
HOUSE BILL 1016

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representative Pennington

Read first time 01/10/2001. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to lead entities in salmon recovery; adding a
2 new section to chapter 77.85 RCW; providing an effective date; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.85
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Lead entities have assumed a critical role in statewide
8 efforts to protect and restore salmon habitat. Lead entities are
9 responsible for ensuring that certain core activities take place
10 within the watersheds they serve in order to be eligible for funds
11 from the salmon recovery funding board. These core activities
12 include organizing and staffing the citizens committee and a
13 technical advisory group; soliciting, reviewing, and ranking
14 project proposals; ensuring that the projects contained on a
15 habitat project list address limiting factors to salmon recovery
16 in the watershed; preparing an application package to the salmon
17 recovery funding board; and maintaining a habitat work schedule.
18 In addition, some lead entities oversee projects in more than one

1 WRIA, some are developing strategic approaches to habitat
2 restoration, some are involved in watershed planning and salmon
3 recovery planning, and some are actively working with landowners
4 and sponsors to develop projects that will address critical needs
5 in the area. In recognition of the various levels of effort by lead
6 entities, and to help ensure that habitat project funds are used
7 efficiently and effectively, the legislature finds that there is a
8 need to increase funding available to lead entities, create a
9 funding allocation method that accounts for the different levels
10 of effort among lead entities, and institute a process for
11 measuring the performance of lead entities.

12 (2) Each lead entity established pursuant to RCW 77.85.050 may
13 apply for funds from the department of fish and wildlife. Funds
14 shall be provided from and to the extent appropriations by the
15 legislature to the department expressly for this purpose.

16 (3)(a) Each lead entity that is eligible to receive funds under
17 this section may apply for an operational grant of up to one
18 hundred thousand dollars per biennium to conduct core activities
19 identified in subsection (1) of this section.

20 (b) Each lead entity may apply for a biennial grant of up to an
21 additional one hundred thousand dollars per WRIA served for
22 providing enhanced functions. "Enhanced functions" for purposes of
23 this section means:

24 (i) Actively working with landowners to secure their support
25 for and participation in habitat projects;

26 (ii) Developing a habitat protection and restoration strategy
27 that: Establishes goals that address the habitat needs of fish and
28 that are tailored to meet local conditions and values; defines
29 priorities and areas for action; and identifies and sequences
30 actions to ensure that projects provide the maximum benefit for
31 fish;

32 (iii) Assisting sponsors in identifying high priority needs and
33 developing sound proposals to address them;

34 (iv) Coordinating public outreach activities to both inform and
35 invite the public to participate in salmon recovery activities; or

36 (v) Tracking project implementation and monitoring the
37 effectiveness of the projects.

38 (c) The department shall develop performance measures to ensure

1 that core activities are met, and to help ensure that any funding
2 for enhanced functions is being directed to high priority habitat
3 needs. These performance measures shall be included in all grant
4 contracts with lead entities. Funding provided under this section
5 shall be considered a contractual obligation against the moneys
6 appropriated for this purpose.

7 (d) If sufficient funds are not available to fund all lead
8 entity grant requests, the department shall prioritize funds based
9 upon the number of fish species listed as endangered or threatened
10 under the federal endangered species act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et
11 seq., contained in the area served by the lead entity.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
14 the state government and its existing public institutions, and
15 takes effect July 1, 2001.

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