

3. Any credits created by the Fund may not be sold to compensate for additional forest impacts.

(iii) 1. The Department shall accomplish the reforestation for which money is deposited in the Fund within 1 year or two growing seasons after project completion, as appropriate.

2. Money deposited in the Fund under subsection (d) of this section shall remain in the Fund for a period of 1 year or two growing seasons, and at the end of that time period, any portion that is not used to meet the reforestation requirements shall be returned to the constructing agency.

DRAFTER'S NOTE:

Chs. 472 and 550, of the Acts of 2004, both amended § 5-103(e)(7)(i) of the Natural Resources Article. The merger of Chs. 472 and 550 by the publisher in the 2004 Supplement of the Natural Resources Article gives effect to both enactments and is validated by this Act.

5-209.

(b) The Secretary shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding equipment standards and the operation of off-road vehicles by type, as defined in § 10-410(d) of this article, on property owned or controlled by the Department. [He] THE SECRETARY shall conduct appropriate studies and, by January 1, 1975 [he shall designate], DESIGNATE and identify areas for use by the general public for operation of motorcycles, snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles on that property exclusive of wildlife management areas or State fisheries management areas to the extent such use is compatible with the character and established uses of property controlled by the Department. Prior to March 31, 1976, every off-road vehicle to be used on Department [of Natural Resources] lands shall be registered and provided suitable identification by the Department [of Natural Resources], which shall charge an annual uniform fee for all registrants, revenues derived from which shall be used to acquire and maintain areas for off-road vehicle use by the general public. Any investment earnings derived from the revenues shall be credited to the General Fund of the State. Revenues from the fee are not subject to § 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article. Revenues may be used for administrative costs calculated in accordance with § 1-103(b)(2) of this article. Any property to be acquired or designated for off-road vehicle use shall be subject to a public hearing held in the county or counties wherein the property is situated. However, no off-road vehicle may be permitted where its operation will damage the wildland character of the property or where the noise from its operation will be audible at or interfere with the use of a picnic or camping area open to public use.

DRAFTER'S NOTE:

Error: Stylistic errors and omitted comma in § 5-209(b) of the Natural Resources Article.

Occurred: Ch. 4, First Special Session, Acts of 1973; Ch. 841, Acts of 1974.