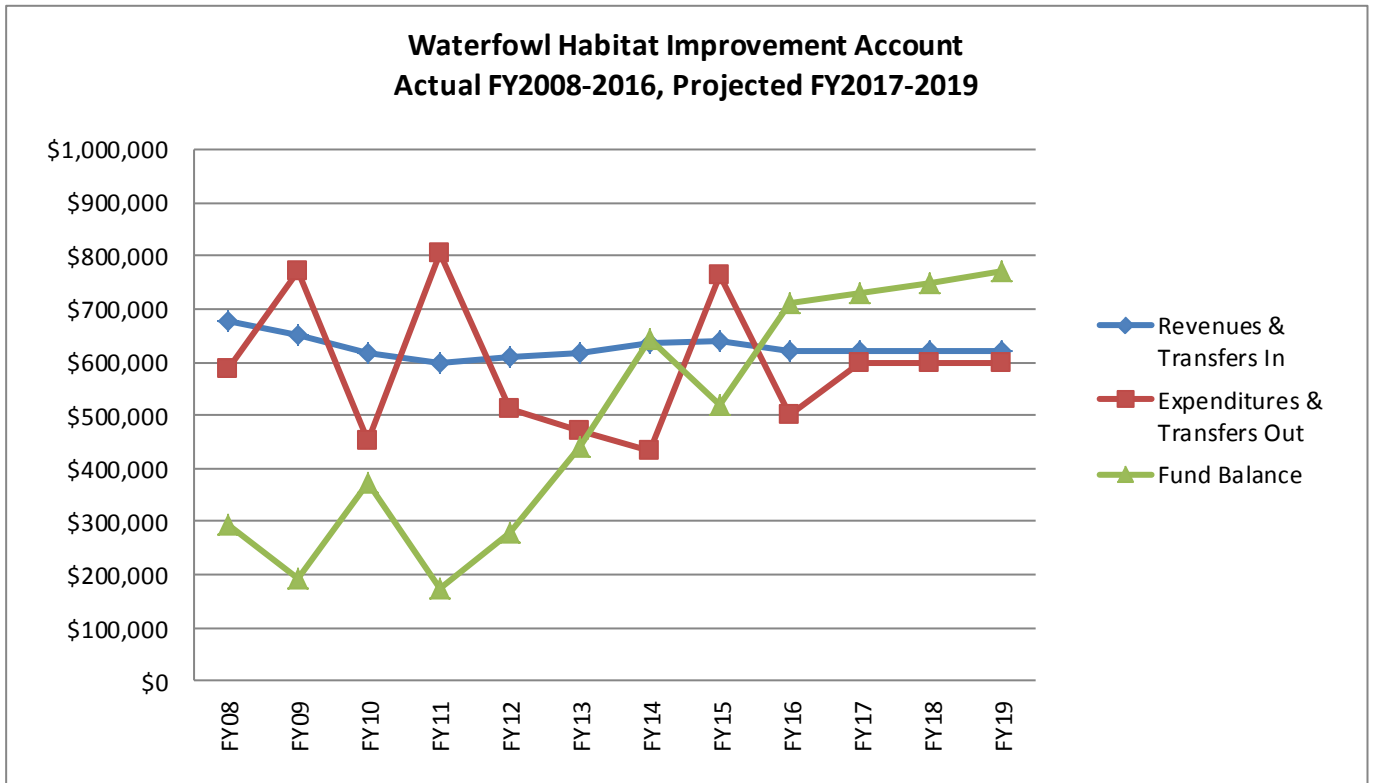
1. Development of wetlands and lakes in the state and designated waterfowl management lakes for maximum migratory waterfowl production including habitat evaluation, the construction of dikes, water control structures and impoundments, nest cover, rough fish barriers, acquisition of sites and facilities necessary for development and management of existing migratory waterfowl habitat and the designation of waters under section M.S. 97A.101. In addition to the expenditure items listed above, this category includes costs for related coordination and operational support.
2. Management of migratory waterfowl; examples of migratory waterfowl management expenditures include public information, census and surveys, special hunt management, and related coordination and operational support.
3. Development, restoration, maintenance, or preservation of migratory waterfowl habitat; examples of expenditures in this category include wetland maintenance, wetland restoration, food plot development, planting nesting cover, prescribed burns, and related coordination and operational support.
4. Acquisition of and access to structure sites.
5. Promotion of waterfowl habitat development and maintenance, including promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for waterfowl habitat.
6. Money in the account may not be used for costs unless they are directly related to a specific parcel of land or body of water under, (1), (3), (4), or (5), or to specific management activities under (2).

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$519,260
Prior year adjustment	\$69,357
Receipts	
Waterfowl Stamp	\$621,825
Refunds of Prior Year Expd	<u>\$0</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$621,825
Expenditures	
Fish & Wildlife	<u>\$500,384</u>
Total expenditures	\$500,384
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$710,058</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$190,798

Account Analysis

Waterfowl stamp sales have been fairly stable over the past nine years with minor annual variations. Fish and Wildlife expects spending to keep pace with revenues. Staff will consider increased spending on needed habitat expenditures to reduce the fund balance.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Expenditure projections are based on spending authorized in law for the current biennium and carried out through 2019. The department will manage levels of spending to ensure the account does not go negative as shown above.

Trout and Salmon Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for the improvement of trout and salmon streams and lakes.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Ninety percent of the revenue from trout and salmon stamps must be credited to the trout and salmon management account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 3) Currently, the Trout and Salmon stamp is \$10. (M.S. 97A.475, Subd. 10)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

1. The development, restoration, maintenance, improvement, protection, and preservation of habitat for trout and salmon in trout streams and lakes, including, but not limited to, evaluating habitat; stabilizing eroding stream banks; adding fish cover; modifying stream channels; managing vegetation to protect, shade, or reduce runoff on stream banks; and purchasing equipment to accomplish these tasks;
2. Rearing trout and salmon, including utility and service costs associated with coldwater hatchery buildings and systems; stocking trout and salmon in streams and lakes and Lake Superior; and monitoring and evaluating stocked trout and salmon;
3. Acquisition of easements and fee title along trout waters;
4. identifying easement and fee title areas along trout waters; and
5. Research and special management projects on trout streams, trout lakes, and Lake Superior and portions of its tributaries.

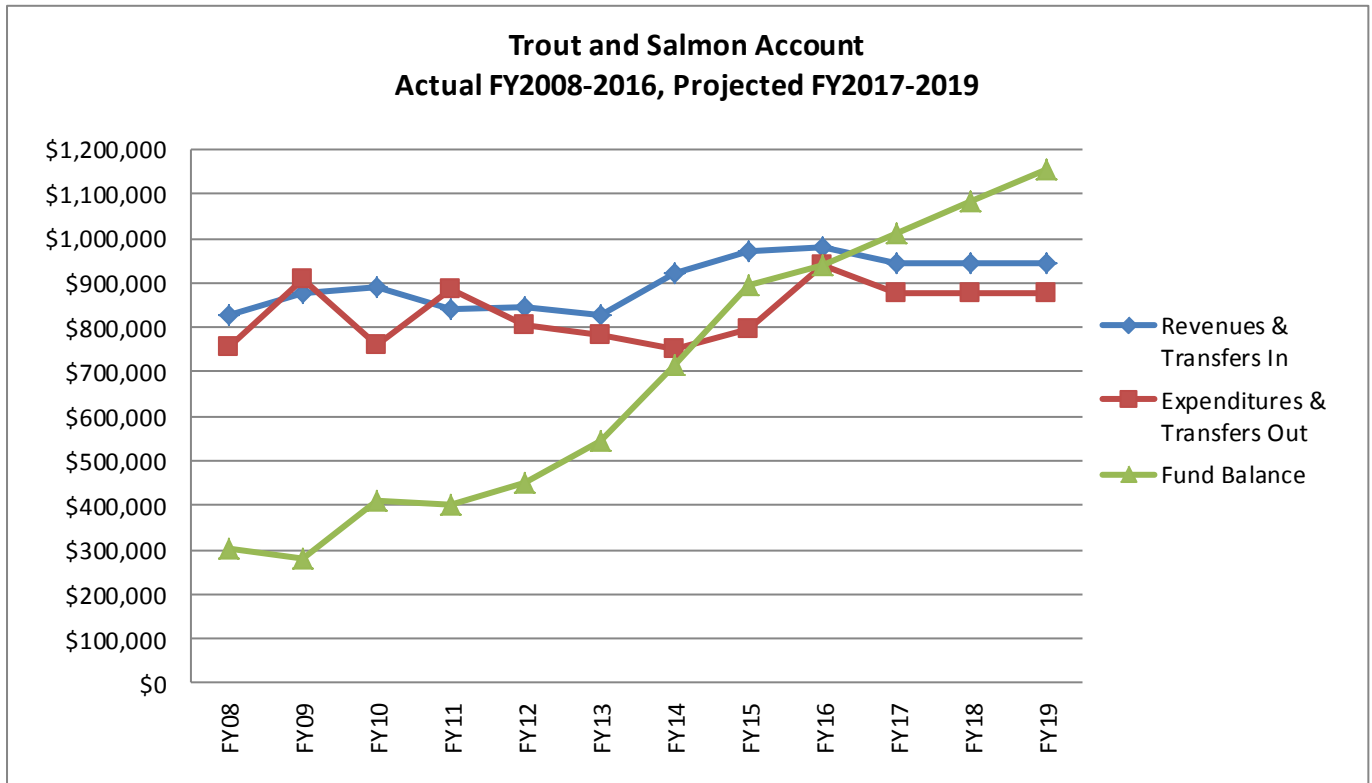
Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$893,624
Prior year adjustment	\$6,944
Receipts	
Trout Stamp	<u>\$978,678</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$978,678
Expenditures	
Fish & Wildlife	<u>\$938,013</u>
Total expenditures	\$938,013
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$941,233</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$47,609

(b) Money in the account may not be used for costs unless they are directly related to a specific parcel of land or body of water, to specific fish rearing activities under (2), or for costs associated with supplies and equipment to implement trout and salmon management activities.

Account Analysis

Trout and Salmon stamp sales have been increasing in recent years. Fish and Wildlife expects spending to keep pace with revenues and the fund balance to remain stable.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Expenditure projections are based on spending authorized in law for the current biennium and carried out through 2019. The department will manage levels of spending to ensure the account does not go negative as shown above.

Pheasant Habitat Improvement Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for pheasant habitat improvement.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Ninety percent of the revenue from pheasant stamps must be credited to the pheasant habitat improvement account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 4) Current stamp price \$7.50. (M.S. 97A.475, Subd. 5)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

1. The development, restoration, and maintenance of suitable habitat for ringnecked pheasants on public and private land including the establishment of nesting cover, winter cover, and reliable food sources;
2. Reimbursement of landowners for setting aside lands for pheasant habitat;
3. Reimbursement of expenditures to provide pheasant habitat on public and private land;
4. The promotion of pheasant habitat development and maintenance, including promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for pheasant habitat; and
5. The acquisition of lands suitable for pheasant habitat management and public hunting.

(Money in the account may not be used for:

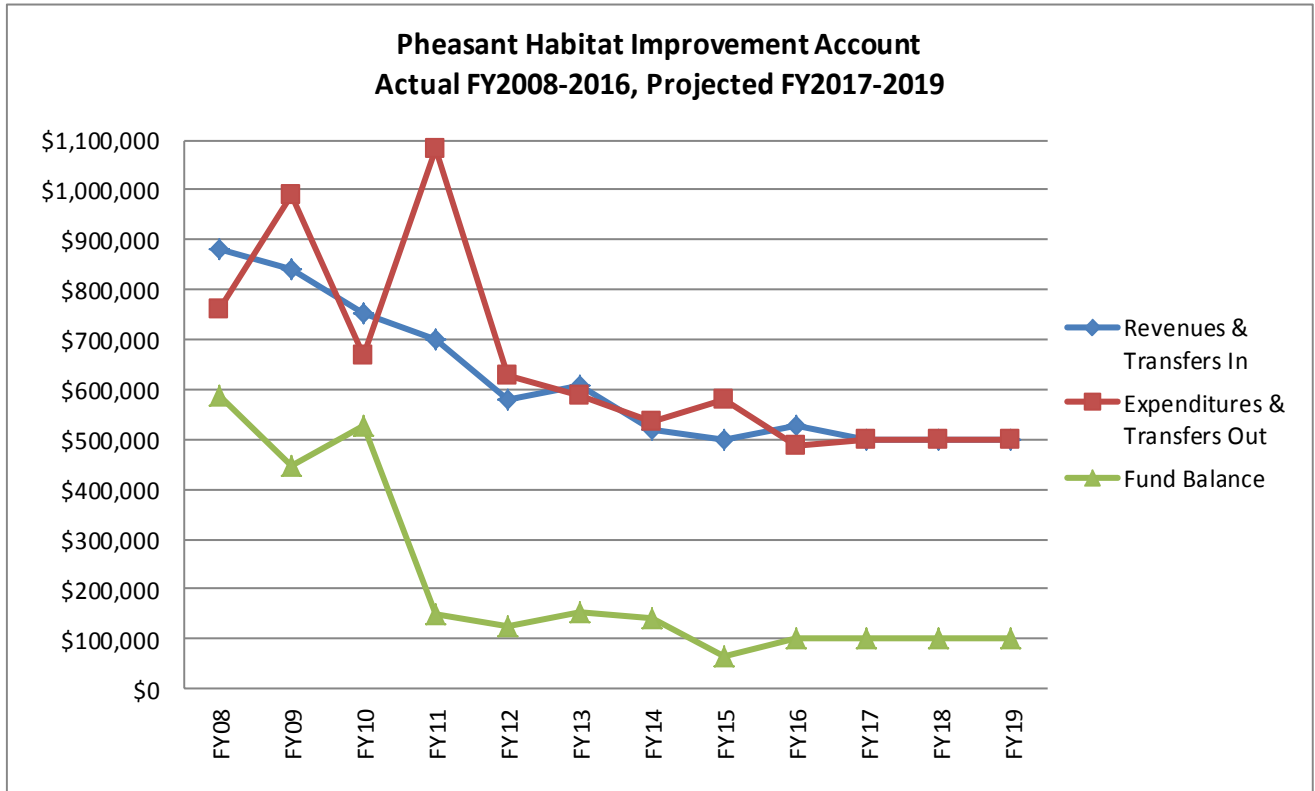
1. Costs that are not directly related to a specific parcel of land.; or
2. Any personnel costs, except that prior to July 1, 2019, personnel may be hired to provide technical and promotional assistance for private landowners to implement conservation provisions of state and federal programs.

Financial Review	
FY2015 Beginning fund balance	\$66,113
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Pheasant Stamp	\$525,608
Refunds from Prior Period	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$525,608
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$488,843</u>
Total expenditures	\$488,843
FY2015 Ending fund balance	<u>\$102,877</u>
Net change for FY2015	\$36,764

Account Analysis

Pheasant stamps sales have been trending downward. Fish and Wildlife plans to reduce spending in this account in order to create a larger balance to buffer the volatile nature of the account.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Wild Rice Management Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for wild rice management.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Wild Rice license sales. (M.S. 84.0911)

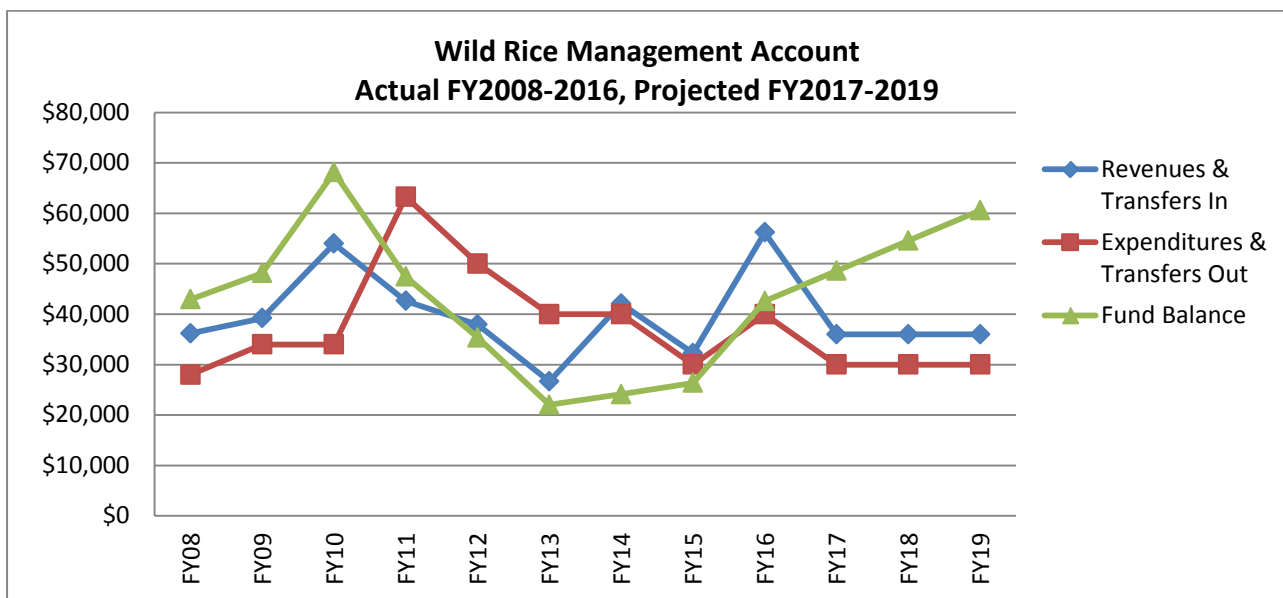
By statute, money in the account may only be used for management of designated public waters to improve natural wild rice production.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$26,379
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Wild Rice License	<u>\$56,209</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$56,209
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$40,000</u>
Total expenditures	\$40,000
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$42,588
Net change for FY2016	\$16,209

Account Analysis

Wild Rice license revenues fluctuate year to year depending on the wild rice crop available for harvest. Fish and Wildlife try to match the expenditures with the average revenues.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019





Wildlife Acquisition Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for land acquisition for the benefit of wildlife.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Revenue from the small game surcharge and \$6.50 annually from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, established in section M.S. 97A.4742, for each license issued under sections M.S. 97A.473, subdivisions 3 and 5, and M.S. 97A.474, subdivision 3. (M.S. 97A.071)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for;

1. At least 50 percent must be used for land costs; and
2. The remainder may only be used for other land acquisition costs, development, and maintenance of wildlife lands, and activities under subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. Waterfowl breeding grounds in Canada.

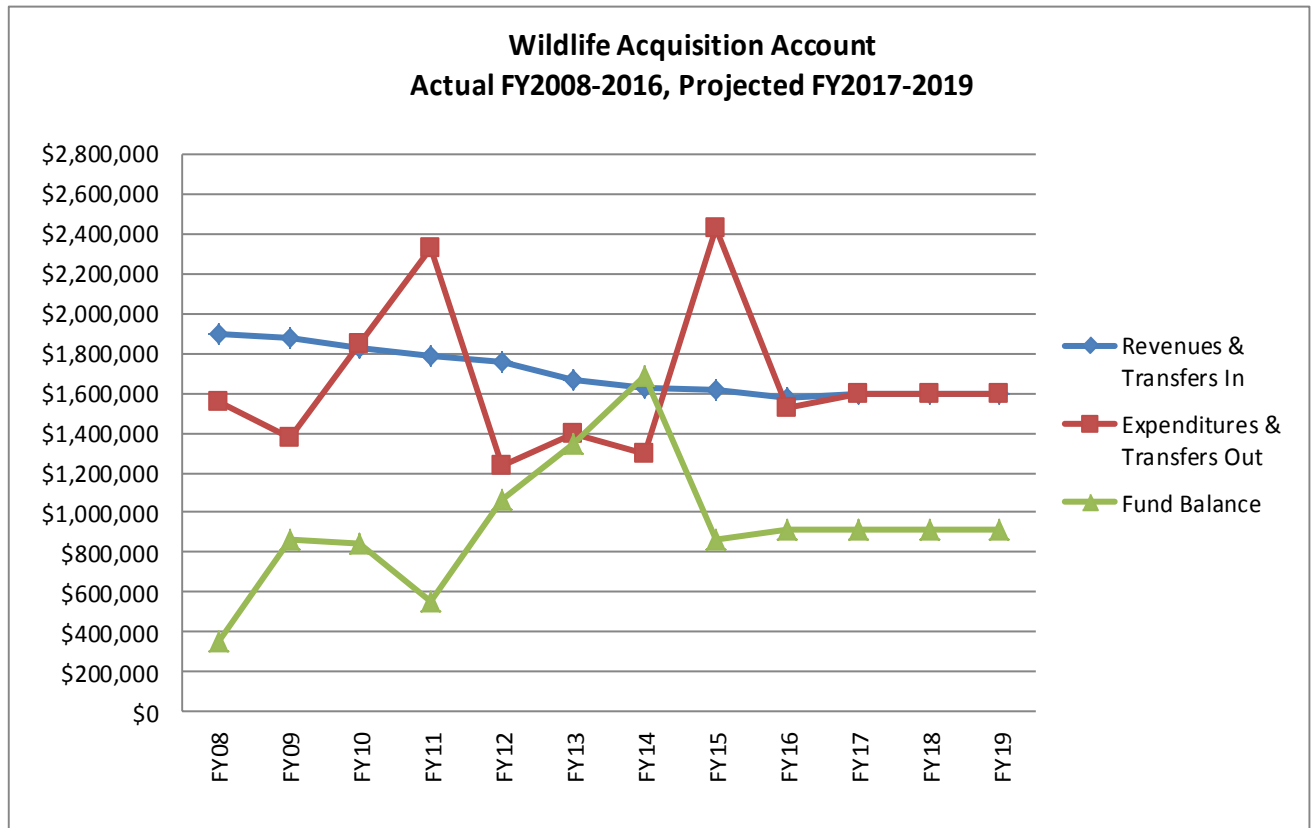
The wildlife acquisition account may be used for developing, preserving, restoring, and maintaining waterfowl breeding grounds in Canada under agreement or contract with any nonprofit organization dedicated to the construction, maintenance, and repair of projects that are acceptable to the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the land and water affected by the projects. The commissioner may execute agreements and contracts if the commissioner determines that the use of the funds will benefit the migration of waterfowl into the state.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$866,218
Prior year adjustment	\$92
Receipts	
Wildlife Acquisition Surcharge	<u>\$1,580,224</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$1,580,224
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$1,529,464</u>
Total expenditures	\$1,529,464
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$917,070</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$50,852

Account Analysis

Revenues from the small game surcharge have been declining in recent years. Expenditures vary from year to year due to timing of land acquisitions. An accounting error that occurred when the State switched accounting systems caused planned spending to greatly reduce the account balance. Fish and Wildlife have reduced planned spending to maintain at least a year-end balance of \$900K to provide sufficient cash flow. When adequate balance has been achieved, Fish and Wildlife plan to increase spending for large acquisition opportunities.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Wild Turkey Management Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for turkey habitat management.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

\$4.50 from each turkey license sold, except youth licenses under section M.S. 97A.475, subdivision 2, clause (4), and subdivision 3, clause (7), must be credited to the wild turkey management account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 5)

By statute, money in the account may only be used for;

1. The development, restoration, and maintenance of suitable habitat for wild turkeys on public and private land including forest stand improvement and establishment of nesting cover, winter roost area, and reliable food sources;
2. Acquisitions of, or easements on, critical wild turkey habitat;
3. Reimbursement of expenditures to provide wild turkey habitat on public and private land;
4. Trapping and transplantation of wild turkeys; and
5. The promotion of turkey habitat development and maintenance, population surveys and monitoring, and research.

