

ORIGINAL UPDATED
 CORRECTED SUPPLEMENTAL

FISCAL ESTIMATE

DOA-2048 N(R10/94)

Subject

Adding raccoon damage to commercial seedings and livestock to the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP)

Fiscal Effect

State: No State Fiscal Effect

Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation or affects a sum sufficient appropriation.

- Increase Existing Appropriation Increase Existing Revenues
- Decrease Existing Appropriation Decrease Existing Revenues
- Create New Appropriation

- Increase Costs - May be possible to Absorb Within Agency's Budget Yes No
- Decrease Costs

Local: No local government costs

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
 <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory</p> | <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenues
 <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenues
 <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory</p> | <p>5. Types of Local Government Units Affected:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Villages <input type="checkbox"/> Cities</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> Others</p> |
|---|---|--|

Fund Sources Affected

- GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEG-S

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

20.370(1)(mu); 20.370(5)(fq) and 20.370

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SUMMARY OF BILL - AB861 seeks to change the type of wildlife covered under the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP), and how this damage is funded. This bill proposes adding raccoon agricultural damage to the WDACP and seeks to fund administration, abatement and claims cost with General Purpose Revenues (GPR). In the past the Legislature has dealt with damage caused by abundant and low hunter-interest wildlif, such as the raccoon, by providing liberal opportunities to landowners to manage wildlife problems caused by such wildlife. State statute 29.337 allows hunting and trapping of raccoons and several other species, by the landowner without any type of license or permit from the state. There are no bag limits or closed season for these species. Furthermore, s. 29.885, Stats., and Chap. NR 12 allows a landowner to have agents of the landowner to assist in the removal of these same wildlife with written landowner permission. There are existing means for landowners to deal with their raccoon problems.

FISCAL IMPACT - Because County WDACP staff look at wildlife damage throughout the growing and harvest seasons, and because the WDACP only covers deer, bear, goose and turkey damage, these staff must be able to identify and eliminate from their appraisals other wildlife damage, including raccoon damage. These WDACP field staff should be an excellent resource for estimating raccoon damage. A phone survey of 41 of the 68 counties currently enrolled in the WDACP indicates that wildlife damage appraisers have observed that raccoons cause on the average 44% of the level of damage caused by white-tailed deer. Therefore, the primary assumption used for this fiscal impact is that existing deer damage could be used to estimate existing raccoon damage.

Because raccoon damage to agricultural crops are primarily to field corn during the milk stage and to sweet corn just prior to harvest for canning or fresh sale we focussed and these crops for generating an estimate of total raccoon damage and therefore program costs. It is assumed that because there are relatively few raccoon hunters or trappers that access demand will be very minor compared to access demand for deer, bear, goose and turkeys. Because of this relatively low demand it is assumed that farmers won't hesitate to enroll for raccoon damage program services. In 1993 the USDA conducted representative random sampling of deer damage to corn in Wisconsin (Wywialowski 1996). Using their results for deer damage, extrapolating these results to sweet corn, and factoring these levels of damage by 44% (raccoon damage to deer damage) it is assumed an estimate of Wisconsin raccoon damage can be generated.

Total deer damage to corn for grain in 1997:	\$7,004,611 X 44% = \$3,082,029
Total deer damage to sweet corn for canning in 1997:	\$ 251,718 X 44% = \$ 125,859
Total deer damage to sweet corn for fresh sale in 1997:	\$ 257,721 X 44% = \$ 128,861

Total Raccoon damage in 1997: \$3,336,749 FISCAL IMPACT CON'T ON NEXT PAGE

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

It is likely that with the addition of raccoons there will be political pressure to add other species that cause agricultural damage, such as black-birds, crows, coyotes, rabbits, squirrels, fox, woodchucks, beaver, and various other abundant, unprotected species which may cause or are perceived to cause damage.

Agency	Prepared By	Phone No.	Authorized Signature	Phone No.	Date
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FISCAL ESTIMATE
DOA-2048 N(R10/94)

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Mean claim for deer = \$3,176
Mean Raccoon Claim assumed to be 44% less = $\$3,176 \times 44\% = \$1,397$

It is assumed that farmers are going to have little problem with allowing raccoon trappers and hunters, and that all farmers experiencing raccoon damage are going to enroll for raccoon abatement and claims assistance. Therefore: Farmers enrolled = $\$3,336,749$ divided by $\$1,397 = 2,389$ farmers enrolled for raccoon damage.

Assuming that the average cost for proving raccoon damage will cost the same as the existing cost for providing deer, bear, goose and turkey damage assistance, and with existing administration and abatement services costing on the average \$981 per farmer, the cost for serving 2,389 farmers will be $2,389$ farmers \times $\$981$ per farmer = $\$2,343,608$

Total estimated costs for adding raccoons to the WDACP =

\$2,343,609	farmer services costs (appraisals, program education, mileage, etc.)
\$3,336,749	Raccoon Claims
\$5,680,358	Total County and Claims Costs

In addition to the County administration, abatement and claims costs there will be an increased need for DNR staff to audit and process this increase in claims. In 1997 the Legislature recognized the need and authorized an additional FTE to perform the increased department workload associated with statute changes made to the WDACP in 1997 Wisconsin Act 27. Currently there are 3 FTE's and 2 LTE involved in providing WDACP management. The current program involves management of \$3 to \$3.5 million program. Adding raccoons will more than double DNR program costs and activity. For these reasons it will be necessary to double DNR staff support for adding raccoons to the WDACP. It is assumed this funding would also be GPR. These costs would be as follows:

Additional DNR Staff Needs:

3 FTE's at \$46,200 per position	=	\$138,600
2 LTEs at \$12,480 per position	=	\$ 24,960
S-line support \$6,000/4 staff	=	\$ 24,000 (\$6,000 each first year for support and computer equip. support and \$3,000 annually thereafter)

Total DNR Administrative Costs = \$186,600

Cost Summary:

Raccoon damage claims:	\$3,336,749 ongoing
County admin. costs:	2,343,609 ongoing
DNR admin. costs:	174,600 ongoing and 3 FTE, plus \$24,000 one-time costs
Total ongoing costs:	\$5,854,958

FISCAL ESTIMATE WORKSHEET

1999 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect
DOA-2047 (R10/94)

ORIGINAL UPDATED
 CORRECTED SUPPLEMENTAL

LRB or Bill No./Adm. Rule No.	Amendment No.
AB 861, 99-3282/1	

Subject

Adding raccoon damage to commercial seedings and livestock to the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP)

I. One-Time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):

Costs of DNR Service and Equipment Line for additional staff the first year for computers \$24,000

II. Annualized Costs:	Annualized Fiscal impact on State funds from:	
A. State Costs by Category	Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$138,600	
(FTE Position Changes)	3.00	
State Operations - Other Costs	\$36,960	
Local Assistance	\$5,680,358	
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$5,855,918	
B. State Costs by Source of Funds	Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
GPR	\$5,855,918	
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S		
III. State Revenues:	Increased Rev.	Decreased Rev.
<small>Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)</small>		
GPR Taxes		
GPR Earned		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S		
TOTAL State Revenues		

NET ANNUALIZED IMPACT


STATE

LOCAL

NET CHANGE IN COSTS

\$5,855,918

NET CHANGE IN REVENUES

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