

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road · Saint Paul, Minnesota · 55155-4037

Office of the Commissioner

651-259-5555



August 16, 2013

The Honorable Paul Thissen
Speaker of the House
Minnesota House of Representatives
State Office Building – Room 463
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Thissen:

Attached please find the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) response to the information request for the Legislative Commissioner on Planning and Fiscal Policy (LCPFP) on executive branch advisory groups created in statute.

The information provided on the advisory groups includes: mission, membership, budget and member compensation, meeting dates, reports and recommendations, and website links (where applicable). Please let us know if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Tom Landwehr".

Tom Landwehr
Commissioner

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: EXECUTIVE BRANCH STATUTORY ADVISORY GROUPS

Updated: August 14, 2013

Name	Statute	Expiration	Mission	Membership list	Membership compensation	Budget	Meeting Dates (past three and future)	Group Reports or Recommendations	Website (if applicable)
Cuyuna Country SRA Citizens Advisory Council	§85.0146	None	The purpose is to advise the DNR in preserving and utilizing Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area by assisting the DNR with major decisions relating to its development, planning and management. It shall be a communication and input link with the public and the Division of Parks and the Legislature. It shall have such other purposes as its Council members may determine from time to time that are related to and beneficial to Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area.	*Gloria Perpich, Croft Mine Historical Park *John Radinovich, Cuyuna Range Mineland Reclamation Committee *Doug Houge, Chair, Crow Wing County Board **Senator Carrie Ruud, elected state official **Representative Joe Radinovich, elected state official *Joe Alberio, DNR Grand Rapids regional office *Jenny Smith, IRRRB *Roger Healy, Vice Chair, local business community *Bonnie Finnerty, Secretary, local environmental community *Bob Sandin, local education association *Aaron Hautala, recreation area user group *Ben Reverman, Cuyuna Country Heritage Preservation Society John Schaubach, at-large representative *denotes representative required by §85.0146, subd. 1, which lists 12 organizations or agencies that must be represented on the Council **§85.0146 requires only one elected state official; there currently are 2 elected officials on the Council	No compensation provided to members; \$85.0146 subd. 2, prohibits per diem	None	Past three meeting dates: 01/29/13 04/30/13 07/30/13 Future meeting: 10/29/13 (Must meet at least 4 times annually, at the call of the chair)	No reports. Recommendations and requests to the DNR are in the form of motions passed by the Council (information available upon request).	None
Minnesota Forest Resources Council	§89A.03	Repealer set for June 30, 2017	The council must develop recommendations to the governor and to federal, state, county, and local governments with respect to forest resource policies and practices that result in the sustainable management, use, and protection of the state's forest resources. The council must report to the governor and legislative committees and with jurisdiction over environment and natural resource policy and finance by February 1 of each year. The report must describe the progress and accomplishments made by the council during the preceding year.	Bob Stine - Chair, Greg Bernu, Forrest Boe, Wayne Brandt, Alan Ek, Dale Erickson, Shaun Hamilton, Darla Lenz, Bob Lintelmann, Gene Merriam, Bob Owens, Dave Parent, Shawn Perich, Kathleen Preece, Mary Richards, Susan Solterman Audette, Mike Trutwin	Yes, optional (per diem and expense reimbursement)	\$580,000/yr	Recent: March 20, 2013; May 14, 2013; July 24, 2013 Future: September 17-18, 2013; November 13, 2013; meetings held bimonthly	Private Forestland Management Study and Recommendations (2013), Report on the Status of Consulting Forestry in Minnesota (2013), MFRC Annual Reports (2000 - 2012). Additional reports accessible via http://www.frc.state.mn.us/resources_documents_research.html .	http://www.frc.state.mn.us/

