



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

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TO: Natural Resources Commission
Department of Natural Resources Management Team

FROM: Trevor VanDyke, Director, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

HB 4082 – Require Notification of Department Prescribed Burns – Rep. Whiteford

This bill seeks to amend section 51501 and add section 51503c of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require 24 hour notice to a township supervisor and primary point of emergency contact of prescribed burns.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4095 – Provide First Preference to Veterans in Hunting Lotteries – Rep. Kosowski

This bill seeks to amend section 43536 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by adding section 43536b to provide any veteran who submits an application for a license to take game through a lottery, first preference in that lottery. This bill also provides a specific definition for a “veteran” as used in this added section.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

SB 0076 – Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) 2017 – Sen. Booher

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Natural Resources Trust Fund Board, this bill would appropriate \$47.6 million from the MNRTF for 27 acquisition projects (approximately \$27.7 million) and 87 development projects (approximately \$19.9 million). Total matching funds of \$40.1 million result in total project costs of \$87.7 million.

- This bill is before the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

SB 118 – Trail Sponsor and Limited Liability – Sen. Hansen

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by amending sections 72108 and 73301 and adding section 73302 to allow the Department to become a rail-trail sponsor and to expand liability coverage to individuals conducting work on Department trails and other lands.

- The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Outdoor Recreation and Tourism.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

SB 141 – Department of Natural Resources Budget – Sen. Green

This bill seeks to make appropriations for the Department of Natural Resources for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

- This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

If you would like to learn more about these and other bills, you can access the Michigan Legislature website at www.legislature.mi.gov.