## Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

X	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supple	emental
LRB	Number	03-1422/1		Introd	luction N	umber	AB-235	;
Subjec	:t							
Payme	nt for raw fo	rest products						
Fiscal	Effect							
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Fund Sources Affected  Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations  GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS 20.370(1)(mu)								
Agency	y/Prepared	Ву	4	Authorized S	ignature			Date
DNR/ J	oe Polasek	(608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (	608) 266-27	94		5/13/2003

# Fiscal Estimate Narratives DNR 5/13/2003

LRB Number <b>03-1422/1</b>	Introduction Number	AB-235	Estimate Type	Original			
Subject							
Payment for raw forest products							

### **Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

Bill Summary: This bill is intended to allow a forest landowner to recover fiscal damages caused because a logging contractor did not complete the contracted obligation. Forest landowners sell standing trees (stumpage) to logging contractors. Generally a contract identifies the obligations of both parties. If the contractor fails to pay the landowner the contracted obligation, this bill indicates that the contractor is liable for the costs to establish the volume and value of the stolen raw forest products. Furthermore, the bill provides for a party who has intentionally tried to defraud a landowner to be subject to the penalties for theft. The bill also authorizes recovery of court costs and reasonable fees to the successful party if failure to pay is deemed unreasonable.

Fiscal Estimate: This bill would increase cost and workload for those Department foresters who hold credentials and for Department wardens. The Department's credentialed foresters and wardens may investigate the theft of forest products (statutes 26.06 and 26.97). This bill adds another investigative responsibility to the Department.

Wardens could become involved in those investigations where credentialed foresters are not available, generally in the southern and eastern portions of the state.

If this bill is approved as written, Department foresters and wardens will spend additional time investigating complaints that timber sale contracts were not executed as written. The annual fiscal estimate is 3,600 hours and \$106,650. This cost estimate is based on the following assumptions:

NIPF = non-industrial private forest

Estimate of annual # of acres of NIPF lands harvested = 270,000 acres

Estimate of average size of harvests = 30 acres

Estimate of NIPF timber sales = 9,000 harvests (270,000/30)

Estimate that 2% of the timber sales contracts are not executed properly

Estimate of # of NIPF harvests not properly compensated = 180 harvests (9.000 x 2%)

Estimated hours for investigation & testimony per case = 20 hours

Estimated hours of new workload = 3,600 hours

Average salary and fringe for a senior classification FTE = \$28/hour

Cost of salary and fringe for new workload = \$100,800 - (3,600 hours x \$28/hr)

Travel cost associated with new workload = \$5,850 (100 miles/case x \$.0325/mile x 180 cases)

TOTAL COST = \$106,650

#### **Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

This bill would create an on-going workload. Costs would increase or decrease based on annual salary changes for the involved personnel.

## Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2003 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

X	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental		
LRB N	lumber	03-1422	/1	Intro	duction Num	nber	AB-235		
Subject									
Paymen	t for raw for	est products							
I. One-ti annuali	ime Costs zed fiscal e	or Revenue l effect):	mpacts for Si	tate and/or	Local Governn	nent (do	not include in		
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FED									
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<u> </u>	SEG/SEG-S				106,700				
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INE I CF	IANGE IIN F	VENUE			\$	<u></u>	\$0		
Agency	Agency/Prepared By Aut				Signature		Date		
DNR/ Jo					pe Polasek (608) 266-2794				
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