

Report From Agency

REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

Proposal to renumber of NR 47.911; and create NR 47.911 (2), Wis. Adm. Code

Board Order No. FR-07-14
Clearinghouse Rule No. 17-081

Basis and Purpose of the Proposed Rule

The need for gypsy moth suppression has decreased dramatically since the mid-2000's to a few hundred acres or less each year. The small, spatially-dispersed need for suppression of gypsy moth can be more efficiently served by the private arborists and aerial applicators. Deactivation of the state suppression program would allow private business to take over this service and the state could redirect resources to management of other invasive species that cannot be addressed well by the private sector. This addition to the rule will allow the Natural Resources Board to order that the program is not available to county governments. This order may be reversed by the Board.

Summary of Public Comments

The department received nine comments, two were in favor of deactivating the gypsy moth suppression program, six were opposed to the deactivating the program, and one wanted more information. All persons submitting comments were responded to and their concerns addressed in writing. Three of those opposed found the additional information on the reason for deactivation reassuring.

Modifications Made

None

Appearances at the Public Hearing

The department scheduled four public hearings on December 19, 2017 in Fitchburg, Green Bay, Milwaukee and Eau Claire. One person attended the meetings, he was a reporter The Country Today. He had no comments.

Changes to Rule Analysis and Fiscal Estimate

None

Response to Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse Report

The LCRC recommended seven edits and all were made in the document.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Not applicable to this rule as it is not a regulatory provision but is instead a voluntary grant program.