(b) Money in the account may not be used for:

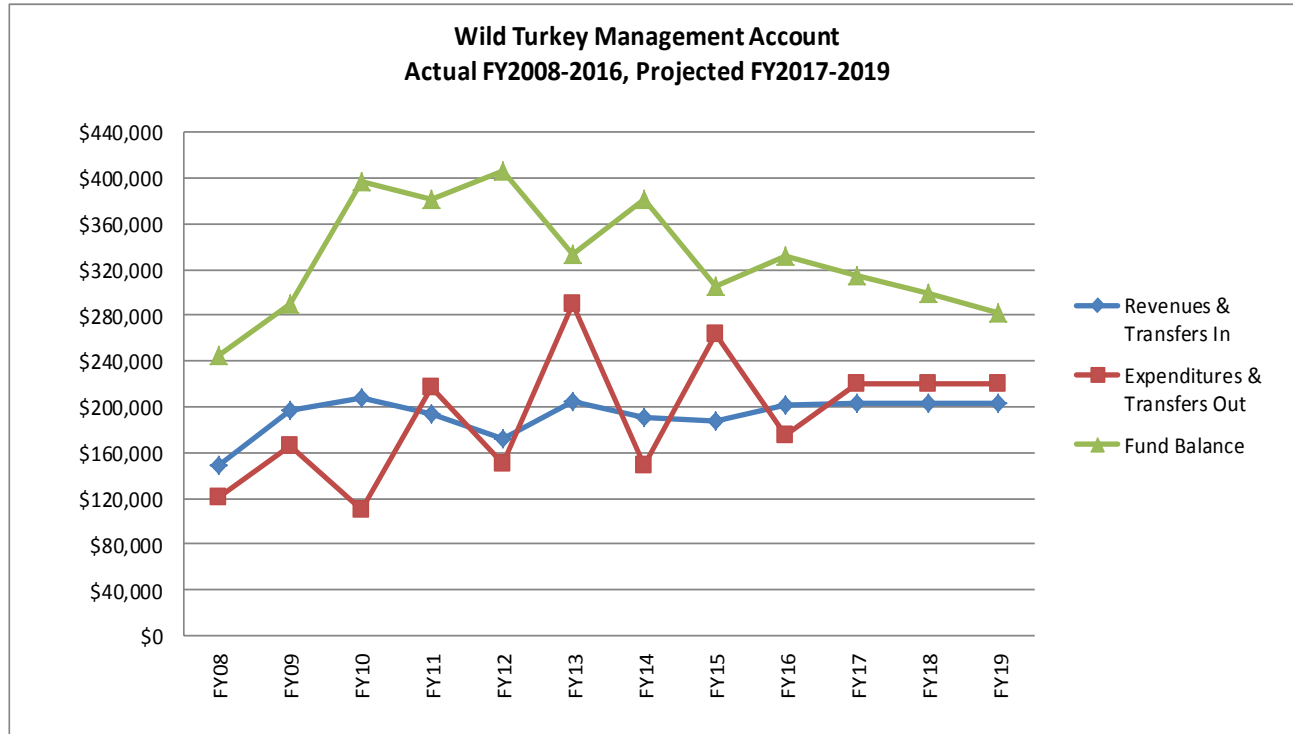
1. Costs that are not directly related to a specific parcel of land under paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3), a specific trap and transplant project under paragraph (a), clause (4), or to specific promotional or evaluative activities under paragraph (a), clause (5); or
2. Any permanent personnel costs.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$305,513
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Hunting Licenses	<u>\$201,011</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$201,011
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$175,064</u>
Total expenditures	\$175,064
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$331,460
Net change for FY2016	\$25,947

Account Analysis

Revenues credited to the Wild Turkey Management Account from turkey license sales have leveled out after many years of growth. The Division of Fish and Wildlife is spending down the fund balance over time while maintaining sufficient funds to meet cash flow needs.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Heritage Enhancement Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Creation and Purpose of the Account

The legislature created the Heritage Enhancement Account in the Game and Fish Fund in 2000. This account is for enhancement and protection of fish and wildlife resources.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Revenue in the Heritage Enhancement Account comes from the in-lieu-of-sales tax on the sale of lottery tickets. Of total in-lieu-of-sales tax receipts, 72.43 percent are currently deposited to accounts spent for environmental and natural resource purposes, 50 percent of which is directed to the Heritage Enhancement Account for spending on activities that improve, enhance or protect fish and wildlife resources, including conservation, restoration, and the enhancement of land, water and other natural resources. (M.S. 297A.94)

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$2,366,298
Prior year adjustment	\$100,777
Receipts	
Heritage Enhancement - Lottery-In-Lieu	\$13,908,607
Credit Agreement Rebate	\$2,541
Refund of Prior Period Expenditures	\$770
Agency Indirect Cost Reimbursement	<u>\$23,733</u>
Total Revenues and Transfers-in	\$13,935,651
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	\$7,337,353
Fish and Wildlife – Prairie Wetlands	\$208,579
Fish and Wildlife - Let's Go Fishing	\$373,375
Ecological & Water Resources	\$1,680,842
Enforcement	\$1,535,871
Forestry	<u>\$1,121,307</u>
Total Expenditures and Transfers-out	\$12,257,326
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$4,145,399</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$1,779,101

Notes - See fund statement for detail.

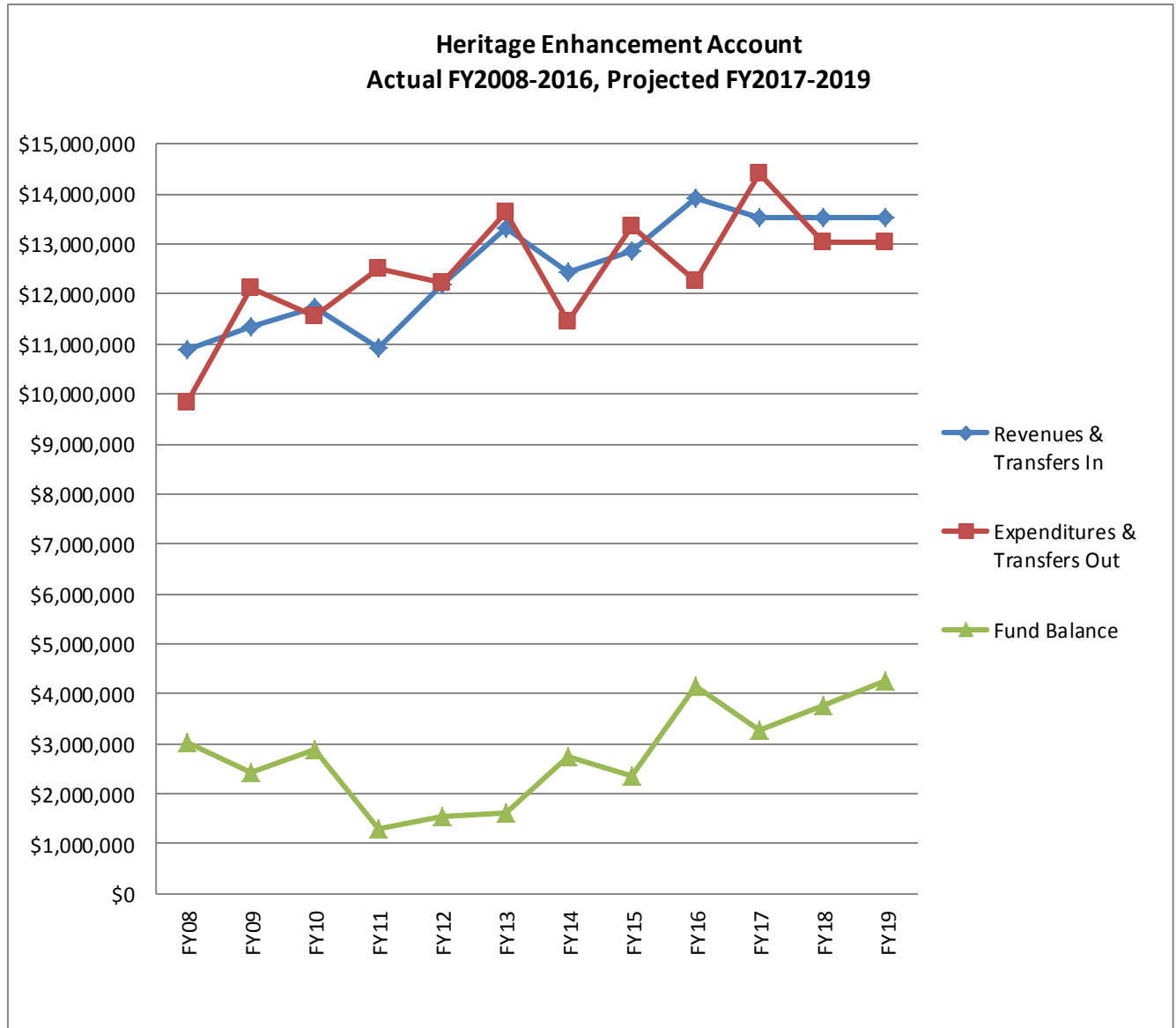
Description of Revenues

- 1) **Heritage Enhancement - Lottery-In-Lieu** – Receipts collected in lieu of sales tax on lottery sales – 50% of 72.43% of In lieu of lottery sales tax revenue must be deposited in to the Heritage Enhancement Account in the Game and Fish Fund.
- 2) **Credit Agreement Rebates** – Rebate received from purchasing card transactions
- 3) **Refund of Prior Period Expenditures** – Return of prior year payments to vendors.
- 4) **Agency Indirect Cost Reimbursement (Regional Indirect Cost Plan)** – Reimbursement for unused funds that were paid to the Regional Cost Plans (expense account 42040)

Account Analysis

Lottery revenues are projected to remain flat through fiscal year 2019. Current appropriations (expenditures) are a little less than expected average revenues, so the fund balance is projected to increase slightly through fiscal year 2019.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Expenditure projections are based on spending authorized in law for the current biennium and carried out through 2019.

Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Creation and Purpose of the Account

The lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund account was established as a fund in the state treasury by the legislator in 2000. (M.S. 97A.4742)

Sources and Uses of the Funds

All money received from the issuance of lifetime angling, spearing, angling and spearing, small game hunting, deer hunting, sporting, and sporting with spearing option licenses and earnings on the fund shall be credited to the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.

Money in the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund shall be invested by the State Investment Board to secure the maximum return consistent with the maintenance of the perpetuity of the fund. The income received and accruing from investments of the fund shall be deposited in the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund. Each year the commissioner of management and budget shall transfer from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund to the game and fish fund an amount equal to the amount that would otherwise have been collected from annual license fees for each lifetime license.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$10,690,119
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Fishing Licenses	\$364,524
Hunting Licenses	\$469,826
Sportsman Licenses	\$557,671
G-F Lifetime License Activations	(\$630,015)
ITC Interest Earnings	<u>\$2,990</u>
Total Revenues and Transfers-in	\$764,996
Expenditures	
	\$0
Total Expenditures and Transfers-out	\$0
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$11,455,115
Net change for FY2016	\$764,996

Note: See fund Statement for detail.

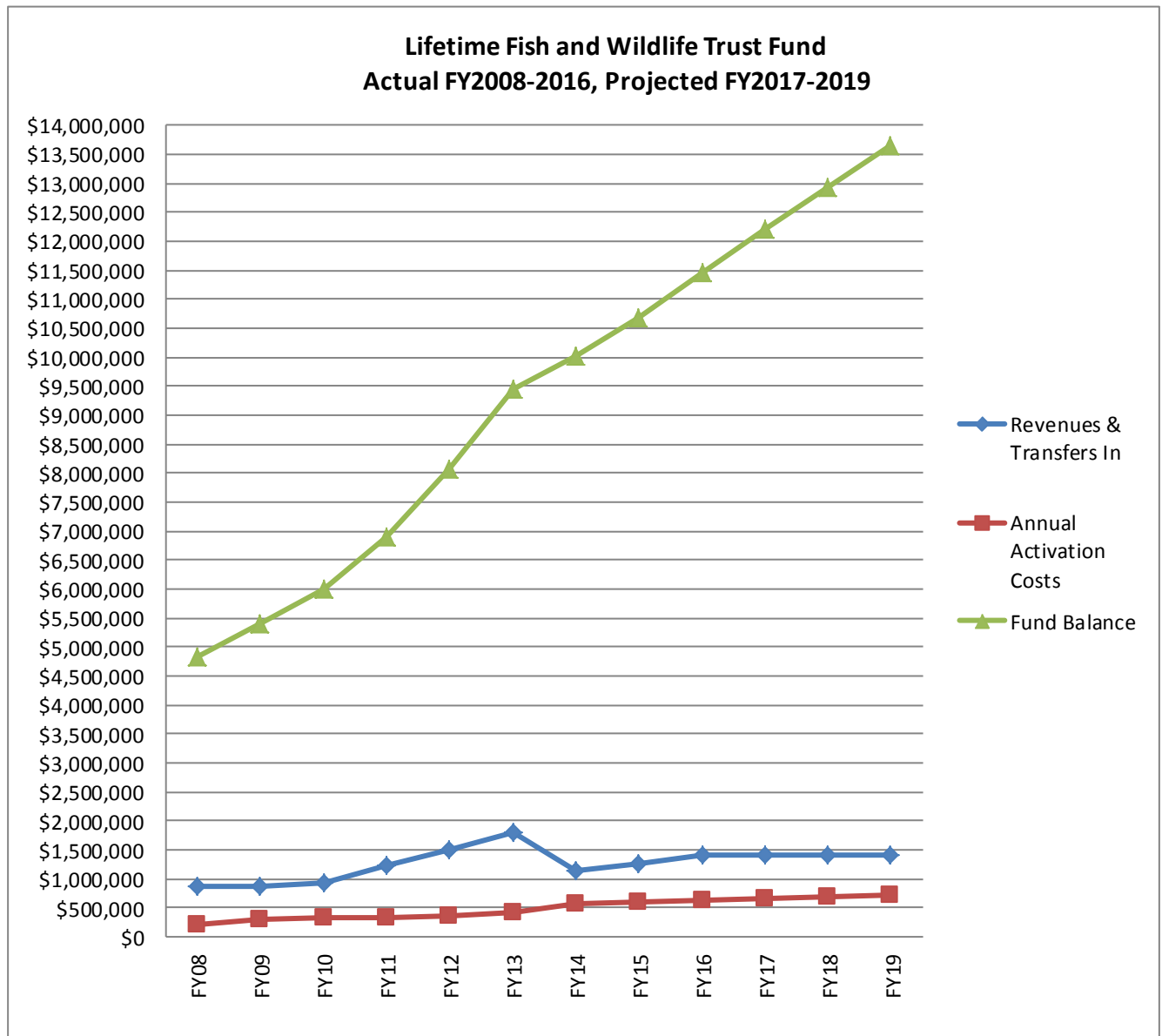
Description of Revenues

- 1) **Sales of Lifetime Licenses** – Hunting, fishing, small game, and sports.
- 2) **G&F Lifetime License Activations** – Deposit correction for total amount of activations for the license year (number of activations times current license prices). Funds are transfer from the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund to the fund and revenue accounts related to those licenses.
- 3) **ITC Interest Earnings** – Interest earning on balance not invested with State Board of Investments (SBI). Per accounting rules SBI investment income is not reflected in the fund statement.

Account Analysis

Lifetime license sales increased in fiscal years 2012 and 2013 before the price increases took effect. Sales then declined after the price increases. After a low year in fiscal year 2014, sales are now starting to increase. The Lifetime License Activation cost is listed as negative revenue. The amount of the Lifetime license activation transfers-out will increase each year due to the increased number of Lifetime license activations as the number of Lifetime license holders increase each year. The fund balance will continue to increase until the amount of the activation transfers-out exceeds the amount of new licenses sold. The net sales (license sales less activation transfers-out) are projected to trend downward starting in fiscal year 2017.

Financial Summary FY2008 to FY2019



Walleye Stamp Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

This account is for stocking walleyes purchased from the private sector in waters of the state.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Revenue from walleye stamps must be credited to the walleye stamp account and is appropriated to the commissioner only for stocking walleyes purchased from the private sector in waters of the state.

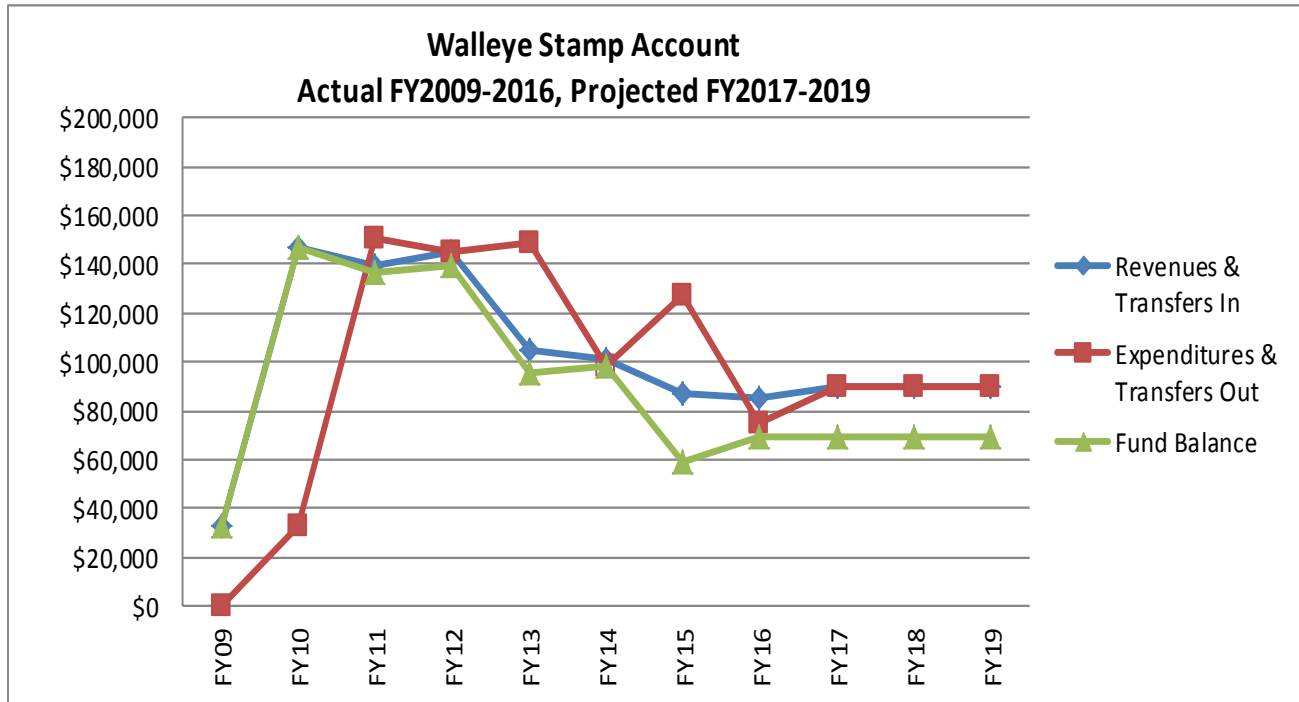
(M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 6)

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$59,144
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Walleye Stamp	<u>\$85,363</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$85,363
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$74,834</u>
Total expenditures	\$74,834
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$69,673</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$10,529

Account Analysis

There has been a decline in the optional walleye stamp since fiscal year 2012. Expenditures will be managed to prevent the balance from going negative.

