

SECTION 10

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SEC. 10 APPROPRIATIONS: AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The following sum of \$56,796,928 is requested for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 in total to be appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources. The Secretary is authorized to direct funds appropriated in this Section to the projects contained in this Section; the individual allocations in this Section are estimates only:

- 1. Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)..... \$46,212,428
- A. Clean Water State/EPA Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF)
Capitalization Grants..... \$2,400,000

These grants provide low-interest loans for municipal stormwater and by making an investment of \$2.9 million, the State will draw down an estimated \$14.7 in federal funds. These funds enable a wide range of municipal pollution control projects.

- B. Drinking Water Supply – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund..... \$3,906,600

This ongoing program, initiated in 1997, provides funding for public drinking water systems, for planning, constructing, repairing or improving drinking water systems to enable compliance with state and federal drinking water standards. It leverages federal funds at the rate of \$5 federal to every \$1 of state dollars spent. Funding is critical to maintaining or attaining safe drinking water for Vermont’s public water systems.

D. Dam Safety and Hydrology Projects \$375,000

Requested funds will be used for repair, major maintenance, and specialized engineering assessments of state-owned dams.

E. Municipal Pollution Control Grants \$3,341,500

Municipal pollution control grants, authorized by Title 10 Chapter 55, provide financial assistance to Vermont municipalities to fund combined sewer overflow abatement, dry weather flow treatment, and sludge and septage treatment facilities. These grants generally supplement loans that are funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). Municipalities will need to make significant investments in clean water to meet requirements of the EPA total maximum daily limits for phosphorous in Lake Champlain and the 2015 Vermont Clean Water Act (Act 64). A portion of these funds will also enable the continuation of prior year's partially funded projects. Statewide, the total anticipated cost for water quality improvements for municipal wastewater is estimated at over \$1 Billion over the next 20 years.