

Subject Lorax Act  
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## Overview

This bill would establish the “Lorax Act” which would require no net loss of forest land in the state.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>No net loss of forest.</b></p> <p><b>Subd. 1. Definitions.</b> Defines “deforest” and “forest land” for the purposes of the new no net loss of forest requirements.</p> <p><b>Subd. 2. Findings; public interest.</b> Establishes legislative findings that Minnesota’s forests are important to comprehensive forest and water management and lists a number of public values of the forests.</p> <p><b>Subd. 3. No net loss.</b> Prohibits a person from deforesting forest land unless the forest land is replaced with forest land of equal or greater public value under a replacement plan approved by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).</p> <p><b>Subd. 4. Forest land replacement plans.</b> Requires the DNR to approve forest land replacement plans, establishes principles and benefits that must be considered in the plans, and requirements for the plans, including requiring forest land be replaced in a ratio of one acre of forest land for every one acre of land deforested.</p> <p><b>Subd. 5. Forest land replacement siting.</b> Requires forest land to be replaced within the following priority order: same minor watershed; watershed; basin; or outside the basin.</p> <p><b>Subd. 6. Exceptions.</b> Establishes an exemption from the forest replacement requirements if the deforestation occurs as part of a conservation project approved by the commissioner.</p> |
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Section	Description
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**Subd. 7. Citation.** States that the section may be cited as the “Lorax Act.”

**2 Appropriation.**

Appropriates an unspecified amount of money from the general fund to the DNR to implement the Lorax Act.



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