STATE OF NEW YORK

2254

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 20, 2021

Introduced by Sen. HELMING -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to selectively cutting timber

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 4 of section 24-0701 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by chapter 697 of the laws of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

4. The activities of farmers and other landowners in grazing and watering livestock, making reasonable use of water resources, harvesting natural products of the wetlands, selectively cutting timber, draining land or wetlands for growing agricultural products and otherwise engaging in the use of wetlands or other land for growing agricultural products shall be excluded from regulated activities and shall not require a permit under subdivision one hereof, except that structures not required for enhancement or maintenance of the agricultural productivity of the land and any filling activities shall not be excluded hereunder, and provided that the use of land designated as a freshwater wetland upon the freshwater wetlands map at the effective date thereof for uses other than those referred to in this subdivision shall be subject to the provisions of this article. **When selectively cutting timber, the construction and use of temporary skidder trails and machinery, using current best management practices as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Services, for the removal of such timber shall be excluded from regulated activities and shall not require a permit under subdivision one of this section.**

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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