

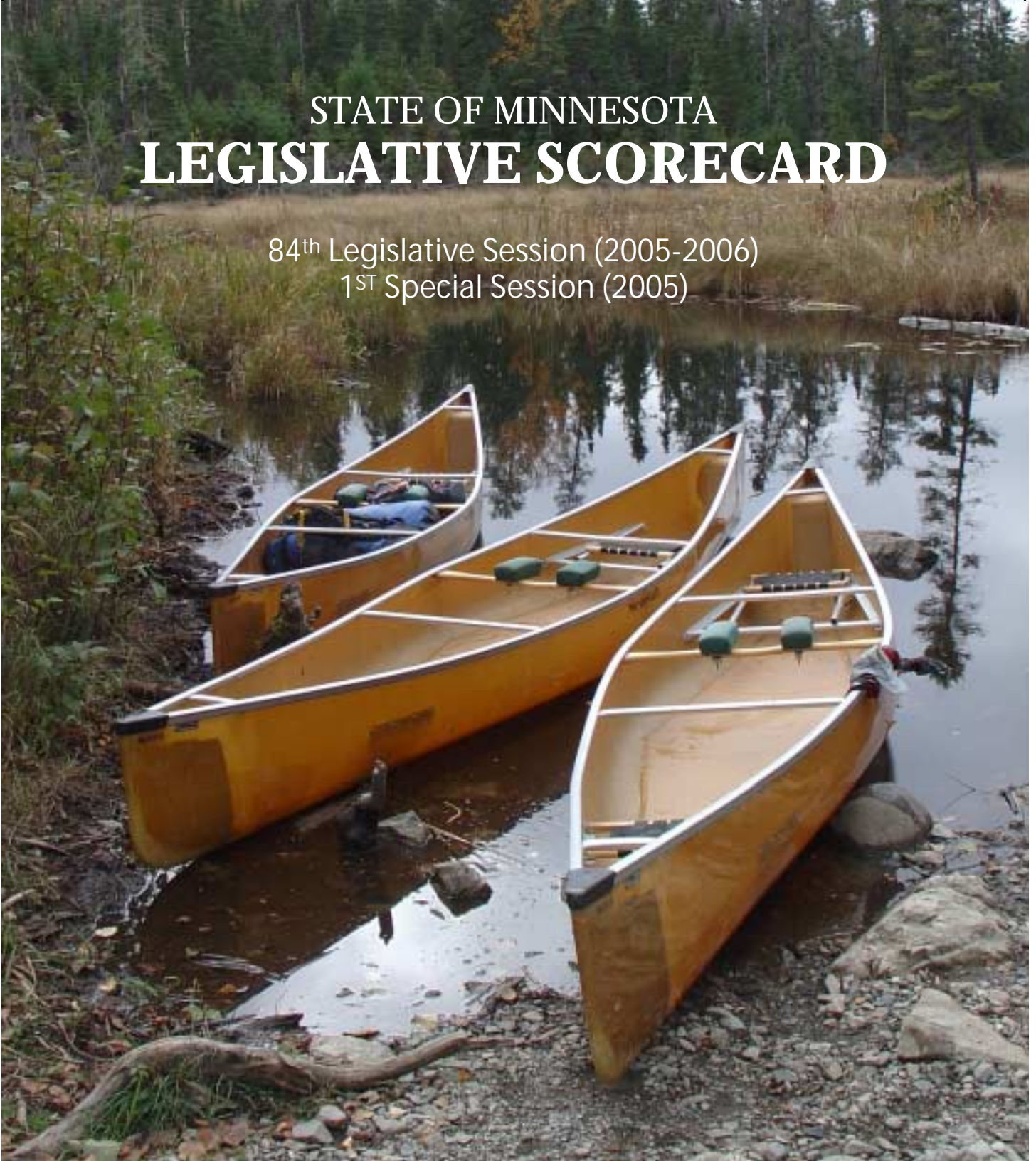


SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.

STATE OF MINNESOTA **LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD**

84th Legislative Session (2005-2006)
1ST Special Session (2005)



The Sierra Club's North Star Chapter

The Sierra Club's *North Star Chapter* represents the organization's 24,000 members in Minnesota and has worked on state environmental protection issues since its inception in 1968. The chapter hired Minnesota's first professional state environmental lobbyist in 1973, and has maintained a professional presence at the state capitol for the past 33 years. Today, the Sierra Club employs ten staff in Minnesota who work with volunteer leaders to represent the chapter's legislative agenda. Current priority conservation efforts for the North Star Chapter include Clean Air, Clean Water, Forest & Wildlands Protection, Sprawl & Land Use, and Mining without Harm.

In addition to state legislative lobbying, the North Star Chapter conducts a wide array of activities that engage members and the general public in efforts to explore, enjoy and protect our shared environment; including outdoor hikes, service activities, community forums, research efforts, litigation, and more. In 2004 and 2005, more than 3,000 Minnesotans volunteered their time with the Sierra Club.

Named "the most influential environmental organization" in an Aspen Institute poll, the *Sierra Club* gives the public the information and the means to make their voices heard. As the world's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization, the Club's 750,000 members in 65 chapters and over 400 local groups nationwide possess the unique ability to empower people and influence public policy through community activism, public education, outreach and litigation.

About the Scorecard

The purpose of the Sierra Club's legislative scorecard is to assist the public in selecting their state legislators. The scored votes reflect the broad range of interests of Sierra Club volunteer committees and campaigns, and were chosen for their impact on Minnesota's environment and natural resources. The public should be aware that legislative scores are only one factor in choosing legislators who will work to protect Minnesota's environment. Other factors, such as bills authored, committee leadership, service on environment caucuses, and performance in floor debates contribute to a legislator's "environmental record." For more information about your legislator's environmental record, please contact the Sierra Club's North Star Chapter.

Photo Credits

Cover: An unnamed lake in Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.
Opposite: Minnesota's largest white pine, located in Itasca State Park in Clearwater county.

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Contact your legislators

Who is your Legislator?

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/Districtfinder.asp>

Call your Legislators:

Senate: (651) 296-0504 or 1-888-234-1112

House: (651) 296-2146 or 1-800-657-3550

E-mail your state Senator:

<http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/members/info/alpha.htm>

E-mail your state Representatives:

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/housemembers.asp>

Mailing Address for state Senators:

Senator [Insert Senator's Name]
75 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Mailing Address for state Representatives:

Representative [Insert Representative's Name]
50 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155



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Erika Frykman (Conservation Organizer)
Cesia Kearns (Conservation Organizer)
Margaret Levin (Conservation Organizer)
Vicki Munson (Chapter Coordinator)
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SCORECARD SUMMARY

AVERAGE SCORES

	<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>
Statewide Average Score	59%	65%	Urban Districts—Average Score	99%	90%
Statewide Median Score	50%	63%	Urban Districts—Median Score	100%	91%
Statewide Maximum Score	100%	100%	Urban Districts—Maximum Score	100%	94%
Statewide Minimum Score	16%	31%	Urban Districts—Minimum Score	84%	87%
DFL Average Score	86%	78%	Suburban Districts—Average Score	60%	65%
DFL Median Score	95%	87%	Suburban Districts—Median Score	47%	66%
DFL Maximum Score	100%	100%	Suburban Districts—Maximum Score	100%	100%
DFL Minimum Score	37%	44%	Suburban Districts—Minimum Score	16%	31%
Republican Average Score	33%	50%	Greater Minnesota Districts—Average Score	45%	56%
Republican Median Score	26%	47%	Greater Minnesota Districts—Median Score	33%	50%
Republican Maximum Score	89%	75%	Greater Minnesota Districts—Maximum Score	100%	100%
Republican Minimum Score	16%	31%	Greater Minnesota Districts—Minimum Score	16%	31%
Independent Average Score	n/a	71%			
Independent Median Score	n/a	71%			
Independent Maximum Score	n/a	71%			
Independent Minimum Score	n/a	71%			

Urban Districts: All districts that intersect or are within the Minneapolis and St. Paul Metropolitan City Boundaries

Suburban Districts: All districts that intersect or are within the seven-county metropolitan area, except for those that intersect or are within the city boundaries of Minneapolis or St. Paul

Greater Minnesota Districts: All districts that intersect or are within a county outside of the seven-county metropolitan area.

LEADERSHIP SCORES

	Senate DFL (Majority)	Senate Republican	House Republican (Majority)	House DFL
Leadership Average	76%	53%	30%	88%
Senate/House Average	78%	50%	33%	86%
Leadership Median	77%	53%	26%	100%
Senate/House Median	87%	47%	26%	95%
Leadership Maximum	93%	69%	47%	100%
Senate/House Maximum	100%	75%	89%	100%
Leadership Minimum	50%	40%	21%	53%
Senate/House Minimum	44%	31%	16%	37%

*Leadership includes leaders, assistant leaders, whips, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Senate Committees	DFL Chair	Score	Republican Lead	Score
Environment & Natural Resources Committee	Marty	94%	Pariseau	45%
Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division	Sams	50%	Dille	46%
Jobs, Energy & Community Development Committee	Anderson	93%	Bachmann	40%
Agriculture, Veterans, & Gaming Committee	Vickerman	63%	Dille	46%
Taxes Committee	Pogemiller	87%	Belanger	75%

House Committees	Republican Chair	Score	DFL Lead	Score
Environment & Natural Resources	Hackbarth	26%	Mariani	100%
Agriculture, Environment, & Natural Resources Finance Committee	Ozment	47%	Wagenius	100%
Regulated Industries Committee	Westrom	21%	Anderson	40%
Agriculture & Rural Development Committee	Dauids	22%	Johnson, R.	95%
House Taxes Committee	Krinkie	32%	Lenczewski	95%

COMMITTEE AVERAGES

	House Environment & Natural Resources Committee		Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee		House Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources Finance Committee		Senate Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Division		House Regulated Industries Committee		Senate Jobs, Energy & Community Development Committee		House Agriculture & Rural Development Committee		Senate Agriculture, Veterans & Gaming Committee		House Taxes Committee		Senate Taxes Committee		House Transportation Finance Committee		Senate Transportation Budget Division	
Committee Average	61%	62%	50%	62%	57%	66%	42%	61%	55%	64%	59%	66												
Committee Median	55%	50%	42%	58%	40%	57%	33%	62%	40%	60%	68%	63												
Committee Maximum	100%	94%	100%	94%	100%	100%	95%	88%	100%	94%	100	100												
Committee Minimum	21%	44%	19%	40%	16%	40%	19%	31%	21%	40%	19	43												
DFL Average	85%	69%	77%	72%	92%	75%	65%	73%	73%	72%	96	78												
DFL Median	95%	68%	95%	72%	100%	82%	61%	77%	95%	87%	100	81												
DFL Maximum	100%	94%	100%	94%	100%	100%	95%	88%	100%	94%	100	100												
DFL Minimum	42%	44%	42%	47%	40%	44%	47%	44%	37%	44%	84	43												
Republican Average	42%	53%	33%	49%	28%	50%	26%	45%	41%	54%	38	49												
Republican Median	37%	50%	33%	46%	26%	52%	27%	45%	29%	43%	27	44												
Republican Maximum	89%	64%	47%	64%	42%	57%	47%	60%	100%	75%	72	69												
Republican Minimum	21%	44%	19%	40%	16%	40%	19%	31%	21%	40%	19	43												

*See page 27 for a complete membership list of these selected committees.

1. Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests

Irresponsible and reckless riders of all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, and 4x4 trucks cause a tremendous amount of damage to Minnesota's state forests, wetlands, and fishing streams. During the 2005 special session, Senator John Marty offered an amendment to the Senate's environment spending bill to remove provisions in the legislation that would permit off highway vehicles to ride on all state forest trails north of Highway 2 (about 74% of Minnesota's forests). Senator Marty's amendment passed 34-25. Unfortunately, soon after the amendment passed, Senator Ann Rest moved to reconsider the amendment, fearing that Senator Marty's amendment would jeopardize passage of the spending bill in the House and cause the shutdown of state parks. As a result, 13 Senators changed their votes, nullifying the passage of Senator Marty's original amendment. The vote on Senator Rest's motion to reconsider is the scored vote. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The motion passed 26-37.



Senator Sharon Marko (DFL—Cottage Grove) speaks at a press conference convened by the Transit Partners Coalition. The Sierra Club and our allies in the Transit Partners have been persistent voices for stable, dedicated funding for increased transportation choices. In Minnesota.

2. Transportation Choices Funding

With growing traffic congestion, increased pollution from motor vehicles, and sprawling urban growth patterns, Minnesotans are demanding comprehensive transit solutions to our transportation problems. Additionally, recent budget shortfalls at the Metropolitan Council have led to fare increases and route cuts for many metropolitan transit users. During the 2005 regular session, the Minnesota Senate concurred with the House's transportation bill, which provided for over \$7 billion in dedicated funding for roads and transit over a

10 year period. Among other funding mechanisms, the legislation called for a dedication of a portion of the regional sales tax for transit, an increase in the portion of the motor vehicle sales tax dedicated to transit, and an increase in the state gas tax. Unfortunately, after the legislation passed both the House and Senate, Governor Tim Pawlenty vetoed the bill. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 36-31.

3. Circumventing Environmental Review

Minnesota's "environmental review" process assists state and local governments in protecting the health and quality of life of Minnesotans. The process helps government officials make sound decisions that minimize impacts to Minnesota's environment and natural resources, and serves to inform citizens about issues that will affect their communities. During the 2005 regular session, Mesabi Nugget LLC asked the state legislature to exempt its proposed taconite nugget production plant from environmental review, which is required in Minnesota prior to receiving air and water pollution permits. The company threatened to build its facility in Indiana, where similar environmental studies would not be required, if the legislature did not grant its request. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 56-4.

4. Public Disclosure of Pesticide Records

Minnesota's agricultural industry is an important part of our state's economy, but also relies heavily on pesticides and other chemicals that pollute our rivers and lakes. During the 2005 regular session, Senator Becky Lourey offered an amendment to the Senate's data practices bill that would require the Department of Agriculture to make pesticide application records available to the public. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 33-33.

5. Central American Free Trade Agreement

In 2005 the Bush administration completed negotiations on the Central America Free Trade Agreement, which would, in the name of fostering commerce, put communities at risk by setting sharp limits on governments' authority to protect the public health and environment. During the 2005 legislative session, Senator Leroy Stumpf authored a resolution memorializing the U.S. Congress to oppose the Central America Free Trade Agreement. A vote

in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 46-10.

6. Electronic Waste Recycling

Every year millions of computers, monitors, televisions, and other electronics are thrown into landfills, adding toxic substances such as lead, cadmium, mercury, selenium, and chromium to the waste stream. Over 97 percent of a computer's contents, however, can be reused or recycled. During the 2005 regular session, the Senate passed a bill that would require manufacturers of electronic products to participate in a recycling and collection program. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 44-22.

7. Clean Water Legacy Act

Approximately 40% of the lakes and rivers that have been tested in Minnesota are contaminated with animal and human waste, phosphorous, mercury, or other pollutants. The failure to assess and clean up our waters in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act has prevented the expansion of wastewater treatment plants and is threatening economic development throughout Minnesota. During the 2005 legislative session, Senator Dennis Frederickson authored the Clean Water Legacy Act, which sought to fund the testing, clean-up, and restoration of Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and streams. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 65-0.

8. Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement

The number of registered off-highway vehicles in Minnesota has risen dramatically during the last decade, with numbers now approaching 250,000. Unfortunately, the number of conservation officers and dollars available to prevent damage to Minnesota's public lands from irresponsible riding has not kept pace. In an atmosphere of rising concern over damage caused by reckless riders, some off-highway groups have sought state money to self-police their ranks. During the 2005 regular session, Senator John Marty offered an amendment to the Senate's environmental spending bill that would eliminate a \$200,000 proposed granting program that would put off-highway vehicle clubs in charge of self-regulating compliance with off-highway vehicle laws. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 32-31.



Senator Scott Dibble (DFL—Minneapolis) addresses the media at a press conference announcing an agreement to pass the Mercury Reduction Act of 2006. The Sierra Club was a principal player in the passage of this landmark legislation. Photo by David J. Oakes, Minnesota Senate Media Services.

9. Mercury Reduction Act of 2006

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin that concentrates in the food chain and is associated with learning and developmental disabilities. Humans are exposed to mercury primarily by eating fish, and conservative estimates suggest that one in every 10 women of childbearing age have enough mercury in their blood to adversely affect an unborn child. During the 2006 legislative session, Senator Scott Dibble carried a bill that will result in the reduction of 90% of the mercury emissions of Minnesota's largest coal-burning power plants between 2009 and 2015. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 66-0.

10. Eminent Domain Reform

During the 2006 legislative session, lawmakers enacted major reforms to the state's eminent domain laws – laws that allow government to take private property for a public purpose. Senator Steve Kelley offered an amendment to the Senate's eminent domain bill that sought to delete a highly technical provision that would force municipalities to pay landowners if the municipality wants to condition a permit or license on the removal of a "non-conforming" use. In other words, a city would be prohibited from phasing-out or putting conditions on the expansion of out-dated or damaging land uses, even if the needs of the community have changed over time. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 25-41.



Sierra Club volunteers stand at the base of a large wind turbine at the West Central Research and Outreach Center in Morris. The wind turbine was a stop on the "Walk for Wind" - a six-week series of events calling for greater awareness about renewable energy in Minnesota.

11. Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment

During the 2005 legislative session, legislators agreed to place a constitutional amendment on the general election ballot that will dedicate at least 40% of the existing motor vehicle sales tax to transit, and the remainder for roads and bridges. During the 2006 legislative session, some lawmakers sought to change the proposed amendment to limit the amount of funding dedicated to transit. Senator Rod Skoe offered an amendment to the Senate's transportation spending bill, which would have fixed the amount going to transit to a "hard" 40% - eliminating the legislature's ability to increase funding for transit from the motor vehicle sales tax fund in future years. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 33-32.

12. Renewable Electricity Standard

Minnesota's dependence on coal as a source of energy is taking a toll on public health and contributing to global warming. Senator Ellen Anderson has worked for years to promote a bill calling for a renewable electricity standard, which would require Minnesota's electric utilities to generate 20 percent of their output using renewable energy sources – wind, solar, small-scale hydro, or bio-mass – by 2020. During the 2006 session, Senator Anderson offered her bill as an amendment to the Senate's omnibus energy policy bill. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 36-30.

13. Renewable Electricity Standard Amendment

When Senator Ellen Anderson moved to amend the Senate's omnibus energy policy bill to include a renewable electricity standard (see vote #12 above), Senator David Senjem attempted to weaken Senator Anderson's proposal. Senator Senjem offered an amendment to Senator Anderson's amendment that would have allowed utilities to meet the renewable energy standard with energy produced outside of Minnesota. The motion failed 21 to 42, but Senator Fredrickson moved to reconsider the vote so that all Senators could vote. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment after reconsideration failed 24-41.

14. Straight Pipe Septic Systems

There are an estimated 60,000 straight pipe septic systems in Minnesota – systems that illegally discharge approximately 6.75 million gallons of untreated raw sewage per day directly into Minnesota's rivers, lakes, drain tiles and ditches. During the 2006 legislative session, Senator Jungbauer introduced legislation that establishes a \$500/month fine for straight pipe septic systems until they come into compliance with state law. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 63-0.

15. Plug in Hybrid Vehicle Incentives

Plug-in hybrid vehicles have the capacity to travel up to 50 miles using electricity as a fuel source. The increased use of plug-in hybrid vehicles could help Minnesota reduce its dependence on petroleum and its contributions to global warming. During the 2006 legislative session, Senator Scott Dibble introduced a bill that would encourage the development, production and purchase of plug-in hybrid vehicles. The bill establishes a procurement policy that the state will purchase plug-in hybrid vehicles as part of its fleet once they become commercially available, and establishes a task force to identify and address barriers to the adoption of plug-in hybrids by state agencies and Minnesota drivers. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 61-0.

16. Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks

During the 2006 legislative session, Senator Carrie Ruud offered an amendment to the Senate's annual game and fish bill that would limit the use of 4x4 "mudder" trucks to state forest roads, and prohibit their use elsewhere on state forests. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 46-13.

	Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
+ Vote in favor of the environment - Vote against the environment I Ineligible to vote A Absent (not included in final score)	Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A
	Transportation Choices Funding	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
	Circumventing Environmental Review	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
	Public Disclosure of Pesticide Records	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Central America Free Trade Agreement	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Electronic Waste Recycling	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Clean Water Legacy Act	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Eminent Domain Reform	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Renewable Electricity Standard	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Renewable Electricity Standard Amendment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Straight Pipe Septic Systems	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Plug in Hybrid Incentives	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

+ Vote in favor of the environment
 - Vote against the environment
 I Ineligible to vote
 A Absent (not included in final score)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Transportation Choices Funding	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	A
Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Clean Water Legacy Act	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Electronic Waste Recycling	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Eminent Domain Reform	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Renewable Electricity Standard	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Renewable Electricity Standard Amendment	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Straight Pipe Septic Systems	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Plug in Hybrid Incentives	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions	%															
Kiscaden, Sheila (I – 30)	71%															
Koch, Amy (R – 19)	50%															
Koering, Paul (R – 12)	38%															
Kubly, Gary (DFL – 20)	75%															
Langseth, Keith (DFL – 9)	50%															
Larson, Cal (R – 10)	47%															
LeClair, Brian (R – 56)	31%															
Limmer, Warren (R – 32)	40%															
Lourey, Becky (DFL – 8)	87%															
Marko, Sharon (DFL – 57)	87%															
Marty, John (DFL – 54)	94%															
McGinn, Mike (R – 38)	69%															
Metzen, James (DFL – 39)	69%															
Michel, Geoff (R – 41)	69%															
Moua, Mee (DFL – 67)	93%															
Murphy, Steve (DFL – 28)	73%															
Neuville, Thomas (R – 25)	69%															
Nienow, Sean (R – 17)	50%															
Olson, Gen (R – 33)	60%															
Ortman, Julianne (R – 34)	43%															
Pappas, Sandra (DFL – 65)	93%															
Pariseau, Pat (R – 36)	45%															
Pogemiller, Lawrence (DFL – 59)	87%															
Ranum, Jane (DFL – 63)	93%															
Reiter, Mady (R – 53)	44%															

+ Vote in favor of the environment
 - Vote against the environment
 I Ineligible to vote
 A Absent (not included in final score)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests	-	+	-	+	A	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Transportation Choices Funding	-	-	-	-	A	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
Circumventing Environmental Review	-	-	-	A	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+
Public Disclosure of Pesticide Records	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+
Central America Free Trade Agreement	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Electronic Waste Recycling	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clean Water Legacy Act	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Eminent Domain Reform	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Renewable Electricity Standard	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Renewable Electricity Standard Amendment	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Straight Pipe Septic Systems	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Plug in Hybrid Incentives	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions	%															
	80%															
	53%															
	53%															
	57%															
	50%															
	44%															
	62%															
	44%															
	44%															
	88%															
	88%															
	47%															
	50%															
	50%															
	63%															
	31%															
	81%															

+ Vote in favor of the environment
 - Vote against the environment
 I Ineligible to vote
 A Absent (not included in final score)

1. Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests

Irresponsible and reckless riders of all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, and 4x4 trucks cause a tremendous amount of damage to Minnesota's state forests, wetlands, and fishing streams. During the 2005 special session, Representative Ray Cox offered an amendment to the House's environmental spending bill to remove provisions in the legislation that would permit off highway vehicles to ride on all state forest trails north of Highway 2 (about 74% of Minnesota's forests). A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 56-76.



Volunteers with the Sierra Club's "Forest Watch Team" regularly inspect Minnesota's forests for evidence of irresponsible off-highway vehicle riding.

2. Off-Highway Vehicles – North Shore Trail

The North Shore State Trail is a 146 mile-long trail used by snowmobiles in the winter, and hikers, bikers, and horseback riders in the summer months. The trail is adjacent to approximately 250 wetlands and crosses trout streams at approximately 100 locations. During the 2005 special session, Representative Ray Cox offered an amendment to the House's environmental spending bill to remove funding for a study designed to examine conversion of the North Shore State Trail for use by all-terrain vehicles. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 54-78.

3. Circumventing Environmental Review - Ethanol

The 2004 Minnesota Legislature passed a law that exempted all but the largest ethanol manufacturing plants from the requirement to perform an environmental impact study prior to their development. During the 2005 regular session, when the Minnesota House considered a law that would double the percentage of ethanol found in gasoline by 2015, Representative Frank Hornstein offered an amendment to the bill that would remove the environmental impact study exemption for any new ethanol plant that is powered by coal. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 60-73.

4. Circumventing Environmental Review – Mesabi Nugget

Minnesota's "environmental review" process assists state and local governments in protecting the health and quality of life of Minnesotans. The process helps government officials make sound decisions that minimize impacts to Minnesota's environment and natural resources, and serves to inform citizens about issues that will affect their communities. During the 2005 regular session, Mesabi Nugget LLC asked the state legislature to exempt its proposed taconite nugget production plant from environmental review, which is required in Minnesota prior to receiving air and water pollution permits. The company threatened to build its facility in Indiana, where similar environmental studies would not be required, if the legislature did not grant its request. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 89-42.

5. Renewable Electricity Standard

Minnesota's dependence on coal as a source of energy is taking a toll on public health and contributing to global warming. During the 2005 legislative session, Representative Aaron Peterson offered an amendment to the House energy bill that would require Minnesota's electric utilities to generate 20 percent of their output using renewable energy sources – wind, solar, small-scale hydro, or bio-mass – by 2020. However, Representative

Michael Beard offered an amendment to Representative Peterson's amendment that would have dramatically limited the scope of facilities regulated under a renewable electricity standard. Representative Beard's motion is the score vote. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 73-60.

6. Funding Transportation Choices

With growing traffic congestion, increased pollution from motor vehicles, and sprawling urban growth patterns, Minnesotans are demanding comprehensive transit solutions to our transportation problems. Additionally, recent budget shortfalls at the Metropolitan Council have led to fare increases and route cuts for many metropolitan transit users. During the 2005 regular session, Representative Ron Erhardt offered an amendment to the House transportation spending bill that provided for over \$7 billion in dedicated funding for roads and transit over a 10 year period. Among other funding mechanisms, the legislation called for a dedication of a portion of the regional sales tax for transit, an increase in the portion of the motor vehicle sales tax dedicated to transit, and an increase in the state gas tax. Representative Erhardt's amendment passed 68-61 and was incorporated into the final transportation spending bill approved by the House. Unfortunately, after the legislation passed both the House and Senate, Governor Tim Pawlenty vetoed the bill. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The scored vote is the House's transportation spending bill, including Representative Erhardt's amendment, which passed 72-61.

7. Community and Township Rights

During the 2005 legislative session, the House's omnibus agriculture spending bill contained several provisions that sought to weaken the ability of local governments to maintain local planning and zoning regulations that are stricter than existing state laws. One such provision limited a municipality's ability to establish temporary ordinances that would restrict development during an ongoing planning or study effort if the ordinance would impact livestock production. Representative Carlos Mariani offered an amendment to strip this and other provisions from the agricul-



Sierra Club volunteers meet with Representative Rick Hansen on the floor of the Minnesota House of Representatives.

ture spending bill. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 63-69.

8. Notification of Drinking Water Contaminants

According to the Center for Disease Control, the health effects associated with the ingestion of nitrate and pesticide contaminated drinking water include the possibility of blue baby syndrome and spontaneous abortions. During the 2005 legislative session, Representative Jean Wagenius offered an amendment to the House health and human services bill that would require women to be notified of the risks posed by exposure to nitrates and pesticides in drinking water, as well as provide grants for well water testing. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 49-85.

9. Lead Removal from Homes

Lead exposure causes reduced IQ, learning disabilities, developmental delays, reduced height, impaired hearing and a host of other health problems in young children. During the 2005 legislative session, Representative Keith Ellison offered an amendment to the House tax bill, which provides homeowners with a property tax reduction for their efforts to remove lead from their homes. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 75-58.



Sierra Club volunteers and members of the public convened in a “Baby Buggy Brigade” to protest the Bush Administration’s national mercury rule. The Mercury Reduction Act of 2006, passed by the Minnesota legislature, will require mercury reductions almost a decade faster than federal standards.

10. Mercury Reduction Act of 2006

Mercury contamination is a potent neurotoxin that concentrates in the food chain and is associated with learning and developmental disabilities. Humans are exposed to mercury primarily by eating fish, and conservative estimates suggest that one in every 10 women of childbearing age have enough mercury in their blood to adversely affect an unborn child. During the 2006 legislative session, Representative Tom Hackbarth carried a bill that will result in the reduction of 90% of the mercury emissions of Minnesota’s largest coal-burning power plants between 2009 and 2015. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 132-0.

11. Clean Water Legacy Act – New Sources

Approximately 40% of the lakes and rivers that have been tested in Minnesota are contaminated with animal and human waste, phosphorous, mercury, or other pollutants. The failure to assess and clean up our waters in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act has prevented the expansion of wastewater treatment plants and is threatening economic development throughout Minnesota. During the 2006 legislative session, the House took up the Clean Water Legacy Act – a bill designed to facilitate the assessment and restoration of Minnesota’s contaminated waters. Representative Jim Knoblach, however, offered an amendment to the Act that allows new sources

of water pollution to be permitted even when a clean-up plan has not been developed for a polluted waterway. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 68-63.

