## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# **3M Settlement Priority 2 Project Update**

#### **RFP now open**

A request for proposals process has opened for restoration and recreation projects in the Twin Cities east metropolitan area and in downstream areas of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers that have been affected by Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) released by 3M.

- Applicant organizations must be capable of planning and executing a project in the project area. These can include local units of government, non-profit organizations, watershed districts, federal/state agencies, Tribes, and schools. Individuals or for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for a grant.
- Project co-trustees (DNR and MPCA) will select the projects that best meet Priority 2 goals.
  - **Goal 1** Restore, protect and enhance aquatic and terrestrial resources, wildlife and habitats.
  - Goal 2 Increase understanding of fish tissue contamination, improve communication about PFAS-based fish consumption advisories, and identify and enhance alternative, noncontaminated fishing areas.
  - Goal 3 Improve and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities.

### **RFP process and Timeline**

The RFP will be a two-part application:

- Letter of intent—brief project description to determine whether a project qualifies for Priority 2 funding.
- Full application—proposals to be evaluated using criteria.

#### Timeline:

Feb. 5 - April 4, 2025	<ul> <li>RFP letter of intent for qualification screening</li> <li>Q and A opportunity</li> </ul>
Summer 2025	<ul><li>Full RFP opens for projects that passed screening</li><li>Public grant application workshop</li></ul>
Fall 2025	Full RFP grant application due
Late 2025	<ul> <li>Applicants notified and contracts initiated</li> </ul>
2026	Project start

Settlement webpage – 3msettlement.state.mn.us Grant project webpage - mndnr.gov/3mp2 Questions? Email <u>3mpriority2@state.mn.us</u> GovDelivery – sign up on either webpage to receive project updates