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- Who pays for the DNR? / Minnesota



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WHO PAYS FOR THE DNR
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Fiscal Year 1999

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I. Purpose

This report provides a summary of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) funding sources and expenditures and relates them to the total state budget. It addresses the question of how much each individual citizen pays for DNR programs.

- ! user fees/licenses/permits provide \$113.1 million or 45.9%;
- ! lottery proceeds provide \$5.8 million or 2.3%;
- ! federal funds provided \$6.4 million or 3%.

II. Summary

DNR's operating budget was \$246 million. Programs are funded by a variety of sources:

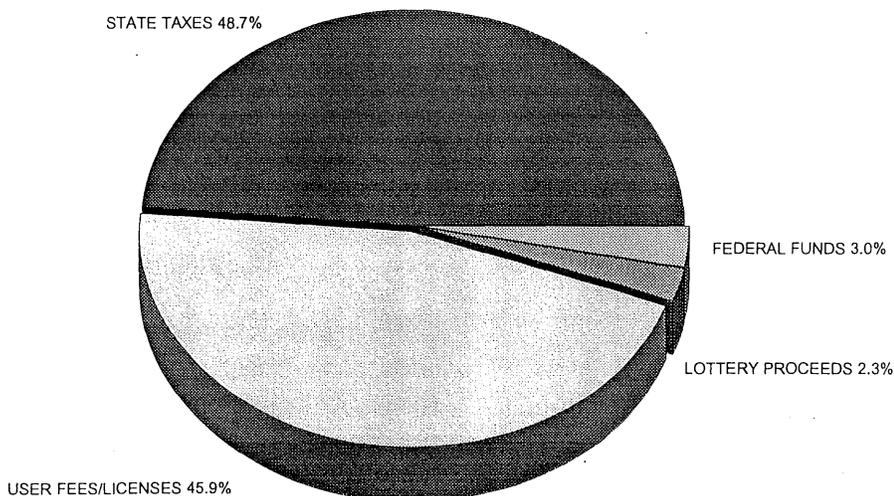
- ! state tax revenues provide \$120.6 million or 48.7%;

DNR tax supported expenditures were 1% of total General Fund expenditures, and only 6.5% of General Fund expenditures for the Government Operations category. The per capita state General Fund expenditures were \$2,257. The average citizen paid about \$25 for DNR programs, including \$13.27 of Individual Income Tax and \$5.34 of Sales Tax.

FUNDING SOURCES DNR OPERATING BUDGET

Figure 1

FY 1999



state trails and public water access sites. DNR worked with citizens statewide to create its vision: *"Work with the people to manage the state's diverse natural resources for a sustainable quality of life."*

MINERALS: \$6.4 Million

This division is responsible for managing Minnesota's mineral resources. It's primary responsibility is to lease state-owned land for exploration and mining and to generate revenue for state trust funds and local taxing districts. This program has regulatory authority to insure that all aspects of mining are planned and implemented to insure minimal impacts to the environment, and to make sure lands are reclaimed and can be used in the future.

WATER RESOURCES: \$11.7 Million

The Division of Waters is the principal state water resources management agency responsible for the technical assistance and management of our water supply. This responsibility includes ground and surface water appropriation and diversion, dam safety, construction in protected waters and wetlands, technical ground water and surface water analysis, and the management of shore land and flood plain.

FOREST MGMT: \$53.5 Million

The Division of Forestry program goals include: providing a long-term, sustainable yield of forest resources, including timber and other forest crops, fish and wildlife habitat, biological diversity, clean water, recreation, rare and distinctive flora and fauna, air, soil, and educational, aesthetic and historic values. This division is involved in protecting life, property, and natural resources from wildfires and improving health and productivity of other public and private forests. They provide natural resource work for unemployed youth and young adults while accomplishing significant natural resource conservation/management work.

PARKS AND REC MGMT: \$33.2 Million

The Division of Parks and Recreation's mission is to provide a state park system which preserves and manages Minnesota's natural, scenic, and cultural resources for present and future generations, while providing appropriate recreational and educational opportunities. This division maintains and operates state parks, state recreation areas, and waysides along with conducting environmental education and interpretive programs.