Financial Summary FY2009 to FY2019



Peace Officer Training Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

The Peace Officer Training Account is created in the Game and Fish Fund in the state treasury. Money in the Peace Officer Training Account may only be spent by the commissioner for peace officer training for employees of the Department of Natural Resources who are licensed under sections M.S. 626.84 to 626.863 to enforce game and fish laws. (M.S. 97A.052)

Sources and Uses of the Funds

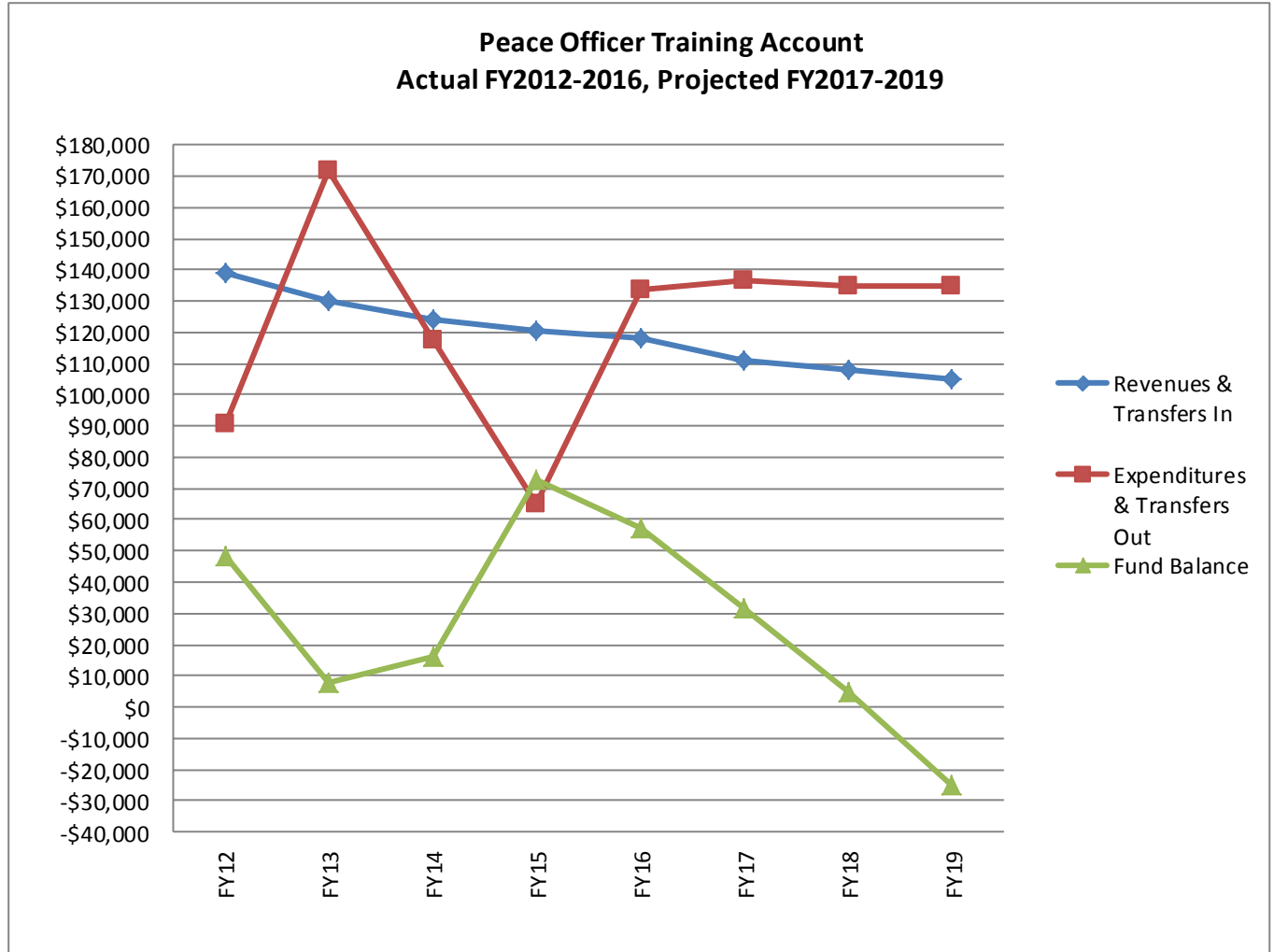
1% of the revenue from surcharges assessed to criminal and traffic offenders are deposited in the account. Money in the peace officer training account may only be spent by for peace officer training for enforcement officers of the Department of Natural Resources.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$72,608
Prior year adjustment	\$313
Receipts	
General K/T Surcharge	\$117,814
Credit Agreement Rebate	\$42
Total receipts and transfers in	\$117,855
Expenditures	
Enforcement	\$133,318
Total expenditures	\$133,318
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$57,458
Net change for FY2016	(\$15,150)

Account Analysis

Revenues have been in decline since the inception of the account. This account is appropriated by the legislature. Currently the annual appropriation is \$135 thousand per year. Revenues in fiscal year 2016 were only \$117,855 and are expected to be lower in future years. Enforcement will manage their expenses to prevent the account from going negative.

Financial Summary FY2012 to FY2019



Expenditure projections are based on spending authorized in law for the current biennium and carried out through FY2019. The department will manage levels of spending to ensure the account does not go negative as shown above.

Wolf Management and Monitoring Account

*Game and Fish Fund
Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Purpose of the Account

The Wolf Management and Monitoring Account was created during the 2012 Legislative session in the Game and Fish Fund. Revenue from wolf licenses must be credited to the Wolf Management and Monitoring Account and is appropriated to the commissioner only for wolf management, research, damage control, enforcement, and education.

Sources and Uses of the Funds

Wolf license application fees and licenses sales and \$.50 from each deer and super-sports license sold are credited to this account. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1e and 7b) Wolf hunting and trapping seasons and associated license sales ceased when the grey wolf reverted from state to federal jurisdiction on December 19th, 2014, due to a federal court ruling related to the recovery status of the Great Lakes region wolf population.

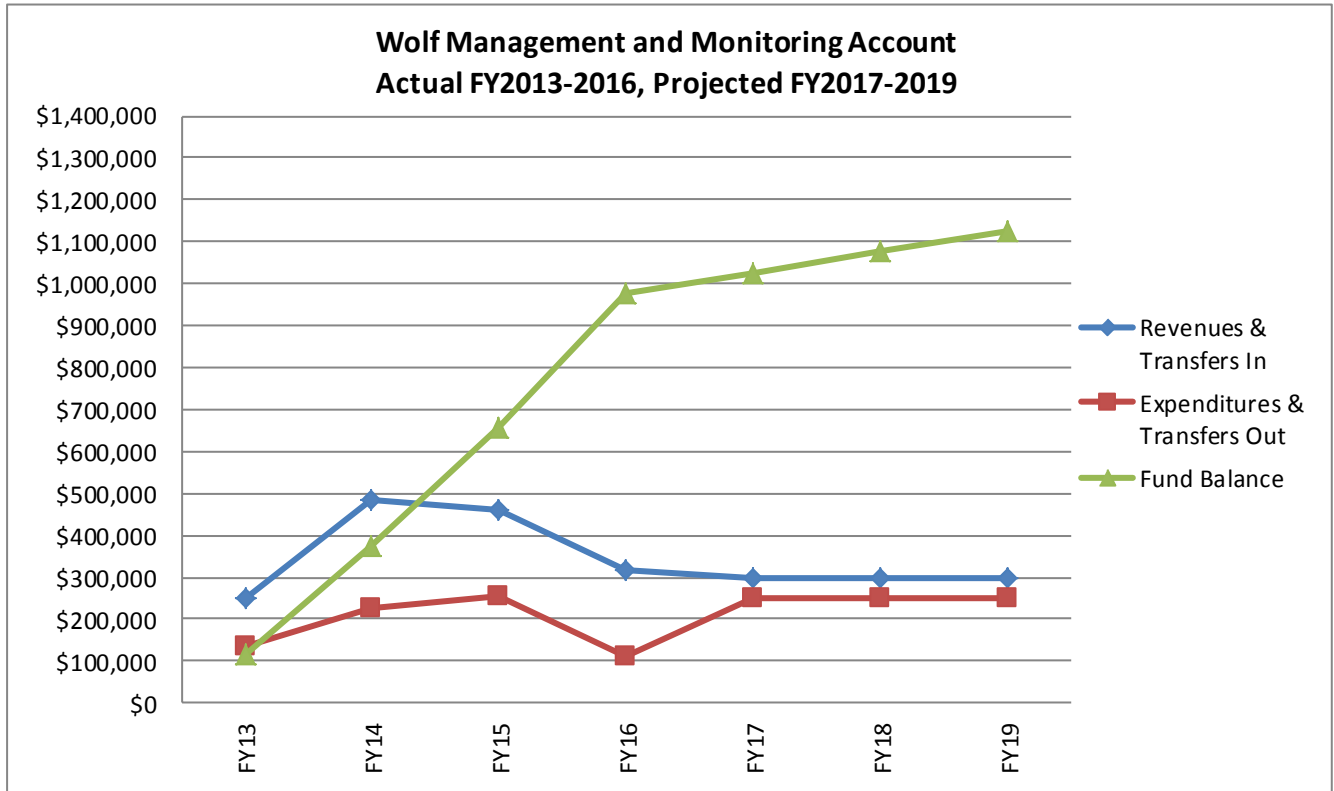
Funds are only used for wolf; management, research, damage control, enforcement, and education. (M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 7b)

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$655,616
Prior year adjustment	\$112,554
Receipts	
Wolf Hunting and Trapping Licenses	\$0
Wolf Allocation	<u>\$317,468</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$317,468
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$110,000</u>
Total expenditures	\$110,000
FY2016 Ending fund balance	<u>\$975,638</u>
Net change for FY2016	\$320,022

Account Analysis

Wolf account revenues declined with the loss of wolf license application fees and license sales. The account's current source of revenue is \$.50 from each deer license. The fund balance is expected to increase over time.

Financial Summary FY2013 to FY2019



Outcomes/Accomplishments

Fish Management

1. Population Management

Population management includes the assessment and documentation of biological, chemical, physical, social, and economic factors affecting and resulting from existing aquatic populations, communities, and ecosystems. Assessments are used to inform management plans and actions designed to enhance or conserve healthy and sustainable aquatic populations, communities, and ecosystems. Management actions include stocking, setting regulations, habitat protection and enhancement, etc. Management actions are regularly evaluated to assess their effectiveness.

Accomplishments:

- Reviewed and updated 328 lake and stream management plans. These plans serve as a template for compiling survey information, assessing and evaluating management actions, and recommending future management activities such as stocking or habitat manipulation.
- Conducted 795 lake surveys and 148 stream surveys. Surveys provide the foundation for fisheries management by providing information to guide management activities. Lake surveys and lake management plans are available at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html>
Note: Tracking the total number of lake surveys conducted each year is no longer a straightforward indicator of the amount of assessment work completed. In 2012 we reduced netting intensity for lake surveys, leading to a new standard survey type starting in 2015 that reduced the number of components measured in each survey. Also during that time, we started utilizing clean water funds to support up to 100 specialized surveys each year.
- Conducted 17 angler creel surveys which provides critical data to inform management activities such as stocking, rule making, and the potential need for regulation changes.
- Reviewed and issued 1,532 commercial fishing licenses. Commercial licenses issued through fisheries include commercial harvest, aquaculture, minnow dealers, turtle sellers, and Lake Superior fishing guides. The commercial fishing industry provides a critical service by removing select non-game fish that can compete with, and negatively impact certain game fish species. The commercial fishing industry also contributes to the natural resource based economy by providing jobs, local food products, fish for stocking, and bait.
- Reviewed and issued 390 fishing tournament permits.
- The Fisheries pathology laboratory tested 18,233 specimens for Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), 7,299 specimens for state and private aquaculture facilities, and four fish kill investigations. The Fisheries pathology laboratory conducts a variety of fish health examinations to protect against potential disease transfer from one water body to another through fish stocking activities; assess fish health in state and private fish hatcheries; and assess various fish kills or disease outbreaks.
- Portions of the stream survey database pertaining to fish sampling and water quality are now being used to store survey data. Other portions of the database specific to streams (habitat measures, hydrology, and connectivity) are still in development. Because much of the data collected in stream surveys does not overlap with lake survey data, we have had to create most of the stream portions of the database from scratch. This process has been more time-consuming than anticipated. In addition, specialized reports to retrieve data from the database need to be

created. We hope to have the database ready to store all stream data during the 2017 field season.

- Worked collaboratively with various tribal governments, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, border state agencies, and non-profit groups to enhance lake sturgeon habitat and populations throughout the state. Approximately 17,559 fingerling lake sturgeon were stocked into seven lakes and 226,136 lake sturgeon fry were stocked into two lakes.

2. Habitat Management

Habitat management includes Aquatic Plant Management permitting, and assessment and monitoring of biological, chemical, physical, social, and economic factors affecting and resulting from habitat that influences aquatic populations, communities, and ecosystems. Assessments are used to inform management plans and actions designed to enhance or conserve healthy ecosystems. Biological monitoring is used to evaluate ecosystem condition, and easement monitoring is conducted to document compliance with conservation easement agreements. Aquatic Plant Management permitting is used to balance resource protection with reasonable recreational use, following guidelines in administrative rules. Management actions include protecting existing critical habitat through land purchases or easements, designing and implementing habitat restoration and enhancement projects, and working with partners to influence watershed planning. Management actions are regularly evaluated to assess their effectiveness.

Accomplishments:

- Secured one trout stream easement totaling 0.5 miles and 8.8 acres that will provide enhanced access to trout fisheries.
- Purchased six fee-title tracts totaling 3.4 miles of shoreline and 344 acres for Aquatic Management Areas that provide additional recreational access and protection of aquatic resources.
- Reviewed and issued 900 new aquatic plant management permits.
- Reviewed and issued 3,800 renewal aquatic plant management permits. The permit process ensures that removal of native aquatic vegetation enhances recreational opportunities while not negatively impacting fishery resources.
- Developed habitat on five coldwater streams, 22.8 miles of stream. These projects include placing structures such as wood or rock into a stream, and bank stabilization or channel modification to restore or enhance habitat for various trout species. Enhanced trout habitat contributes to more healthy and abundant fish populations.
- Maintained habitat on 26 coldwater streams, benefitting 283 miles of stream. These project are intended to sustain existing high quality trout habitat by removing beaver dams and maintaining healthy stream bank vegetation through plantings, protection, and removal of invasive plants.
- Developed habitat on four warmwater streams, creating upstream access to 2,664 acres of lake habitat and 57 miles of stream.
- One fishing pier was installed to increase access to fishery resources.
- Facilitated aquatic plant restoration projects at 28 sites to restore 8,675 feet of lake front shoreline. Restoration projects included installing native vegetation in highly erosive and sensitive areas and removal of invasive species such as buckthorn.
- Proposed adding two lakes and portions of 19 streams totaling 54 miles to the designated trout list. Proposed adding short segments of 29 currently designated trout streams to the list. These segments were missed when the streams were originally designated. Proposed removing one lake and 41 streams from the designated trout list. Proposed corrections to the names of 190 designated streams in rule to eliminate potential confusion as to which stream is designated. Changes expected to be adopted by the end of FY 2017.

3. Culture and Stocking

Culture and stocking involves the collection of spawning fish, taking of gametes, rearing, and stocking of fish to create or enhance fisheries populations. Stocking priorities are guided by Fisheries lake and river management plans.

Accomplishments:

- Contributed to an estimated \$2.4 billion dollars in economic activity from fishing and fishing-related expenditures by stocking more than 230 million fish in 942 different lakes and 68 rivers.
- Five different species of trout were stocked into 218 lakes and 58 streams, including:
 - Approximately 825,000 rainbow trout, 410,000 brown trout, 100,000 brook trout, 70,000 lake trout, and 75,000 splake.
- Twelve different species of cool and cold water fish were stocked into 724 lakes and 9 rivers, including:
 - Approximately 227,000,000 walleye, 2,300,000 northern pike, 50,000 bluegill, and 42,000 muskellunge.
- The Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN) program stocked 37,000 bluegills, 420,000 walleye fry, 3,000 walleye fingerlings and adults, 1,000 yellow perch, and 11,000 channel catfish into 39 lakes to increase angling opportunities which helped increase public awareness and environmental stewardship within the seven-county metro region.
- Purchased 4,610 pounds of walleyes from private aquaculture facilities, using walleye stamp funds, which were stocked into seven lakes in the Hinckley area.
- Updated biosecurity at our coolwater hatcheries in Tower, Bemidji, and Fergus Falls. With the expansion of aquatic invasive species and the threat of pathogens, upgrading biosecurity at our hatcheries is a priority to ensure we can meet our stocking goals.

4. Education, Outreach, and Rulemaking

Education and outreach involves facilitating and participating in initiatives to communicate the economic, social, and biological benefits of conserving, enhancing, and providing access to aquatic resources. It also involves facilitating efforts to inform and involve stakeholders in Fisheries Section management activities and actions.

Rulemaking is a tool used by the Fisheries Section to assure aquatic resources are not over-exploited, manage populations to provide sustainable and optimal population dynamics, and prevent the movement and expansion of undesirable aquatic populations.

Accomplishments:

- Provided educational tours and hands-on learning experiences to more than 2,000 people at the five coldwater fish hatcheries.
- Distributed the Trout Angling guide and map book for southern and central Minnesota, which is available at: http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/trout_streams/south-2015/map_all.pdf
- Completed five rulemaking processes to manage and conserve fisheries resources. They were: revised rules to manage waters with special or experimental fishing regulations; modified list of waters closed to taking northern pike by spearing; and adoption of three expedited regulations on Mille Lacs Lake and Red Lake to assure Treaty agreements were met.
- Completed a comprehensive public engagement and communication strategy to actively engage stakeholders who want to see improvements to northern pike fishing and spearing opportunities. The communication strategy included public meetings, a human dimensions survey, and an open

comment period on the DNR internet site. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to improve and sustain northern pike fishing and spearing for those who are harvest-oriented. Presented the results to the State Legislature in the form of a bill to update statewide northern pike regulations. The bill received broad support but did not pass. This led to planning for expedited rule making for FY17.

- Provided educational materials and staff for the State Fair.

5. Planning and Coordination

Planning and coordination involves developing internal and external planning documents that guide Fisheries Section activities and provide a framework for communicating and assessing management actions. Examples include division strategic plans, specific fish species management plans, and lake management plans. Plans are developed in coordination and collaboration with stakeholders including general anglers, commercial anglers, tribal units of government, other state agencies, federal agencies, and environmental non-profit groups.

Accomplishments:

- Finalized the Lake Superior Management Plan in fiscal year 2016 and began implementation.
- Coordinated with MPCA to develop a framework for prioritizing where to implement protection strategies as part of the state’s watershed approach to clean water. Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) are written for each watershed assessed by MPCA. An interagency committee of DNR and MPCA staff are working to produce guidance by the end of FY2017.
- Updated Fish Kill Investigation Manual. This document provides fish and water sampling protocols, checklists for an investigation, and contacts for various state agencies. Being reviewed by MPCA and MN Department of Agriculture. Expected to be finalized in FY2017.
- Collaborated with the Division of Forestry to protect the forested watersheds of important cisco lakes in the state using Forest for the Future easements in five cisco lake watersheds to protect private forests in these watersheds: Ten Mile Lake in Cass County, Big Sand and Kabekona Lakes in Hubbard County, and Big Trout and Pelican Lakes in Crow Wing County. We have successfully exceeded our threshold for protection in the Ten Mile Lake watershed.

Fish Management Expenditures for FY2016								
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>								
Fisheries Fund	Habitat Mgmt	Population Mgmt	Culture & Stocking	Planning & Coord	Educ & Outreach	Division Services	Dept Services	Fund Total
2200	2,956.2	10,550.7	3,590.5	4,575.1	1,505.2	2,353.6	3,941.0	29,472.3
2204	144.1	117.1	676.8	0.0				938.0
2209	166.7	371.9	3,056.1	1.9	0.2		415.6	4,012.4
2211			74.8					74.8
Total	3,267.0	11,039.8	7,398.2	4,577.1	1,505.4	2,353.6	4,356.6	34,497.6

Wildlife Management

1. Wildlife – Population Management

Activities to manage and monitor populations of small game, furbearers, migratory game birds including waterfowl, resident game birds, and big game in order to provide hunting and wildlife observing recreation, and to monitor and manage disease outbreaks.

A. Big Game Activities

To administer the big game seasons and regulations process so that seasons are supported by enforceable rules and that populations are maintained at appropriate levels supported by the public, as well as monitoring and managing big game health.

Accomplishments:

- Managed the deer, elk and bear hunts for 2015 to provide hunt opportunities.
- Continued implementation of the Moose Management and Research Plan to better understand moose population decline and dynamics.
 - Preliminary results continue to show that, of radio-collared moose that have died, ~60% died due to health-related conditions. The remainder were otherwise healthy animals that were killed by wolves.
 - The DNR has formed an internal moose advisory committee that will be charged with making moose management recommendations based on knowledge gained from ongoing research.
 - Annual survival rate for 2016 (year 4) is 95% through June 2016. Previous annual survival rates from this study were: 81% (2013), 88% (2014), and 85% (2015).
 - Our calf helicopter surveys during fall 2015 and late March 2016 (just prior to the new calving season) documented a 40% survival of calves to 1 year of age. That is almost double the near-annual calf survival rate we reported for 2013 (< 26% survival), which reflects how these important drivers of population performance can vary annually.
 - Pregnancy rate: 88.6% with 31 of 35 remaining GPS-collared females having calved to date. Over the 4 years of the study the calving rate has remained on par compared to the North American average for moose of 83%.
- Coordinated with wildlife health program on targeted surveillance for chronic wasting disease (CWD) as well as research-focused and opportunistic sampling of deer, elk, and moose to effectively monitor for early detection of diseases to improve population management.
- Completed the administrative rules for big game and revised the hunting synopsis to provide big game hunting opportunities.
- Distributed and evaluated hunter and landowner surveys (n = 24,498) regarding deer population management for 60 permits areas in the state to better understand social aspects of deer populations to apply to population and hunt management.
- Completed a public process to update the 2009-2015 Strategic Elk Management Plan to guide elk population management and recreational opportunity through 2019. Adopted an intermediate elk management plan to stabilize current populations per 2016 legislative statute.
- Cooperated with the Office of the Legislative Auditor in their audit of the Deer Management Program. Audit completed and program responded to findings.
- Conducted broad public engagement process to begin work on drafting of Minnesota's first statewide deer management plan. Broad public engagement related to the Office of the Legislative Auditor's Evaluation of Deer Management.

B. Wild Turkey Activities

To administer the spring and fall turkey seasons and regulations process so that seasons are supported by enforceable rules so that populations are sustainable while providing quality hunting opportunities.

Accomplishments:

- Managed spring and fall turkey seasons, including the development and communication of administrative rules and completion of the 2015 Harvest Report to provide hunting opportunities and feedback to turkey hunters.
- Implemented new spring turkey season structure.

C. Waterfowl Activities

To collect and analyze results of waterfowl population survey data and prepare reports and publications so that information is available to assure that waterfowl population resources are available for hunting consistent with biological principles, state goals, and clearly written regulations.

Accomplishments:

- Breeding ground population surveys conducted for ducks, Canada geese, and sandhill cranes to inform wildlife enthusiasts and hunting season framework for the coming year.
- Waterfowl surveys were completed several times on several key fall migration areas in northern Minnesota. Provided reports on waterfowl habitat conditions, populations, and general hunting success to interested individuals by posting weekly reports on the DNR website to inform waterfowl hunters and enthusiasts of potential recreational opportunities.
- Co-sponsored annual Waterfowl Symposium with the Minnesota Waterfowl Association (MWA), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Bloomington to share management information between agencies and attendees to improve waterfowl management.

