

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 6/30/2005

LRB Number	05-0930/1	Introduction Number	AB-494	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Wetlands compliance exemptions for Smart Growth areas					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Bill Summary:

This bill creates an exemption from the DNR certification process for filling certain wetlands. The DNR certification would not be required if the county in which the wetland is located determines the wetland area has negligible functional values, 1.5 acres of new wetland is created for each acre filled, and the activity is located in an area that has adopted a "Smart Growth" statute. Current law prohibits filling certain wetlands without a DNR certification that the action will meet all applicable state water quality standards.

Fiscal Impact:

The state fiscal impact is a revenue loss of \$375,000 annually. The assumptions behind this estimate follow.

1. 750 wetland fill proposals per year (number over last five years has ranged from 557 to 826).
2. DNR staff must respond to the same number of wetland fill requests with this exemption in place, either as requested by local government staff for making determinations, by property owners seeking advice on how to meet standards, or by U.S. EPA to determine whether local standards are equivalent to state water quality standards. Time to respond to requests averages 12 hours (field investigation, plan review, meeting or conference call).
3. Lost state revenue equals 750 applications times current \$500 permit review fee, assuming that all Wisconsin communities eventually have Smart Growth plans.

There will also be a fiscal impact on local units of government, but this impact cannot be estimated. Local government costs result from the time required to determine whether wetland functions are negligible and to review mitigation proposals. Impacts will vary widely across communities based on the local extent of wetlands and the nature of the Smart Growth plan.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2005 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Subject			
Wetlands compliance exemptions for Smart Growth areas			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes		\$	
(FTE Position Changes)			
State Operations - Other Costs			
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category		\$	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
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			-375,000
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues		\$	\$-375,000
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$-375,000	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
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		Date	
		6/30/2005	