



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Assembly Bill 942

Assembly Amendment 1

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Current law prohibits a person from operating a motor vehicle in or on any navigable water or the exposed bed of a navigable water unless an exception applies. Current exceptions include agricultural activities and activities for which a permit is issued.

Assembly Bill 942 creates an additional exemption which authorizes the operation of a motor vehicle on the exposed beds of outlying waters (Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay, Sawyer's Harbor, and the Fox River from its mouth up to the dam at De Pere) for the purpose of mowing or applying herbicide for the purpose of controlling *Phragmites australis*. The operation must occur only on the exposed bed of the outlying water and only when the exposed bed is dry; occur between August 1 of a given year and end on March 15 of the following year; and the mowing or application of herbicide interferes with or destroys native species only to the degree that is necessary to control invasive species *Phragmites australis*.

Assembly Amendment 1 removes the condition that the operation must occur only when the exposed bed is dry and specifies that the operation must begin on July 1 instead of August 1.

Legislative History

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Soletski on April 9, 2010. On April 13, 2010, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by the same vote.

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