D. Wildlife Registration Activities

Manage the state's wildlife registration systems so that accurate and timely information is available to make sound season management decisions.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to register deer, bear, and turkeys through the ELS system to inform management decisions and report to the public.
- Registered the take of fisher, marten and bobcat for population modeling and to inform the public.
- Continued working with Licensing to renew the ELS contract to continue to provide local license buying and hunter registration services.
- Participated in the review of the current ELS system and made recommendations for changes. Explored new vendors and "in-house" ELS development.

E. Other Activities

To administer other wildlife hunting seasons and regulations processes so that seasons are supported by enforceable rules and so that populations are maintained at appropriate levels supported by the public as well as monitoring and managing wildlife health.

Accomplishments:

- Managed the prairie chicken limited season, including the development and communication of administrative rules, and completion of 2015 Harvest Report to provide recreational opportunity and information to the public.

- Completed small game rules and communicated changes to the public.
- Clarified regulations on noise levels for those camping at overnight use areas on wildlife management areas.
- Adjusted regulations on state game refuges and sanctuaries to provide hunting, trapping other recreational opportunities where possible.
- Began work on permanent rules that address nontoxic shot use on wildlife management areas in the farmland zone, small game possession limits and regulations that have been in effect for several seasons as temporary rules.
- Reduced the daily limit for white-tailed jackrabbit to one with three in possession to reflect a long-term population decline.

2. Wildlife – Habitat Management

Activities to establish, improve and maintain wildlife habitat on the 1.3 million acre network of state Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), on the states shallow lake resources, as well as on other public and private land through resource assessment, technical guidance and through active management of grasslands, forests, brushlands, and wetlands to protect habitats and to provide food, water and shelter for native, migrant and other featured wildlife species.

A. Grassland Habitat Management Activity

Management of wildlife habitats in the Prairie and Aspen Parklands ecological provinces of Minnesota includes restoring and enhancing prairie and other grasslands on WMAs, as well as other DNR and non-DNR public lands, controlling invasive species, managing food plots and cooperative farming agreements, and developing winter cover plantings. These activities collectively provide the best wildlife habitat for a range of game and non-game species, as well as pollinators. Habitat loss and fragmentation, declines in species diversity, degradation of soil and water resources, and invasive species are immediate threats to our grassland system.

Accomplishments:

- Finalized the Pheasant Summit Action Plan
- Identified pheasant habitat complexes on the landscape
- 8,699 acres of Noxious Weed Control on 488 WMAs as required by law
- 1,810 acres of food development on 229 plots to provide winter food resources for wildlife
- 32,316 acres in 824 Cooperative Farming Agreements to provide winter food and cover, and to enhance habitat for wildlife
- 18,626 acres in 238 Rx burns to enhance the quality of grassland habitats for wildlife
- 15 acres of woody cover development on 9 WMAs to provide winter cover for wildlife
- 2,664 acres of Prairie/Grassland Establishment on 126 WMAs to provide habitat for grassland wildlife
- 162 acres of Prairie/Grassland Establishment on 8 other public land units to provide habitat for grassland wildlife
- 6,672 acres of Woody vegetation Removal on 211 WMAs to enhance the quality of grassland habitats for wildlife
- 10,108 acres of conservation grazing on 26 WMAs to enhance the quality of grassland habitats for wildlife
- 689 acres of other grassland management activities on 64 sites to enhance the quality of grassland habitats for wildlife

B. Forest Habitat Management Activity

Management of wildlife habitats in forested areas of Minnesota includes forest and open brushland management activities on WMAs, state forests, and other public lands. This activity is needed to mitigate habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation that are identified as the primary challenges facing forest wildlife. Almost one third of the state's 292 species in greatest conservation need inhabit forests. See the Technical Guidance Program section for additional details on forest planning efforts. Program expenses contributed to the following outcomes.

Accomplishments:

- 13,960 acres in 36 Brushland Rx burns to enhance the quality of brushland habitats for wildlife
- 22,756 acres in Brushland management on 63 Sites to enhance the quality of brushland habitats for wildlife
- 920 acres in 22 Forest Rx burns to enhance the quality of forest habitats for wildlife
- 642 acres of forest opening management on 259 opening to enhance forest habitat for wildlife that thrive on small forest openings
- 44,353 acres of Forest Stand Improvements on 2,221 sites to enhance forest habitat for wildlife

C. Wetland Habitat Management Activity

Management of wetland wildlife habitats involves the restoration of drained wetlands, maintenance of existing wetlands by replacing water control structures, managing water levels, maintaining dikes and structures, and the improvement of aquatic habitats by seeding desirable aquatic plants, installing fish barriers, reduction of undesirable fish populations and installing nesting structures. This activity is needed to combat obvious wetland loss and the poor quality of remaining wetlands. Only 20 percent of prairie wetlands are considered to be in good habitat condition due to invading plant species, undesirable fish, and excessive water levels. Increased private land drainage is exacerbating the problems. Additionally, there are more than 700 DNR water management structures and over one-third of them are over 30 years old. Future work should focus more resources on active management of wetlands and addressing the backlog of work to maintain or replace water management structures.

Accomplishments:

- 122,973 acres of Wetland Habitat Maintenance on 470 basins to enhance wetland habitat for wildlife
- 1,726 Nest Structures Maintained on 384 basins to provide nesting habitat for wetland wildlife
- 196 acres of Wetland Restored on 76 basins to provide new habitat for wetland dependent wildlife
- 11,516 acres of Wetlands impacted by Wetland Water Control work on 49 basins to enable wetland habitat enhancement for wildlife through water level manipulation
- 31,462 acres of Wetland Enhancements on 181 basins to enhance wetland habitat for wildlife
- 31,547 acres on 105 wild rice lakes were actively managed to improve conditions for wild rice for the benefit of wetland wildlife that utilize wild rice stands. Additional wild rice work was done as part of the Wetland Habitat Maintenance and Wetland Enhancement work shown in the previous bullets.

D. Private Land Habitat Management Activity

Private land habitat management is accomplished primarily through assistance provided by private lands specialists within the Wildlife Habitat Program. Each of the habitat teams (forest, wetland, and prairie) has a private land specialist that emphasizes their team's focus. Primary emphasis is habitat management through coordinating with agencies and organizations which influence private lands programs; implementing strategic habitat improvement projects on private lands; and providing technical assistance to private landowners, so the DNR's contribution can be leveraged, efficient and effective. The accomplishments listed below are results where DNR contributed directly to those efforts. Coordinated efforts are tracked in hours

in the Technical Guidance section. An additional \$250,000 was provided to the Farm Bill Assistance Partnership, which is a joint effort between DNR, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, Pheasants Forever (PF), Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service that places staff in the local USDA Service Center to actively engage landowners in conservation programs that benefit wildlife.

Accomplishments:

- 373.25 acres of food plots to provide winter food for wildlife
- 3.5 acres of woody cover development to provide winter cover for wildlife
- 1,924.1 acres of grassland development to create new grassland habitat for wildlife
- 1,510 acres of forest management to enhance forest habitat for wildlife
- 1,422 acres of prescribed burning to enhance habitat for wildlife
- 230.7 acres of brushland restoration to enhance habitat for wildlife

E. Habitat Assessment Activity

Resource assessment includes efforts to inventory, assess and map aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and to create and maintain digital databases for information management. Expenditures included: digital information management, mapping, wildlife resource assessment and wildlife lake assessments.

Accomplishments:

- 107,431 acres of wildlife lake assessments on 234 lakes to identify needs for shallow lake enhancement for wildlife
- Assessment and monitoring of plant species and structural diversity on prairie restorations and conservation grazing sites
- Assessment of habitat use of sharp-tailed grouse
- Development of forest wildlife habitat metrics
- Assessing the value of permanently managed wildlife openings for American woodcock

F. Land Acquisitions Activity

Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) are part of Minnesota's outdoor recreation system and are established to protect those lands and waters that have a high potential for wildlife production, public hunting, trapping, fishing, wildlife watching and other compatible recreational uses.

Accomplishments:

- Acquired a total of 6,270 acres by gift or purchase in FY2016 to add to WMAs to provide wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, summarized as follows:
 - 2,700 acres in the prairie zone – species benefited include ring-necked pheasant
 - 1,525 acres in the northern forest zone - species benefited include sharp-tailed grouse
 - 660 acres in the metro/deciduous transition zone – species benefited include waterfowl
 - 1,390 acres in the southeast forest zone - species benefited include wild turkey

G. Technical Guidance Activity

Although Minnesota's WMA system is one of the largest and best in the nation, most wildlife habitat exists on private and public land administered by other agencies or DNR Divisions. Providing technical guidance on effective wildlife population and habitat management principles and techniques to these other land administrators is essential for improvements to wildlife related resources throughout the state. This is especially significant for forest wildlife species. Also, maintaining wildlife populations within social carrying capacity (the level at which human communities will tolerate wildlife populations) and assisting

landowners at dealing with nuisance wildlife and with damage caused by wildlife is critical to maintain public support for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Accomplishments:

- Wildlife lake technical guidance: 8,587 hours to provide information on enhancing wildlife lake habitat.
- Forest wildlife technical guidance: 15,153 hours to improve forest wildlife habitat on non-WMA land.
- Interagency technical guidance including urban management for wildlife values: 24,981 hours.
- Private land technical guidance: 1,351 hours to improve wildlife habitat on private land.
- Nuisance animal technical guidance: 3,715 hours to assist landowners/managers with wildlife damage.

H. Facility Management Activity

Management responsibility for over 1.3 million acres in more than 1,440 units of state WMAs and on other Non-WMA public lands open to public outdoor recreation requires the development and maintenance of infrastructure such as roads and trails, access roads, parking lots, fences and gates, hunter blinds, wildlife observation structures, and the management of boundaries and information signs. Land and user protection involves sealing open wells and cisterns, and cleaning up dumps and building sites on acquired lands.

Accomplishments:

- 892 miles of access management on 292 units to improve access to WMAs
- 281 miles of access management on 51 units to improve access to other non-WMA public lands
- 2,087 facilities managed on 800 units to guide users on the proper uses and to protect wildlife habitat resources on WMAs
- 504 miles of boundary managed on 225 units to inform users of locations of WMA boundaries
- 89 miles of boundary managed on 12 units to inform users of locations of boundaries on other non-WMA public lands
- 43 sites on 49 WMAs managed for site/building cleanup/well sealing to enhance habitats on WMAs and to protect wildlife resource and users from contamination or other potential hazards

3. Wildlife – Education, Outreach, and Rulemaking (Rulemaking noted in population management section above)

All efforts that provide routine general information to individuals or groups about seasons, DNR policy or general wildlife and recreation information. Also includes publications and printing costs intended for the public including the Hunting & Trapping Regulations handbook, brochures, news releases, etc. Rulemaking includes official rule making processes and development of official rule documents associated with wildlife and wildlife related recreation.

Accomplishments:

- Provided electronic information and technology access to persons with disabilities in compliance with state and federal statutes. This included electronic versions of the Hunting and Trapping and Waterfowl Regulations handbooks
- Developed new online tools to more readily share information on deer permit areas, populations and license requirements.
- Continued commitment to using plain language in high-profile public documents, such as hunting regulations
- Participated in state and county fairs to reach non-traditional constituents that may have interest in our programs and policies, but would not normally seek out information.

- Held informational meeting of the Department’s proposal to require non-toxic shot on State Wildlife Management Areas in the Farmland Zone.
- Continued the development of a non-toxic rule package for the above bullet.
- Developed brochures, news releases, and synopsis of regulations and seasons to inform the public.
- Represented the DNR at wildlife and hunting-oriented events to give us opportunities to engage our traditional clientele one-on-one about our activities.

4. Wildlife – Planning and Coordination

Planning and coordination includes coordination efforts with conservation groups, area Wildlife managers, other DNR disciplines, other government agencies, and other land and water management organizations regarding the improvement of wildlife habitat, or techniques and policies to reduce wildlife damage.

Accomplishments:

- Many of our planning and coordination efforts are reported elsewhere in this document.
 - Consistent with Top Finding #1 from the FY15 BOC report, began work on drafting of Minnesota’s first statewide deer management plan. See section 1. A. Big Game Activities above for additional information.
 - Consistent with Top Finding #2 from the FY15 BOC report, the Pheasant Action Plan was completed and actions being implemented. See section 2. A. Grassland Habitat Management Activity above for additional information.
 - Forest habitat planning is a huge interagency effort and an opportunity for Wildlife staff to influence forest management to benefit wildlife. See section 2. G. Technical Guidance Activity for accomplishments.
 - Updated the Elk Plan as reported in section 1. A. Big Game Activities above.
- Consistent with Top Finding #3 from the FY15 BOC report, DNR Wildlife requested initiative dollars during the FY16-17 Biennial Budgeting process to receive an increased appropriation of Game & Fish dollars for a Major Unit planning effort. During FY16, completed planning, design, and other preparation for management plan updates for two WMA major units: Whitewater and Thief Lake. Hiring was set for two dedicated, 1-year positions who will coordinate the respective management plan processes from July 2016 – June 2017.

Wildlife Management Expenditures for FY2016							
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>							
Wildlife Fund	Habitat Mgmt	Population Mgmt	Planning & Coord	Educ & Outreach	Division Services	Dept Services	Fund Total
2200	10,156.4	7,368.1	1,743.9	1,335.3	1,278.1	3,396.3	25,278.2
2201	491.0	221.8			1.0		713.8
2202	817.9	392.0	0.4				1,210.2
2203	382.1	118.3					500.4
2205	488.3	0.1	0.5				488.8
2206	40.0						40.0
2207	1,529.5						1,529.5
2208	175.1						175.1
2209	1,853.7	953.1	14.7	42.3	0.9	356.5	3,221.3
2213		110.0					110.0
Total	15,933.9	9,163.4	1,759.5	1,377.6	1,280.1	3,752.8	33,267.4

Fish and Wildlife – Outreach

1. Outreach - Marketing

Marketing efforts are aimed to retain existing license holders, reduce lapse rates over the life cycle of a customer, and increase hunting, fishing and trapping license sales overall. Through analyzing license sales data, strategies are created to encourage license purchase and discourage lapsing. This includes collaborating with external partners to market and promote hunting and fishing in Minnesota. Based on research of participation decline the target market of the hunting and fishing license promotions are new, existing, and lapsed license holders in the age cohort of 25-44 years old.

A. Direct email promotion of license seasons

Worked to retain and reduce lapse rates of license buyers by encouraging a license purchase at the beginning of a season.

Accomplishments:

- Seasonal direct emails (no cost) were sent through our Electronic Licenses System vendor to past licensed hunters and anglers encouraging them to purchase a license for the new license year. This standard practice is based on previous pilot testing with favorable results. Emails were sent at start of the new license year (Feb), prior to fishing opener (May), summer holidays (June, July), and spring turkey hunting (April) encouraging a license purchase. A reminder email was also sent to the first time purchasers of the 3-year fishing license since this is the first time purchasers would need to renew.
- Emails included promotion of lifetime licenses and the walleye stamp (fishing).

B. Promotion of license seasons- non-direct

Advertising to raise awareness of hunting and fishing seasons through out-of-home media promotions within Minnesota. *

Accomplishments:

- A new request for proposal was done and a professional/technical contract was signed to continue creative, production and implementation (placement) of promotional efforts through out-of-home media outlets within Minnesota.
- Due to timing and creating the contract, FY 2016 only included promotions under “Share the Passion” for anglers to purchase upcoming licenses for fishing seasons. (Missed timing for spring hunting promotions).
- New media was used with gas station advertising (pumps, squeegee, and window decals) at targeted locations with license vendors. A continuation of effective media was implemented through Google Search, YouTube, Google Display Network and radio ads.
- Click rates and cost per reach are evaluated each season to formulate best return on investment and adaptive media planning.

C. Formal Agreements with Explore MN Tourism

Collaborated with external partners to promote hunting and fishing to target audiences outside Minnesota’s borders. Non-resident license sales account for 40% of GFF license revenue. The majority of this marketing budget was used here.

Accomplishments:

- A new cooperative agreement was signed with explore MN tourism for continued promotional efforts through out-of-home media outlets outside of Minnesota's borders. Target states include primarily WI, IA, ND where the majority of non-resident license purchasers are from.
- Utilized tourism outlets for promoting grouse, spring turkey and upland bird hunting as well as general and trout fishing in the state of Minnesota.
- Fishing partnership efforts included promotional efforts on an Explore Minnesota tourism fishing/hunting web landing page; full color flyers used as handouts at events, visitor centers and inserts in newspaper and print publications, native (content story articles) advertising in out-of-state regional markets; targeted emails to fishing audiences; and online advertising banners on fishing web sites.
- Hunting partnership included promotional efforts on Explore Minnesota tourism hunting/fishing web landing pages; advertisement in national print magazines; targeted emails to hunting audiences; and online target audience advertising banners on hunting sites.
- A continuation with Explore Minnesota Tourism and the Share Your Catch photo contest run by KARE 11. *

D. Goodwill (no cost) partnerships for license hunters/anglers

Partner with external efforts that cross customer bases with hunting and fishing to gain benefits for license holders and cross promote hunting and fishing in new venues. These efforts do not cost the agency.

Accomplishments:

- Formal partnerships continue, for discounts and giveaways for licensed hunters and anglers, with Twins baseball for discounted tickets and hat giveaway, WILD hockey for discounted tickets, and new this year, Saint Paul Saints baseball for discount tickets and hat giveaway.

2. Outreach – Hunter/Shooter Recruitment and Retention

A. National Archery in the Schools Program

National Archery in the Schools Program is a two-week program designed to introduce elementary, middle, and high school students to recreational archery as a lifelong activity. The activity supports the Awareness, Interest, and Trial stages of the Conceptual Adoption model of hunter/shooter recruitment and retention. Research by Responsive Management indicates that 33% of students participating in NASP leave the program with a greater interest in hunting. In addition to the basic NASP Program 3-D Archery was introduced in to each DNR Region of the State. The Explore Bowhunting was launched in Minnesota with assistance from the Archery Trade Association. The Archery in the Parks program, an original Gateway funded program was also enhanced with new equipment to ease the demand on the traveling Archery Trailers.

Accomplishments:

- 15 new schools enrolled in NASP program
- 3500 new students introduced to archery
- 30 new teachers trained as NASP Basic Archery Instructors
- 203,500 students and 415 schools conducting NASP programs as of June 30th, 2016.
- 15 New Explore Bowhunting programs started with assistance from the Archery Trade Association *
- 30 New Explore Bowhunting Instructors trained *

- 8 New 3-D NASP Programs Started *
- 10 New State Park Archery programs started *

B. Mentored hunts for youth and families and “Learn to Hunts” for “new to hunting” adults

Providing special mentored or “Learn to Hunt” programs are a Best Practice in hunter recruitment and retention. These activities support Awareness, Interest, and Trial stages of the Conceptual Adoption Model of hunter recruitment and retention. Pre/Post evaluations of adults participating in our “Learn to Hunt” programs show that 100% of the adults leave the programs with greater skills and knowledge and are better prepared to become hunters if they so choose.

Accomplishments:

- Partnered with Seward Coop in Minneapolis to plan and deliver adult Learn to Hunt programs for deer and turkeys.
- Provided new to hunting adult participants with a comprehensive introduction to hunting and participated in a mentored hunt to demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge. We conducted pre/post student evaluations-
- Conducted 21 mentored youth and adult deer hunts that reached 392 youth, 13 adult and 392 non-hunting parent/guardian participants.
- Conducted 7 youth mentored waterfowl hunts that reached 45 youth and 45 non-hunting parent/guardian participants.
- Conducted 30 youth and adult mentored turkey hunts that reached 125 youth, 52 adults with 125 non-hunting parent/guardian participants.
- Conducted 20 youth, adult and family mentored upland bird hunts that reached 146 youth, adults and family participants and 75 non-hunting parents/guardians.

C. Public Archery Range Development and Rehabilitation

In 2012 the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Archery Trade Association contracted with Responsive Management to conduct a telephone survey of residents 18 and older to determine how many participated in some form of archery in the previous 12 month period. The findings indicated that 8.3% of those surveyed participated in archery. This finding, coupled with the ongoing restrictions being place by local units of government on discharge of firearms including archery equipment points to a need for providing public recreational archery shooting opportunities.

Accomplishments:

- Provided \$48,413.00 in matching grants to four local recreation and parks departments to develop new or rehabilitate archery ranges in their community. (Cities of Belle Plaine, Bloomington, Glencoe, and Owatonna).

D. Trap Shooting Range Development and Rehabilitation

As provided by [2014 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 290](#), Section 13, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is providing cost-share grants to local recreational shooting clubs for up to 50 percent of the costs of developing or rehabilitating trap shooting sports facilities for public use.

Accomplishments:

- \$808,657.00 provided in grant funding to develop, expand, enhance and/or rehabilitate 18 trap shooting facilities (\$198,457.00) and 15 Non-Trap Ranges, Rifle, Pistol or Skeet (\$606,200.00) in Minnesota.

3. Outreach – Becoming an Outdoor Woman/Becoming an Outdoor Family

A. BOW Weekend Workshops

BOW Weekend workshops are held twice yearly. The goal of these workshops is to introduce non-traditional audience of women to outdoor skills in hunting, fishing and non-consumptive sports in a supportive and non-intimidating environment. This program supports the Awareness, Interest and Trail stages of the Conceptual Adoption model of angler/hunter recruitment and retention.

Accomplishments:

- Two workshops were held in cooperation with Environmental Learning Centers.
- Winter workshop was held at Deep Portage ELC with 66 women.
- Fall Workshop was held at Gunflint Lodge with 73 women.
- BOW coordinated with volunteers to serve as program instructors, and assistants.
- Post evaluations indicate 100% of the women were motivated to continue their new found sport in hunting, fishing and/or non-consumptive sports.
- Post evaluations indicate 100% of the women at both workshops said they would take another BOW workshop based on their experience at the workshop they attended.
- BOW re-evaluated workshop size and found smaller workshops better met program goals of social connection and instructor. Program size will now be limited to less than 60 women per workshop.