Forest Resources Research Advisory Committee	\$89A.08	Repealer set for June 30, 2017	The purpose of the advisory committee is to foster the identification and undertaking of priority forest resources research activities. The advisory committee shall periodically undertake an assessment of strategic directions in forest resources research. The advisory committee shall report to the council its accomplishments in fulfilling the responsibilities identified in this section.	Allen Levine - Chair, Forrest Boe, George Ice, Michael Lalich, Kirk Titus, Peter Reich, Tom Schmidt	Reimbursement only	\$0	Recent: February 16, 2012; May 21, 2012; June 20, 2012.	Impacts of woody biomass harvesting on saproxylic communities, nutrient availability, and productivity in aspen ecosystems (2010), Minnesota's Forest Resources Research: Needs and Assessment (2011), A National Review of State Timber Sale Programs and an Analysis of Factors Influencing Minnesota State Stumpage Prices (2010). Additional reports accessible via http://www.frc.state.mn.us/resources_documents_research.html .	http://www.frc.state.mn.us/initiatives_research_committee.html
Regional Forest Resource Committees	\$89A.06, subd. 2	Repealer set for June 30, 2017	To foster landscape-based forest resource planning, the council must establish regional forest resource committees. The council must report annually on the activities and progress made by the regional forest committees established under subdivision 2.	Membership varies by regional committee. Size of regular attendance of the Regional Landscape Committees : Southeast - 15 people, East Central - 15 people, West Central - 15 people, Northern - 12 people, North Central - 20 people, Northeast - 20 people. More than 100 additional supporters/intermittent attendees.	Reimbursement only	\$57,979	Recent: July 19, 2013; August 1, 2013; August 2, 2013	Reports accessible via http://www.frc.state.mn.us/resources_documents_landscape.html and http://www.frc.state.mn.us/initiatives_llm_committees.html .	http://www.frc.state.mn.us/initiatives_llm.html
Forest Road Coordination Committees	\$89.01, subd. 7		To coordinate the planning, construction, maintenance, and use of forest roads, and the restrictions on their use.	County land commissioners, local governments, forest products industry, and forest recreation interests.	None	None	Varies; annually for each Forestry Area in Minnesota.	Meeting minutes available upon request.	
Game and Fish Fund Citizens Oversight Committees	\$97A.055, subd. 4b	6/30/2015	The mission of this oversight function is described in its statutory authority. In general, the oversight committees are to review the DNR's annual Game and Fish Fund Report; review proposed work plans and budgets for the coming year; propose changes in policies, activities, and revenue enhancements or reductions; review other relevant information; and make recommendations to the legislature and the commissioner for improvements in the management and use of money in the game and fish fund.	The commissioner appoints members to the Fisheries Oversight and Wildlife Oversight committees and the chair for the Budgetary Oversight Committee. <u>Budgetary Oversight Committee:</u> John Hunt, Chair (other delegates*) <u>Fisheries Oversight Committee (FOC):</u> John Christian*, Marj Hart, Jeff Johnson*, John P. Lenczewski*, Craig Pagel, Peter Perovich (Chair)*, Charles F. Prokop, Ryan B. Saulsbury, John F. Schneider, George Selcke*, Dave Thompson, Pao Yang <u>Wildlife Oversight Committee (WOC):</u> Kevin Bigalke, Jeff Byrne, William E. Faber*, Cody Fox, Chuck Kartak*, Deb Luzinski*, Steve B. Okins*, Jerome Roehl, Paul Spyhalski, KongShia Thao, Robert Theobald (Chair)*	Appointees can request mileage reimbursement, but no per diem provided.	No appropriation for this group, but DNR does incur general costs to support and respond to oversight committees	2013 BOC meeting schedule: 01/22, 02/26, 03/26, 04/30, 06/04. 2013 FOC meeting schedule: 01/16, 02/07, 02/20, 03/20, 04/17. 2013 WOC meeting schedule: 01/15, 01/29; 02/19; 03/12, 03/21; 04/02, 04/16, 04/23; 05/21.	Reports dating back to 2002 (including DNR's annual game and fish fund reports and DNR's responses to BOC reports) are available on the DNR website at http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gamefishoversight/reports.html	http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gamefishoversight/index.html
Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission	\$85.536	None	The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission is created to undertake system planning and provide recommendations to the legislature for grants funded by the parks and trails fund to counties and cities outside of the seven-county metropolitan area for parks and trails of regional significance.	Not appointed as of 08/07/2013 The Greater Minnesota Regional Park and Trail Coalition recommended a list of Commission nominees to the Governor in late June 2013.		\$100,000 (FY14); \$103,000 (FY15) Laws 2013, Ch 137. Art 3, Sec 3, item (d)	None held as of 08/07/2013. Meetings will be scheduled after the Commission is appointed by the Governor.	None	None

Land Use Advisory Committee	\$92.35	6/30/09 (see §15.059, subd. 5)	NOTE: The Land Use Advisory Committees as provided for in §92.35 have not been active in recent past.						
Mineral Coordinating Committee	\$93.0015	6/30/2016	To provide for the diversification of the State's mineral economy through long term support of mineral exploration, development, production, and commercialization.	MCC is a multi-agency committee made up of the following individuals and agencies: Tom Landwehr, Department of Natural Resources; John Linc Stine, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; Tony Sertich, Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board; Harvey Thorleifson, Minnesota Geological Survey; Steven L. Crouch, University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering; Mike Lalich, Natural Resources Research Institute; and four individuals appointed by the governor for a four-year term, one each representing the iron ore and taconite (Craig Pagel), nonferrous metallic minerals (Frank Ongaro), and industrial minerals industries (David Edmunds) within the state and one representing labor (Robert Bratulich)	None	None	Past three meeting dates: 12/14/12 4/17/12 5/29/13 Future meeting: tour planned for October 2013	http://mcc.mn.gov/projects.html	http://mcc.mn.gov/index.html
Minnesota River Board Advisory Committee	§103F.378	None	NOTE: This is not under the jurisdiction of DNR. The Minnesota River Board budget was previously a pass-through in BWSR's budget (no funding in FY14-15). Advisory Committee under the board not currently active to DNR's knowledge.						
Native Plant Conservation Task Force	\$84.964	At discretion of commissioner	To identify priority conservation needs for native plants, coordinate implementation of interagency programs, and ensure that native plant species and communities are maintained, enhanced, restored, or established on public lands and promoted on private lands.	MDA, DNR, DOT, PCA, and BWSR (task force has never assembled)	None	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
OHV Safety Advisory Council	\$84.9011, subd. 4	6/30/09 (see §15.059, subd. 5)	To advise the commissioner on: (1) off-highway vehicle safety; and (2) standards and certification for organizations and individuals participating as volunteers under the OHV Safety and Conservation Program. The Council's duties included: Review and comment on the 'OHV Trail Ambassador Handbook' and other materials; Recommend ideas for future program development; Solicit input on OHV safety items; Review and make recommendations on annual program goals and evaluate progress toward goals.	Capt. Mike Hammer (DNR), 2Lt. Leland Owens (DNR), Mary Straka (DNR), Richard Peterson (DNR), Bob Jacobson (ATVAM), George Radke (ATVAM), Nancy Hanson (MnUSA), Keith Meyers (Arctic Cat), Marlys Knutson (Polaris), Scott Potter (MN4WDA), Tom Umphress (ARMCA), Scott Turner (Aitkin County Sheriff), Phil Hodapp (Beltrami County Sheriff)	Qualifying volunteer council members were reimbursed mileage for quarterly meetings.	None	Past three meeting dates: 7/26/12 10/23/12 04/25/13 (Council met quarterly: Jan., April, July and Oct.)	None	No website for Council; Trail Ambassador program website: http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/vehicle/ta/index.html