12. Clean Water Legacy Act – Exemptions

When the House took up the Clean Water Legacy Act (see number 11 above) during the 2006 legislative session, Representative Mark Olson offered an amendment that would delay clean-up activities by creating additional legal proceedings and exempt some polluters from water clean-up plans. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 10-120.

13. Clean Water Legacy Act – Phosphorous

When the House took up the Clean Water Legacy Act (see number 11 above) during the 2006 legislative session, Representative Morrie Lanning offered an amendment that prevents the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency from regulating phosphorous pollution from new or expanding wastewater treatment plants until after the Agency provides a detailed report justifying any new requirements to the state legislature. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 78-53.

14. Straight Pipe Septic Systems

There are an estimated 60,000 straight pipe septic systems in Minnesota – systems that illegally discharge approximately 6.75 million gallons of untreated raw sewage per day directly into Minnesota’s rivers, lakes, drain tiles and ditches. During the 2006 legislative session, Representative Kathy Tinglestad introduced legislation that establishes a \$500/month fine for straight pipe septic systems until they come into compliance with state law. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 133-0.

15. Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks

During the 2006 legislative session, Representative Larry Howes and Representative Frank Moe offered an amendment to the House’s annual game and fish bill that would limit the use of 4x4 “mudder” trucks to state forest roads, and prohibit their use elsewhere on state forests. A vote in the affirmative was

the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment passed 67-62.

16. Dedicated Transportation Funding

During the 2005 legislative session, legislators agreed to place a constitutional amendment on the general election ballot that will dedicate at least 40% of the existing motor vehicle sales tax to transit, and the remainder for roads and bridges. During the committee process in the 2006 legislative session, however, some lawmakers were successful in changing the proposed constitutional amendment so that it fixed the amount of dedicated funding to transit to a "hard" 40% - eliminating the legislature's ability to increase funding for transit from the motor vehicle sales tax fund in future years. When the bill came to the House floor for a vote, Representative Ron Abrams offered an amendment to delete the proposed changes to the amendment. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 63-69.

17. Genetically Modified Wild Rice Study

Native wild rice is an important ecological and cultural resource for Minnesota. Wild Rice provides critical habitat for migrating waterfowl and aquatic life, and it is a sacred part of the Anishinabe people's culture. The introduction of genetically engineered wild rice, however, is threatening native strains. During the 2006 session, Representative Frank Moe introduced a bill that called for the study of the status of wild rice in Minnesota and for the Department of Agriculture to develop recommendations for addressing risks that threaten native wild rice strains. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 100-30.

18. Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment

When the House's transportation spending bill came to the floor, Representative Philip Krinkie offered an amendment to the bill that would have changed the motor vehicle sales tax constitutional amendment (see number 16 above) so that only 20% of the revenue from the motor vehicle sales tax would be dedicated to transit, and 80% would be dedicated to roads and bridges. A vote in the negative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The amendment failed 43-89.



19. Plug in Hybrid Vehicle Incentives

Plug-in hybrid vehicles have the capacity to travel up to 50 miles using electricity as a fuel source. The increased use of plug-in hybrid vehicles could help Minnesota reduce its dependence on petroleum and its contributions to global warming. During the 2006 legislative session, Representative Frank Hornstein introduced a bill that would encourage the development, production and purchase of plug-in hybrid vehicles. The bill establishes a procurement policy that the state will purchase plug-in hybrid vehicles as part of its fleet once they become commercially available, and establishes a task force to identify and address barriers to the adoption of plug-in hybrids by state agencies and Minnesota drivers. A vote in the affirmative was the position supported by the Sierra Club. The bill passed 133-0.

Representative Ron Erhardt (R-Edina) poses with Sierra Club volunteers in West St. Paul after a discussion about funding for the Robert Street Corridor study project. The Sierra Club was a leading advocate for the inclusion of the study in the 2006 Capital Investments bill.

Sierra Club Clean Air Organizer, Cesia Kernans, speaks with Governor Tim Pawlenty about the impacts of the proposed Big Stone II coal plant expansion in South Dakota on Minnesota's renewable energy economy. Photo by Tom Erickson, Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty.



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Off-Highway Vehicles – North Shore Trail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Environmental Review – Ethanol	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Environmental Review – Mesabi Nugget	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Renewable Electricity Standard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Funding Transportation Choices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Community and Township Rights	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Drinking Water Contamination Notice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Lead Removal from Homes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Clean Water Legacy Act – New Sources	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
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Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Dedicated Transportation Funding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Genetically Modified Wild Rice Study	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Plug in Hybrid Incentives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions	%	26%	79%	26%	53%	100%	16%	100%	68%	16%	22%	84%	37%	21%	100%	100%	26%	26%	21%	94%	89%	27%				
+ Vote in favor of the environment - Vote against the environment I Ineligible to vote A Absent (not included in final score)	Dorman, Dan (R – 27A)																									
	Dorn, John (DFL – 23B)																									
	Eastlund, Rob (R – 17A)																									
	Eken, Kent (DFL – 2A)																									
	Ellison, Keith (DFL – 58B)																									
	Emmer, Tom (R – 19B)																									
	Entenza, Matt (DFL – 64A)																									
	Erhardt, Ron (R – 41A)																									
	Erickson, Sondra (R – 16A)																									
	Finstad, Brad (R – 21B)																									
	Fritz, Patti (DFL – 26B)																									
	Garofalo, Pat (R – 36B)																									
	Gazelka, Paul (R – 12A)																									
	Goodwin, Barbara (DFL – 50A)																									
	Greiling, Mindy (DFL – 54A)																									
	Gunther, Bob (R – 24A)																									
	Hackbarth, Tom (R – 48A)																									
	Hamilton, Rod (R -22B)																									
	Hansen, Rick (DFL – 39A)																									
	Hausman, Alice (DFL – 66B)																									
	Haws, Larry (DFL – 15B)																									
	Heidgerken, Bud (R – 13A)																									
	Hilstrom, Debra (DFL – 46B)																									
	Hilty, Bill (DFL – 8A)																									
	Holberg, Mary Liz (R – 36A)																									

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19							
Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+						
Off-Highway Vehicles – North Shore Trail	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Environmental Review – Ethanol	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Environmental Review – Mesabi Nugget	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Renewable Electricity Standard	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Funding Transportation Choices	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Community and Township Rights	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Drinking Water Contamination Notice	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Lead Removal from Homes	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Clean Water Legacy Act – New Sources	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Clean Water Legacy Act - Exemptions	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Clean Water Legacy Act – Phosphorous	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Straight Pipe Septic Systems	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Dedicated Transportation Funding	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Genetically Modified Wild Rice Study	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Plug in Hybrid Incentives	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions	%	42%	100%	95%	58%	37%	89%	89%	32%	95%	100%	47%	100%	100%	21%	26%	53%	26%	32%	32%	100%	100%	95%	100%	100%	84%
+ Vote in favor of the environment - Vote against the environment I Ineligible to vote A Absent (not included in final score)	Hoppe, Joe (R – 34B)																									
	Hornstein, Frank (DFL – 60B)																									
	Hortman, Melissa (DFL – 47B)																									
	Hosch, Larry (DFL – 14B)																									
	Howes, Larry (R – 4B)																									
	Huntley, Thomas (DFL – 7A)																									
	Jaros, Mike (DFL – 7B)																									
	Johnson, Jeff (R – 43A)																									
	Johnson, Ruth (DFL – 23A)																									
	Johnson, Sheldon (DFL – 67B)																									
	Juhnke, Al (DFL – 13B)																									
	Kahn, Phyllis (DFL – 59B)																									
	Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL – 60A)																									
	Klinzing, Karen (R – 56B)																									
	Knoblach, Jim (R – 15A)																									
Koenen, Lyle (DFL – 20B)																										
Kohls, Paul (R – 34A)																										
Krinkie, Philip (R – 53A)																										
Lanning, Morrie (R – 9A)																										
Larson, Dan (DFL – 63B)																										
Latz, Ron (DFL – 44B)																										
Lenczewski, Ann (DFL – 40B)																										
Lesch, John (DFL – 66A)																										
Liebling, Tina (DFL – 30A)																										
Lieder, Bernard (DFL – 1B)																										

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Plug in Hybrid Incentives				
																					%	95%	100%	19%	84%
+ Vote in favor of the environment - Vote against the environment I Ineligible to vote A Absent (not included in final score)	Lillie, Leon (DFL – 55A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					
	Loeffler, Diane (DFL – 59A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					
	Magnus, Doug (R – 22A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	A	A	+	+	-	-	-	-					
	Mahoney, Tim (DFL – 67A)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+					
	Mariani, Carlos (DFL – 65B)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+					
	Marquart, Paul (DFL – 9B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+					
	McNamara, Denny (R – 57B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+					
	Meslow, Doug (R – 53B)	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+					
	Moe, Frank (DFL – 4A)	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+					
	Mullery, Joe (DFL – 58A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					
	Murphy, Mary (DFL – 6B)	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	+					
	Nelson, Michael (DFL – 46A)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+					
	Nelson, Peter (R – 17B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+					
	Newman, Scott (R – 18A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+					
	Nornes, Bud (R – 10A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+					
	Olson, Mark (R – 16B)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+					
	Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL – 11B)	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+					
	Ozment, Dennis (R – 37B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+					
	Paulsen, Erik (R – 42B)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+					
	Paymar, Michael (DFL – 64B)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					
Pelowski, Jr., Gene (DFL – 31A)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	A	+	+	+						
Penas, Maxine (R – 1A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	A	-	+	+						
Peppin, Joyce (R – 32A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+						
Peterson, Aaron (DFL – 20A)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
Peterson, Neil (R – 41B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+						