B. Beyond BOW Programs

The goal of the Beyond BOW class is to provide the non-traditional audience of women additional opportunities to learn outdoor skills related to hunting, fishing and non-consumptive sports. BOW strives to adopt the best practices methods for recruitment and retention when adding new classes, utilizing a scope and sequence methodology. BOW works cooperatively with outside agencies and sports groups, internal DNR staff, and volunteers to provide programming to women. Programs range from one day program, series events to mentored weekend events. These activities support Awareness, Interest, Trial, and Continuation with Support stages of the Conceptual Adoption Model of angler/hunter recruitment and retention.

Accomplishments:

- In fiscal year 2016 BOW offered 67 Beyond BOW women classes. Many of these classes are conducted with internal and external partners.
- NEW for FY2016 was a Learn to Hunt White tailed Deer series held with volunteers. There were three class sessions followed by a mentored hunt in October at Itasca State Park. Five women were able to participate in this pilot program with excellent pre/post evaluation summaries.
- Cooperatively work with volunteers to offer classes for women. New in calendar year 2016 was a “Learn to Sport Fish” weekend that included a classroom segment held at Chase on the lake with a walleye mentored fishing trip on Leech that filled with 24 women. Evaluations showed the growth of knowledge in how to fish from pre/post evaluations. 17 classes were held with volunteers.
- Cooperatively worked with Three Rivers Park District and Anoka Co Parks to offer 10 classes for women.
- Cooperatively work with Fisheries Staff to offer Sturgeon Fishing Programming for women.
- Cooperatively work with MN State Park Naturalists to offer 29 “Women in the Parks” Series classes for the third year. Parks include Afton, Lake Bemidji, Fort Snelling, Interstate, and Whitewater State Parks.

- Cooperatively work with North Country Chapter of Safari Club International, A-1 Archery and Chilakoot Bow hunters to offer archery series & bow hunting series for women. This series consisted of 3 classes and two mentored weekend hunts. Pre/post evaluation showed growth in knowledge of bow hunting.

C. *Becoming and Outdoor Family Weekends & Events*

The BOW program expanded to offer family programming in 2006. Since then the number of classes have increased with external partners. The goal of the family program is to offer families an opportunity to learn outdoors sports related to hunting, fishing and non-consumptive sports, as a family unit. Programs range from one day programs to weekend events. These activities support Awareness, Interest, and Trial stages of the Conceptual Adoption Model of angler/hunter recruitment and retention.

Accomplishments:

- BOW hosted three family weekend workshops in FY2016 including a NEW Teen family weekend at Gunflint Lodge. This family program focuses on recruiting families with older teens to learn outdoor skills together. Eagle Bluff ELC offered two additional family programs geared toward those with children ages 6 and older.
- BOW worked cooperatively with Three Rivers Park to offer 45 classes for families in FY2016.

4. Outreach – Southeast Asian Outreach

A. *Outreach to SE Asian Organizations and populations*

The MN DNR Southeast Asian program works with community organizations statewide to disseminate information and facilitate outdoor recreation amongst various Southeast Asian Populations including the Hmong, Karen, Chinese Lao, and others.

Accomplishments:

- Firearm Safety Trainings: total of four classes with 360 students' participant and have successful passed the test and have been out hunting with a parent.
- Fishing workshops: five small fishing workshop for Karen Refugee community and other Asian community totaling 70 participants.
- Hunting workshops: seven small workshop for small game and big game, topics including, license, daily limit, trespass, legal guns, tree stand and difference of public land such like WMA, State forest and federal land.
- Activities of daily phone calls and office visits: handle approximately 1,400-1,600 interactions including topics such as hunting and fishing information, trespass laws, maps, firearm safety problem, citation or violation ticket, guns information, season dates, and types of public land hunters can put their tree stand up overnight.
- Hmong Radio and TV announcements: three fishing announcements, two announcement for small game and three for big game that included rules and regulation changes, safety issues, trespass issues, daily limit, season dates and blaze orange requirements.

Of the \$25,000 originally appropriated from the 2014 Legislature for hunter and angler recruitment and retention activities for Asian youth fishing recruitment efforts and outreach in the metropolitan area, just over \$1,000 was spent through a previous grant to Asian Outdoor Heritage. The appropriation was again amended by the 2016 Legislature to extend the remaining appropriation to June 30, 2017 and the DNR has plans to work with additional Southeast Asian community groups to spend the funds in FY17.

5. Outreach – Angling Recruitment, Retention and Aquatic Education

A. MinnAqua Program

Minnesota's Aquatic Education program, MinnAqua, provides authentic environmental and outdoor education learning opportunities in an outdoor setting. Our programs continue to support Minnesota families and youth as they strengthen and nurture the outdoor connection while exploring the recreational opportunities that foster a closer relationship with the environment throughout their lives. We provide high-quality aquatic and fishing education programming that provides content knowledge, enhances fishing skills and builds societal awareness for sustained fisheries management.

Accomplishments:

- 47,459 participants reached through MinnAqua, area office liaisons, and Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN) aquatic/fishing education programs.
- 246 new educators trained, including newly hired (existing positions) MinnAqua Specialists, Interns, Fisheries staff, Volunteers, formal and informal Educators.
- Nearly 1,000 new and previously recruited youth and adult mentors attended Big Brothers Big Sisters Outdoors Buddy program events that introduced a variety of aquatic education and angling skills and included summer and ice fishing experiences. Estimated 85% returning participants with 15% new recruited youth and adult mentors.
- Following aquatic resource education materials and tools were produced:
 - Numerous on-line resources added for educators.
 - Development and purchase of educational materials for fisheries offices and other outreach locations.
 - Development of teaching resources that help Fisheries staff interpret live fish at events.
 - Statewide distribution of 40,000 copies of MinnAqua's Fishes of MN poster.
 - New tools and activities created to train and manage seasonal interns.
- Variety of assessment surveys and evaluations were done allowing staff to adapt programs to better meet clientele needs and evaluate effectiveness of outcomes:
 - Work continues on major revisions and updates of the program tracking database to better enable measuring and reporting outcomes
 - Evaluated the mentored Beginners Fly-Fishing Weekend for Youth-Adult Pairs by assessing change in knowledge and attitudes (pre and post learning assessment).
 - Evaluated Intern program by assessing interns on the quality of the professional experience and training received. All interns received performance reviews at the end of their internship.
- Increased number of MinnAqua interns delivering educational programs for summer 2016 from five to eight. *
- Purchased and distributed 102 spincast combos, 195 fly combos and 44 fly-tying tool kits to State Parks, Fisheries offices, to use for fishing education programs, loaner programs in Minnesota State Parks, and a mentored fly-fishing event.*
 - Calendar year 2015 Minnesota State Parks offered 150 I Can Fish! Programs for 4227 participants. The additional equipment will allow for greater number of participants in future programming.
 - Annual mentored Beginning Fly-Fishing Weekend participants [40] were given fly combos to use and take home for continued opportunity. These combos are normally purchased for this event.
 - Fisheries offices receiving the equipment filled out surveys on intended and anticipated educational outreach using the new fishing equipment.

6. Outreach – Communications

The program provides a comprehensive strategic communication program for the Fish and Wildlife Division creating opportunities for our audiences to understand why and how Fish and Wildlife Division activities and actions benefit the resources it manages. Objectives are to deliver accurate, timely, relevant, and easily understood information about hunting, fishing and trapping seasons; habitat and species conservation; habitat acquisition; fish and wildlife research; and hunting and angling recruitment and retention.

Statistics are included about DNR news releases, website views and social media. News releases in this report are issued to media members statewide and the public, all of whom must sign up to receive them. They are also posted on the DNR website. In total, there are about 25,000 recipients of DNR statewide news releases. Website views are here recorded in total and individually for pages with high, long-term importance for the Fish and Wildlife division. Webpages provide more permanence for information compared to other forms of communication, which frequently direct audiences to the DNR website. The division manages four social media accounts: two each on Twitter and Facebook. Use of multiple communications modes recognizes the varied nature of how audiences receive information, as well as differing levels of interest and knowledge about division activities.

A. 182 Annual news releases

- Fisheries: 58
- License Center: 7
- Outreach: 42
- Wildlife: 73

B. Website views

Visitors	Lake Finder	Fishing	Hunting	Regulations	Licenses	WMAs	Fish Minnesota	All Visitors
July 2015	187,869	69,142	77,892	18,786	49,953	3,887	1,755	409,282
August 2015	145,249	53,808	128,895	18,645	46,703	5,624	1,430	400,352
September 2015	96,268	30,663	197,345	19,341	49,661	11,419	1,024	405,719
October 2015	76,508	24,809	202,599	19,278	39,536	16,121	810	379,659
November 2015	68,447	28,083	212,318	23,647	40,100	11,202	768	384,563
December 2015	147,768	53,538	83,109	17,576	32,836	6,743	1,576	343,144
January 2016	210,154	80,082	46,258	18,527	35,313	4,135	7,037	401,504
February 2016	142,175	85,508	36,432	15,143	29,423	3,205	2,531	314,415
March 2016	117,581	78,663	56,568	15,564	34,976	4,585	3,473	311,408
April 2016	114,522	103,976	65,865	19,032	40,390	4,993	10,698	359,474
May 2016	178,268	118,180	48,652	22,374	66,891	5,215	10,778	450,356
June 2016	194,269	80,898	31,516	17,729	59,074	3,959	4,093	391,536
Total	1,679,075	807,348	1,187,451	225,638	524,853	81,083	45,971	4,551,418

C. Social media

- Minnesota Fishing (Facebook) – 5,526 Likes
- Minnesota Fishing (Twitter) – 1,703 Followers
- Minnesota Wildlife (Facebook) – 4,545 Likes
- Minnesota Wildlife (Twitter) – 1,104 Followers

D. Internal Communication Guidance, Assistance and Tools

The information program staff provide communication services, issues management and public/media relations support so division staff optimally utilize traditional, emerging and new communication methods, mediums and channels to foster public awareness and understanding of how division and section programs and activities create a science-based approach to management of fisheries, wildlife and habitat that results in sound natural resource conservation and unmatched outdoor recreation opportunities.

7. Outreach – Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3)

Minnesota is part of the national effort tagged as R3 – recruitment, retention and reactivation. This effort is focused around research findings, study results and understand how to build education and skills programs that meet objectives to bring new and lapsed users into the field and onto the water. Moving beyond ‘one and done’ programs, looking at new audiences, understanding barriers and needs.

A. Capacity-building grants

Accomplishments:

- Establishment and Round One funding of an R3 grant program to build capacity of organizations:
 - Awarded almost \$200,000 to 12 projects throughout Minnesota *
- Planning and announcement of a Round 2 of R3 grants due October 13, 2016 *

The following additional activities were funded by an additional one-time appropriation from the 2015 Legislature for hunter and angler recruitment and retention activities:

B. Commissioner’s Council initiative to effectively deliver R3 programs.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted one on one R3 Workshops with seven different organizations with 35 participants
- Planning for a R3 Summit that was held August 26-27, 2016 with 140 attendees
- Development of an R3 Toolkit that has been recognized nationally
- Partnership with ExploreMinnesota.com to promote and support an inclusive web listing of MN DNR and partner hunting and fishing events across the country

Outreach Expenditures for FY2016								
<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>								
Outreach Fund	Fishing R3 & Aquatic Ed	Hunting R3 & Wildlife Ed	Marketing	Communications	Grants	Division Services	Dept Services	Fund Total
2200	705.5	134.2	132.0	180.5	567.0	2.0	186.2	1,907.5
2209	0.3	205.6	83.0		374.1	0.0	22.6	685.6
Total	705.8	339.8	215.0	180.5	941.1	2.0	208.8	2,593.0

R3: Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation

**Note: The section received \$400,000 for hunter and angler recruitment and retention activities and grants that are noted as separate accomplishments throughout the report. This was a one-time appropriation (Laws 2014, chapter 312, article 12, section 6, subdivision 5 that was amended in 2015 1st Special Session chapter 4, article 3, section 11 and amended again in 2016 chapter 189, article 3, section 40).*

Fish & Wildlife – License Center

1. Electronic Licensing System

A third-party vendor handles the day-to-day operation with additional support provided by the DNR License Center. Monthly payments to the contract vendor cover costs of terminal use, paper used to print licenses and permits, a 24-hour technical support phone line, and use of the vendor’s host computer. Nearly 2.4 million licenses, permits, stamps, passes, and license validation transactions were processed through ELS, generating \$65.3 million in revenue for the year.

A. Hunting/Angling license sales

Accomplishments:

- Provided 1,917,948 licenses serving 1,279,076 hunting and angling enthusiasts.
- Distributed over 1,500,000 copies of hunting and angling regulation brochures to support end users with their recreational experience.
- Processed 500,000 lottery applications worksheets for interested parties and sent winner notices to parties selected so they can proceed with necessary requirements.
- Publicized special hunts as announced and coordinate sale of permits. Wildlife management determines the need for special hunts. A special hunt may extend a particular season, add a new harvest season or increase the harvest of a species in a geographic location.

Fiscal Year License Sales										
Type	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Angling	1,159,082	1,124,998	1,187,850	1,175,172	1,198,760	1,086,392	1,094,095	1,158,156	1,181,336	1,143,699
Deer	551,647	647,130	626,931	618,362	608,093	619,081	622,274	621,627	596,693	610,566
Small Game	298,128	292,389	289,463	279,329	302,915	283,913	282,800	259,289	260,797	255,727
Sports	186,258	181,793	185,501	179,755	156,374	169,875	158,905	161,165	158,518	152,469

Note: Totals for Sports licenses were included in the Small Game, Angling and Deer in previous Game and Fish Report totals.

Fiscal Year Stamp Sales										
Type	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Trout	94,965	91,952	96,953	96,928	96,409	91,364	92,396	99,591	107,992	109,328
Walleye	NA	NA	5,165	28,388	29,664	27,477	21,064	19,467	17,395	17,052
Pheasant	131,970	130,432	107,394	110,621	104,646	84,335	90,043	75,440	72,730	76,517
Waterfowl	103,045	100,142	95,185	90,873	89,021	89,369	91,037	92,195	93,325	90,454
Turkey	29,312	32,793	8,971	3,384	2,272	1,953	1,786	1,681	1,685	1,551

B. Lifetime Licenses

Lifetime license are available for certain hunting and fishing activities and must initially be applied for through the DNR License Center. This license type may be purchased as a gift. Applicable stamps, tags or additional harvest permits are purchased separately.

Lifetime Sales by Fiscal Year										
Lifetime Licenses	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fiscal Year Totals	2,069	2,181	2,136	2,271	3,086	3,882	4,291	2,207	2,532	2,768

C. Harvest Transactions

The License Center has an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) and an Internet harvest option for animal registrations.

Harvest Transactions by Fiscal Year										
Transaction Type	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Interactive Voice Response (IVR)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,398	46,735	46,264	51,308	55,118	46,760	56,452
Internet	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,664	64,816	67,837	69,976	76,963	68,803	80,581
Agent	284,643	274,844	238,264	210,917	111,533	92,992	78,713	52,441	38,787	37,869
Totals	284,643	274,844	238,264	213,979	223,084	207,093	199,997	184,522	154,350	174,902

2. License Center – Commercial Licenses

The License Center issues commercial licenses for businesses such as minnow dealers, game farms, and shooting preserves. There are currently 40+ commercial license types available.

3. Information Center/License Agent Management

The DNR Information Center serves as a call center accepting department wide calls and averaging 40,000+ calls per year. These calls may include licensing related or other department inquiries.

4. License Certification Data

License Certification data is used as an indice for federal aid apportionments. These figures are reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**License Certification Data for Federal Aid Apportionment
(as reported to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)**

License Year	Number of Certified Paid Hunters (1)	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags Permits & Stamps (2)	Number of Certified Paid Anglers (1)	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps (2)
2000	580,338	1,247,482	1,565,708	1,446,898
2001	585,104	1,594,619	1,492,913	1,417,094
**2002	562,602	-	1,487,076	-
2003	573,424	1,413,759	1,461,112	1,341,921
2004	571,581	1,397,641	1,467,677	1,381,787
2005	571,547	1,377,389	1,458,013	1,363,272
2006	578,244	1,456,775	1,478,193	1,411,415
2007	579,060	1,419,876	1,492,087	1,275,308
2008	581,828	1,471,568	1,481,758	1,269,926
2009	576,723	1,424,718	1,518,357	1,390,489
2010	579,910	1,553,789	1,492,460	1,607,859
2011	578,371	1,525,137	1,418,995	1,552,339
2012	592,125	1,571,600	1,487,547	1,649,088
2013	572,203	1,486,362	1,423,502	1,589,856
2014	564,694	1,413,430	1,437,227	1,610,356
*2015	568,057	NA	1,448,028	NA

(1) Data submitted to USFWS "Part I - Certification"

(2) Data submitted to USFWS "Part II - Summary of Hunting and Sport Fishing Licenses Issued"

*2015 Total is an estimate. Final numbers will not be calculated/certified until 2017.

** Due to a change in reporting requirements, figures for LY2002 were not certified.

Compiled by MN Federal Aid Coordinator

Division of Ecological and Water Resources

1. Conservation Assistance and Regulation

The Conservation Assistance and Regulation section is composed of four units: Environmental Review, Water Permits, Dam Safety and Inspections, and Land Use Programs. Its main functions are community assistance and project review and permitting. Environmental review of projects is important because it ensures that fish and wildlife needs are being appropriately addressed. Review and permitting of lake aeration authorizes activities that prevent winterkill and help sustain fishing opportunities. The section also works with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) when natural resources have been damaged by spills to assign responsibility and recover damages.

A. Environmental Review (*outcomes also supported with other funding sources*)

Accomplishments:

- Reviewed more than 397 public and private projects, including 69 transportation projects, 31 industrial/commercial projects, 4 renewable energy (wind and solar) projects, 15 pipelines, 10 mining projects and 5 transmission lines.
- Completed an interagency guidance document for best practices for siting solar facilities.

B. Spills and Kills Events

Accomplishments:

- Responded to 501 reports of spills and fish/wildlife kill incidents.

C. Lake Aeration

Accomplishments:

- Issued 367 aeration permits; approximately 133,873 surface water acres were aerated. Of the permits issued, 193 were to prevent winterkill.
- Provided technical assistance to the public concerning aeration system types and regulatory requirements.

2. Ecosystem Management and Protection Services

The Ecosystem Management and Protection Section is composed of four units: Conservation Management and Rare Resources, Nongame Wildlife and Education, Invasive Species, and Scientific and Natural Areas. Its main functions are habitat management and restoration, conservation planning and policy, ecological education, outreach and recreation, and ecosystem services evaluation. This work helps to improve the management of prairie, wetland and forest habitat on public and private lands.

Outreach and education also leads to better public understanding of the importance of habitat protection and the value of healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

A. Native Prairie Stewardship (*outcomes also supported with other funding sources*)

Accomplishments:

- Implemented prairie enhancement projects involving 36 landowners.
- Monitored 10 sites & completed 21 Baseline Property Reports.
- Completed 53 prairie management projects on private lands including: woody encroachment removal on 262 acres (7 sites), 5 acres of prairie reconstruction and restoration (3 sites); invasive treatment (non-woody) on 62 acres (9 sites); prescribed burn on 367 acres (13 sites).

B. Monitor Wetland Changes (outcomes also supported with other funding sources)

Accomplishments:

- Acquired the second year of aerial photographs for the fourth cycle (2015-2017) of the wetland status and trends program.
- Completed analysis of changes in wetlands over time for the first year (2015) of the fourth cycle (2015-2017).
- Updated the trends analysis to include trends across the first three monitoring cycles (2006-2008, 2009-2011, and 2012-2014) and we are working on a report based on this analysis.

C. Nongame Wildlife: Project WILD, a wildlife education effort (outcomes also supported with other funding sources)

Accomplishments:

- Conducted 18 workshops attended by 292 educators and youth leaders.
- 5 Project WILD workshops for 155 participants
- 2 Growing Up WILD workshops for 29 participants
- 1 Flying WILD workshop for 15 participants.
- 12 Institutions requested Minnesota college pre-service teacher training support.
- Education learning trunks are provided to teachers on topics of loons, bats, wolves, bears, animal tracks, and snakes. These learning trunks are extremely important for teachers who do not have funds for travel to distant learning sites. They are provided to teachers on request.
- 8 Digital Photography Bridge to Nature camera kits were made available to teachers throughout Minnesota.
- Coordinator is currently involved with writing and field testing activities for pollinator-focused lessons that are being added to the national Project WILD curriculum, and adapting those lessons for use in Minnesota.
- Coordinator worked with the national team to edit the latest terrestrial guide revision, with a target release date of summer 2017.
- Conducted 20 community presentations for Minnesota Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, and school groups.
- Judged wildlife projects and conservation awards for 4-H and FFA.
- Wildlife programs for Ramsey County libraries reached an audience of over 2000 in FY16.

D. Nongame Wildlife: Regional Plant Ecologists and Nongame Specialists (outcomes also support with other funding sources)

Accomplishments:

- Carried out forest stand reviews and assisted with forest planning.
- Contributed to DNR's third-party forest certification through participation in external and internal audits, developing responses to corrective action requests, high conservation value forest monitoring, and representative sample areas.

3. Inventory, Monitoring and Analysis

The Inventory, Monitoring, and Analysis section is composed of four units: the Minnesota Biological Survey, Lakes and Rivers, Water Monitoring and Surveys, and Hydrogeology and Groundwater. Its main functions are to integrate biodiversity data collection and monitoring, water and climate data collection and monitoring, and watershed systems analysis. This trend information is essential to manage for healthy fish and wildlife populations.

A. Minnesota Biological Survey – Game & Fish Fund, Grassland Monitoring: Patch-Burn-Grazing Project

Accomplishments:

- Sampled permanent transects in 40 wetland basins at the Chippewa Prairie Patch-Burn Grazing (PBG) project with the assistance of two field assistants and The Nature Conservancy.
- With a team of 4 contractors, 50 permanent vegetation plots were sampled (25 pairs in which one member of each pair is within an enclosure) in prairie managed with cattle grazing at Caribou WMA.
- Conducted field surveys to document wetland types and condition of over 400 wetland basins in eight managed areas (WMA, WPA, TNC) in west central Minnesota.
- Processed plant specimens, managed and summarized monitoring data, and completed a report on the vegetation monitoring work at Caribou WMA.
- Conducted site assessments, worked with managers of Hole in the Mountain WMA to discuss potential monitoring approaches, and established permanent vegetation plots for tracking the effects of cattle grazing on native prairie vegetation.
- Collaborated with USFWS staff on a research plan to study grazing effects in wet meadows within prairie sites managed with cattle grazing. This plan was widely circulated among DNR, TNC, USFWS, USGS and university researchers and managers for review and input.
- Worked with USFWS staff to establish 30 permanent plots (25 pairs) at Hastad WPA to research cattle grazing effects in wet meadow vegetation.

B. Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) – Heritage Enhancement fund, Field Survey, Information Systems, Outreach/Technical Guidance

Accomplishments:

- Continue to provide field survey and technical guidance in the implementation of the *Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan: a habitat plan for native prairie, grassland, and wetlands in the Prairie Region of Western Minnesota*.
- Provided guidance and participated in field surveys and re-sampling of historic vegetation plots.
- Carried out animal surveys.
- Continued to store specimen collection data in several related databases such as the Relevé (vegetation plot) database and the standardized state list of plants (MN TAXA database).
- Analyzed calcareous fen floristic indicator values as part of a reexamination of calcareous fen designation criteria.
- Continued baseline vegetation and botanical surveys in the Border Lakes subsection.
- Routinely provide relevé data to external users per request. For example, NatureServe, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Environment Protection Agency (EPA), National Park Service (NPS), and US Forest Service (USFS).
- Continued work on a book covering the natural history, native plant communities, and selected sites of biodiversity significance of the Red River Valley and Aspen Parklands in northwest Minnesota.
- Continued to deliver internal and external technical guidance related to Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) survey results, native plant communities, rare plant identification and relocation, ecological management, climate change adaptation and site protection (e.g. review of potential Scientific and Natural areas (SNAs)).
- Worked with regional plant ecologists and nongame specialists to contribute to DNR's third-party forest certification.

C. Lakes & Rivers (assess and survey lakes and rivers, work with partners on river restoration projects, develop on-line product to enhance river management)

Accomplishments:

- Developed an aquatic plant survey methodology manual, conducted aquatic plant identification and survey method workshops for 150 DNR staff and provided technical assistance on aquatic plant survey methodology to various DNR programs and outside groups. (Clean Water Legacy funds help support this work)
- Conducted quantitative, lake-wide vegetation surveys on 15 lakes (approx 10,000 acres), delineated emergent and floating-leaf plant stands on 55 lakes (approx.. 33,100 acres) and shoreland habitat assessments on 61 lakes (approx. 69,300 13,800 acres) in Aitkin, Becker, Carlton, Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, Itasca, Lincoln, Ottertail, St. Louis, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Washington and Wright counties; (Clean Water Legacy funds help support this work)
- Continued long-term monitoring of aquatic plant communities in Minnesota's Sentinel Lakes including Ten Mile, Carlos, and Shaokotan lakes.
- Assessed aquatic plant communities of White Bear Lake following changes in water level.
- Analyzed aquatic invertebrate samples for various fisheries management and research programs.
- Continued monitoring Mille Lacs Lake to assess potential ecological impacts from invasive species populations. (Invasive Species funds help support this work).
- Continued long-term monitoring work on zooplankton communities in Minnesota's large lakes including Mille Lacs, Lake of the Woods, Rainy, Kabetogama, Cass, Red, Winnibigoshish, Leech and Vermilion. (Invasive Species funds help support this work).
- Analyzed zooplankton samples collected from the Phase II Sentinel Lakes Study.
- Continued long-term monitoring of fish habitat associations throughout the state, including on the Yellow Medicine, Sand Hill, Grindstone, Redwood, Knife, Cedar, and Pomme de Terre rivers and Lawndale and Otter creeks.
- Continued long-term sampling of channel morphology on Whitewater River and Lawndale Creek.
- Continued work with partners on five (5) major stream protection and restoration projects, including the Orinoco dam removal and restoration, Buffalo River restoration, Sand Hill River, Cascade Creek, and Whitewater River restorations.
- Continued development of the GIS-based Watershed Health Assessment Framework, which is available on-line. A current thrust of our work on this watershed tool is analysis of the relationship of health scores and biological (e.g., fish survey - IBI) outcomes, to provide insight on the factors influencing health, particularly on a basin or regional scale. (Clean Water Legacy funds help support this work). We are also beginning work on development of a Decision Support System, aimed at resource managers interested in identifying and addressing resource issues at multiple scales, with strategies that optimize outcomes for the system (5 components).

4. Strategic Information Services

The Strategic Information section is composed of three units: Business and Administrative, Information Technology, and Planning and Communication. Its main functions are business and financial support, information technology support, and planning and communication support. These data support decisions for environmental review, high conservation value forest certification, strategic land asset management (SLAM), Watershed Health Assessment Framework (WHAF), and other efforts.

A. Information Technology (outcomes also supported with other funding sources)

Accomplishments:

- Managed information for aquatic invertebrates, vegetation plots, and rare species locations and provided database administration and system support for aquatic invertebrates, rare and endangered species, colonial water birds, vegetation, plant community and stream habitat databases.
- The data are published and shared as Geographic Information System layers and are combined and organized in web-based reports. Vegetation plot reports can be downloaded and Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) site reports and source feature observation reports are available.

Division of Enforcement

The Division continues to implement its 2015- Strategic Plan (ongoing) and has increased efficiency and effectiveness of outreach, safety education and law enforcement through the following initiatives:

- Launched records management system (RMS) in April 2015 and issued field tablets to all officers. This has resulted in over 20,000 documented contacts being entered annually and has increased officer safety through GPS tracking capabilities. Officers now have violation and incident information at their finger-tips and managers have real-time data on enforcement and education outcomes.
- Restructured Division to direct more resources on field operations by reducing specialty positions and is holding open other specialty positions to keep field vacancies as low as possible with remaining staff.
- Increased outreach efforts by hiring a Safety Education Outreach Coordinator.
- Hired 9 officers (including 5 conservation officer (CO) prep candidates) and increased the diversity and natural resource background of new officers.

1. Fish and Game Regulation

Through outreach, safety education and law enforcement services, we strive to attain sustainable resource use through gaining voluntary compliance with regulations.

Accomplishments:

- The division officers conducted license and harvest inspections of recreational and commercial activity, protected spawning and closed season populations, and performed outreach and public education.
- Numerous high profile poaching cases were completed with effective media efforts resulting in increased public and legislative interest increasing penalties for egregious poaching.
- Conducted special investigations on habitual and large-scale poaching.
- Increased use of media to attain voluntary compliance with regulations by explaining importance/value in following regulations

2. Invasive Species Enforcement and Education

Compliance with invasive species regulations at Enforcement Check Stations has decreased from 86% in calendar year 2015 to 82% in 2016. However, this is an overall increase from a compliance rate 63% in 2012.

3. Safety Training Education

Accomplishments:

- The division provided education programs for youth and adults in hunter education and safety training programs. Students certified increased from 23,655 in calendar year 2012, to 26,714 in 2013, and 30,028 in 2014. In 2015, these numbers dropped slightly to 25,899. There were 11 hunting related accidents in 2015, with zero fatalities compared to 24 hunting related accidents and 2 fatalities in 2014. Those numbers are dramatically lower than the 1960s when Minnesota averaged 110 non-fatal injuries and about 14 fatalities per year.
- Increased availability of training through on-line and “virtual range day”. This has significantly increased participation by adult female students. Approximately 36 percent of those trained in firearms safety took the online course and 40% of those online students were females.

Division of Parks and Trails

The Division of Parks and Trails uses Game and Fish funds to ensure that Minnesotans have access to public waterways for activities like boating, canoeing, kayaking, and angling. The Game and Fish funds are primarily used to improve the quality of public water access facilities throughout the state. Minnesota is ranked third in the nation for the number of registered boats (810,000 in 2015) and first in the nation for number of registered boats per capita.

1. Land Acquisition

The goal of the land acquisition program is to acquire lake and river shoreline property that will improve existing boat access or provide access where it is inadequate.

Accomplishments:

- Lake Waconia, Carver County: Acquired 5.18 acres. A part of the redevelopment and expansion of the Regional Park. Currently DNR owns a public access on the northeast side of the lake. An access on the south shore is highly desirable due to the lake size and proximity to densely populated areas. Lake Waconia is the second largest lake in the seven county metropolitan area at over 3,000 acres
- Rat Root River, Koochiching County: New carry-in access, 0.3 acres.

2. Development

The goal of the development program is to improve and/or expand new and existing sites using universal design principles that meet or exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and apply best management practices (BMPs) for safety, aquatic invasive species (AIS) and storm water (SW) management.

Accomplishments:

- Detroit Lake (South) Becker County: Expansion of the existing site from one boat launching ramp to two, add AIS BMPs, improve SW BMPs and ADA, and increase parking and safety.
- Park Lake, Carlton County: Expansion of an existing township road access; building demolition, site leveling and creation of a grass parking area.
- Minnesota River (Wegdahl) Chippewa County: Partnership with the County to expand and improve an existing access within a county park. Added ADA, SW and AIS BMPs, improved safety.
- Little Green, Chisago County: Partnership with the City of Chisago to improve an existing access. Redirected the traffic flow at the site for safety and added parking, improved ADA, SW and added AIS BMPs.

- Mille Lacs Lake (Pike Point/Garrison Wayside) Crow Wing County: Contract with consultant for wave analysis, basin and site design of a potential protected facility. Plan includes additional parking and a special use area for tournaments. No current plans for development.
- Ann Lake, Kanabec County: Hazardous materials survey and building demolition.
- Lake of the Woods (Rocky Point) Lake of the Woods County: Wetland delineation. This is an acquired site with the future goal of building a protected access.
- Grand Lake, St. Louis County: Improved the existing access; added material and shaped the parking area, added SW BMPs, AIS BMPs and ADA, and a separate winter access.
- Lake Vermilion (Moccasin Point), St. Louis County: Engineering/design of specialized dock.
- Island Lake (Abbot Road) St. Louis County: Partnership with MN Power. Design to improve an existing informal access at a former gravel pit. To be developed in 2017.
- Clearwater Lake (Bob's Bay) Wright County: Hazardous materials survey and abatement work of building on expansion property. Building demolition and parking lot expansion in 2017.
- Archeological survey and reports by the Minnesota Historical Society for cultural resource management for compliance with state and federal laws.

3. Fishing Pier and Shore Fishing facilities

The goal of the fishing pier/shore fishing program is to provide people with safe and convenient places to fish. A focus on replacing ageing piers is limiting the number of new facilities that are added to the system. Parks and trails maintains 80 facilities on state owned lands and has 288 facilities with local government unit partners for a total of 368 facilities.

Accomplishments: (parenthesis indicate local government unit partner)

- Purchased replacement parts and performed general maintenance and major repairs to fishing piers and developed shore fishing areas.
- Multiple compliance checks on partnership facilities.
- Assistance with critical repairs to the following fishing piers (local government unit partner).
 - Howard Lake Fishing Pier (Wright County)
 - Moose Lake Fishing Pier, Moose Lake State Park
- Replaced the 44' fishing pier on Independence Pond in the (City of Marshal). The City provided a \$10,000 donation and will perform the day to day maintenance of the fishing pier, the pond is stocked annually.
- Replaced the 64' fishing pier on Serpent Lake in the (City of Crosby). The pier serves a busy location near a city park.
- Replaced the 44' fishing pier on Lake Sylvia in (Stearns County). The pier is near the boat access on county park land.
- Replaced the 64' fishing pier on Cross/Pine River in the (City of Pine City). The pier sees lots of use as part of the city park.

Division of Forestry

1. Ecological Classification System (ECS) Program

The Division of Forestry (DoF) continues to expand the use of the ECS program on state-administered forestlands. ECS is a scientific framework for managing natural resources. ECS tools, native plant community classifications and silvicultural strategies, help resource managers select appropriate treatments to optimize the forest's potential to produce timber, conserve or enhance wildlife habitat, and protect water and soil resources.

A. Mapping Native Plant Community (NPCs)

NPCs are groups of native plants that interact with each other and with their environment in ways not greatly altered by modern human activity or by introduced organisms. NPCs are classified and described by vegetation, water, landforms, soils, and natural disturbance regimes. The NPC classification provides a common language for professional disciplines involved in using, restoring, or conserving natural resources. The hierarchical design enables use at all levels of management – from landscape-scale planning to a 20 acre stand of trees. It provides a link between long-range goals and stand management decisions. The DoF plans to complete the mapping of native plant communities within the next eight years. The minimum annual NPC mapping target is 161,900 acres.

Accomplishments:

- A total of 273,047 acres were classified or mapped to NPC in fiscal year 2016.
 - DNR staff conducted 795 field NPC evaluations, mapping 177,180 acres, on state forestlands and wildlife management areas.
 - Contractors evaluated and mapped another 87,348 acres of state forestlands.
 - DNR staff also visited and classified NPCs on an additional 270 forest stands, totaling 8,519 acres, as they conducted other project work.

B. Develop Silvicultural Strategies (Interpretations)

Silvicultural strategies provide DNR staff with science-based information to prepare a management prescription or plan. Silviculture is the practice of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests to meet diverse needs and values. Strategies include how trees react to natural disturbance, how they compete with other trees and vegetation, natural regeneration strategies, shade tolerance, and stand growth stages. The strategies provide resource managers a range of possible management options.

Accomplishments:

- Division of Forestry personnel are working with technology staff to reconfigure the website so that it's more user friendly. The new website is expected to be available for resource managers by the end of fiscal year 2017.

C. Case Studies

Case studies monitor the short and long-term response of forest vegetation to various silvicultural (management) activities. Through case studies, forest management's effects on tree regeneration, tree recruitment, ground layer biodiversity, and growth of residual trees are assessed. Thirty case studies have been completed.

Accomplishments:

- Seventeen existing case studies sites were re-visited after forest management had occurred and site conditions were either measured or re-measured.
- The focus this year was on retrospective case studies, which involve visiting sites managed ten or more years ago, to better understand the long-term effects of management. Ten retrospective case studies were initiated and all field observations were collected.
- DNR continues to submit case studies to the University of Minnesota Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative Great Lakes Silviculture Library (<http://silvlib.cfans.umn.edu/>). After this field season, 16 new case studies are expected to be completed and made available at this website.

D. Training and Related Activities

Training, both formal training sessions and one-on-one meetings with foresters, biologists, and ecologists, is critical to introduce the NPC field guides, and for integrating silvicultural interpretations into daily management decisions.

Accomplishments:

- 28 formal training events were conducted with 688 foresters, biologists, and ecologists.
- 84 contact days between ECS staff and field personnel were logged. Field days were spent reviewing data collection techniques, reviewing NPC classification determinations, and answering field staff's questions and concerns.

2. Invasive Species Control Program

The DoF invasive species program inventories and treats invasive infestations on state lands; educates staff, partners, and stakeholders about invasive species and the damage they can cause; and runs key invasive species outreach programs like the PlayCleanGo program.

A. Invasive Plant Management

Terrestrial invasive plants have the capacity to exclude native plants, impacting the quality and sustainability of native plant communities. The number of invasive species and the number of acres involved are increasing and threaten to overwhelm state resources to manage them. The number of invasive species and acres infested is anticipated to continue to increase.

Accomplishments:

- With supplemental funds from the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, 17 invasive plant management projects on 531 acres were completed on state forest lands. Special projects included a survey of all maintained roads within 57 of the 58 state forests and all gravel pits maintained by the DNR.
- To explore the possible use of biological control strategies on state forest lands, the DNR visited all known knapweed infestations larger than five acres. The DNR released 1,500 root weevils on 12 sites. We also developed site selection guidelines for future biocontrol efforts.
- Over 60 Forestry and Wildlife staff were trained on invasive species management at three regional workshops presented by DNR staff experts.
- A nation-wide invasive species reporting system, EDDmaps - www.eddmaps.org/midwest, was implemented in Minnesota to track invasive species incidence. Three Panasonic ToughPad tablets were purchased, in addition to eight iPad mini tablets purchased with Division of Ecological and Water Resources funds, and distributed to select field staff to test the units and EDDmaps software. The surveys produced nearly 1,500 new geo-referenced points describing infestations not previously documented.

B. Emerald Ash Borer Management

Emerald ash borer (EAB) has been found in Anoka, Chisago, Dakota, Dodge, Fillmore, Hennepin, Houston, Olmsted, Ramsey, St. Louis, Scott, Wabasha, Washington and Winona counties, bringing the total of quarantined counties in the state to 14. There are nearly one billion ash trees in Minnesota. Because there is no demonstrated resistance to EAB in native ash, Minnesota is in danger of losing 99 percent of its ash trees, which will have a profound effect on native plants and animals dependent on ash communities, industries that rely on ash fiber and bark, and communities that have park, boulevard, and yard ash trees. Moving infested firewood has been the major means of spreading EAB. The

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is the lead state agency over EAB survey and regulation in the state.

Accomplishments:

- Just under 600 firewood vendors were approved to supply park visitors with safe wood for use on DNR administered lands.
- A review of the DNR firewood program was initiated to improve its effectiveness. It was recommended, and agreed upon, to transition the program to the DNR Division of Parks and Trails. Parks and Trails will administer a revised vendor database, change legislation to align with the revised program, and increase outreach by May 2018.
- Division of Forestry program staff actively support collaboration by serving as the DNR liaison for all EAB-related management efforts.
- Division of Forestry staff chaired the steering committee that's directing ash management on state lands. The DNR is reviewing its ash resource on state administered lands, the amount of ash sold off state lands in 2014 and 2015, and the ash component of timber stand improvement operations to better understand what's been done and what more we need to do to prepare for widespread EAB infestations. A model was developed by ECS staff that identifies and maps stands dominated by black ash so that we understand where management efforts and resources should be deployed. The ash data and model will be used as a tool to select stands for harvest and regeneration to other tree species. Because of this modeling and planning effort the DNR will be increasing its ash harvest and conversion starting this fall and winter.

C. Gypsy Moth Management

The national Gypsy Moth (GM) Slow-the-Spread program has been providing treatment funds to Minnesota for several years to delay gypsy moth establishment. Cook and Lake Counties are the only two quarantined counties at this time. Population levels are still very low and visible defoliation is not expected for several years. MDA is the lead state agency for gypsy moth management in the state. MDA quarantined Cook and Lake Counties on July 1, 2014. DNR staff work closely with MDA to inform department partners, vendors, and clients of the implications of the quarantine.

Accomplishments:

- The DNR was a representative to the statewide Gypsy Moth Program Advisory Committee (GMPAC) to ensure future planning considered the implications of gypsy moth management practices on the timber industry and on natural resource conservation.
- Three mating disruption aerial treatments took place in Houston County to eradicate isolated gypsy moth populations. The DNR assisted by providing aerial operations support. Treatments using *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) were also conducted in Ely and Two Harbors. Btk is a biological insecticide targeted at gypsy moth during its early caterpillar stage.

D. Outreach and Technical Support

Outreach to field staff, other land managers, and residents is a critical part of effective invasive species management and includes delivering information on species identification, prevention, management, monitoring, and restoration.

Accomplishments:

- Half of the automatic computer pop-up dashboard posts that appear when DNR staff log in are invasive species awareness messages. This is an important outreach device as the staff that see these messages manage over 5 million acres of state administered lands.
- DoF program staff gave 20 presentations on invasive species identification, prevention, management and restoration to a combination of stakeholder groups including land managers,

industry representatives, DNR staff, and recreationists. DoF Forest Health staff, with federal funding, gave another 18 presentations on invasive species identification and management.

- The outreach campaign PlayCleanGo: Stop Invasive Species In Your Tracks (PCG) was nationally trademarked. Outreach materials were distributed at the state fair and a survey of hikers produced 2,500 pledges to use their PlayCleanGo boot brush (handed out at the fair) the next time they go hiking. PlayCleanGo exhibit booths also distributed outreach materials at three regional conferences and two sport shows.
- The number of participating organizations doubled during the past year, expanding PlayCleanGo reach to include participants in 35 states and 4 Canadian provinces. As of July 1, 2016, there are 348 PCG partner organizations spreading the word about invasive species.
- In cooperation with the University of Minnesota, a phone survey of 1,070 Minnesotans with MNDNR licenses and permits was conducted in October 2015 to determine perceptions and experience regarding invasive species. Results indicate a high awareness of invasive species in general, but low awareness of the PlayCleanGo campaign. However, those familiar of the campaign were more aware of the threat of terrestrial invasive species (TIS) and more involved in TIS prevention than other respondents. Survey results will help guide future outreach efforts.

Division of Lands and Minerals

After establishing the Department's new land record system (LRS) as the definitive database of land inventory in fiscal year 2015, the Division used its allocation from the Game & Fish Fund to refine and improve the utility and functioning of LRS in several ways:

- Developing a "Data Mart" which will allow data from the LRS to integrate more seamlessly with GIS software layers
- Developing reports to measure our performance in transacting with partner organizations
- Making improvements to the Web-based appraisal tracking system, and migrating its information to the web side of the system.
- Migrating the system to virtualized servers
- Improving workflow, tracking and documentation of elements of specific transactions:
 - Grazing leases
 - Cooperative farming agreements
 - Funding aid and deed restrictions
 - Payment in lieu of taxes

During the past fiscal year, four new versions of the LRS application were received and installed. Each of these versions contained application and database improvements from the previous version of the software. Staff continue to work with software vendor Thompson Reuters to identify improvement opportunities.

The number of users of the LRS continues to grow, making user training and support an ongoing priority for LAM and MnIT staff. Training and support is available in several forms. The LRS SharePoint site, accessible to all users via the agency's intranet, is a one-stop shop for version information, user tips, best practices and screen-by-screen tutorials for process steps. MnIT staff also host periodic online "live Q&A" sessions, open to any LRS user, to share knowledge and field questions. LRS staff have also begun publishing a periodic newsletter, "LRS Insider", to share best practice information and update users on improvements to the system.

