

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to timber management; creating
3 s. 253.036, F.S.; requiring the Division of
4 Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and
5 Consumer Services, or other qualified
6 professional forester, to assess the
7 feasibility of managing timber in land
8 management plans; providing legislative intent;
9 providing for the reimbursement of management
10 services performed by the division; amending s.
11 259.035, F.S.; requiring the Land Acquisition
12 and Management Advisory Council to consider
13 timber management as a feasible multiple-use
14 strategy; amending s. 373.591, F.S.; specifying
15 circumstances under which the land managing
16 agency must provide an explanation to the
17 management review team concerning the
18 management of lands; amending s. 589.04, F.S.;
19 directing the Division of Forestry to begin
20 certain forestation programs on certain lands;
21 providing appropriations; providing an
22 effective date.

23
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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26 Section 1. Section 253.036, Florida Statutes, is
27 created to read:

28 253.036 Forest management.--

29 (1) All land management plans described in s.
30 253.034(5) which are prepared for parcels larger than 1,000
31 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential

1 of the parcel, which analysis shall include the potential of
2 the parcel to generate revenues to enhance the management of
3 the parcel. The lead agency shall prepare the analysis, which
4 shall contain a component or section prepared by a qualified
5 professional forester which assesses the feasibility of
6 managing timber resources on the parcel for resource
7 conservation and revenue generation purposes through a
8 stewardship ethic that embraces sustainable forest management
9 practices if the lead management agency determines that the
10 timber resource management is not in conflict with the primary
11 management objectives of the parcel. For purposes of this
12 section, practicing sustainable forest management means
13 meeting the needs of the present without compromising the
14 ability of future generations to meet their own needs by
15 practicing a land stewardship ethic which integrates the
16 reforestation, managing, growing, nurturing, and harvesting of
17 trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air
18 and water quality, wildlife and fish habitat, and aesthetics.
19 The Legislature intends that each lead management agency,
20 whenever practicable and cost effective, use the services of
21 the Division of Forestry of the Florida Department of
22 Agriculture and Consumer Services or other qualified private
23 sector professional forester in completing such feasibility
24 assessments and implementing timber resource management. The
25 Legislature further intends that the lead management agency
26 develop a memorandum of agreement with the Division of
27 Forestry to provide for full reimbursement for any services
28 provided for the feasibility assessments or timber resource
29 management. All additional revenues generated through
30 multiple-use management or compatible secondary use management
31 shall be returned to the lead agency responsible for such

1 management and shall be used to pay for management activities
2 on all conservation, preservation, and recreation lands under
3 the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, such revenue shall be
4 segregated in an agency trust fund and shall remain available
5 to the agency in subsequent fiscal years to support land
6 management appropriations.

7 Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section
8 259.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

9 259.035 Advisory council; powers and duties.--

10 (2)

11 (d) Additionally, the council shall provide assistance
12 to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust
13 Fund in reviewing the recommendations and plans for
14 state-owned lands required by s. 253.034. The council shall,
15 in reviewing the recommendations and plans for state-owned
16 lands required by s. 253.034, consider the optimization of
17 multiple-use strategies to accomplish the provisions of s.
18 253.034 and specifically consider the management of the timber
19 as a feasible multiple-use strategy in conformance with a
20 timber resource management component prepared by the Division
21 of Forestry or other qualified professional forester.

22 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 373.591, Florida
23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24 373.591 Management review teams.--

25 (4) If the land management review team finds that the
26 lands reviewed are not being managed in accordance with their
27 management plan, prepared in a manner and form prescribed by
28 the governing board of the district and otherwise meeting the
29 timber resource management requirements of s. 253.036, the
30 land managing agency shall provide a written explanation to
31 the management review team.

1 Section 4. Subsection (4) is added to section 589.04,
2 Florida Statutes, to read:

3 589.04 Duties of division.--

4 (4) The Division of Forestry shall begin immediately
5 an aggressive program to reforest and afforest, with
6 appropriate tree species, lands over which the division has
7 forest resource management responsibility.

8 Section 5. There is hereby appropriated to the
9 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from the
10 Incidental Trust Fund for fiscal year 1998-1999, four
11 positions and \$159,461, to carry out the provisions of the
12 bill. In addition, \$2,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the
13 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from the
14 General Revenue Fund for fiscal year 1998-1999 for
15 reforestation activities authorized in this bill.

16 Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
17 law.