+ Vote in favor of the environment - Vote against the environment I Ineligible to vote A Absent (not included in final score)	Score for 2005-2006 Legislative Sessions																			
	%	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Peterson, Sandra (DFL – 45A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Poppe, Jeanne (DFL – 27B)	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+
	Powell, Duke (R – 40A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	A	+	+
	Rukavina, Tom (DFL – 5A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+
	Ruth, Connie (R – 26A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+
	Ruud, Maria (DFL – 42A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Sailer, Brita (DFL – 2B)	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Samuelson, Char (R – 50B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
	Scalze, Bev (DFL – 54B)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Seifert, Marty (R – 21A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+
	Sertich, Anthony "Tony" (DFL – 5B)	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
	Severson, Dan (R – 14A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+
	Sieben, Katie (DFL – 57A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Simon, Steve (DFL – 44A)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Simpson, Dean (R – 10B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
	Slawik, Nora (DFL – 55B)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Smith, Steve (R – 33A)	-	-	+	A	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
	Soderstrom, Judy (R – 8B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
Solberg, Loren (DFL – 3B)	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	
Sviggum, Steve (R – 28B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	
Sykora, Barb (R – 33B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	
Thao, Cy (DFL – 65A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Thissen, Paul (DFL – 63A)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Tingelstad, Kathy (R – 49B)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	
Urdahl, Dean (R – 18B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	

Plug in Hybrid Incentives	19	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Amendment	18	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Genetically Modified Wild Rice Study	17	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
Dedicated Transportation Funding	16	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Off-Highway Vehicles – 4x4 Trucks	15	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Straight Pipe Septic Systems	14	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clean Water Legacy Act – Phosphorous	13	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clean Water Legacy Act - Exemptions	12	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clean Water Legacy Act – New Sources	11	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Mercury Reduction Act of 2006	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lead Removal from Homes	9	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Drinking Water Contamination Notice	8	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community and Township Rights	7	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funding Transportation Choices	6	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Renewable Electricity Standard	5	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Environmental Review – Mesabi Nugget	4	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Environmental Review – Ethanol	3	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Off-Highway Vehicles – North Shore Trail	2	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Off-Highway Vehicles in State Forests	1	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
	%	21%	100%	100%	32%	63%	32%	21%	26%	21%
		<div> <div>Vote in favor of the environment</div> <div>Vote against the environment</div> <div>Ineligible to vote</div> <div>Absent (not included in final score)</div> </div> <div> <div>+</div> <div>-</div> <div>I</div> <div>A</div> </div>								
Vandeveer, Ray (R – 52A)										
Wagenius, Jean (DFL – 62B)										
Walker, Neva (DFL – 61B)										
Wardlow, Lynn (R – 38B)										
Welti, Andy (DFL – 30B)										
Westerberg, Andrew (R – 51A)										
Westrom, Torrey (R – 11A)										
Wilkin, Tim (R – 38A)										
Zellers, Kurt (R – 32B)										



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The differences between the 2005 and 2006 Minnesota legislative sessions were stark. The 2005 regular session in particular was extremely unproductive and marked with bitter partisan rhetoric – ultimately culminating in the first state government shutdown in Minnesota history during the summer of 2005. When legislators re-convened in March 2006, however, the looming election season provided the necessary motivation for the passage of some proactive environmental legislation. The following is a review of the successes and setbacks of the 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions.

2005 Regular and Special Sessions

In 2005, the North Star Chapter's legislative committee identified four primary legislative goals for the 2005 regular session: (1) restore Minnesota's state water quality certification program, (2) protect our state's forests and wetlands from irresponsible off-highway vehicle riders, (3) fund comprehensive transportation solutions such as the Northstar Commuter rail line, and (4) reduce mercury emissions into Minnesota's air and water.

State Water Quality Certification

In September 2001, due to budget cuts, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA) was forced to essentially eliminate an important wetlands protection and pollution control program called 401 State Water Quality Certification. As a result, during the 2005 legislative session, the Sierra Club's water committee promoted legislation that would (1) establish a progressive fee to fund partial restoration of the 401 Certification program, (2) require the agency to notify project applicants of their responsibility to comply with state water quality standards even if the PCA decided to waive its right to review, and (3) call upon the PCA to

make documents relating to 401 Certification available on the Agency's website.

While the Sierra Club's proposal was not heard in any House committees, the legislation received a number of hearings in the Senate. The Sierra Club worked diligently with legislators, the PCA, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDot), Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), residential and industrial developers, and others — ultimately fueling the bill's inclusion in the Senate's "omnibus" environment-finance bill. Unfortunately, following a series of closed-door negotiations, the proposal was stripped from the final bill only hours before the final environment-finance bill was passed on the House and Senate floors.

"...following a series of closed-door negotiations, the proposal was stripped from the final bill only hours before the final environment-finance bill was passed on the House and Senate floors."

Off-Highway Vehicles

Also during the 2005 session, the Sierra Club joined forces with a range of other organizations, seeking to hold the most reckless and egregious violators of off-highway vehicle (OHV) laws responsible for the damage they cause to Minnesota's forests and wetlands. This coalition worked to promote legislation that called for increased enforcement and strict penalties for OHV violations. Some of the proposed provisions included increasing fines, reimbursing property owners for OHV-caused damage from OHV user fees, prohibiting the use of extreme tires, and prohibiting 4x4 "mudder" trucks from driving on state trails.

The proactive and common sense solutions put forth by our coalition and legislative allies, however, were met with a great deal of hostility from OHV

supporters in the legislature — many of whom have found seats on key committees. As a result, a bill supported by OHV manufacturers was brought to both the House and Senate floors. In the Senate, the Sierra Club and our allies were temporarily successful in defeating the bill's most harmful section — a provision that opens up the trails on 74% of Minnesota's state forests to nearly unlimited OHV riding. Senator John Marty offered an amendment to strip that provision from the bill, which passed the Senate floor with a substantial margin. Leaders in the Senate then moved for a recess, however, and, upon re-convening, the Senate reversed its decision on the Marty amendment despite the majority vote the amendment received from the body less than an hour before. The final bill then passed by the Senate and was sent to the House floor where it also passed later that day. The result was a bill that takes Minnesota far backwards in its efforts to enforce responsible OHV riding and to protect our state's public lands.

Transportation Choices

Early in the 2005 session, the Sierra Club's transportation committee successfully advocated for the passage of a "bonding bill" that contained significant money for transportation choices in Minnesota. This final capital investment bill authorized approximately \$886 million in bonds, with over \$100 million of those funds dedicated to environmental and natural resources protection efforts. In addition to this \$100 million, the bill provided the full \$37.5 million required to secure the necessary federal matching funds to build the Northstar Rail Corridor (one of the Sierra Club's top funding priorities in 2005). Further, the bill provided \$10 million for the Cedar Avenue Bus Rapid Transit system, \$5.25 million for the Central Corridor Project, and \$500,000 each for the Rush Line and Red Rock Cor-

ridor projects.

After passing the bonding bill, however, the Sierra Club's efforts became very focused on securing adequate funding for the operation and maintenance of Minnesota's existing and proposed transit systems. An estimated \$360 million is needed annually to operate and maintain critical bus, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian systems in metro and rural areas throughout Minnesota. The legislature has failed in previous years to provide an adequate and stable source of funding for these transportation choices. The Sierra Club collaborated with our transit partners (a melting pot of environmental, transit, religious, labor, and senior groups) and worked to promote Transportation Choices 2020 — a legislative initiative that sought to fully fund Minnesota's transit needs.

Additionally, during the 2005 session, the Sierra Club assisted in the passage of a \$7.7 billion transportation package. This funding bill would have prevented the planned cuts by Metro Transit and would have provided stable funding for both roads and transit using a mix of sales and gas taxes and license tab fees. For transit, the package generated \$105 million annually through a regional sales tax and approximately \$100 million annually through a shift of the motor vehicle sales tax. After passing the House floor, the bill was sent to the Senate, which adopted it verbatim. The bill was then almost immediately vetoed by Governor Pawlenty, except for a provision providing for a constitutional amendment (which the Governor does not have the authority to veto). The constitutional amendment would require part of the motor vehicle sales tax to be used to fund transit and will appear on the November 2006 ballot.

Due to their failure to pass a transportation bill in the 2005 regular session, it became clear that the House and Senate were unlikely to consider a transportation bill in the 2005 special session, which meant that there would be no increased funds for roads or transit. The Sierra Club and our coalition partners then worked

to fill a \$66 million shortfall that remained in the budget for Minnesota transit. In the end, \$46 million was allocated in the tax bill to fill the gap for transit (\$40 million for metro transit, and \$6 million for rural transit).

"After passing the bonding bill, however, the Sierra Club's efforts became very focused on securing adequate funding for the operation and maintenance of Minnesota's existing and proposed transit systems."

Clean Water, Safe Fish, Healthy Kids

The final legislative priority for the North Star Chapter in 2005 related to our role as a lead member of the Mercury-free Minnesota Campaign — a group of organizations working to achieve a comprehensive reduction in Minnesota's mercury emissions. Mercury is a potent neurotoxin that has contaminated Minnesota's lakes and rivers; two-thirds of Minnesota's emissions come from coal burning power plants and taconite processing.

The Mercury-free Minnesota Coalition participated in several legislative hearings regarding the sources and health impacts of Mercury pollution. Moreover, the Sierra Club's Clean Air and Renewable Energy Committee brought together technology experts who assisted in developing a legislative proposal calling for a 90% reduction in mercury emissions from coal burning power plants. Recognizing the large amount of education needed on this issue in 2005, the proposal was introduced for discussion purposes only with the intent of advancing legislation during the 2006 legislative session.

Other Environmental Initiatives of the 2005 Legislative Session

Throughout the 2005 session, Sierra Club volunteers and our lobbying team tracked and provided support for a number of environmental initiatives beyond those listed in our legislative agenda. Some of these included:

Renewable Energy Standard. The Sierra Club advocated for a law that would require 20% of Minnesota's energy to be produced by renewable energy sources by the year 2020. The legislation passed in the Senate as part of the Senate energy bill with the help of Sierra Club volunteer leaders who spoke with key legislators and assisted in drafting action alerts. Efforts to offer the proposal as an amendment to the House environment bill failed.

