

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill would require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop criteria, in cooperation with interested parties, for entities that will be eligible for a new exception from fire permitting requirements for prescribed burns. The new exception proposed in this bill becomes effective July 1, 2017.

Section

- 1 Prescribed burn.** Adds § 88.01, subd. 28. Provides a definition of “prescribed burn” for purposes of the exemptions in the next sections to mean a fire that is intentionally ignited and managed by an entity meeting requirements established by the commissioner of natural resources.
Provides an effective date of July 1, 2017.
- 2 General authority.** Amends § 88.10, subd. 1. Excludes “prescribed burns” from the duties of forest officers that pertain to preventing and extinguishing wildfires.
Provides an effective date of July 1, 2017.
- 3 Exceptions.** Amends § 88.16, subd. 2. Excludes prescribed burns from DNR permitting requirements provided the DNR is notified of the burn in advance.
Provides an effective date of July 1, 2017.
- 4 Prescribed burn requirements.** Requires the DNR, in cooperation with prescribed burning professionals and others, to develop criteria for certifying entities to conduct a prescribed burn without a permit. Requires the DNR to submit a report back to the legislature with recommendations on any legislative changes necessary by January 15, 2017.