Appendix A

Fund Statement

**Department of Natural Resources
Game and Fish Fund Statement 2016 Close Forecast**

CONSOLIDATED GAME & FISH FUND

	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
Balance Forward In	28,609,119	31,166,683	31,564,642	40,851,148	38,639,893	41,952,109	30,592,504	28,420,575
Prior Year Adjustment	520,689	1,674,405	1,097,869	614,400	732,518	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	29,129,808	32,841,087	32,662,511	41,465,548	39,372,411	41,952,109	30,592,504	28,420,575
Receipts								
Taxes	12,192,918	13,304,475	12,433,653	12,840,896	13,908,607	13,542,000	13,542,000	13,542,000
<i>Federal Grant Fisheries (D-J)</i>	11,996,112	14,956,893	12,515,386	12,547,150	14,531,579	11,882,000	11,882,000	11,882,000
<i>Federal Grant Wildlife (P-R)</i>	9,813,289	12,549,184	14,278,474	15,716,753	19,306,300	19,000,000	17,000,000	17,000,000
<i>Federal Grants</i>	21,809,401	27,506,077	26,793,860	28,263,903	34,037,879	30,882,000	28,882,000	28,882,000
Departmental Services	22,314,930	28,016,823	27,297,592	29,091,744	34,662,986	31,271,600	29,271,600	29,271,600
Departmental Sales	723,318	745,153	849,329	616,026	747,010	555,700	555,700	555,700
Licenses and Fees	54,372,834	58,455,508	64,806,117	62,484,893	61,960,684	63,309,874	63,793,536	63,781,145
Departmental Penalties	420,795	377,290	438,437	381,114	307,510	440,725	440,725	440,725
Investment Income	143,907	150,510	155,527	164,563	191,475	154,600	154,600	154,600
<i>Fines and Surcharges</i>	140,337	129,789	124,615	120,433	117,814	111,000	108,000	105,000
<i>Internal Reimbursement</i>	177,496	6,177	28,320	73	66,016	166	166	166
<i>Other Revenue</i>	6,781	4,326	2,975	26,439	28,357	1,925	1,925	1,925
<i>Cost Recovery/Reimbursement</i>	22,834	13,064	8,563	19,139	21,539	8,445	8,445	8,445
All Other	347,449	153,355	164,673	166,087	233,725	121,536	118,536	115,536
Total Receipts	90,516,152	101,203,114	106,145,311	105,745,122	112,011,997	109,396,035	107,876,697	107,861,306
Transfer In:	859,376	846,982	919,134	937,411	946,739	946,739	946,739	946,739
General Fund (State Aid)	0	0	0	0	98,885	0	0	0
Federal Funds	859,376	846,982	919,134	937,411	1,045,624	946,739	946,739	946,739
Total Transfer In	859,376	846,982	919,134	937,411	1,045,624	946,739	946,739	946,739
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	120,505,336	134,384,183	139,726,956	148,147,692	152,430,032	152,294,882	139,415,940	137,228,620
Expenditures								
Land and Minerals	1,072,033	1,575,567	634,884	349,722	332,972	355,028	344,000	344,000
Forest Management	1,215,801	1,347,719	1,135,118	1,277,246	1,121,307	1,452,693	1,287,000	1,287,000
Parks & Trails	1,080,376	3,462,863	1,869,119	2,641,779	1,877,160	2,661,840	2,273,000	2,273,000
Fish & Wildlife Mgmt	54,941,048	63,979,600	63,125,885	71,711,111	70,358,013	80,289,825	70,957,216	70,957,216
Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Licensing	4,244,337	4,292,312	4,198,123	4,241,313	4,248,932	4,973,670	4,665,784	4,665,784
Ecological and Water Resources Mgmt	4,280,932	4,299,725	3,876,162	3,931,251	3,907,477	4,959,523	4,481,000	4,481,000
Enforcement	20,476,635	21,093,076	21,156,374	22,586,269	25,757,718	24,040,435	24,013,000	23,998,000
Operations Support	745,551	71,928	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statewide Indirect Costs	625,248	1,021,384	1,188,914	1,151,458	1,302,841	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
Subtotal Expenditures	88,681,960	101,144,173	97,184,578	107,890,149	108,906,421	120,033,014	109,321,000	109,306,000
Transfer Out:								
Debt Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 2113 FMIA, Forestry certification (18I)	0	294,260	384,459	399,855	343,888	400,000	400,000	400,000
Fund 2112 Invasive Species Account (18M)	402,672	680,055	1,111,190	1,090,279	1,075,703	1,097,805	1,097,805	1,097,805
Fund 2112 Invasive Species Account (18M)	0	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 2000 Venison Donations (200)	246,021	85,378	93,161	28,285	46,061	75,000	80,000	85,000
Fund 2000 Walk In Access Program	0	110,915	102,420	99,230	105,850	96,560	96,560	96,560
Fund 2001 MAD Better Government Effort	8,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 1000 SEGIP Reduction to MMB	0	4,760	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 100 K/T Surcharge & Balance Transfer (2212)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Transfer Out	656,693	1,675,368	1,691,230	1,617,649	1,571,502	1,669,365	1,674,365	1,679,365
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT	89,338,653	102,819,541	98,875,808	109,507,799	110,477,923	121,702,379	110,995,365	110,985,365
FUND BALANCE	31,166,683	31,564,642	40,851,148	38,639,893	41,952,109	28,420,575	26,243,255	26,243,255
Less Dec. Appr. & Funds (Appropriated R296237, 7201, 7204, Funds 2201-2213)	151,888,552	171,115,345	19,660,172	19,015,452	22,535,754	22,385,440	23,590,672	24,790,513
AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE	15,978,130	14,449,297	21,190,976	19,624,442	19,416,355	8,207,063	4,829,902	1,452,741

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	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Planning Est.	Planning Est.	Planning Est.
2200 Game and Fish (Operations)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.055, Subd. 1								
Balance Forward In	16,513,659	16,285,983	14,776,166	21,453,509	19,931,793	19,636,851	8,374,560	4,944,399
Prior Year Adjustment	<u>184,780</u>	<u>676,145</u>	<u>915,886</u>	<u>380,005</u>	<u>332,212</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Adjusted Balance Forward	16,698,438	16,962,128	15,692,052	21,833,515	20,264,005	19,636,851	8,374,560	4,944,399
Receipts								
Departmental Earnings (DE)								
636002 Non-Ferrous Metallic Minerals	27,631	0	9,888	0	0	12,000	12,000	12,000
636005 Peat Royalties	879	1,069	1,080	1,080	1,080	1,000	1,000	1,000
636016 Timber Sales	657,594	703,190	790,707	563,757	648,454	500,000	500,000	500,000
636017 Timber Sales Interest- Penalty	621	232	1,629	408	197	725	725	725
636018 Resource Mgmt Access Permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636043 License Credit Card Serv Charge	(17,559)	(23,624)	(14,779)	(18,495)	(19,982)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
636047 Easements on DNR Lands	9,272	14,108	3,492	7,890	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
636051 Water Cross Lic on DNR Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636052 Leasing of DNR Lands	323,273	339,342	306,161	652,881	461,978	200,500	200,500	200,500
636054 Sale of Gravel, Sand, Salt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636055 Land Earnings, Sale of Crops	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636056 Sale of Standing Timber	0	474	0	0	0	0	0	0
636074 Application Fees	146,323	221,263	197,537	156,722	139,283	140,000	140,000	140,000
636075 License Issuing Fee /ELS	3,308,307	3,295,736	3,357,342	3,213,489	3,181,274	3,247,140	3,245,025	3,242,826
636075 License Issuing Fee /ELS from Lifetime License Sales	33,834	40,116	44,741	47,751	50,343	52,860	54,975	57,174
636076 Game & Fish Commercial License	354,976	353,870	345,755	354,843	346,661	351,000	351,000	351,000
636078 Fishing Licenses	20,142,251	22,524,441	26,789,015	26,326,378	25,374,414	26,332,149	26,325,594	26,318,778
636079 Fishing Licenses from Lifetime License Sales	80,648	94,684	141,326	151,992	156,049	163,851	170,406	177,222
636079 Hunting Licenses	17,363,923	17,243,030	18,892,766	17,729,825	18,335,082	18,328,278	18,821,969	18,815,408
636079 Hunting Licenses from Lifetime License Sales	77,347	98,870	129,531	139,505	150,212	157,722	164,031	170,592
636081 Sports Licenses	4,408,301	5,301,996	5,709,756	5,450,829	5,184,989	5,387,171	5,378,658	5,369,804
636081 Sports Licenses from Lifetime License Sales	115,913	128,328	181,862	194,549	202,694	212,829	221,342	230,196
636082 Waterfowl Stamp	0	(5)	0	0	0	0	0	0
636085 DNR Sale of Fish/Eggs	26,934	13,755	15,448	18,932	41,268	18,700	18,700	18,700
636086 Wild Rice Harvest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636088 Game & Fish Federal D-J (Fisheries)	11,996,112	14,956,893	12,515,386	12,547,150	14,531,579	11,882,000	11,882,000	11,882,000
636089 Game & Fish Federal P-R (Wildlife)	9,813,289	12,549,184	14,278,474	15,716,753	19,506,300	19,000,000	17,000,000	17,000,000
636090 Game and Fish Misc	13,902	15,453	16,019	16,703	18,736	15,100	15,100	15,100

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	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Planning Est.	Planning Est.	Planning Est.
2200 Game and Fish (Operations)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.055, Subd. 1								
636091 Turkey Stamp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636093 Adult Hunter Education	7,821	8,810	9,010	9,641	4,602	10,000	10,000	10,000
636094 Firearm Safety Training	141,128	156,286	173,937	159,222	159,773	160,000	160,000	160,000
636098 Fines Game & Fish	139,916	198,631	190,095	196,608	200,250	190,000	190,000	190,000
636099 Fine Game & Fish Surcharge	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	0
636103 Fortlets Game & Fish	201,037	13,452	146,190	76,997	10,154	145,000	145,000	145,000
636104 DNR Restitution	76,817	161,477	97,274	104,853	96,213	100,000	100,000	100,000
636105 Pelting Fees	145	468	243	697	59	0	0	0
636107 Trespass Civil citations	2,404	3,299	3,250	2,249	696	5,000	5,000	5,000
636116 Deposit Clearance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636119 Late Charges on Leasing DNR Land	63	370	5	0	0	0	0	0
636122 Aeration System Permit	24,750	23,000	25,500	30,275	40,250	25,000	25,000	25,000
636127 Hunting Surcharge	246,049	196,514	195,332	127,515	151,911	171,560	176,560	181,560
636128 Fishing Surcharge	402,672	680,055	1,111,190	1,090,279	1,075,703	1,097,805	1,097,805	1,097,805
636129 Fishing Contests Permit	43,930	43,460	43,920	45,080	44,460	44,000	44,000	44,000
636134 Land Crossing Lic on DNR Land	3,823	41,378	25,223	200	8,699	5,250	5,250	5,250
636140 Super Sports R N	0	63,315	130,815	176,360	217,325	154,000	154,000	154,000
Subtotal Departmental Earnings	70,174,323	79,463,120	85,865,117	85,292,917	90,320,705	88,102,640	86,607,640	86,612,640
Investment Earnings	142,956	148,600	153,543	162,505	188,485	152,900	152,900	152,900
Other Revenue (OR)								
512001 ITC Interest Earnings	0	0	622	0	0	0	0	0
512428 Restitutions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512801 Settlements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
513118 General K/T Surcharge (GFT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
553090 All Other Reimbursements - External	16,060	3,756	566	16,023	0	0	0	0
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	5,109	7,297	6,951	18,998	18,998	7,000	7,000	7,000
512253 Sale of Buildings	0	0	0	0	4,018	0	0	0
512606 All Other Reimbursements - Internal	354	369	0	0	0	0	0	0
555002 Agency Indirect Cost Non General Fund (Fed Indirect)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expenditures	6,139	3,284	2,016	1,223	23,515	925	925	925
512607 Agency Indirect Cost Reimb (Regional Indirect Cost Plan)	166,940	5,542	17,329	0	42,241	0	0	0
512833 Cash Overages	71	(106)	(134)	27	54	0	0	0
Subtotal Other Revenue	196,128	20,142	27,349	17,273	88,826	7,925	7,925	7,925
Transfer In								
Total Receipts	70,513,407	79,631,862	86,046,008	85,472,695	90,598,016	88,263,465	86,768,465	86,773,465
From General Fund (Police State Aid)	859,376	846,982	919,134	937,411	946,739	946,739	946,739	946,739
From Federal Fund 3000	0	0	0	0	98,885	0	0	0
Total Transfers In	859,376	846,982	919,134	937,411	1,045,624	946,739	946,739	946,739
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	88,071,221	97,440,972	102,657,194	108,243,620	111,907,645	108,847,055	96,089,764	92,664,603

**Department of Natural Resources
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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2000 Game and Fish (Operations)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.055, Subd. 1								
Expenditures								
Land and Minerals (R291002)	882,917	848,613	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lands Records Management System (R291017 & R291009)	189,116	726,955	634,884	349,722	332,972	355,028	344,000	344,000
Parks & Trails, Water Access (R294008)	1,080,376	3,462,863	1,869,119	2,641,779	1,877,160	2,661,840	2,273,000	2,273,000
Fish & Wildlife Management (R296002)	42,348,965	49,175,225	49,718,296	53,953,453	56,091,027	62,137,025	56,185,216	56,185,216
Grey Wolf Mgmt (R296040)	120,000	120,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shooting Sports Facilities Grants (R296406 & 6411)	0	0	0	978,209	567,008	2,456,579	0	0
Bobwhite Quail Restoration Plan (R296116) FY15	0	0	0	5,615	0	0	0	0
Public Grazing Program (R296222) FY15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Virus Surveillance (R296048)	0	0	0	0	0	50,000	0	0
Fish & Wildlife Mgmt, Licensing (R296056)	913,961	895,983	797,432	1,082,956	933,278	1,574,670	1,266,784	1,266,784
License Center / ELS (R296237)	3,330,376	3,396,329	3,400,691	3,110,158	3,279,841	3,341,000	3,341,000	3,341,000
Ecological and Water Resources Mgmt (R292005)	1,926,242	2,242,119	2,296,409	2,375,471	2,226,635	2,604,365	2,463,000	2,463,000
Enforcement (R297006 & R297051)	18,657,002	18,803,342	19,321,178	20,044,815	21,237,506	22,137,495	22,113,000	22,113,000
Safety Training & Hunter Educ Fees (R297201, R297204)	238,783	175,853	176,040	295,474	283,237	185,000	185,000	170,000
Advanced Hunter Ed (R297030)	70,008	55,604	76,232	60,306	0	0	0	0
Enforcement Records Mgmt (R297011)	0	0	33,260	644,764	2,567,786	130	0	0
Enforcement Aviation Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ops Support (R298002)	745,551	71,928	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ops Support: Regional Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statewide Indirect Costs (R290228)	625,248	1,021,384	1,188,914	1,151,458	1,302,841	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
Subtotal Expenditures	71,128,546	80,994,197	79,512,455	86,694,179	90,699,292	98,803,131	89,471,000	89,456,000
Transfers Out:								
Fund 2113 Forestry certification (18J)	0	294,260	384,459	399,855	343,888	400,000	400,000	400,000
Fund 2112 Invasive Species (R296230) from NR Fishing Surchg (R292206)	402,672	680,055	1,111,190	1,090,279	1,075,703	1,097,805	1,097,805	1,097,805
Fund 2112 Invasive Species Account (18M)	0	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 2000 Venison Donation Surcharge	246,021	85,378	93,161	28,285	46,061	75,000	80,000	85,000
Fund 2000 Walk In Access Program	0	110,915	102,420	99,230	105,850	96,560	96,560	96,560
Fund 2001 MAD Better Government Effort	8,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 1000 SEGIP Reduction to MMB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund 100 K/T Surcharge & Balance Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Transfers out:	656,693	1,670,608	1,691,230	1,617,649	1,571,502	1,669,365	1,674,365	1,679,365
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT	71,785,238	82,664,806	81,203,685	88,311,828	92,270,794	100,472,496	91,145,365	91,135,365
FUND BALANCE	16,285,983	14,776,166	21,453,509	19,931,793	19,636,851	8,374,560	4,944,399	1,529,238
Less Dedicated Appropriations: R296237, R297201, R297204; (GPT 208, G64 208)	307,853	326,869	262,553	307,351	220,496	167,496	114,496	76,496
FUND BALANCE Less Dedicated Appropriations	15,978,130	14,449,297	21,190,976	19,624,442	19,416,355	8,207,063	4,829,902	1,452,741

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	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Planning Est.	Planning Est.	Planning Est.
2201 Deer and Bear Management Account/Computerized Licensing (231) (Statutory)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1 (c)								
FUND 2201 (Appropriation R296023) without Appropriation R296213 (D01) (Statutory)								
Balance Forward In	1,060,971	1,156,480	1,120,502	1,160,130	952,156	1,011,558	921,558	831,558
Prior Year Adjustments	911	8,273	4,756	6,640	15,798	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	1,061,882	1,164,753	1,125,258	1,166,770	967,953	1,011,558	921,558	831,558
Receipts								
636079 Hunting License	676,877	702,218	633,588	547,328	578,322	644,155	643,921	643,678
636079 Hunting License from Lifetime License Sales	2,513	4,433	4,567	5,086	5,422	5,845	6,079	6,322
636075 License Issuing Fee	0	0	59,256	57,430	57,579	58,000	58,000	58,000
636075 License Issuing Fee From Lifetime Licenses	0	0	407	383	434	0	0	0
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	679,390	706,651	697,818	610,226	641,757	708,000	708,000	708,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	1,741,273	1,871,404	1,823,076	1,776,996	1,609,710	1,719,558	1,629,558	1,539,558
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management								
Wildlife Management	584,793	750,903	662,946	776,640	562,339	740,000	740,000	740,000
License Center	0	0	0	48,200	35,813	58,000	58,000	58,000
Total Expenditures	584,793	750,903	662,946	824,840	598,152	798,000	798,000	798,000
FUND BALANCE without Appropriation R296213 (D01)	1,156,480	1,120,502	1,160,130	952,156	1,011,558	921,558	831,558	741,558
APPROPRIATION R296213 (D01) (Statutory)								
Emergency Deer Feeding and Wild Cervidae Health Management Account								
Balance Forward In	302,107	594,511	798,981	537,834	607,166	858,909	898,909	938,909
Prior Year Adjustments	7,015	6,360	5,000	26,748	85,777	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	309,122	600,872	803,981	564,582	692,943	858,909	898,909	938,909
Receipts								
636079 Hunting License	337,599	347,208	343,119	298,813	314,541	337,078	336,961	336,839
636079 Hunting License from Lifetime License Sales	2,513	2,217	2,487	2,543	2,928	2,923	3,039	3,161
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	340,113	349,424	345,606	301,356	317,469	340,000	340,000	340,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	649,235	950,296	1,149,587	865,938	1,010,411	1,198,909	1,238,909	1,278,909
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management								
Wildlife Management	54,723	151,315	611,753	258,771	151,502	300,000	300,000	300,000
APPROPRIATION R296213 (D01) BALANCE	594,511	798,981	537,834	607,166	858,909	898,909	938,909	978,909
FUND BALANCE: Including Appropriation R296213 (D01)	1,750,991	1,919,483	1,697,963	1,559,322	1,870,467	1,820,467	1,770,467	1,720,467

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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2202 Deer Habitat Improvement Account (232) (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 1 (b)								
Balance Forward In	695,248	957,370	763,254	863,021	627,887	696,221	671,221	651,221
Prior Year Adjustments	<u>1,810</u>	<u>9,157</u>	<u>8,120</u>	<u>707</u>	<u>8,694</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Adjusted Balance Forward	697,058	966,527	771,374	863,728	636,581	696,221	671,221	651,221
Receipts								
636079 Hunting License	1,340,345	1,388,830	1,372,476	1,194,742	1,258,156	1,362,702	1,367,210	1,376,699
636079 Hunting License from Lifetime License Sales	6,702	8,866	9,948	10,682	11,712	12,298	12,790	13,301
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Receipts	1,347,047	1,397,696	1,382,424	1,205,424	1,269,868	1,375,000	1,380,000	1,390,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	2,044,105	2,364,223	2,153,799	2,069,152	1,906,449	2,071,221	2,051,221	2,041,221
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management								
Wildlife Management (R296024)	<u>1,086,735</u>	<u>1,600,969</u>	<u>1,290,777</u>	<u>1,441,265</u>	<u>1,210,228</u>	<u>1,400,000</u>	<u>1,400,000</u>	<u>1,400,000</u>
FUND BALANCE	<u>957,370</u>	<u>763,254</u>	<u>863,021</u>	<u>627,887</u>	<u>696,221</u>	<u>671,221</u>	<u>651,221</u>	<u>641,221</u>
2203 Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Account (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 2								
Balance Forward In	172,641	279,452	439,837	642,783	519,260	710,058	730,058	750,058
Prior Year Adjustments	<u>7,717</u>	<u>14,014</u>	<u>1,049</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>69,357</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Adjusted Balance Forward	180,357	293,466	440,886	642,783	588,617	710,058	730,058	750,058
Receipts								
5425 Hunting License	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
636082 Waterfowl Stamp	609,345	615,164	634,611	641,032	621,825	620,000	620,000	620,000
553901 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Receipts	609,345	615,164	634,655	641,032	621,825	620,000	620,000	620,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	789,703	908,630	1,075,541	1,283,815	1,210,442	1,330,058	1,350,058	1,370,058
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management								
Wildlife Management (R296025)	510,251	468,792	432,758	764,555	500,384	600,000	600,000	600,000
FUND BALANCE	<u>279,452</u>	<u>439,837</u>	<u>642,783</u>	<u>519,260</u>	<u>710,058</u>	<u>730,058</u>	<u>750,058</u>	<u>770,058</u>

