Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

HB 1889

Brief Description: Regarding the wild horse coordinated resource management plan.

Sponsors: Representatives Barlow, Hankins, O'Brien, Blake and Ormsby.

Brief Summary of Bill

 Requires the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources to assist with the implementation of the Wild Horse Coordinated Resource Management Plan.

Hearing Date: 2/21/07

Staff: Jason Callahan (786-7117).

Background:

A coordinated resource management planning process began in 2006 to develop the Wild Horse Coordinated Resource Management Plan (Management Plan). The process involved various interests located in Kittitas County, including the Department of Natural Resources, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service.

A coordinated management planning process is a voluntary process allowing resources to be managed over multiple ownerships. The Management Plan proposes to coordinate management of elk, water, and other resources over land owned by the Department of Natural Resources, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Puget Sound Energy, and the Trust for Public Lands.

Summary of Bill:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources is instructed to assist with the implementation of the Management Plan. The two agencies must

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accomplish on-the-ground actions required under the Management Plan, and provide grant funding to other entities as required for the full implementation of the Management Plan.

Appropriation: The sum of \$245,264 is appropriated from the General Fund for both Fiscal Year 2008 and Fiscal Year 2009.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 13, 2007.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.