

Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 03s0134/1	Introduction Number ASA1-AB174
Subject	
All-terrain vehicles on property of department of natural resources, various changes	
Fiscal Effect	
State:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
Fund Sources Affected	
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.370 (1)(mu) and (3)(mu)	
Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794
Date	
8/18/2003	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 8/19/2003

LRB Number 03s0134/1	Introduction Number ASA1-AB174	Estimate Type Supplemental
Subject All-terrain vehicles on property of department of natural resources, various changes		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Bill Summary: This bill, as amended by AA 1 would allow anyone who is 70 or older, or the holder of a Class A or Class B disabled hunting permit to operate all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) on land under ownership or control of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or on any roadway through that land for the purpose of hunting and retrieving game. Current law allows holders of a Class A or Class B permit to operate ATVs or other motorized vehicles on specified roadways or trails on DNR lands to access areas open to public hunting. The original bill, AB 174, would have extended the privilege of ATV use on Department properties to anyone who is 65 or older. This amendment also limits ATV use to deer, elk and bear hunting seasons. The original bill would have allowed use throughout the year.

Fiscal Estimate: This bill, as amended, would significantly expand the number and the use of ATV's on Department property and potentially on lands under easement by DNR. Under this bill ATVs could be used while legally hunting and retrieving deer, elk and bear. In addition ATVs would not be restricted to trails and could be operated anywhere on DNR lands that are open for hunting. This extensive ATV use throughout properties would have the potential to damage areas of critical wildlife habitat or disrupt sensitive species. ATV use would occur in areas that are not capable of holding up to this type of use because of on site conditions such as unstable soils, wet areas, dikes and steep slopes, causing erosion and damage to properties. The resulting damage would require an expensive ongoing maintenance program to repair and restore areas not designed for this type of use. Properties such as state natural areas, parks, streambank protection areas and other sensitive habitats that are not currently open to ATV use would be opened with no use restrictions.

Since this bill, as amended, also would allow those 70 and older to operate ATVs anywhere on state properties for hunting, it is expected that ATV use on DNR properties would significantly increase as a result. Under the original bill, it is estimated there are about 70,000 resident and nonresident hunters age 65 or older that would be able to operate ATVs on DNR lands under provisions of this bill. Under the amended bill, changing the age for the privilege of using ATVs on DNR lands from 65 or older

to 70 or older, it is estimated there are about 30,000 resident and nonresident hunters age 65 or older that would be able to operate ATVs on DNR lands under the provisions of this bill.

Implementation of this bill would require a substantial increase in enforcement efforts to monitor those using ATVs on the properties and to respond to inquiries regarding that use. There are approximately 600 state properties that would be affected by the provisions in this bill. Additional Law Enforcement and Property Management efforts are estimated to be 7 hours per property, or approximately 4,200 hours total (2.0 FTE). At an estimated cost of \$50,000 per FTE in salary in fringe, the total FTE costs is estimated to be \$100,000. This fiscal estimate remains similar for the amended bill, because it is based on the number of properties affected, and not the numbers of hunters eligible to use ATVs on DNR lands under the bill.

One-time costs of up to \$500,000 would be expended to post all state properties to notify users of the ATV use opportunities.

Management costs would also be incurred to modify property access control gates to allow this ATV access. Property access gates would need to be either left open or modified to accommodate ATV use. No cost has been estimated for modification of gates although it could be significant. It is important to note that leaving access gates open could cause abuse and damage of properties by those not authorized to access the property by motorized vehicles.

This bill may jeopardize federal wildlife restoration funding to Wisconsin which is approximately \$6-7 million

dollars annually. Federal funding is used for management and maintenance of wildlife properties. Under federal funding restrictions no uses may be allowed that interfere with the primary purpose for which the property was acquired and managed. Since state wildlife areas are managed for hunting and protection of wildlife habitat, widespread ATV use may conflict with that purpose.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

ATV registrations are increasing significantly each year and the population is aging at the same time. Under the provisions of this bill the numbers of those 65 and older using ATV's on DNR properties will expand. For the long term this could require substantial maintenance costs.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2003 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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LRB Number 03s0134/1		Introduction Number ASA1-AB174	
Subject			
All-terrain vehicles on property of department of natural resources, various changes			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
Up to \$500,000 for property posting and gate modification			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$		-100,000
(FTE Position Changes)			(-2.0 FTE)
State Operations - Other Costs			
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$		-\$100,000
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			-100,000
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes	\$		\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues	\$		\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$-100,000	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	8/18/2003