

CHAPTER 332

AN ACT to amend 26.12 (6) (b), (d) and (7) of the statutes, relating to the disposal of slash in forest protection districts.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

26.12 (6) (b), (d) and (7) of the statutes are amended to read:

26.12 (6) (b) Any person \* \* \* engaged in cutting timber or other forest products, *including any public utility in the process of clearing or brushing any right of way within the limits of any forest protection district*, shall dispose of all slash up to 4 inches in diameter resulting from such cutting operations within 100 feet of the center line of any public highway, common carrier railroad, main branch or main line logging road or railroad, or within 100 feet of the boundary line of an adjacent owner \* \* \*. *For the purpose of this section, an easement or right of way held by a public utility, shall be construed as ownership.* Areas of unbroken slash in excess of 320 acres shall be broken up by disposing of the slash for a distance of 100 feet on each side of any logging road, logging spur, portage trail or any other convenient line. All slash shall be disposed of within 500 feet of any schoolhouse, town hall, church, summer cottage, resort or the buildings of any small community or any settler. All dead rampikes, snags or stubs more than 6 feet high shall be felled within all such strips heretofore mentioned, and for an additional 500 feet beyond except in standing timber. All slash disposal shall be by burning \* \* \* *unless the conservation commission \* \* \* authorizes disposal by removal or by lopping and scattering.* The disposal of slash and the felling of rampikes, snags or stubs shall be done concurrently with the cutting operation or within a reasonable period to be determined by the conservation commission, but not to exceed one year.

(d) All slash, which during the process of cutting timber or taking out other forest products, falls into or is deposited in any lake or stream or on the land of an adjoining owner, shall be immediately removed therefrom by the timber owner or cutting operator conducting the operations when in the opinion of the commission such removal is in the public interest. If such slash is not removed within 30 days, the commission may do the work and the landowner, timber owner or cutting operator responsible for such slash shall be liable to the state jointly, severally or individually for the cost of such work, including supervision and transportation of its personnel and any court costs which may arise \* \* \*.

(7) All slash resulting from clearing or brushing on any public highway \* \* \* within the limits of any forest protection district shall be piled and burned \* \* \* *or lopped and scattered.* Whenever such work is done under contract the \* \* \* *disposal* of the resulting slash shall be made a part of the contract. All such slash shall be \* \* \* *disposed of* concurrently with the clearing or brushing operation or within a reasonable period to be determined by the conservation commission, but not to exceed one year. On failure to \* \* \* *dispose of* such slash the conservation commission may do the work and the municipality or \* \* \* *contractor doing such clearing or brushing* shall be liable to the state for the cost of such work.

Approved July 5, 1957.