



Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet



2011 TECHNICAL BILL FACT SHEET DNR Policy Technical Bill (11-0174)

It is needed because

This bill is the department's annual technical bill which contains non-controversial technical changes that clarify or update current statutes.

Overview

Section 1; SNA Acquisition Methods

- Will allow for the acquisition of state Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) by exchange. Currently, SNAs may only be acquired by gift, lease, easement, or purchase. Other units established by the state Outdoor Recreation Act (ORA) may also be acquired through exchanging land of equal value with another public or private entity. *M.S. 84.033*

Section 2; Obsolete SNA Master Plan Requirement

- Removes a reference in M.S. 84.035 to a former requirement in M.S. 86A.09. In 2010 SNAs were exempted from the master plan requirement but it is still referred to in M.S. 86A.09. This drops the obsolete reference, but retains the other requirements in M.S. 84.035. *M.S. 84.035*

Section 3; Online ATV Safety Training

- Provides the authority for an online option for ATV safety training courses and directs the commissioner to set the course fees based on what it costs to provide the service. It is anticipated that an online course option will be available in the next year or two. *M.S. 84.925.1*

Section 4; Restricted Use of ATV/OHM Trails

- Prohibits the use of ATV and OHM trails by other vehicles throughout the year. Current law only prohibits the use of other vehicles from December 1 through April 1 – which is not the prime time for use of ATV/OHM trails. *M.S. 85.018.5(b)*

Section 5; Regional Trails

- Requires recipients of Regional Trail Grants to provide a non-state cash match of at least 25%, instead of 50%. This is consistent with Legacy grants and many other grants DNR administers. *M.S. 85.019.4 (b)*

Section 6; Trail Connections

- Requires recipients of Local Grant Program to provide a non-state cash match of at least 25%, instead of 50%. This is consistent with Legacy grants and many other grants DNR administers. *M.S. 85.019.4 (c)*

Sections 7 & 8; Snowmobile Water-Cross Permits

- Clarifies that practice and event permits are issued by the local Sheriff's office. Repeals conservation officer permits for practice on unsafe ice that has been closed to motor vehicles by the local Sheriff. Sheriff's offices currently issue permits that allow some control of days and hours of practices sessions, exempt watercraft registration and some equipment requirements, and generally require appropriate liability insurance. *M.S. 86B.106(b); 86B.121(a)*

Section 9; Mineral Coordinating Committee Membership

- Will modify the membership of the Mineral Coordinating Committee to include the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (who replaces the deputy commissioner of the MPCA) and an individual representing labor appointed by the governor for a four-year term (who replaces United Steelworkers of America director as this representative has not been participating). *M.S. 93.0015.1*

**Section 10; Mineral Coordinating Committee
Term**

- Will extend the term of the Mineral Coordinating Committee another 5 years, to 2016. (Amends M.S. 93.0015.3)

Section 11; Repealer, Blakely State Wayside

- Repeals the establishment of the Blakely State Wayside which is currently managed by the DNR, Division of Parks and Trails. Management will be transferred to the Division of Fish and Wildlife as part of the Nye WMA which lies adjacent to this parcel and is subject to future trail needs as part of the Minnesota Valley Trail and SRA. (Repeals M.S. 85.013.2(b))

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