

Minnesota DNR  
500 Lafayette Road  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

July 23, 2025

Mark Johnson

Executive Director

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

RE: ML 2024, subd. 5(aa) – Protecting Upper Mississippi River from Invasive Carp

Greetings Director Johnson,

In your letter dated June 30, 2024, the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (Council) approved our project, Protecting Upper Mississippi River from Invasive Carp, to move forward with Activities 1 and 2 in the accomplishment plan at an estimated cost of \$500,000. This letter is to inform the Council that the project is about to enter Activities 3 and 4 (Design and Permitting) in the accomplishment plan and to provide an estimated cost for the next phases of the project.

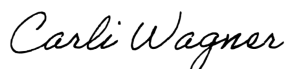
- We estimate that \$3 million will cover project activities through June 30, 2026, when the deterrent design is due, per the appropriation language. This is our best estimate at this time; however, it is possible that we will require more funds before June 30, 2026.

An interagency project team was formed in July of 2024 and has been meeting monthly to advance LD5 project work since. DNR has also hired a Lock and Dam 5 Deterrent Project Coordinator and an Invasive Carp Contracts Coordinator to support the project's progress. The DNR recently entered into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the engineering design of the deterrent. The USACE, as the first task under the agreement, will be assessing the cost and feasibility of the two selective deterrent options for LD5. After that task we will be ready to move into Activities 3 and 4 in the accomplishment plan – Design and Permitting. Scoping technologies to support effectiveness of the deterrent and operations and maintenance planning (2.1, 2.2) are ongoing and will continue to develop as the deterrent is designed.

We will continue to communicate proactively with the Council on this project. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Carli Wagner



Project Coordinator