

~~(H) MONEYS PAID TO A LANDOWNER UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE PAID FROM THE NONTIDAL WETLAND COMPENSATION FUND. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COORDINATE COST SHARING ASSISTANCE PAID FROM THE FUND UNDER THIS SECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT.~~

~~(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT EXPEND MORE THAN \$100,000 EACH YEAR FROM THE NONTIDAL WETLAND COMPENSATION FUND FOR THE COST SHARING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION.~~

(III) MONEYS PAID TO A LANDOWNER UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE PAID FROM THE WETLANDS COMPENSATION FUND, THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION FUND, OR FEDERAL FUNDS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COORDINATE COST SHARING ASSISTANCE PAID FROM THE FUNDS UNDER THIS SECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

(IV) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE VERIFICATION OF A LANDOWNER'S EXPENSES BEFORE THE LANDOWNER MAY RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE COST SHARING PROGRAM.

~~(3) (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT PAY MORE THAN \$12,000 EACH YEAR TO A SINGLE LANDOWNER, OR TO A PERSON IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF THE LANDOWNER, OR TO AN ENTITY IN WHICH THE LANDOWNER HAS A SUBSTANTIAL OWNERSHIP INTEREST, UNDER THE COST SHARING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION.~~

~~(4) (3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT EXPEND MORE THAN \$60 PER ACRE PER YEAR FOR ANY COST SHARING PROJECT UNDER THIS SECTION.~~

(4) IN LIEU OF CASH PAYMENTS TO LANDOWNERS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBSTITUTE IN-KIND SERVICES OF EQUAL VALUE.

~~(5) (4) (5) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH PRIORITIES TO TARGET COST SHARING ASSISTANCE TO WETLANDS RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS WITH THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVING WILDLIFE HABITAT AND WETLANDS FUNCTIONS IN AREAS INCLUDING THOSE WHERE:~~

(I) PHRAGMITES THREATEN RARE OR ENDANGERED WILDLIFE OR PLANTS;

(II) THE HIGHEST DIVERSITY AND ABUNDANCE OF NATIVE PLANTS, WILDLIFE, OR FISH EXIST; AND

(III) PHRAGMITES CAN BE EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED.

8-2103.

(a) (1) The Department shall study ~~the feasibility of establishing a~~ AND ANALYZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE cost sharing program in the Department ~~to assist~~ THAT ASSISTS landowners in paying for the cost of the management and control of the spread of phragmites.