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**TITLE 312 NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**Economic Impact Statement**  
LSA Document #07-542  
(Administrative Cause No. 07-031T)

**[IC 4-22-2.1-5](#) Statement Concerning Rules Affecting Small Businesses**

**Estimated Number of Small Businesses Subject to this Rule:**

The amendment is essentially a housekeeping measure intended to provide better consistency with statute. The Department of Natural Resources currently assesses an application fee of \$15 for a duplicate registration certificate for off-road vehicles and snowmobiles. The proposed rule codifies this current practice.

The Department processes applications for duplicate certificate of registration and certificate change of address. The Department's accounting system does not distinguish between these two applications. In the first three quarters of fiscal year 2006 – 2007, 16 applications for duplicate certificates and changes of address were received. It can be extrapolated that not more than 20 applications combined would be received in any given fiscal year.

For the purpose of this analysis, a distinction is not made whether the applications received in the first three quarters were filed by a small business or by an individual. Assuming that all applications were made by small business for a duplicate certificate, it is estimated that not more than 20 small businesses would be subject to this rule.

**Estimated Average Annual Reporting, Record Keeping, and Other Administrative Costs Small Businesses Will Incur for Compliance:**

The Department estimates that there will be no administrative costs to small businesses as a result of compliance with this rule amendment, and the proposed rule would not result in any annual reporting or record keeping. The Department of Natural Resources currently assesses an application fee of \$15 for a duplicate registration certificate for off-road vehicles and snowmobiles. The proposed rule codifies current practice.

**Estimated Total Annual Economic Impact on Small Businesses to Comply:**

The Department conservatively estimates that there would be a total annual economic impact on small businesses of less than \$300 as a result of this proposed rule.

**Justification Statement of Requirement or Cost:**

A certificate of registration must accompany an operator of an off-road vehicle or snowmobile while the vehicle is being operated. ([IC 14-16-1-9\(c\)](#)). If an owner loses the original certificate of registration of the vehicle or the certificate becomes mutilated or illegible, the owner would need to seek application for a duplicate certificate in order to continue to operate that vehicle in compliance with statute.

The revenues obtained from this program are deposited into the off-road vehicle and snowmobile fund under [IC 14-16-1-30](#). The fund covers enforcement and administration of the program and construction and maintenance of off-road vehicle and snowmobile trails. The Department of Natural Resources currently assesses an application fee of \$15 for a duplicate certificate, and the proposed rule codifies this current practice. The established fee ultimately benefits the user.

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis of Alternative Methods:**

Under [IC 14-16-1-8](#), all off-road vehicles or snowmobiles purchased after since December 31, 2003, are required to be registered. [IC 14-16-1-9\(c\)](#) requires that a certificate of registration accompany an off-road vehicle or snowmobile. In order to be statutorily compliant, if an owner loses the vehicle's certificate of registration or the certificate becomes mutilated or illegible, the owner must obtain a duplicate certificate. There is no alternative method that would guarantee the integrity of a certificate of registration.

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