
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1499

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Jackley, Buck, Rockefeller, Eickmeyer, Sump, Doumit, Pennington and Dunn)

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the regulation of marine fin fish aquaculture by
2 the department of fish and wildlife; and adding a new chapter to Title
3 77 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Marine aquaculture net pen facilities in
6 Washington state have accidentally released Atlantic salmon into Puget
7 Sound. It is necessary to minimize escapes through the implementation
8 of state-wide prevention measures.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** For the purposes of this chapter, "marine
10 aquatic farming location" means a complete complex that may be composed
11 of various marine enclosures, net pens, or other rearing vessels, food
12 handling facilities, or other facilities related to the rearing of
13 Atlantic salmon or other fin fish in marine waters. A marine aquatic
14 farming location is distinguished from the individual facilities that
15 collectively compose the location.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The director, in cooperation with the marine
17 fin fish aquatic farmers, shall develop proposed rules for the

1 implementation, administration, and enforcement of marine fin fish
2 aquaculture programs. The proposed rules shall be submitted to the
3 appropriate legislative committees by January 1, 2002, to allow for
4 legislative review of the proposed rules. The proposed rules shall
5 include the following elements:

6 (1) Provisions for the prevention of escapes of cultured marine fin
7 fish aquaculture products from enclosures, net pens, or other rearing
8 vessels;

9 (2) Provisions for the development and implementation of management
10 plans to facilitate the most rapid recapture of live marine fin fish
11 aquaculture products that have escaped from enclosures, net pens, or
12 other rearing vessels, and to prevent the spread or permanent escape of
13 these products;

14 (3) Provisions for the development of management practices based on
15 the latest available science, to include:

16 (a) Procedures for inspections of marine aquatic farming locations
17 on a regular basis to determine conformity with law and the rules of
18 the department relating to the operation of marine aquatic farming
19 locations; and

20 (b) Operating procedures at marine aquatic farming locations to
21 prevent the escape of marine fin fish, to include the use of net
22 antifoulants;

23 (4) Provisions for the eradication of those cultured marine fin
24 fish aquaculture products that have escaped from enclosures, net pens,
25 or other rearing vessels found spawning in state waters;

26 (5) Provisions for the determination of appropriate species,
27 stocks, and races of marine fin fish aquaculture products allowed to be
28 cultured at specific locations and sites;

29 (6) Provisions for the development of an Atlantic salmon watch
30 program similar to the one in operation in British Columbia, Canada.
31 The program must provide for the monitoring of escapes of Atlantic
32 salmon from marine aquatic farming locations, monitor the occurrence of
33 naturally produced Atlantic salmon, determine the impact of Atlantic
34 salmon on naturally produced and cultured fin fish stocks, provide a
35 focal point for consolidation of scientific information, and provide a
36 forum for interaction and education of the public; and

37 (7) Provisions for the development of an education program to
38 assist marine aquatic farmers so that they operate in an
39 environmentally sound manner.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Rules to implement this act shall be adopted
2 no sooner than thirty days following the end of the 2002 regular
3 legislative session. The director shall provide a written report to
4 the appropriate legislative committees by January 1, 2003, on the
5 progress of the program.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act constitute
7 a new chapter in Title 77 RCW.

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