TRAILS AND WATERWAYS MGMT: \$21.5 Million

The Division of Trails and Waterways mission is, *"to create recreation opportunities through a system of trail and water recreation facilities that contributes to a sustainable quality of life."* Program activities include: access to lakes, streams, river corridors and designated Canoe and Boating routes; and trails that accommodate a variety of motorized and non-motorized recreational activities.

FISH AND WILDLIFE: \$60.5 Million

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages and protects Minnesota's fish, wildlife and native plants. Goals are to: manage ecosystems in a sustainable manner, for the benefit of people and for the intrinsic value of the fish, wildlife and plants; maintain the diversity of species and habitats that occur naturally in Minnesota; and to provide the public with a variety of high quality recreational and educational opportunities.

ENFORCEMENT: \$21 Million

The Enforcement Division is responsible for ensuring compliance with the state game, fish, and recreational vehicle laws. Major responsibilities include enforcement of the rules and regulations related to: hunting and fishing seasons, methods of taking animals and fish, bag and possession limits. Enforcement's responsibility also includes ensuring public safety, especially where it concerns alcohol consumption while hunting or operating recreational vehicles; commercial use and possession of natural resources and products;

and the protection of the state's air and water.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT: \$38.2 Million

This division provides the administrative support to all other Department of Natural Resource programs, as well as direct services to the general public. Some of the programs are: Engineering Bureau; Real Estate Management Bureau; License Bureau; Information and Education; and Recreation and Local Initiative Grants. Other areas of support include: Field Services Bureau; Commissioner's Office; Office of Affirmative Action and Diversity; Human Resources Bureau; and the Office of Management and Budget Services.

V. DNR in Relation to Total General Fund expenditures

Total General fund expenditures were \$10,780,203,000. The amounts allocated to the major categories were as follows:

1. Education Aids \$3,682,714,000;
2. Post Secondary Education \$1,265,319,000;
3. Local Aids and Assistance \$1,904,218,000;
4. Health Care and Family Support

\$1,832,624,000;

5. Debt Service \$291,439,000;
6. Government Operations \$1,803,819,000.

The Government Operations category includes what people often think of as state government. It includes state operated institutions, legislative, judicial, constitutional officers, as well as state agencies in the executive branch including DNR. Figure 4 shows these relationships.

Of the total \$1.8 billion spent on Government Operations, only \$117.6 million was for DNR. DNR made up about 1% of general fund expenditures and 6.5% of state operations expenditures. Per capita total expenditures from the general fund were \$2,257; of this DNR spent only \$25. Figure 5 shows the breakdown of per capita expenditures.

