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Overview

This bill establishes requirements for a transportation permit issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to an aquatic farm producing shrimp or other saltwater aquatic life. These requirements would differ from those that apply to aquatic farms that produce freshwater species. The bill would also provide that saltwater aquatic farms and processing facilities are agricultural operations for purposes of any permit issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Section

- 1 **Aquaculture permits; rules.** Requires MPCA to classify saltwater aquatic farms and facilities that process saltwater aquatic life as agricultural operations for purposes of any construction, discharge, or other permit issued by the agency.
- 2 **Saltwater aquaculture.** Defines this term for purposes of the transportation and importation permit requirements established in section 5.
- 3 **Saltwater aquatic farm.** Defines this term for purposes of the MPCA permit language in section 1 and the transportation and importation permit requirements established in section 5.
- 4 **Saltwater aquatic life.** Defines this term for purposes of the MPCA permit language in section 1 and the transportation and importation requirements established in section 5.
- 5 **Transportation or importation of saltwater aquatic life; quarantine requirement.**

Section

Subd. 1. Purpose. Establishes a legislative finding that it is in the public interest to increase private saltwater aquaculture under the coordination of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Subd. 2. Transportation permit. Provides that mandatory transportation and importation permits for saltwater aquatic life are issued by the DNR and governed by this section. Establishes permit requirements.

Subd. 3. Exemptions. Establishes exemptions for the permit requirement established in subdivision 2 above.