



Friends of Minnesota Scientific & Natural Areas

December 21, 2020

Representative Rick Hansen, Chair
House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee
Via E-mail Only: rep.rick.hansen@house.mn

Re: Legislation to Phase Out Lead Ammunition and Lead Fishing Tackle

Dear Chair Hansen:

First, **congratulations** to you for your election victory and for your appointment as Chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee.

We would like to schedule a telephone call with you to discuss the introduction of legislation that will phase out the use of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle.

Friends of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas (FMSNA) is a Minnesota non-profit, tax-exempt [“501(c)(3)”] corporation organized to protect and enhance Minnesota’s Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs). SNAs are the crown jewels of Minnesota’s state land base, protecting some of Minnesota’s rarest and most sensitive plant and animal species and the ecosystem upon which they depend.

We **thank you** for your strong advocacy to protect Minnesota’s natural resources including funding of SNAs and lead ammunition education to the Raptor Center through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. You have also heard other bills to address the impacts of lead ammunition, such as HF 3657, a bill that requires non-toxic shot for hunting small game within wildlife management areas in the “farmland zone.”

As we stated in our letters to you on Sept. 1, 2020 and April 23, 2020, we are on record with the Minnesota Legislature to adopt **comprehensive legislation to require the phase out of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle – state-wide, on all Minnesota land and waters.**

To that end, we are pleased to learn that your party recently adopted an “Action Agenda” item to ban lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle. (See attachment page 7, highlighted in yellow.) We would like to participate in a bi-partisan effort to rid Minnesota of toxic lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle.

On behalf of FMSNA, I **thank you** in advance for your reply.

Very truly yours,

Thomas E. Casey

Thomas E. Casey
Board Chair

*Rep. Rick Hansen, Chair
House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee
December 21, 2020*

Friends of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas, Inc.

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Enclosure:
MN DFL – “Action Agenda” (adopted 8/29/20)