

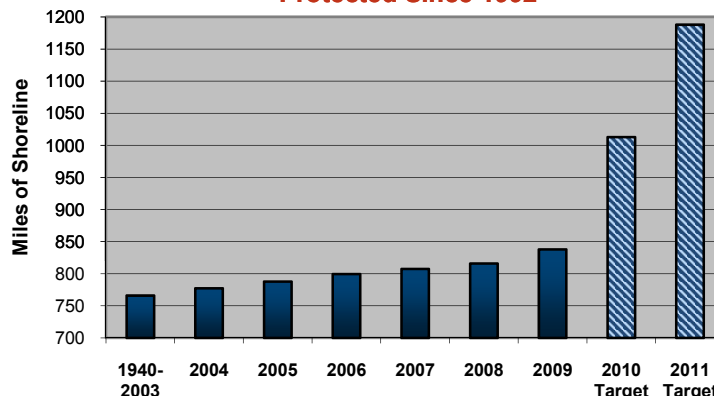
AQUATIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

INDICATOR: Number of shoreline miles protected in Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)

WHY IS THIS INDICATOR IMPORTANT?

Fishing is a key component of Minnesota’s quality of life. Minnesota has approximately 1.5 million licensed anglers, and fishing-related activities contribute \$2.8 billion annually in direct expenditures to the state’s economy. Demand for shoreline property is high, and these areas are rapidly being developed. DNR’s acquisition of riparian shoreline parcels called Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs) ensures that critical fish and wildlife habitat will be conserved, non-boat public access to water resources will always be available, and habitat can be developed on previously disturbed areas. Acquisition of AMAs is a critical step in maintaining Minnesota’s reputation for providing excellent fishing opportunities and an outstanding quality of life for those who visit and live here.

Cumulative Miles of Shoreline Protected Since 1992



The AMA program officially started in 1992, however, protection of riparian shoreline areas began much earlier. These lands are now managed under the AMA program.

WHAT IS DNR DOING?

The AMA program, created by the 1992 Legislature as part of the Outdoor Recreation Act, administers more than 838 AMA shoreland miles across Minnesota. This is in addition to 23 miles of shoreland previously acquired, and still managed as Fish Management Areas (FMAs). AMAs provide angler and management access, protect critical shoreland habitat, and provide areas for education and research.

In October of 2007 “Minnesota’s Aquatic Management Area Acquisition Plan 2008-2033” was developed by a citizen’s planning committee. This plan set ambitious AMA acquisition goals, which will promote the continued conservation of this important resource.

TARGET: Acquire 100 miles of trout-stream access and permanently protect 75 miles of lakeshore in AMAs from 2010-2017. Acquire 33 miles of trout stream access and permanently protect 23 miles of lakeshore in AMAs from 2018-2033.

During calendar years 2008-09 DNR acquired around 30.5 miles of lake and stream shore to be permanently protected as AMAs. With additional funding the goals of the citizen’s planning committee can be reached. DNR will continue efforts to acquire permanent conservation easements on Minnesota’s designated trout streams consistent with evolving management needs, angler access opportunities, and funding availability. DNR will continue to acquire appropriate fee title and conservation easements on lakes and warmwater streams whenever non-motorized public access to water resources is available and as parcels with critical habitat become available, partnership opportunities arise, and annual funding allows.



LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- DNR Trout Stream Easement Program at: www.mndnr.gov/fisheries/management