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HOUSE BILL 1539

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Buck, Ebersole, Fuhrman, Wolfe, Chandler, Chappell, Kremen, Grant, Kessler, Basich, Hargrove, L. Thomas, G. Fisher, Johnson, Dyer, Elliot, Goldsmith, McMahan, Clements, Cooke, Brumsickle and Mastin

Read first time 01/30/95. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to watershed restoration projects; adding new  
2 sections to chapter 89.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.63  
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.63 RCW; adding a new section  
4 to chapter 36.70 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.70A RCW;  
5 adding a new section to chapter 43.21A RCW; adding a new section to  
6 chapter 43.21C RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.30 RCW; adding  
7 a new section to chapter 75.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
8 90.70 RCW; and making an appropriation.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature declares that it is the goal  
11 of the state of Washington to preserve and restore the natural  
12 resources of the state and, in particular, fish and wildlife and their  
13 habitat. It is further the policy of the state insofar as possible to  
14 utilize the volunteer organizations who have demonstrated their  
15 commitments to these goals.

16 To this end, it is the intent of the legislature to minimize the  
17 expense and delays caused by unnecessary bureaucratic process in  
18 securing permits for projects that preserve or restore native fish and  
19 wildlife habitat.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    Unless the context clearly requires  
2 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout sections 1  
3 through 5 of this act.

4        (1) "Watershed restoration plan" means a plan developed or  
5 sponsored by the department of fish and wildlife, the department of  
6 ecology, the department of natural resources, a county, or a  
7 conservation district established under chapter 89.08 RCW.

8        (2) "Watershed restoration project" means a project to implement a  
9 watershed plan or a part of a watershed plan.

10       (3) "Minor restoration project" means a project that involves less  
11 than ten miles of streamreach and less than five cubic yards of  
12 material moved or disturbed.

13       (4) "Major restoration project" means any project other than a  
14 minor project.

15       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    By January 1, 1996, the Washington  
16 conservation commission shall develop, in consultation with the  
17 department of fish and wildlife, department of ecology, department of  
18 natural resources, the Washington association of counties, and the  
19 association of Washington cities, a single-application process by which  
20 all permits for a watershed restoration project may be obtained by a  
21 sponsoring agency for a project developed by the agency or sponsored by  
22 the agency on behalf of a volunteer organization.

23       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    Each agency of the state and unit of local  
24 government that claims jurisdiction or the right to require permits or  
25 fees as a condition of allowing a watershed restoration project to  
26 proceed shall designate an office or official as a designated recipient  
27 of project applications and shall inform the conservation commission of  
28 the designation.

29       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    All agencies of the state and of local  
30 government shall accept the single application developed under section  
31 3 of this act and process the application without charge unless, within  
32 thirty days of receipt in the case of a minor project or within ninety  
33 days in the case of a major project, the agency can demonstrate that  
34 the project is in conflict with an existing program of the agency or in  
35 conflict with state or federal law.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 35.63 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        A permit required under this chapter for a watershed restoration  
4 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
5 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

6        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.63 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8        A permit required under this chapter for a watershed restoration  
9 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
10 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

11       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13       A permit required under this chapter for a watershed restoration  
14 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
15 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

16       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW  
17 to read as follows:

18       A permit required under this chapter for a watershed restoration  
19 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
20 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

21       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21A  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23       A permit required by the department for a watershed restoration  
24 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
25 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

26       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21C  
27 RCW to read as follows:

28       A permit required under this chapter for a watershed restoration  
29 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
30 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

31       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 43.30 RCW  
32 to read as follows:

1 A permit required by the department for a watershed restoration  
2 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
3 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 A permit required by the department for a watershed restoration  
7 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
8 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 90.70 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 A permit required by the authority for a watershed restoration  
12 project as defined in section 2 of this act shall be processed in  
13 compliance with sections 1 through 5 of this act.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** The sum of fifty thousand dollars, or as  
15 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium  
16 ending June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the state conservation  
17 commission for the purposes of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act are each  
19 added to chapter 89.08 RCW.

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