Mercury Free Vaccines. As part of the Mercury-free Minnesota Campaign, the Sierra Club supported a proposal to ban the use of mercury in vaccines due to their potential adverse effects on developing fetuses and children. The bill received hearings in the House and Senate, but did not pass either body.

Coyote Bounty. The Sierra Club opposed proposals to authorize coyote bounties in Minnesota. While the Sierra Club has no position on hunting or on bounties generally, concerns were raised by Sierra Club volunteers about the potential for this bill to increase the number of wolves mistakenly shot in northern Minnesota. The proposal passed in the house, failed in the senate, and was not included in any omnibus policy bills.

Clean Water Legacy Act. The Sierra Club supported the Clean Water Legacy Act, which seeks to raise approximately \$80 million to cleanup and restore contaminated lakes and streams in Minnesota. The policy language passed the Senate during the regular session, which chose to pay for the program from the state's general fund. However, no proposal made its way to the House floor during 2005 despite numerous hearings in many committees. As a result, the Clean Water Legacy Act was not included in any of the laws passed during the 2005 sessions.

Environmental Review. The Sierra Club continues to oppose efforts to expedite the permitting of facilities

by circumventing the environmental review process. Specifically, we opposed legislation in 2005 that extended the amount of time the Mesabi iron nugget facility can apply for pollution control permits and continued to exempt the facility from environmental review. The legislation passed both the House and Senate, and was included in the omnibus environment-finance bill.

"Woody Biomass" Facilities. The Sierra Club worked to oppose the development of Iron Range facilities that would burn wood products to generate energy, potentially leading to increased clear-cutting in Minnesota's state and federal forests. Members of the Chapter's Forest Committee provided review, comment, and developed and distributed fact sheets on the issue to key legislators. We successfully prevented the passage of some biomass proposals in House committees, and worked with legislators and other members of the environmental community to improve the language contained in the 2005 omnibus environment bill.

2006 Legislative Session

On numerous occasions during Minnesota's 2006 legislative session, Representative Tom Hackbarth (R-Anoka) proclaimed the legislative session as "the year of the environment." While this may or may not be the case, it is a fact that, unlike in 2005, environmental concerns received a lot of play during the 2006 legislative session.

Mercury Reduction Act of 2006

The Sierra Club played a critical role in negotiating and passing what is possibly the strongest mercury reduction law in the country, which will reduce mercury emissions from the state's largest coal plants by 90%. The bill passed unanimously in both the House and Senate and was

signed by the Governor on May 11 at a VFW post overlooking White Bear Lake.

Renewable Electricity Standard

The Sierra Club assisted, through grassroots and lobbying efforts, in the passage of the renewable electricity standard in the Minnesota Senate. The standard, which would require utilities to obtain 20% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020, passed 36-30. The provision passed as part of a larger omnibus energy bill, which House leaders refused to bring to the House floor for a vote.

"The Sierra Club played a critical role in negotiating and passing what is possibly the strongest mercury reduction law in the country, which will reduce mercury emissions from the state's largest coal plants by 90%."

Off-Highway Vehicles

The Sierra Club and our coalition partners were successful in preventing the passage of adverse policies that would promote the expansion of all-terrain vehicles in Minnesota's state forests.

- We defeated efforts in both the capital investments and environmental spending bills to convert the North Shore State Trail (currently a hiking, biking, and horseback riding trail) to an all-terrain vehicle trail.
- We also defeated an effort to increase the portion of the state gas tax to all-terrain vehicles as part of the transportation spending bill.
- We supported the passage of an amendment in both the House and Senate, which would have prohibited the use of 4 x 4 "mudder" trucks on trails in state forests. Unfortunately, this provision was stripped from the final game and fish bill during a late-night conference committee.

Transportation Funding – Sales Tax

The Sierra Club played a leadership role in advancing the need for a regional funding source for transit. While legislation calling for a ½ cent sales tax increase and its dedication to transit was introduced last year, we were able to use the Twins/Vikings stadium proposals to bring prominence to the transit issue. Ultimately, the sales tax was taken off the table in the conference committee addressing sports stadiums, and was transferred to the transportation finance conference committee. There, the ½ cent sales tax concept remained alive until the last day of session until a deal was reached that would have provided transit with an immediate dedication of the motor vehicle lease tax (\$30 million annually) and 40% of the motor vehicle sales tax (about \$150 million). The agreement fell apart when members of both caucuses refused to agree to the deal reached by the conference committee members. As a result, no transportation spending bill was passed by the legislature this session. However, the negotiation process provided an unprecedented opportunity to advance the discussion about the need for a regional funding source for transit.

Transportation Funding – Motor Vehicle Sales Tax

The Sierra Club and our allies in the "Transit Partners" coalition were successful in defeating proposed changes to the motor vehicle sales tax constitutional amendment that the legislature passed last year. As a result, there will be a single constitutional amendment on the November ballot, proposing to dedicate at least 40% of the motor vehicle sales tax to transit, and 60% to roads and highways. If successful, the amendment will provide nearly half of the \$300 million needed in annual dedicated funding for transit.

2006 Capital Investments Bill

In 2006 the legislature approved a capital investments bill that authorizes nearly \$950 million in general obligation bonding. The Sierra Club generally assisted in securing funding for a variety of important transit and environmental projects within that legislation. One of the provisions in the bill included approximately \$9 million for the assessment and clean-up of contaminated waters. Additionally, Sierra Club volunteers in Dakota County were instrumental in securing funding for an initial assessment of a light rail corridor along Robert Street in West St. Paul.

Clean Water Legacy Act - Policy

The Sierra Club supported the passage of the Clean Water Legacy Act, which seeks to provide a governance structure and funding for the assessment and clean-up of Minnesota's contaminated waters. While the Act is generally good legislation, the final version of the bill, as passed by both the House and Senate, contains a provision that seeks to allow polluters to develop new proposed pollution sources if those pollution sources are "offset" by decreasing pollution from other sources in a particular watershed. This approach, which is supported by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, was recently rejected by the Minnesota Supreme Court which found that the approach violates the

federal Clean Water Act. As a result, it is questionable what impact the "offset" provision of the Act will have on future permitting efforts.

Clean Water Legacy Act - Funding

The legislature appropriated \$15 million in its supplemental budget bill, and an additional \$9 million for water-related projects in the capital investments bill, totaling \$24 million for the Clean Water Legacy. The Sierra Club and our environmental partners advocated for \$40 million, with a commitment to spend \$80 to \$100 million annually for the next 10 years to support the assessment, restoration, and clean-up of Minnesota's waters.

Fish and Game Bill

In the last hours of the legislative session, legislators passed their annual "fish and game" bill. This legislation is notable, not for what is in the bill, but for provisions not included in the final legislation. The Sierra Club assisted in removing a provision that would have authorized a bounty on coyotes, which the Sierra Club has opposed due to the lack of scientific support for the bounty as well as potential effects on gray wolves.

Additionally, legislation supported by the Sierra Club was unfortunately stripped from the game and fish bill during a late-night conference committee markup. Those provisions were (1) a proposal that would have placed restrictions on the rearing of minnows in wetlands, (2) a proposal that would have authorized a task force to develop recom-

mendations to promote compliance with the state's laws regarding buffer zones on agricultural ditches, and (3) a proposal that would have prohibited the use of 4 x 4 "mudder" trucks from driving on trails in state forests.

Dedicated Funding

Legislators failed to reach agreement to pass a constitutional amendment that would dedicate a percentage of the sales tax to fish, game, wildlife, parks, trails, clean water, public broadcasting, and the arts. The Sierra Club remained neutral on this legislation throughout the session.

LCMR Reform

Following agreement by a task force last summer, legislators passed a bill reforming the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR). The bill provides for the addition of citizen members to the Commission, as well as procedural changes for funding environmental and conservation projects. The Sierra Club remained neutral on this legislation throughout the session.

Electronic Waste

In 2005, the Minnesota Senate passed a law that would require manufactures of electronic waste (such as computers, monitors, televisions that contain toxic substances like lead, cadmium, mercury, selenium, and chromium) to contribute to and participate in a recycling and collection program for these products. Similar legislation was developed this session in the House, but House leaders failed to bring the legislation to the floor for a vote of the full House.

Eminent Domain

The legislature overwhelmingly passed legislation that reformed the state's eminent domain laws. The most problematic portion of the bill involves a highly technical provision that would force municipalities to pay land-owners if the municipality

Transit-Related Projects funding in the 2006 Capital Investments Bill

Northstar Rail Corridor	\$60 million
I-35 Bus Rapid Transit	\$3.3 million
Cedar Avenue Busway	\$5.0 million
Central Corridor	\$7.8 million
Red Rock Corridor	\$0.5 million
Robert Street Corridor	\$0.5 million
Union Depot	<u>\$3.5 million</u>

Authorized in the 2006 Bill	\$79.31 million
Authorized in the 2005 Bill	\$53.75 million

wants to condition a permit or license on the removal of a "non-conforming" use. In other words, a city would be prohibited from phasing-out or putting conditions on the expansion of out-dated or damaging land-uses, even when the needs of the community have changed. The provision could jeopardize environmental standards for sewer systems, storm-water management, land rehabilitation, and feedlot management.

Plug in Hybrid Vehicles

The legislature unanimously passed a bill that requires the state to begin purchasing plug-in hybrid vehicles once they are commercially available and to establish a study to examine barriers to purchasing plug-in hybrids.

Straight Pipe Septic Systems

There are an estimated 60,000 straight pipe septic systems in Minnesota – systems that illegally discharge approximately 6.75 million gallons of untreated raw sewage per day directly into Minnesota's rivers, lakes, drain tiles and ditches. The legislature unanimously approved legislation that establishes a \$500/month fine for straight pipe septic systems until they come into compliance with state law.

The Tools We Used

During the 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions, the Sierra Club's lobbying team relied on existing systems and developed new tools to advance our legislative goals:

Legislative Agenda

The Sierra Club produced materials outlining our legislative agenda for the 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions, which were distributed to legislators and staff.

