

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-3450/1	Introduction Number SB-615
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Description
 report on access to public lands owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs	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	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<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)(jr); (1)(mu); (2)(jr); and (8)(mu)

Agency/Prepared By DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Authorized Signature Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Date 11/8/2021
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 11/8/2021

LRB Number	21-3450/1	Introduction Number	SB-615	Estimate Type	Original
Description report on access to public lands owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill requires the department to prepare a report that identifies public access opportunities on all lands owned or managed by DNR, land acquired under the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson stewardship program, and open managed forest lands. The department must submit its report to the legislature no later than January 31, 2022.

Fiscal Effect

I. Division of Forestry

A. Assumptions & Background Information

1. The department does not have the authority to require landowners who are managed forest law (MFL) enrollees to respond to provide the number and type of access points for each property and the total miles of roads that are open or closed, including any seasonal restrictions to motorized vehicular access by the public. The department would need additional authority to require landowners to provide this information.

2. The department assumes that the MFL component of the report will be compiled by existing staff, shifting capacity from core work, since the deadline established in the bill does not allow for enough time to recruit, hire, and train new limited term employees (LTEs) to perform the work.

B. Revenue

No revenue impacts are anticipated.

C. Costs

The Division of Forestry would incur estimated one-time costs of \$53,800 to comply with the MFL reporting requirements prescribed in the bill, which are itemized below. The largest costs are associated with one LTE processing the information provided by the landowners. Estimating each questionnaire would take ~15 minutes to process, 30 hours would also be needed to compile the list of approximately 5,500 landowners with open MFL enrollments, create a questionnaire for landowners to provide information requested for the report, and compile/summarize the information returned.

1. LTE costs: data entry of MFL Landowners responses: \$45,700
2. FTE costs: mailing list and legislative report preparation: \$1,600
3. Printing costs: \$2,300
4. Postage costs: \$4,200
5. Total one-time costs: \$53,800

II. Division of Internal Services, Bureau of Facilities & Lands

A. Assumptions & Background Information

1. The department assumes some requirements prescribed in the bill will be met through existing statutory requirements while other requirements will not.

a. The bill requires the department to "verify ... lands acquired" by the department, local units of government, and non-profit conservation organizations are open for public access as required under s. 23.09165. Lacking a clear definition of "verify" will require the department to conduct site visits and inspections. Department work effort required to comply with the deadline provided in this bill, while indeterminate, will be significant and will

require real estate staff to suspend core duties assisting Wisconsin businesses, citizens, and landowners seeking assistance with property boundary issues, easements, leasing, sales and sharecropping agreements.

b. Bill provisions that would be covered by existing statutory requirements include identification of access points for each property and total miles of roads open or closed, including any seasonal restrictions, to motorized vehicular access by the public. These are covered by the Wisconsin Public Lands Atlas required for print-publication and online Internet applications, per s. 23.09165.

2. The department interprets the wording of the bill to mean that it would not be required to identify access points or miles of recreational trails (i.e., for ATV, UTV, snowmobiles, etc.).

B. Revenue

No revenue impacts are anticipated.

C. Costs

As previously explained in the assumptions, the cost to verify open lands under 23.09165 is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2021 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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Description report on access to public lands owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources		
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): Forestry: One-time costs of \$53,800 to comply with MFL reporting requirements.		
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		
SEG/SEG-S		
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT		
	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By Authorized Signature Date		
DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	11/8/2021