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	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Planning Est.	Planning Est.	Planning Est.
2204 Trout and Salmon Management Account (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075 Subd 3								
Balance Forward In	402,800	450,953	545,257	716,175	893,624	941,233	1,012,233	1,083,233
Prior Year Adjustments	6,849	50,671	2,600	1,751	6,944	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	409,649	501,624	547,858	717,926	900,569	941,233	1,012,233	1,083,233
Receipts								
656083 Trout Stamp	845,499	826,132	921,649	971,054	978,678	946,000	946,000	946,000
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	471	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	845,499	826,603	921,649	971,054	978,678	946,000	946,000	946,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	1,255,147	1,328,227	1,469,507	1,688,980	1,879,247	1,887,233	1,958,233	2,029,233
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management	804,194	782,970	753,332	795,355	938,013	875,000	875,000	875,000
Fish Management (R296003)	450,953	545,257	716,175	893,624	941,233	1,012,233	1,083,233	1,154,233
FUND BALANCE								
2205 Pheasant Habitat Improvement Account (235) (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075, Subd 4								
Balance Forward In	149,399	124,113	151,750	142,928	66,113	102,877	102,877	102,877
Prior Year Adjustments	25,139	6,628	5,370	1,134	0	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	174,538	130,741	157,120	144,062	66,113	102,877	102,877	102,877
Receipts								
656084 Pheasant Stamp	579,132	608,521	520,897	500,770	525,608	500,000	500,000	500,000
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	579,132	608,521	520,897	500,770	525,608	500,000	500,000	500,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	753,671	739,261	678,017	644,832	591,721	602,877	602,877	602,877
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management	629,558	587,511	535,088	578,719	488,843	500,000	500,000	500,000
Wildlife Management (R296)	124,113	151,750	142,928	66,113	102,877	102,877	102,877	102,877
FUND BALANCE								

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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2206 Wild Rice Management Account (236) Legal Citation: M.S. 84.0911, Subd. 1								
Balance Forward In	47,453	35,364	22,028	24,122	26,379	42,588	48,588	54,588
Prior Year Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	47,453	35,364	22,028	24,122	26,379	42,588	48,588	54,588
Receipts								
636086 Wild Rice License	37,911	26,665	42,094	32,257	56,209	36,000	36,000	36,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	85,364	62,028	64,122	56,379	82,588	78,588	84,588	90,588
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management Wildlife Management (R296211)	50,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	40,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
FUND BALANCE	35,364	22,028	24,122	26,379	42,588	48,588	54,588	60,588
2207 Wildlife Acquisition Account (237) (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.071, Subd. 1								
Balance Forward In	553,162	1,068,635	1,348,210	1,683,961	866,218	917,070	917,070	917,070
Prior Year Adjustments	0	601	0	0	92	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	553,163	1,069,236	1,348,210	1,683,961	866,309	917,070	917,070	917,070
Receipts								
636080 Wildlife Acquisition Surcharge	1,714,921	1,628,332	1,586,445	1,567,130	1,533,281	1,550,710	1,548,738	1,546,688
636080 Wildlife Acq Surcharge from Lifetime License Sales	36,920	40,905	42,965	45,409	46,943	49,290	51,262	53,312
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	1,751,841	1,669,237	1,629,410	1,612,539	1,580,224	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	2,305,004	2,738,473	2,977,620	3,296,501	2,446,534	2,517,070	2,517,070	2,517,070
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management Wildlife Management (R296030, R296022)	1,236,369	1,390,263	1,293,659	2,430,283	1,529,464	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
FUND BALANCE	1,068,635	1,348,210	1,683,961	866,218	917,070	917,070	917,070	917,070

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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2208 Wild Turkey Management Account (238) (Statutory)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075, Subd. 5								
Balance Forward In	381,447	406,367	333,537	382,023	305,513	331,460	315,160	298,860
Prior Year Adjustments	2,725	13,860	6,512	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	384,172	420,227	340,049	382,023	305,513	331,460	315,160	298,860
Receipts								
636079 Hunting Licenses	172,598	204,062	190,236	187,394	201,011	203,700	203,700	203,700
636091 Turkey Stamp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	172,598	204,062	190,236	187,394	201,011	203,700	203,700	203,700
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
From Fund 230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	556,770	624,288	530,285	569,417	506,525	535,160	518,860	502,560
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Management	150,403	290,752	148,263	263,904	175,064	220,000	220,000	220,000
Wildlife Management (R296028)	406,367	333,537	382,023	305,513	331,460	315,160	298,860	282,560
FUND BALANCE								
2209 Heritage Enhancement Account (239)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 297A.94 (e) (1)								
Balance Forward In	1,279,311	1,554,991	1,604,319	2,735,977	2,366,298	4,145,399	3,259,643	3,752,088
Prior Year Adjustments	281,244	380,254	146,407	120,749	100,777	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	1,560,555	1,935,246	1,750,726	2,856,726	2,467,074	4,145,399	3,259,643	3,752,088
Receipts								
510152 Heritage Enhancement	12,192,918	13,304,475	12,433,635	12,840,896	13,908,607	13,542,000	13,542,000	13,542,000
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	1,666	2,011	1,046	3,116	2,541	1,445	1,445	1,445
512832 Refunds of Prior Year Expd	571	677	1,050	25,189	770	1,000	1,000	1,000
512607 Agency Indirect Cost Reimb (Regional Indirect Cost Plan)	10,189	0	11,103	0	23,733	0	0	0
Total Receipts	12,205,344	13,307,164	12,446,834	12,869,201	13,935,651	13,544,445	13,544,445	13,544,445
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	13,765,898	15,242,410	14,197,560	15,725,927	16,402,725	17,689,844	16,804,088	17,296,533
Expenditures								
Forest Management ECS (R293002)	231,050	296,320	1,135,118	1,277,246	1,121,307	1,452,693	1,287,000	1,287,000
Ecological Classification System Program (R293004)	984,750	1,051,399	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish & Wildlife Mgmt, (R296004)	7,220,353	8,083,705	7,224,721	8,268,862	7,336,674	8,197,327	7,767,000	7,767,000
Shooting Sports Facilities (R296042 & R296410)	0	0	0	0	679	166,894	0	0
Itasca Shoot Fac Grant (R296403)	0	0	0	100,000	0	0	0	0
Prairie Wetlands (R296039)	0	255,519	89,905	653,736	208,579	591,421	400,000	400,000
Aquatic Plant Mgmt (R296115) FY15	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	0
Let's Go Fishing Grants and (R296407, R296408, R296033) thru FY16	0	0	0	25,000	373,375	25,580	0	0
Southeast Asian Outreach (R296272)	0	0	0	60,000	0	0	0	0
Ecological Services (R292006/R292022)	2,354,690	2,057,606	1,579,754	1,555,780	1,680,842	2,355,158	2,018,000	2,018,000
Enforcement (R297007, R297010, R297046, R297052)	1,420,063	1,888,782	1,432,085	1,476,005	1,535,871	1,581,129	1,580,000	1,580,000
Operations Support - Southeast Asian Outreach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	12,210,907	13,633,331	11,461,583	13,359,629	12,257,326	14,430,201	13,052,000	13,052,000
Transfers Out								
Fund 1000 SEGIP Reduction to MMB	0	4,760	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Transfers out:	0	4,760	0	0	0	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE	1,554,991	1,604,319	2,735,977	2,366,298	4,145,399	3,259,643	3,752,088	4,244,533

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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2210 Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund (23A) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A-4742 Subd 1								
Balance Forward In	6,914,466	8,064,724	9,439,594	10,017,291	10,690,119	11,455,115	12,213,373	12,945,294
Prior Year Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	6,914,466	8,064,724	9,439,594	10,017,291	10,690,119	11,455,115	12,213,373	12,945,294
Receipts								
636078 Fishing License (Lifetime)	405,272	429,141	299,211	308,117	364,524	350,000	350,000	350,000
636079 Hunting License (Lifetime)	435,180	602,714	410,323	474,729	469,826	480,000	480,000	480,000
636081 Sportsman License (Lifetime)	665,323	759,408	426,754	489,003	557,671	585,000	585,000	585,000
636123 G-F Lifetime License Activation	(356,468)	(418,526)	(560,576)	(600,879)	(630,015)	(658,441)	(684,779)	(712,170)
512001 ITC Interest Earnings	951	2,132	1,985	1,858	2,990	1,700	1,700	1,700
Total Receipts	1,150,258	1,374,870	577,697	672,828	764,996	758,259	731,921	704,530
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	8,064,724	9,439,594	10,017,291	10,690,119	11,455,115	12,213,373	12,945,294	13,649,824
Deposit Correction to:								
Fund 2200, 636075, License Issuing Fee (RSRC 5421)	33,834	40,116	44,741	47,751	50,343	52,860	54,975	57,174
Fund 2200, 636078, Fishing Licenses fee (RSRC 5424)	80,648	94,684	141,326	151,992	156,049	163,851	170,406	177,222
Fund 2200, 636079, Hunting Licenses (RSRC 5425)	77,347	98,870	129,531	139,505	150,212	157,722	164,031	170,592
Fund 2200, 636081, Sports Licenses (RSRC 5427)	115,913	128,328	181,862	194,549	202,694	212,829	221,342	230,196
Fund 2200, 636128, Fishing Lic Surcharge (RSRC 5475)	77	102	250	285	310	326	339	352
Fund 2200, 636127, Hunting Lic Surcharge	0	5	5	25	40	42	44	45
Fund 2201, 636079, Hunting License (RSRC 5425)	5,027	6,650	7,054	7,629	8,350	8,768	9,118	9,483
Fund 2201, 636075, License Issuing Fee (RSRC 5421)	0	0	407	383	434	456	474	493
Fund 2202, 636079, Hunting License (RSRC 5425)	6,702	8,866	9,948	10,682	11,712	12,298	12,790	13,301
Fund 2207, 636080, Wildlife Acq Surcharge (RSRC 5426)	36,920	40,905	42,965	45,409	46,943	49,290	51,262	53,312
Fund 2213, 636142, Wolf Account	0	0	2,487	2,671	2,928	3,074	3,197	3,325
Deposit Correction detail: Game and Fish Fund (Operations)	356,468	418,526	560,576	600,879	630,015	658,441	684,779	712,170
FUND BALANCE	8,064,724	9,439,594	10,017,291	10,690,119	11,455,115	12,213,373	12,945,294	13,649,824
2211 Walleye Stamp Account (23B) (Statutory) Legal Citation: M.S. 97A,075 Subd 6								
Balance Forward In	136,456	139,621	95,894	98,682	59,144	69,673	69,673	69,673
Prior Year Adjustments	2,499	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted Balance Forward	138,955	139,621	95,894	98,682	59,144	69,673	69,673	69,673
Receipts								
663130 Walleye Stamp	145,371	105,066	100,842	87,408	85,363	90,000	90,000	90,000
512001 ITC Interest Earnings	0	(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	145,371	104,844	100,842	87,408	85,363	90,000	90,000	90,000
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	284,326	244,465	196,736	186,090	144,507	159,673	159,673	159,673
Expenditures								
Fish & Wildlife Mgmt, Fish Management (R296005)	144,705	148,571	98,054	126,946	74,834	90,000	90,000	90,000
FUND BALANCE	139,621	95,894	98,682	59,144	69,673	69,673	69,673	69,673

**Department of Natural Resources
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	FY2012 Actual	FY2013 Actual	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Planning Est.	FY2018 Planning Est.	FY2019 Planning Est.
2212 Peate Officer Training Account								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.052								
Balance Forward In	0	48,118	8,119	16,287	72,608	57,458	31,942	5,108
	0	1,442	1,664	717	313	0	0	0
	0	49,560	9,783	17,004	72,921	57,458	31,942	5,108
Receipts	138,881	129,789	123,993	120,433	117,814	111,000	108,000	105,000
513118 General K/T Surcharge	14	265	89	75	42	166	166	166
553091 Credit Agreement Rebate	138,895	130,054	124,082	120,509	117,855	111,166	108,166	105,166
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	138,895	179,614	133,865	137,513	190,776	168,624	140,108	110,274
Expenditures	90,778	171,494	117,578	64,905	133,318	136,682	135,000	135,000
Enforcement (R297047)								
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
From Fund 2200								
FUND BALANCE	48,118	8,119	16,287	72,608	57,458	31,942	5,108	(24,726)
2213 Wolf Management and Monitoring Account (Statutory)								
Legal Citation: M.S. 97A.075 Subd 7b								
Balance Forward In	0	0	117,193	376,424	655,616	975,638	1,025,638	1,075,638
	0	0	505	75,560	112,554	0	0	0
	0	0	117,698	451,984	768,170	975,638	1,025,638	1,075,638
Receipts	636141 Wolf Hunting & Trapping	0	249,853	139,453	159,072	0	0	0
636142 Wolf Allocation	0	445	343,119	298,686	314,540	300,000	300,000	300,000
636142 Wolf Allocation from Lifetime License Saks	0	0	2,487	2,671	2,928	0	0	0
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE	0	250,298	485,059	460,429	317,468	300,000	300,000	300,000
Expenditures	0	250,298	602,757	912,413	1,085,638	1,275,638	1,325,638	1,375,638
Fish and Wildlife Management (R296223)	0	133,106	226,332	256,797	110,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE	0	117,193	376,424	655,616	975,638	1,025,638	1,075,638	1,125,638

Appendix B
Game and Fish
Fund Allocations to
Hunting and
Fishing Activity

The Game and Fish Fund Hunting and Fishing Allocation report is based on the methodology developed for the [2008 legislative report](#); “Game and Fish Fund Hunting and Fishing Revenue/Expenditure Allocations”, which was developed to meet Minnesota Session Law 2007, Chapter 57, Article 1, Section 4, Subdivision 7, which required a report by November 15, 2008.

The report shows the actual and projected ratios of fishing revenue to expenditures and hunting revenue to expenditures, thus shows any imbalance in spending to revenues for hunting verses fishing.

Per the report, only the Game and Fish Operations Account is used in the analysis. Revenues are allocated by revenue type, and expenditures are allocated based on accounting codes, actual for completed years, budgeted for future years.

Other than for dedicated stamp or other dedicated accounts, there are no statutory requirements to appropriate or spend fishing related revenue for fish activities or hunting related revenue for wildlife activities.

The desired goal is to have a balance between both fisheries revenue and expenditures and wildlife revenue and expenditures.

There are factors that influence the ending result each year. These factors include:

1. Increase wildlife expenditures,
2. Decrease hunting related revenues,
3. Decrease fisheries expenditures, and
4. Increase fishing related revenues.

It is acknowledged that other factors are outside the control of DNR and may include session law changes, and federal Sport Fish Restoration Act (DJ) or Wildlife Restoration Act (PR) apportionment increases or decreases.

The Game and Fish fund report is a tool used to help track imbalance concerns. The DNR is committed to monitoring the imbalance.

**Game and Fish Fund Allocations to Hunting and Fishing Activity
As of 2016 Close Forecast**

EXPENDITURES	FY12		FY13		FY14		FY15		FY16		FY17		FY18		FY19	
	Actual Expenditures		Actual Expenditures		Actual Expenditures		Actual Expenditures		Actual Expenditures		Estimated Expenditures		Estimated Expenditures		Estimated Expenditures	
	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing	Hunting	Fishing
DNR Unit	-	24,463,593	29,912,120	29,888,426	-	31,347,195	0	30,310,322	0	33,888,132	0	31,269,266	0	31,269,266	0	31,269,266
Fisheries	18,662,065	-	21,063,713	21,723,101	-	25,207,730	0	27,919,216	0	32,424,837	0	26,590,315	0	26,590,315	0	0
Wildlife	2,334,385	1,909,952	1,931,540	2,308,988	1,889,155	2,306,213	1,886,901	2,317,215	1,895,903	2,703,619	2,212,062	2,534,281	2,073,503	2,534,281	2,073,503	2,073,503
License Center	501,442	1,424,800	583,671	688,923	1,607,486	712,841	1,662,830	1,046,518	1,180,117	1,171,964	1,432,401	1,108,350	1,354,650	1,108,350	1,354,650	1,354,650
Ecological Services	8,534,607	10,431,186	8,564,760	10,644,941	9,961,769	11,379,268	12,407,901	11,680,628	10,147,003	12,175,622	10,135,850	12,162,150	10,120,850	12,162,150	10,120,850	12,162,150
Enforcement	-	1,080,376	-	3,462,863	-	1,869,119	0	2,641,779	0	1,877,160	0	2,661,840	0	2,273,000	0	2,273,000
Parks and Trails	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forestry	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lands and Minerals	943,389	128,644	1,386,499	558,688	76,186	307,755	41,967	283,015	39,957	312,425	42,603	302,720	41,280	302,720	41,280	41,280
Operations Support	327,874	417,577	29,936	41,992	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ecological Services	275,052	350,196	425,092	508,783	680,131	504,658	646,800	629,936	672,905	612,950	687,050	588,489	711,511	588,409	711,591	711,591
Statewide Indirect	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 31,578,913	\$ 40,206,325	\$ 34,404,442	\$ 48,260,363	\$ 34,750,241	\$ 46,463,444	\$ 38,705,088	\$ 49,606,740	\$ 44,613,801	\$ 47,666,992	\$ 47,372,797	\$ 53,099,700	\$ 41,260,005	\$ 49,885,360	\$ 41,249,926	\$ 49,885,439

Biennial Totals

	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19
Hunting	\$ 65,983,355	\$ 73,455,329	\$ 91,986,599	\$ 82,509,830
Fishing	\$ 88,466,688	\$ 96,060,185	\$ 100,756,691	\$ 99,770,800
	42.7%	43.3%	47.7%	45.3%
	57.3%	56.7%	52.3%	54.7%

Expenditure Assumptions:

Dedicated Account dollars not included.
 Projected costs are based on current law.
 License Center costs allocated based on historical average number of licenses sold.
 Enforcement and Land & Minerals costs allocated based on historical percentages.
 Ecological and Water Resources allocated on cost coding.
 Statewide Indirect is allocated as a percentage of the other total costs.
 Fishing Surcharge transfers allocated to Fishing Expenditures. Venison, Walk-in-Access, and FJMA transfers allocated to Hunting Expenditures.

REVENUES

	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19
Hunting	\$ 69,404,327	\$ 79,393,542	\$ 86,596,188	\$ 82,774,127
Fishing	\$ 82,447,307	\$ 93,981,704	\$ 94,257,656	\$ 92,661,281
	45.7%	45.8%	47.9%	47.2%
	54.3%	54.2%	52.1%	52.8%

Revenue Assumptions:

Total Biennial receipts reported on this report equals "Total Receipts (GFF Statement) + Police State Aid Transfer - Less Dedicated Accounts"
 Sports Licenses-Split according to % of hunting and fishing to total
 Commercial Licenses allocated based on account numbers.
 Leases-Split 5% to Fisheries/ 95% to Wildlife
 Fines Split 60% to Fisheries/40% to Wildlife
 Miscellaneous Split 50% to Fisheries/50% to Wildlife
 Investment Split According to Overall Pre-Investment Revenue Split

PERCENTAGE

	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19
Hunting	95.1%	92.5%	106.2%	99.7%
Fishing	107.3%	102.2%	106.9%	107.7%

Note: Over 100% means expenditures exceed revenues, and less than 100% means revenues exceed expenditures.



Appendix C

Related Accounts

Appendix C

Related Accounts

Game and Fish Fund *Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report*

Venison Donation Program

This program operates out of a special revenue fund. The legislature created a \$5 surcharge on all non-resident hunting licenses, a \$1 fee on bonus permits, and an option for all individuals to donate \$1, \$3, or \$5. These receipts are appropriated to the commissioner for deer management, including grants for assisting with the cost of processing deer taken for population management purposes for venison donation programs. The \$5 surcharge and voluntary donation was eliminated from this account by the Legislature during the 2011-2012 sessions. Going forward, the \$1 fee on bonus permits is anticipated to be sufficient to fund the program.

This program allows Minnesota deer hunters to donate deer carcasses to food banks, food shelves and feeding programs. This is a cooperative effort between the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) providing an excellent source of protein to people in need while helping reduce local deer populations where needed.

Accomplishments:

- At least 28 processors were certified to participate in the program in 2016.
- Venison donations remain well below the levels experienced during the mid-2000's when deer populations in much of the state were considered overabundant, and efforts were being made to reduce populations through hunting. However deer populations are rebounding, and we anticipate more donations from the 2016 deer hunt.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$361,108
Prior year adjustment	\$0
Receipts	
Donations	\$0
Transfer-in from 2200	<u>\$46,061</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$46,061
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	\$11
Transfer-out to Dept. of Agriculture	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total expenditures and transfers-out	\$50,011
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$357,158
Net change for FY2016	(\$3,950)

Walk-In Access Program

This program operates out of a special revenue account. The Walk-In Access (WIA) program is in its fifth year. The program is supported by a one-time appropriation of about \$616,000 made from the surcharge portion of the venison donation fund, a \$5 surcharge on all non-resident hunting licenses, and an option for small game hunters and deer hunters to donate \$1, \$3, or \$5 to support the WIA program. In fall 2015, the program received notification that it would receive a \$1.67 million grant by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under number 69-3A75-16-509, to fund the program for three years, beginning in March 2016.

This program provides hunting opportunity by purchasing access on private land that is already enrolled in existing conservation programs or lands with high quality wildlife cover, through a landowner agreement. This program is voluntary for landowners. Most landowners choose to enroll their property for two or three years. Enrolled lands are covered under the Minnesota recreational use laws that limit landowners' liability.

Accomplishments:

- Retained/enrolled 200 sites totaling 22,800 acres during the 2015/2016 hunting season in 35 south central and southwestern Minnesota counties to provide access for public hunting recreation opportunity.
- Created, printed, and distributed 20,000 Walk-In Access Hunting Atlases to guide WIA users to WIA enrolled lands for access.
- Received a Voluntary Public Access – Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP) grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funded by the 2014 Farm Bill for \$1.67 million to assist with funding the program.
- As a result of the grant, hired a new Walk-In Access coordinator to grow the program to 30,000 acres over the next three years.
- Maintained and updated the Walk-In Access web site and electronic map products to provide additional opportunities for users to locate WIA lands for access.

Financial Review	
FY2016 Beginning fund balance	\$624,120
Prior year adjustment	\$2,500
Receipts	
Donations	\$20,650
Transfer-in from 2200	<u>\$105,850</u>
Total receipts and transfers in	\$126,500
Expenditures	
Fish and Wildlife	<u>\$309,205</u>
Transfers-out	\$0
Total expenditures and transfers-out	\$309,205
FY2016 Ending fund balance	\$443,915
Net change for FY2016	(\$180,205)

Expenditures from this account in fiscal year 2016 were for landowner lease agreements, agreements with the participating Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) in support of their efforts to recruit landowners to the program, staff salaries, boundary posting expenses, and other program costs.