

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1718

**DATE:** March 3, 2004

**Version:** As introduced

**Authors:** Hackbarth

**Subject:** Changes in off-highway vehicle laws

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### Overview

This bill amends various statutes enacted recently and authorizes a new grant program.

#### Section

- 1 Restrictions on operation.** Clarifies that off-highway vehicles may not be operated on "unfrozen" wetland types 3, 4, and 5, and removes type 8 from this restriction.
- 2 Off-highway vehicle use of state lands restricted.** Clarifies that the restriction for off-highway vehicle use on state lands does not apply to forest land classified as managed.
- 3 Rulemaking exemptions.** Contains a rulemaking exemption for designation by the DNR of off-highway vehicle trails.
- 4 Off-highway vehicle safety and conservation grant program.** Authorizes an off-highway vehicle safety and conservation grant program for statewide off-highway organizations that have been in existence for at least five years and who promote safe and legal operation. Stipulates the use and purpose of the grants to be awarded.
- 5 Application; issuance; reports.** Depicts how an off-highway motorcycle registration decal must be affixed. Clarifies that a decal is not required if operating the vehicle on private land, or while competing in a competition event.
- 6 All-terrain vehicles.** Removes from the definition and registration requirements all-terrain vehicles operated by utility companies for utility work.
- 7 Program established.** Allows all-terrain vehicle safety and training instructors to charge an additional \$5 per person for class materials.
- 8 Passengers.** Allows an all-terrain vehicle driver over 18 to carry one over-18 passenger.

**Section**

- 9**        **Operation generally.** Clarifies a statute because of authorization in section 8.
- 10**        **Regulations by political subdivisions.** Adds a minimum-maintenance road under highway statutes, Minnesota Statutes, section 160.095, for shoulder or inside bank operation by all-terrain vehicles if approved by county ordinance.
- 11**        **Forrest classification status review.** Technical because of section 2.
- 12**        **Determination of tax allocation; report to legislature.** Requires a joint agency determination of the unrefunded gas tax used by all-terrain vehicles and a report to the legislature on the amount by March 1, 2005.
- 13**        **Repealer.** Repeals section 84.901, pertaining to the existing off-highway vehicle safety and conservation program that is being replaced by section 4 of this bill.