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Overview

This bill modifies aspects of the regulatory structure for mowing and haying in public road rights-of-way. In particular, it (1) allows mowing by private individuals throughout the year instead of only during the month of August; (2) prevents MnDOT from requiring a permit or setting other conditions on mowing trunk highway rights-of-way, except under limited circumstances; and (3) allows landowners or occupants of land that adjoins a trunk highway to mow or hay that abutting road right-of-way, to designate someone else who can mow or hay, or to indicate that no mowing or haying can occur.

Section

1 Mowing and haying. Amends dates and scope of authority for mowing and haying in public road ditches.

Subd. 1. General limitation for road authorities. Makes a technical change.

Subd. 2. Dates of mowing. Narrows a prohibition on mowing road rights-of-way outside the month of August so that it only applies to road authorities (i.e., MnDOT, counties, cities, and towns). The effect of the change is that private individuals and entities are authorized to mow year round. Makes technical changes to clarify the dates and conditions when a road authority can mow and makes a clarifying change on mowing and haying in trunk highway rights-of-way.

Subd. 3. Trunk highways. Prohibits MnDOT from establishing a permit process or other requirements for a person who performs mowing or haying within trunk highway rights-of-way. Permits a landowner or occupant adjacent to a trunk highway to mow or

Section

hay that adjacent right-of-way strip, designate someone else who can mow or hay, or notify MnDOT that no mowing or haying is to be performed. MnDOT can restrict mowing or haying under some circumstances, namely on some controlled-access highways, within the limits of construction or maintenance projects, and to control some noxious weeds.

Subd. 4. Management practices. Makes a clarifying change.