

2 **2SSB 6264** - H COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Natural Resources

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that mass marking of
8 hatchery-raised salmon is an effective tool for implementing selective
9 salmon fisheries in this state. Mass marking of coho salmon is
10 currently underway and holds great promise for maintaining both
11 recreational and commercial fishing opportunities while protecting wild
12 stocks. In view of the anticipated listing of Puget Sound chinook
13 salmon as endangered under the federal endangered species act, the
14 legislature finds that it is essential to expeditiously proceed with
15 implementing a mass marking program for chinook salmon in Puget Sound
16 and elsewhere in the state.

17 Through a cooperative effort by state and federal agencies and
18 private enterprise, appropriate technologies have been developed for
19 marking chinook salmon. It is the intent of the legislature to use
20 these newly developed tools to implement chinook salmon mass marking
21 beginning in April 1999.

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 75.08.510 and 1995 c 372 s 2 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 The department shall mark appropriate coho salmon that are released
25 from department operated hatcheries and rearing ponds in such a manner
26 that the fish are externally recognizable as hatchery origin salmon by
27 fishers for the purpose of maximized catch while sustaining wild and
28 hatchery reproduction.

29 The department shall mark all appropriate chinook salmon targeted
30 for contribution to the Washington catch that are released from
31 department operated hatcheries and rearing ponds in such a manner that
32 the fish are externally recognizable as hatchery origin salmon by
33 fishers.

34 The goal of the marking program is: (1) The annual marking by June
35 30, 1997, of all appropriate hatchery origin (~~chinook and~~) coho

1 salmon produced by the department with marking to begin with the 1994
2 Puget Sound coho brood; and (2) the annual marking by June 30, 1999, of
3 all appropriate hatchery origin chinook salmon produced by the
4 department with marking to begin with the 1998 chinook brood. The
5 department may experiment with different methods for marking hatchery
6 salmon with the primary objective of maximum survival of hatchery
7 marked fish, maximum contribution to fisheries, and minimum cost
8 consistent with the other goals.

9 The department shall coordinate with other entities that are
10 producing hatchery chinook and coho salmon for release into public
11 waters to enable the broadest application of the marking program to all
12 hatchery produced chinook and coho salmon. The department shall work
13 with the treaty Indian tribes in order to reach mutual agreement on the
14 implementation of the mass marking program. The department shall
15 report to the appropriate legislative committees by January 1, 1999, on
16 the progress made in reaching mutual agreement with the treaty Indian
17 tribes and any Pacific coast state or province to achieve the goal of
18 coast-wide marking of chinook and coho salmon. The ultimate goal of
19 the program is the coast-wide marking of appropriate hatchery origin
20 chinook and coho salmon, and the protection of all wild chinook and
21 coho salmon, where appropriate."

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