

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2009 Wisconsin Act 365 [2009 Assembly Bill 580]

Changes to the Managed Forest Law Program

Act 365 makes various changes to the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). These changes include providing a process for an MFL owner to receive a withdrawal tax estimate from the Department of Revenue, eliminating the creation of stumpage values through the administrative rule-making process, providing that the penalties and procedures that apply to a person who files a false report also apply to a person who fails to file a cutting report, and technical changes related to administering the program. Act 365 also makes June 1 the uniform application deadline for MFL enrollment applications and MFL renewal applications.

In addition, Act 365 provides specified disclosure requirements regarding the sale of real property that is subject to an MFL order. Among other requirements, Act 365 requires that if real property, or any portion of the real property, is being sold will, after the sale, continue to be subject to an MFL order, the owner must provide written disclosure, no later than 10 days after the acceptance of the contract of sale or option contract, that the property will continue to be subject to the MFL order after the property is transferred.

Effective date: The provisions of Act 365 which create a process for an MFL owner to receive a withdrawal tax estimate from the Department of Revenue take effect on September 1, 2010. The real estate disclosure provisions in Act 365 take effect on January 1, 2011. Provisions in Act 365 regarding MFL applications and management plans take effect on June 1, 2011. The remaining provisions in the Act take effect on May 20, 2010.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/.