Legislative Website

The Sierra Club launched a series of new web pages that display infor-

mation on our legislative agenda, contain links to legislative resources, and provide access to weekly updates.

Legislative "Week in Review"

Weekly updates on the legislature's progress were electronically distributed during 2005 and 2006 to a list of over 100 participants, including the lobbyists of other allied organizations. The updates are also archived and made available via the North Star Chapter's legislative website.

"The 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions were defined by both substantial successes and misguided decisions. The Sierra Club and its allies continue to educate legislators about key environmental issues, lay the foundation for legislative success in the future, and educate the public about the voting records of their elected officials."

Legislative Action Alerts

Sierra Club staff and volunteers took full advantage of our legislative alert system, which assisted thousands of constituents in communicating their concerns to their legislatures during the 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions.

"Indoor Outing" at the Capitol

Sierra Club staff and volunteers teamed up to provide a one-of-a-kind learning experience for Sierra Club members and volunteers. Over thirty individuals participated in our indoor outing at the capitol, where participants engaged in discussions about key environmental legislation in Minnesota, heard from Minnesota legislators, attended a meeting of the Senate environment policy committee, and met with their own elected officials.

Constituent Meetings

Throughout the 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions, Sierra Club volunteers and members regularly engaged their

legislators in constructive discussions about pressing environmental and legislative concerns through personal meetings, letters, and phone calls.

Coalition Partners

The Sierra Club strengthened its relationships with other organizations by building strong coalitions around each of our priority legislative issues and regularly sharing and receiving information across the environmental lobbying network at the Minnesota capitol.

Mid-term Report Card

In March 2005, the Sierra Club, in connection with Clean Water Action Alliance and the Minnesota League of Conservation Voters, produced a mid-term report card that described the performance of the House, Senate, and Governor on critical environmental issues. The report card's release followed meetings with House and Senate leadership to thank them for their successes and discuss opportunities for improvement.

The Future of Minnesota's Environment

The 2005 and 2006 legislative sessions were defined by both substantial successes and misguided decisions. The Sierra Club and its allies continue to educate legislators about key environmental issues, lay the foundation for legislative success in the future, and educate the public about the voting records of their elected officials.

With our 24,000 members in Minnesota, a committed volunteer base, and dedicated staff, the Sierra Club remains a leader in environmental advocacy at the Minnesota Capitol. Our ability to influence positive legislative change, both as an independent organization and in conjunction with coalition partners, continues to grow.

MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

Dist.	Member	Dist.	Member	Dist.	Member	Dist.	Member
01	Stumpf, LeRoy A. (DFL)	18	Dille, Steve (R)	35	Robling, Claire A. (R)	52	Bachmann, Michele M. (R)
01A	Penas, Maxine (R)	18A	Newman, Scott (R)	35A	Beard, Michael (R)	52A	Vandever, Ray (R)
01B	Lieder, Bernard (DFL)	18B	Urdahl, Dean (R)	35B	Buesgens, Mark (R)	52B	Dean, Matt (R)
02	Skoe, Rod (DFL)	19	Koch, Amy T. (R)	36	Pariseau, Pat (R)	53	Reiter, Mady (R)
02A	Eken, Kent (DFL)	19A	Anderson, Bruce (R)	36A	Holberg, Mary Liz (R)	53A	Krinkie, Philip (R)
02B	Sailer, Brita (DFL)	19B	Emmer, Tom (R)	36B	Garofalo, Pat (R)	53B	Meslow, Doug (R)
03	Saxhaug, Tom (DFL)	20	Kubly, Gary W. (DFL)	37	Gerlach, Chris (R)	54	Marty, John (DFL)
03A	Anderson, Irv (DFL)	20A	Peterson, Aaron (DFL)	37A	Cybart, Lloyd (R)	54A	Greiling, Mindy (DFL)
03B	Solberg, Loren (DFL)	20B	Koenen, Lyle (DFL)	37B	Ozment, Dennis (R)	54B	Scalze, Bev (DFL)
04	Ruud, Carrie L. (R)	21	Frederickson, Dennis (R)	38	McGinn, Mike (R)	55	Wiger, Charles W. (DFL)
04A	Moe, Frank (DFL)	21A	Seifert, Marty (R)	38A	Wilkin, Tim (R)	55A	Lillie, Leon (DFL)
04B	Howes, Larry (R)	21B	Finstad, Brad (R)	38B	Wardlow, Lynn (R)	55B	Slawik, Nora (DFL)
05	Tomassoni, David J. (DFL)	22	Vickerman, Jim (DFL)	39	Metzen, James P. (DFL)	56	LeClair, Brian (R)
05A	Rukavina, Tom (DFL)	22A	Magnus, Doug (R)	39A	Hansen, Rick (DFL)	56A	Charron, Mike (R)
05B	Sertich, Anthony (DFL)	22B	Hamilton, Rod (R)	39B	Atkins, Joe (DFL)	56B	Klinzing, Karen (R)
06	Bakk, Thomas M. (DFL)	23	Hottinger, John C. (DFL)	40	Belanger, William Jr. (R)	57	Marko, Sharon (DFL)
06A	Dill, David (DFL)	23A	Johnson, Ruth (DFL)	40A	Powell, Duke (R)	57A	Sieben, Katie (DFL)
06B	Murphy, Mary (DFL)	23B	Dorn, John (DFL)	40B	Lenczewski, Ann (DFL)	57B	McNamara, Denny (R)
07	Solon, Yvonne Prettnier (DFL)	24	Rosen, Julie A. (R)	41	Michel, Geoff (R)	58	Higgins, Linda (DFL)
07A	Huntley, Thomas (DFL)	24A	Gunther, Bob (R)	41A	Erhardt, Ron (R)	58A	Mullery, Joe (DFL)
07B	Jaros, Mike (DFL)	24B	Cornish, Tony (R)	41B	Peterson, Neil W. (R)	58B	Ellison, Keith (DFL)
08	Lourey, Becky (DFL)	25	Neuville, Thomas M. (R)	42	Hann, David (R)	59	Pogemiller, Lawrence (DFL)
08A	Hilty, Bill (DFL)	25A	Brod, Laura (R)	42A	Ruud, Maria (DFL)	59A	Loeffler, Diane (DFL)
08B	Soderstrom, Judy (R)	25B	Cox, Ray (R)	42B	Paulsen, Erik (R)	59B	Kahn, Phyllis (DFL)
09	Langseth, Keith (DFL)	26	Day, Dick (R)	43	Bonoff, Terri (DFL)	60	Dibble, D. Scott (DFL)
09A	Lanning, Morrie (R)	26A	Ruth, Connie (R)	43A	Johnson, Jeff (R)	60A	Kelliher, Margaret Anderson (DFL)
09B	Marquart, Paul (DFL)	26B	Fritz, Patti (DFL)	43B	Abrams, Ron (R)	60B	Hornstein, Frank (DFL)
10	Larson, Cal (R)	27	Sparks, Dan (DFL)	44	Kelley, Steve (DFL)	61	Berglin, Linda (DFL)
10A	Nornes, Bud (R)	27A	Dorman, Dan (R)	44A	Simon, Steve (DFL)	61A	Clark, Karen (DFL)
10B	Simpson, Dean (R)	27B	Poppe, Jeanne (DFL)	44B	Latz, Ron (DFL)	61B	Walker, Neva (DFL)
11	Sams, Dallas C. (DFL)	28	Murphy, Steve (DFL)	45	Rest, Ann H. (DFL)	62	Skoglund, Wesley J. (DFL)
11A	Westrom, Torrey (R)	28A	Dempsey, Jerry (R)	45A	Peterson, Sandra (DFL)	62A	Davnie, Jim (DFL)
11B	Otremba, Mary Ellen (DFL)	28B	Svigum, Steve (R)	45B	Carlson, Lyndon (DFL)	62B	Wagenius, Jean (DFL)
12	Koering, Paul E. (R)	29	Senjem, David H. (R)	46	Scheid, Linda (DFL)	63	Ranum, Jane B. (DFL)
12A	Gazelka, Paul (R)	29A	Demmer, Randy (R)	46A	Nelson, Michael (DFL)	63A	Thissen, Paul (DFL)
12B	Blaine, Greg (R)	29B	Bradley, Fran (R)	46B	Hilstrom, Debra (DFL)	63B	Larson, Dan (DFL)
13	Johnson, Dean E. (DFL)	30	Kiscaden, Sheila M. (DFL)	47	Foley, Leo T. (DFL)	64	Cohen, Richard J. (DFL)
13A	Heidgerken, Bud (R)	30A	Liebling, Tina (DFL)	47A	Dittrich, Denise (DFL)	64A	Entenza, Matt (DFL)
13B	Juhnke, Al (DFL)	30B	Welti, Andy (DFL)	47B	Hortman, Melissa (DFL)	64B	Paymar, Michael (DFL)
14	Fischbach, Michelle L. (R)	31	Kierlin, Bob (R)	48	Jungbauer, Michael J. (R)	65	Pappas, Sandra L. (DFL)
14A	Severson, Dan (R)	31A	Pelowski, Jr., Gene (DFL)	48A	Hackbarth, Tom (R)	65A	Thao, Cy (DFL)
14B	Hosch, Larry (DFL)	31B	Davids, Gregory M. (R)	48B	Abeler, Jim (R)	65B	Mariani, Carlos (DFL)
15	Clark, Tarryl (DFL)	32	Limmer, Warren (R)	49	Johnson, Debbie J. (R)	66	Anderson, Ellen R. (DFL)
15A	Knoblach, Jim (R)	32A	Peppin, Joyce (R)	49A	DeLaForest, Chris (R)	66A	Lesch, John (DFL)
15B	Haws, Larry (DFL)	32B	Zellers, Kurt (R)	49B	Tingelstad, Kathy (R)	66B	Hausman, Alice (DFL)
16	Wergin, Betsy L. (R)	33	Olson, Gen (R)	50	Chaudhary, Satveer (DFL)	67	Moua, Mee (DFL)
16A	Erickson, Sondra (R)	33A	Smith, Steve (R)	50A	Goodwin, Barbara (DFL)	67A	Mahoney, Tim (DFL)
16B	Olson, Mark (R)	33B	Sykora, Barb (R)	50B	Samuelson, Char (R)	67B	Johnson, Sheldon (DFL)
17	Nienow, Sean R. (R)	34	Ortman, Julianne E. (R)	51	Betzold, Don (DFL)		
17A	Eastlund, Rob (R)	34A	Kohls, Paul (R)	51A	Westerberg, Andrew "(R)		
17B	Nelson, Peter (R)	34B	Hoppe, Joe (R)	51B	Bernardy, Connie (DFL)		

