

Subject Minnesota Sustainable Foraging Task Force

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Summary

This bill would require the commissioner of natural resources to establish a Minnesota Sustainable Foraging Task Force by September 1, 2025, to develop recommendations on regulations for sustainable foraging on state lands. Members of the task force would include eight citizens representing various entities and areas of expertise appointed by the commissioner and four legislators.

Duties of the task force would include gathering and reviewing data and existing regulations and developing recommendations, educational materials, and a permitting model. Requires the task force to meet at least monthly and adopt a process to rotate the chair at each meeting. Requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide staff for the task force.

Requires the task force to submit a written report with its findings and recommendations to the commissioner and the legislature no later than December 1, 2026. Requires the recommendations to be specific and actionable. The task force expires on September 1, 2026, or upon submission of the report, whichever is later.

Prohibits the commissioner from rulemaking on foraging until the task force has submitted its report and requires the commissioner to incorporate and implement the recommendations of the task force or state reasons for not doing so as part of the rulemaking.