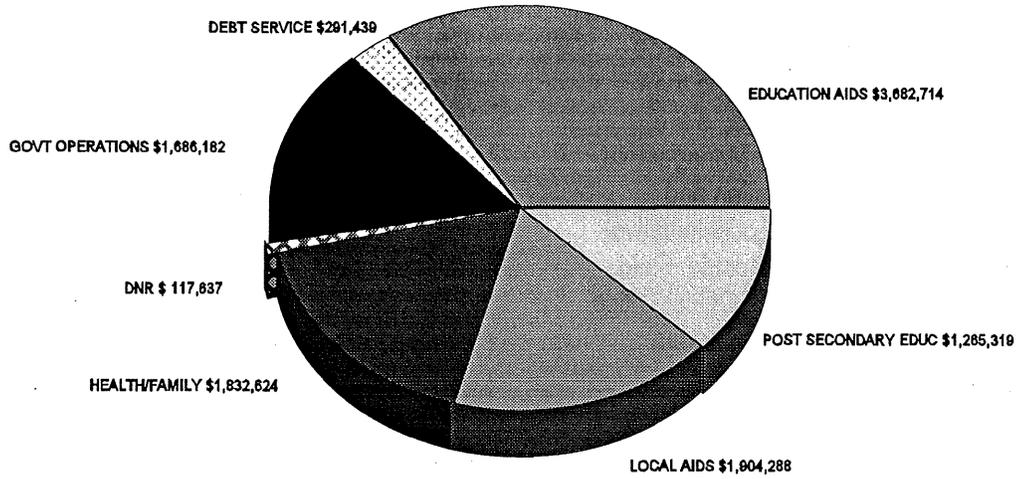
VI. Individual Taxpayers Support of DNR

As explained above, DNR received approximately \$117.6 million from tax collections. Figure 2 shows a breakdown of the revenues derived from each tax. Total state tax collections per capita were \$2,066. **Of this DNR received only \$24.63. The average person in Minnesota paid Individual Income tax of \$13.27 and Sales Tax of \$5.34 to fund DNR programs**

TOTAL STATE GENERAL FUND TAX SUPPORTED

EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION 1999

Figure 4 - \$ In Thousands



Total Expenditures: \$10,780,302,000

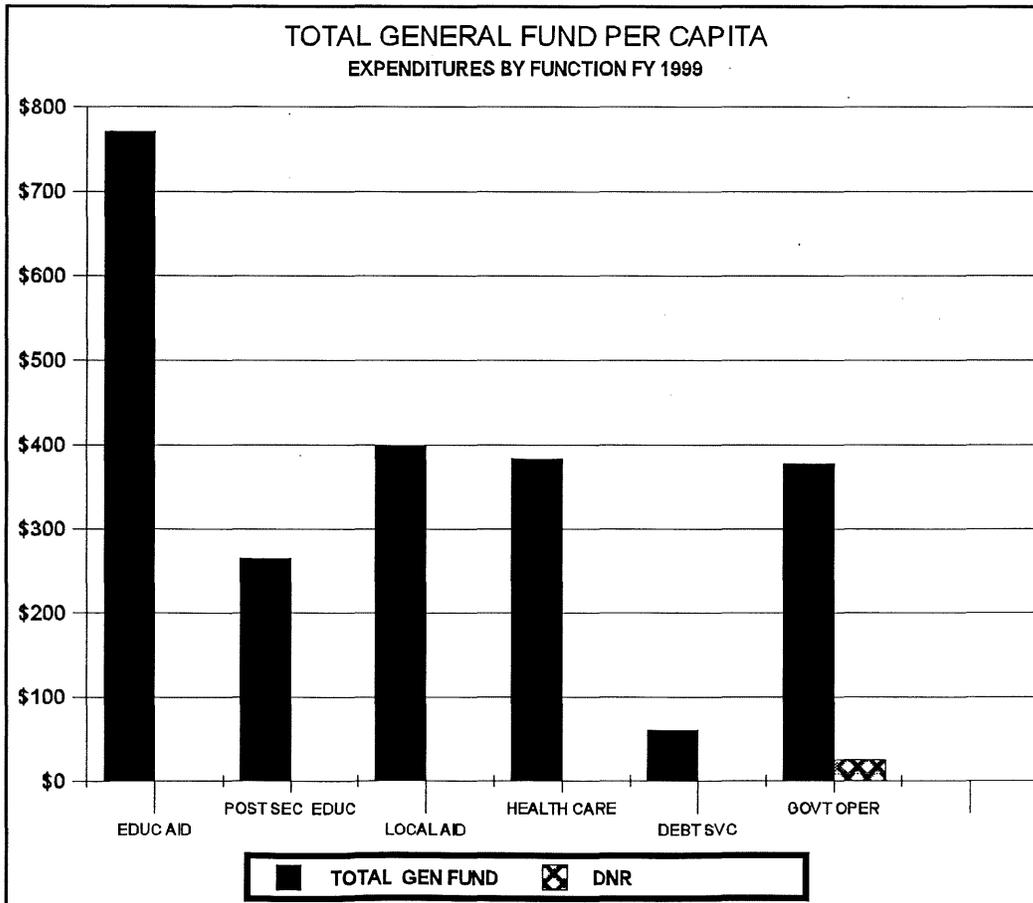


FIGURE 5

