

MINNESOTA OUTDOOR HERITAGE ALLIANCE

Legislative Update



Week ending January 22, 2021

Important Upcoming Dates

- May 17, 2021 – Regular Session adjourns

General Session News:

Environment committee approves 2020 lands bill: [HF133](#) was approved Tuesday by the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill was originally presented in the 2020 legislative session but stalled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, said [Rep. Jamie Becker-Finn](#) (DFL-Roseville), the bill sponsor. There is currently no Senate companion, but a [nearly identical version](#) was introduced last year by [Sen. Carrie Ruud](#) (R-Breezy Point). The bill would allow the department to charge a "monitoring fee" to entities that lease state land to build a trail or facility, in addition to allowing the DNR to convey easements to American Indian tribes. It would also add and/or remove land from several state parks and recreation areas and allow for the private sale of surplus state land and tax-forfeited lands in Cass, Lake of the Woods, St. Louis and Wadena counties. [Read more.](#)

Bill to eliminate shotgun-only zone in Minnesota introduced again: Legislation that would eliminate the shotgun-only zone for deer hunting during the regular firearms season in Minnesota is once again on the table this year. State Rep. Chris Swedzinski, R-Ghent, and Sen. Jeff Howe, R-Rockville, are authoring the legislation this session after the push to eliminate the shotgun-only zone in the state gained some steam but was ultimately never passed in 2020. [Read more.](#)

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Minnesota DNR seeks input on potential waterfowl hunting changes: Comment on possible changes to open seasons, motor use, shooting hours, increasing geese limits, and other regulations. [Read more.](#)

Opinion: Dennis Anderson: DNR's proposed duck rule changes run afoul of reality: Recent waterfowling regulation changes the DNR is offering for hunter consideration seem less an effort to ensure the future of waterfowling in Minnesota than an attempt to shoot our way to more ducks. [Read more.](#)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Press Releases:

- DNR RESPONSE TO COVID-19: For details on adjustments to DNR services, [visit this webpage](#). For information on the state's response, visit the [Department of Health website](#).
- [13 Minnesotans appointed to Game and Fish Fund oversight committees](#): Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Sarah Strommen has appointed 13 Minnesotans to two-year terms on oversight committees that monitor the agency's fish and wildlife spending.
- [DNR invites public input on deer population goals](#): Second year of process includes southwestern and northeastern Minnesota; will be virtual.
- [DNR unveils new pollinator license plate to help preserve critical habitat](#): Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Sarah Strommen today unveiled the design of Minnesota's newest critical habitat license plate, featuring native pollinators including a bee and butterflies. The new license plate is available now online and at deputy registrar and driver's license offices statewide.

Last Week in Review:

On Monday January 18, the Legislature was not in session due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

On Tuesday morning, the Senate [Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance](#) held an informational hearing on DNR, MPCA, and BWSR COVID expenditures. The relevant committee documents can be found here: [BWSR COVID Impacts](#); [MPCA COVID Response](#); and [DNR COVID Impacts](#).

Also on Tuesday, the House [Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy](#) met to discuss [HF133](#) (Becker-Finn) Conveying state land interests provisions modified, state parks added to and deleted from, and state land sales authorized and heard an overview by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

On Tuesday afternoon, the House Committee [on Mining and Forestry Policy](#) convened to hear an overview of school trust lands and mining. See the Office of School Trust Lands [Strategic Plan](#); information on the Office's 5-year accomplishment report, BWCAW Land exchanges, its Asset management plan, and the 2021 update to the strategic plan can be found [here](#).

On Wednesday, the Senate Committees on [Environment and Natural Resources Finance](#) and [Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance](#) held a joint hearing to discuss the proposed adoption of MPCA's Clean Car rule.

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On Thursday at 1pm, the House [Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy](#) held a hearing on [HF91](#) (Hansen) Dry cleaner environmental response and reimbursement account expenditures prioritized, perchloroethylene banned, prior appropriation modified, cost-share program funding provide, and money appropriated.

Next Week at the Legislature:

Note: Due to COVID-19, committee hearings will be held remotely. Watch Senate committee hearings live [here](#) and House committees live [here](#).

On Monday afternoon at 1:00 PM, the Senate [Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance](#) will meet to hear a presentation by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund.

On Tuesday morning at 10:30 AM, the Senate [Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance](#) will convene to hear the following proposed bills: [S.F. 261](#) (Weber): Storm water retention and infiltration study and water storage plan appropriations; [S.F. 54](#) (Bakk): Voyager Country ATV Trail and Prospector Loop Trail appropriation; Voyager Country ATV Trail and Quad Cities ATV Club appropriation extension; and [S.F. 107](#) (Clausen): Rosemount wastewater infrastructure appropriation.

Also on Tuesday, at 1:00 PM, the House [Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy](#) will hold a hearing on [HF219](#) (Ecklund) Farmed Cervidae provisions modified, muzzleloader provisions modified, portable stands in wildlife management areas permanently allowed, and Cervidae carcass transportation restrictions modified. The committee will also hear a presentation on the Minnesota Zoo.

On Tuesday at 3:00 PM, the Senate [Committee on Mining and Forestry Policy](#) will convene for an informational overview of forestry in Minnesota.

