

# Priority 2 Approach

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# Priority 2 Purpose

- 3M Settlement sets two priorities for funding:
  - Priority 1: Ensure safe and sustainable drinking water
  - **Priority 2: Enhance natural resources**
- Priority 2 is intended to replace, protect, enhance the natural resources and services that have been lost.



# Draft Priority 2 Goals

## Priority 2 – Natural Resource Restoration, Protection, and Enhancement

- Restore, protect, and enhance aquatic and terrestrial resources, wildlife, and habitats.
- Increase understanding of fish tissue contamination, improve communication about PFAS-based fish consumption advisories, and identify and enhance alternative, non-contaminated fishing areas.
- Improve and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities and access for the public, including populations experiencing inequities and/or disparities.



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## Eat Fish Often?

A Minnesota Guide to Eating Fish

### Safe Eating Guidelines

Most fish are healthy to eat. Fish are a great way to get protein and good fats, but any fish (store-bought or locally-caught) could have contaminants such as mercury that can harm human health – especially children and fetuses.

**Statewide Safe-Eating Guidelines**

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## **Goal 1 – Resource and Habitat Restoration**

- Land protection, habitat restoration, nesting improvements, surface water quality improvements

## **Goal 2 – Recreational Fishing Improvement**

- Sampling fish tissue in surface water, public communications about fish consumption advisories

## **Goal 3 – Recreation Improvement**

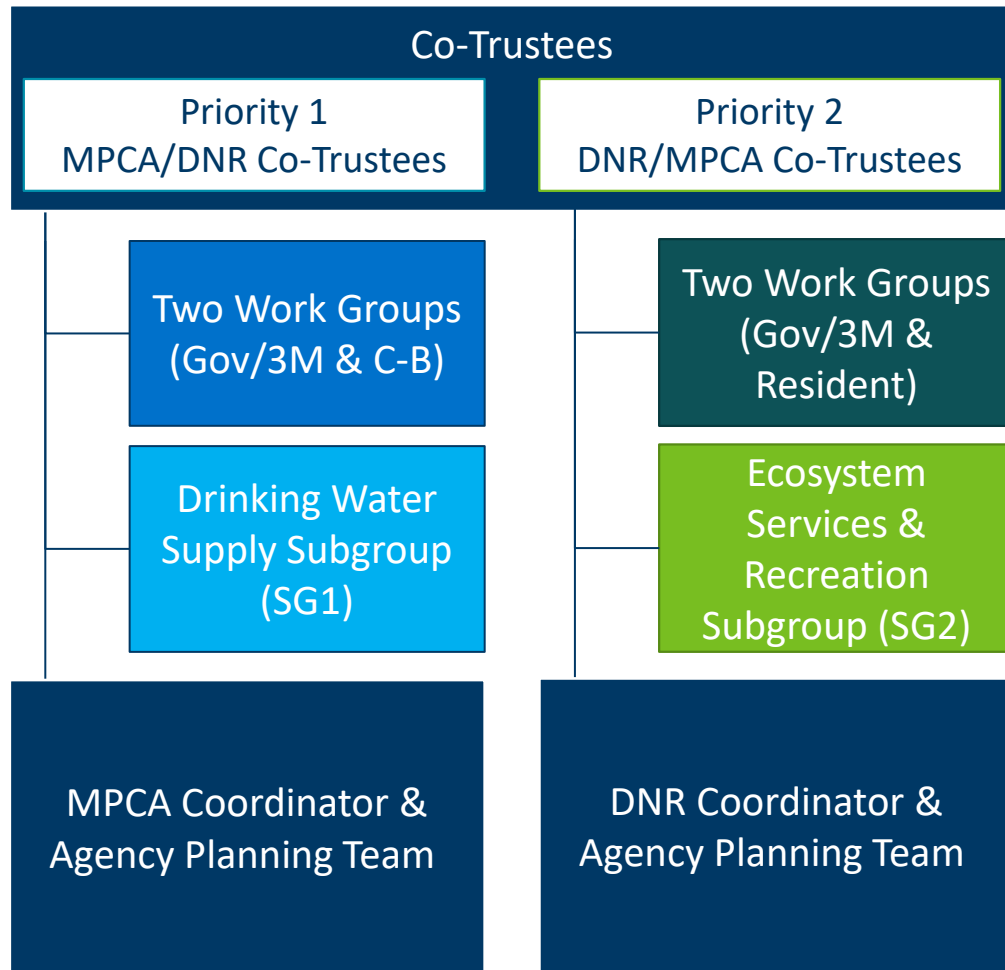
- Construct accessible boat launches, accessible trails, bird watching platforms, etc. with a focus on underserved areas

# Priority 2 Project Funding Approach

- Grant funds for projects will be available via a competitive solicitation process
  - Restoration projects will be selected by the DNR and MPCA
- Who can apply for a grant?
  - Project Sponsor: Any organization with capability to propose and execute a project
  - NOT limited to Priority 2 Work Group members
  - Collaborations are encouraged
- Request for Proposals (“RFP”) Solicitation Considerations
  - Need to consider inclusiveness, disadvantaged and diverse populations; cannot give unfair advantage



# Priority 2 Structure: Work Groups



- Priority 2 has similar Work Group structure as Priority 1, but differ in:
  - DNR is the agency coordinating the lead
  - The Government and 3M and Resident Work Groups are combined meetings
  - The Subgroup will not meet as a group but will coordinate via email and targeted 1-on-1 meetings
  - Work group feedback will be focused on restoring and enhancing natural resources and recreational opportunities
  - Timeframe is shorter with a focus on getting the RFP out in early 2024

# Proposed Priority 2 Work Group Meetings

## Special Session

- [Today]

## Meeting #2

- Potential topics:
  - 1) Feedback from first meeting and finalize goals/charters,
  - 2) How to consider PFAS status of proposed projects

## Meeting #3

- Potential topics:
  - 1) Further discussion regarding PFAS contamination and proposed projects,
  - 2) Review draft project screening and evaluation criteria

## Meeting #4

- Potential topics:
  - 1) Finalize screening and evaluation criteria,
  - 2) Finalize PFAS considerations for projects,
  - 3) Review draft RFP scope/language

## Meeting #5

- Potential topics: Finalize RFP and scope requirements

## RFP Release – Early 2024

## Meeting #6

- Potential topics: Present selected projects

# Questions?

- Clarifying questions from Work Group members about the Priority 2 Approach?

