
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Assembly Bill 909

Assembly Amendment 1

BACKGROUND

The Managed Forest Land (MFL) program is the primary forest tax law program in Wisconsin. In exchange for following a written forest management plan and program requirements, MFL landowners pay MFL program rates for property enrolled in the program instead of property taxes. The program is administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

ASSEMBLY BILL 909

Assembly Bill 909 makes several changes to the law relating to the MFL program. These changes include:

- Allowing the 20 acre minimum acreage eligibility requirement to be satisfied by enrolling two 10 acre parcels not contiguous to each other on a tract of land under the same ownership;
- Authorizing buildings used exclusively for storage to be on MFL land;
- Designating additional parcels of any size as part of an owner's MFL enrollment order under certain conditions;
- Clarifying the law with respect to voluntary withdrawals of land between one and five acres; and
- Clarifying the law regarding leasing of MFL land.

As relevant to Assembly Amendment 1, the bill also creates a new provision that specifically prohibits cutting timber on MFL land contrary to an approved management plan or an approved cutting notice.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 removes the provision in the bill that specifically prohibits cutting timber on MFL land contrary to an approved management plan or an approved cutting notice. Current law prohibitions and penalties for failing to file a required cutting notice or cutting report, filing a false cutting report, and cutting timber in violation of [s. 77.86, Stats.](#), are not changed by the bill or the amendment.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Mursau offered Assembly Amendment 1 on February 8, 2022. On February 9, 2022, the Assembly Committee on Forestry, Parks and Outdoor Recreation recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 14; Noes 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 2.

REL:ksm