On Wednesday at 10:30 AM, the Senate [Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance](#) will hold a hearing for an informational overview of COVID spending presented by the Minnesota Zoo and the Science Museum of Minnesota.

On Wednesday at 1:00 PM, the Senate [Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance](#) will meet to hear a DNR and MPCA agency overview.

On Thursday at 1:00 PM, the House [Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy](#) will hold a hearing on [HF 228](#) (Acomb) Statewide invasive species management plan requirements modified. The committee will also hear overview presentations from the Environmental Quality Board, Explore Minnesota Tourism, Metropolitan Council (Parks and Water Resources).

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Bills of Interest: Week Ending January 22, 2021:

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Bills of Interest: LSOHC staff maintains a MyBills page on the Legislative website. This page will keep a current listing of all bills of pertinence to the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) and Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC). Please click [here](#) for a list of bills pertaining to the Outdoor Heritage Council. For bills related to the Environment and **Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)**, please click [here](#).

Senate

Outdoor Recreation:

Senators Goggin, Eichorn, Johnson, and Utke introduced--[S.F. No. 142](#): A bill for an act relating to transportation; natural resources; modifying certain rules for operating all-terrain vehicles on public roads; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 84.928, subdivision 1. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Game and Fish:

Senators Howe, Ingebrigtsen, Dahms, and Goggin introduced--[S.F. No. 163](#): A bill for an act relating to game and fish; eliminating shotgun zone for taking deer; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97B.031, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 97B.318. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Senators Howe, Johnson, Eichorn, Ingebrigtsen, and Goggin introduced--[S.F. No. 164](#): A bill for an act relating to game and fish; modifying muzzleloader provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 97A.015, subdivision 51; 97B.031, subdivision 1. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Senators Eichorn, Lang, Ingebrigtsen, Johnson, and Dornink introduced--[S.F. No. 245](#): A bill for an act relating to taxation; sales and use; providing annual tax holiday periods for sales and purchases of certain firearms and certain fishing equipment; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 297A.68, by adding subdivisions. Referred to the Committee on Taxes.

Senators Wiger, Johnson Stewart, Port, Dzedzic, and Pappas introduced--[S.F. No. 247](#): A bill for an act relating to game and fish; prohibiting sale, manufacture, and use of lead tackle; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 97C; 325E. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Natural Resources/Conservation:

Senators Bigham and Marty introduced--[S.F. No. 156](#): A bill for an act relating to environment; defining perfluorochemicals as hazardous substance under Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 115B.02, subdivision 8. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Senators Bigham, Frentz, and Marty introduced--[S.F. No. 162](#): A bill for an act relating to environment; establishing Legislative Commission on Waste Management; providing for appointments; appropriating money;

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proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 115A. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Senators Ingebrigtsen and Tomassoni introduced--[S.F. No. 166](#): A bill for an act relating to environment; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying previous appropriations; amending Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 9, as amended; Laws 2018, chapter 214, article 4, section 2, subdivision 6. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance.

Senators Ingebrigtsen and Tomassoni introduced--[S.F. No. 167](#): A bill for an act relating to environment; prioritizing expenditures from dry cleaner environmental response and reimbursement account; banning perchloroethylene; modifying prior appropriation; appropriating money for cost-share program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 115B.49, subdivision 3; Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 1, section 2, subdivision 10; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 325E. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance.

Senators Dzedzic and Cwodzinski introduced--[S.F. No. 201](#): A bill for an act relating to environment policy; authorizing cities to adopt certain pesticide control ordinances; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18B.09, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Finance and Policy.

Senator Johnson Stewart introduced--[S.F. No. 205](#): A bill for an act relating to natural resources; requiring certain determinations before issuing nonferrous mining permits; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 93.001; 115.03, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 93. Referred to the Committee on Mining and Forestry Policy.

Senator Wiger introduced--[S.F. No. 228](#): A bill for an act relating to environment; facilitating use of artificial aquifer recharge where appropriate; modifying water appropriation allocation priorities; requiring reports; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 103A.204; 103G.261; 103G.291, subdivision 1. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance.

Senator Weber introduced--[S.F. No. 261](#): A bill for an act relating to natural resources; appropriating money to study storm water retention and infiltration and for a water storage plan. Referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance.

House:

Game and Fish:

Fischer introduced: [H. F. 157](#), A bill for an act relating to game and fish; prohibiting sale, manufacture, and use of lead tackle; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 97C; 325E. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

Natural Resources:

Davnie and Morrison introduced: [H. F. 148](#), A bill for an act relating to natural resources; requiring certain determinations before issuing nonferrous mining permits; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 93.001; 115.03, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 93. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

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Hansen, R.; Fischer; Jordan; Ecklund and Lillie introduced: [H. F. 151](#), A bill for an act relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

Hansen, R. introduced:[H. F. 171](#), A bill for an act relating to natural resources; modifying provisions for easement stewardship accounts; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 103B.103. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

Sundin introduced: [H. F. 180](#), A bill for an act relating to taxation; property; authorizing levy authority for certain soil and water conservation districts. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Taxes.

Lee introduced: [H. F. 168](#), A bill for an act relating to environment; modifying requirement to analyze and consider cumulative pollution before issuing air quality permit; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 116.07, subdivision 4a. The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

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