
**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee**

HB 2170

Brief Description: Expanding revenue generation and economic opportunities from natural climate solutions and ecosystem services.

Sponsors: Representatives Reeves, Parshley, Ryu, Ramel, Doglio, Zahn, Wylie, Morgan, Scott, Fosse and Pollet; by request of Department of Natural Resources.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes contracts for ecosystem service projects on Department of Natural Resources lands.

Hearing Date: 1/28/26

Staff: Lily Smith (786-7175).

Background:

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages 5.6 million acres of state-owned public lands, which includes forestlands, trust lands and aquatic lands. Revenue from the sale of valuable materials on state forestlands and trust lands supports public schools, universities, and other institutions, and services in many counties. Revenue from the sale of valuable materials on state-owned aquatic lands supports the ownership, enhancement of, and access to aquatic lands for public purposes as well as fish and game projects.

The Board of Natural Resources (Board) sets policies to guide how the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages the state's lands and resources.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The DNR may enter into contracts for payment for ecosystem services projects on all public lands it manages to generate revenue through ecosystem services that benefit humans or enhance social welfare. Ecosystem services are benefits that the public enjoys as a result of natural processes and biodiversity, and include carbon sequestration and storage, air and water filtration, climate stabilization, and disturbance mitigation.

The DNR may directly offer ecosystem services credits for sale and enter into contracts with ecosystem services project developers or brokers, including third-party ecosystem services project developers or brokers. The Board must approve and has certain oversight responsibilities over ecosystem service credit sales and contracts.

Contracts for ecosystem services projects may last for up to 125 years. Proceeds from contracts must be deposited into the appropriate account in the State Treasury and distributed in the same manner as money derived from the sale of valuable materials under current law.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.