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

Member and Position	Score	Member and Position	Score	Member and Position	Score
House Environment & Natural Resources Committee		House Regulated Industries Committee		House Taxes Committee	
Chair: Tom Hackbarth (R)	26%	Chair: Torrey Westrom (R)	21%	Chair: Philip Krinkie (R)	32%
Vice Chair: Ray Cox (R)	89%	Vice Chair: Michael Beard (R)	32%	Vice Chair: Dean Simpson (R)	32%
Lead-DFL: Carlos Mariani (DFL)	100%	Lead-DFL: Irv Anderson (DFL)	40%	Lead-DFL: Ann Lenczewski (DFL)	95%
Greg Blaine (R)	21%	Joe Atkins (DFL)	100%	Ron Abrams (R)	72%
Tony Cornish (R)	37%	Mike Charron (R)	26%	Irv Anderson (DFL)	40%
David Dill (DFL)	42%	Tom Emmer (R)	16%	Joe Atkins (DFL)	100%
Rick Hansen (DFL)	95%	Sondra Erickson (R)	16%	Connie Bernardy (DFL)	100%
Joe Hoppe (R)	42%	Bob Gunther (R)	26%	Laura Brod (R)	26%
Melissa Hortman (DFL)	95%	Tom Hackbarth (R)	26%	Gregory M. Davids (R)	22%
Margaret Anderson Kelliher (DFL)	100%	Rick Hansen (DFL)	95%	Jim Davnie (DFL)	100%
Denny McNamara (R)	47%	Bill Hilty (DFL)	89%	Chris DeLaForest (R)	26%
Bud Nornes (R)	32%	Joe Hoppe (R)	42%	David Dill (DFL)	42%
Dennis Ozment (R)	47%	Thomas Huntley (DFL)	89%	Dan Dorman (R)	26%
Maxine Penas (R)	33%	Sheldon Johnson (DFL)	100%	Ron Erhardt (R)	68%
Jeanne Poppe (DFL)	74%	Morrie Lanning (R)	32%	Larry Howes (R)	21%
Bev Scalze (DFL)	100%	John Lesch (DFL)	100%	Mike Jaros (DFL)	37%
Kathy Tingelstad (R)	63%	Aaron Peterson (DFL)	95%	Jim Knoblach (R)	26%
Jean Wagenius (DFL)	100%	Duke Powell (R)	39%	Lyle Koenen (DFL)	53%
Andy Welti (DFL)	63%	Maria Ruud (DFL)	100%	Paul Kohls (R)	26%
Torrey Westrom (R)	21%	Dean Simpson (R)	32%	Morrie Lanning (R)	32%
Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee		Paul Thissen (DFL)	100%	John Lesch (DFL)	100%
Chair: John Marty (DFL)	94%	Neva Walker (DFL)	100%	Paul Marquart (DFL)	100%
Vice Chair: Tom Saxhaug (DFL)	44%	Andrew "Andy" Westerberg (R)	32%	Joe Mullery (DFL)	100%
Lead-R: Pat Pariseau ®	45%	Kurt Zellers (R)	21%	Peter Nelson (R)	95%
Thomas M. Bakk (DFL)	47%	Senate Jobs, Energy & Community Development Committee		Tom Rukavina (DFL)	37%
Satveer Chaudhary (DFL)	93%	Chair: Ellen R. Anderson (DFL)	93%	Katie Sieben (DFL)	42%
Dennis R. Frederickson (R)	64%	Vice Chair: Thomas M. Bakk (DFL)	47%	Ray Vandever (R)	100%
John C. Hottinger (DFL)	86%	Lead-R: Michele Bachman (R)	40%	Andrew "Andy" Westerberg (R)	32%
Michael J. Jungbauer (R)	44%	Tarryl Clark (DFL)	100%	Kurt Zellers (R)	21%
Sean R. Nienow (R)	50%	D. Scott Dibble (DFL)	94%	Senate Taxes Committee	
Gen Olson (R)	60%	Chris Gerlach (R)	56%	Chair: Lawrence J. Pogemiller (DFL)	87%
LeRoy A. Stumpf (DFL)	50%	Steve Kelley (DFL)	88%	Vice Chair: David J. Tomassoni (DFL)	50%
House Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources Finance Committee		Amy T. Koch (R)	50%	Lead R: William Belanger (R) 75%	
Chair: Dennis Ozment (R)	47%	Gary W. Kubly (DFL)	75%	Thomas M. Bakk (DFL)	47%
Vice Chair: David Dill (DFL)	42%	James P. Metzen (DFL)	69%	Don Betzold (DFL)	88%
Ag. Lead-DFL Al Juhnke (DFL)	47%	Sandra L. Pappas (DFL)	93%	Debbie J. Johnson (R)	43%
Env. Lead-DFL Jean Wagenius (DFL)	100%	Julie A. Rosen (R)	53%	Warren Limmer (R)	40%
Tony Cornish (R)	37%	Carrie L. Ruud (R)	57%	John Marty (DFL)	94%
Tom Hackbarth (R)	26%	Tom Saxhaug (DFL)	44%	Mike McGinn (R)	69%
Joe Hoppe (R)	42%	David H. Senjem (R)	44%	Mee Moua (DFL)	93%
Sheldon Johnson (DFL)	100%	Dan Sparks (DFL)	47%	Julianne E. Ortman (R)	43%
Doug Magnus (R)	19%	House Agriculture & Rural Development Committee		Rod Skoe (DFL)	44%
Maxine Penas (R)	33%	Chair: Gregory M. Davids (R)	22%	House Transportation Finance Committee	
Aaron Peterson (DFL)	95%	Vice Chair: Greg Blaine (R)	21%	Chair: Mary Liz Holberg (R)	27%
Dean Urdahl (R)	32%	Lead-DFL: Ruth Johnson (DFL)	95%	Vice Chair: Connie Ruth (R)	26%
ex-officio Jim Knoblach (R)	26%	Brad Finstad (R)	22%	Lead-DFL: Bernard Lieder (DFL)	84%
Senate Environment, Agriculture & Economic Development Budget Committee		Rod Hamilton (R)	21%	Ron Abrams (R)	72%
Chair: Dallas C. Sams (DFL)	50%	Bud Heidgerken (R)	21%	Bruce Anderson (R)	29%
Vice Chair: D. Scott Dibble (DFL)	94%	Al Juhnke (DFL)	47%	Ron Erhardt (R)	68%
Lead-R: Steve Dille (R)	46%	Lyle Koenen (DFL)	53%	Alice Hausman (DFL)	100%
Dennis R. Frederickson (R)	64%	Doug Magnus (R)	19%	Frank Hornstein (DFL)	100%
Ellen R. Anderson (DFL)	93%	Frank Moe (DFL)	74%	Dan Larson (DFL)	100%
Michele M. Bachmann (R)	40%	Mary Ellen Otremba (DFL)	58%	Doug Magnus (R)	19%
Thomas M. Bakk (DFL)	47%	Maxine Penas (R)	33%	ex-officio Jim Knoblach (R)	26%
Richard J. Cohen (DFL)	87%	Dean Urdahl (R)	32%	Senate Transportation Budget Division	
Michael J. Jungbauer (R)	44%	Andy Welti (DFL)	63%	Chair: Steve Murphy (DFL)	73%
Gary W. Kubly (DFL)	75%	ex-officio Dennis Ozment (R)	47%	Vice Chair: Mee Moua (DFL)	93%
James P. Metzen (DFL)	69%	Senate Agriculture, Veterans & Gaming Committee		Lead-R: Claire A. Robling (R)	53%
Pat Pariseau (R)	45%	Chair: Jim Vickerman (DFL)	63%	Terri Bonoff (DFL)	100%
Julie A. Rosen (R)	53%	Vice Chair: Rod Skoe (DFL)	44%	Satveer Chaudhary (DFL)	93%
Jim Vickerman (DFL)	63%	Lead-R: Steve Dille (R)	46%	Dick Day (R)	44%
		Dick Day (R)	44%	D. Scott Dibble (DFL)	94%
		David Hann (R)	60%	Dean E. Johnson (DFL)	43%
		Dean E. Johnson (DFL)	67%	Michael J. Jungbauer (R)	44%
		Paul E. Koering (R)	38%	Amy T. Koch (R)	50%
		Becky Lourey (DFL)	87%	Keith Langseth (DFL)	50%
		Steve Murphy (DFL)	73%	Sharon Marko (DFL)	87%
		Sean R. Nienow (R)	50%	Mike McGinn (R)	69%
		Ann H. Rest (DFL)	80%	Julianne E. Ortman (R)	43%
		Dallas C. Sams (DFL)	80%	Mady Reiter (R)	44%
		Yvonne Prettnier Solon (DFL)	88%	Ann H. Rest (DFL)	80%
		Betsy L. Wergin (R)	31%	David H. Senjem (R)	44%
				Jim Vickerman (DFL)	63%
				Charles W. Wiger (DFL)	81%



SIERRA
CLUB
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MISSION

*To explore, enjoy, and protect
the wild places of the Earth;
to practice and promote
the responsible use of
the Earth's ecosystems
and resources; to educate
and enlist humanity
to protect and restore the
quality of the
natural and human environment, and to use
all lawful means
to carry out these objectives.*

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