

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 833

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ROSS.

1854H.021

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To amend chapter 254, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to state forestry.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 254, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 254.310 and 254.315, to read as follows:

**254.310. 1. For purposes of this section, the term “clear cutting” shall mean the felling of most or all of the trees in a tract of forest.**

**2. The department of conservation, conservation commission, and the state forester shall manage state-owned forest land for current and future generations and shall eliminate the practice of clear cutting on state-owned forest land.**

**254.315. 1. There is hereby established the “Forestry Management Consortium”, to review and prescribe management plans for each tract of state-owned forest land, which shall consist of representation from the following:**

**(1) The Missouri Forest Products Association;**

**(2) The Missouri Consulting Foresters Association;**

**(3) The University of Missouri-Columbia School of Natural Resources; and**

**(4) The United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service North Central Research Station.**

**2. The forestry management consortium shall develop criteria to assess the condition and health of each tract of state-owned forest land in the state. Using the criteria developed by the forestry management consortium, the department of conservation shall assess each tract of state-owned forest land in the state.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

13           **3. The forestry management consortium shall develop and prescribe a management**  
14 **plan for each tract of state-owned forest land to maximize the health and timber**  
15 **production of such land. Each management plan shall be for a period of twenty years.**

16           **4. The department of conservation shall implement each management plan**  
17 **developed and approved by the forestry management consortium without variance. If the**  
18 **department of conservation determines that a management plan needs to be revised prior**  
19 **to the twenty-year period expiring, it may request the consortium to review and revise the**  
20 **plan.**

21           **5. All necessary expenses incurred by the forestry management consortium shall**  
22 **be paid for by the department of conservation.**

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