The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by J. W. Wiley.

DIGEST

SB 490 Engrossed 2018 Regular Session White

Present law designates certain portions of rivers as natural and scenic rivers and provides certain protections for those rivers.

Present law prohibits the channelization, clearing and snagging, channel realignment, or reservoir construction in natural and scenic rivers, including the Comite River.

Proposed law provides that beginning Aug. 1, 2018, through Aug. 1, 2021, no provision of present law can prohibit the channelization, clearing and snagging, channel realignment, reservoir construction, or dredging operations for drainage purposes in the Comite River.

Present law allows for the evaluation and issuance of a permit for certain activities on natural and scenic rivers, including the Comite River.

Proposed law provides that no evaluation or permit will be required for the channelization, clearing and snagging, channel realignment, reservoir construction, or dredging operations for drainage purposes in the Comite River.

Proposed law provides that beginning Aug. 1, 2018, through Aug. 1, 2021, use of a motor vehicle or other wheeled or tracked vehicle on the Comite River shall be prohibited, except for permitted uses, and direct crossings by immediately adjacent landowners, lessees, or other persons who have written permission from the landowner to access adjoining tracts of land, for noncommercial activities in a manner that does not directly and significantly degrade the ecological integrity of the stream. Written permission must be in the person's possession and include the landowner's contact information.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 56:1855(P))