

SHB 2472 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation

ADOPTED 03/06/2008

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that recreational
4 opportunities are instrumental in promoting human health and well-being
5 and are part of the heritage of Washington state. State trust lands,
6 aquatic lands, and other state-owned lands managed by the department of
7 natural resources provide significant recreational opportunities, along
8 with other social, economic, and environmental benefits. Lands managed
9 by the department of natural resources provide, among other values:

- 10 (a) Renewable energy resources;
11 (b) Sustainable revenue for school construction, local governments,
12 and other state institutions;
13 (c) Recreational and educational opportunities;
14 (d) Habitat for fish and wildlife;
15 (e) Clean air and water; and
16 (f) Funding for restoration and public access to state-owned
17 aquatic lands.

18 (2) The legislature further finds that the state's population has
19 nearly doubled from three million four hundred thousand to six million
20 five hundred thousand since the multiple use concept was adopted under
21 chapter 79.10 RCW, and is projected to increase by another two million
22 two hundred thousand by 2030. Population growth has increased demand
23 for recreational access and presents current and future challenges that
24 must be addressed, such as: Increasing potential for conflict with
25 adjacent and nearby land uses, including residential land uses; new
26 forms of trail-based recreation that compete with traditional uses; the
27 rapid increase of motorized and mechanized recreation; changes in
28 ownership patterns of large land holdings across the state; the
29 incompatibility of certain human activities with environmental

1 protections for endangered species, clean water, clean air, climate
2 impacting emissions, and habitat; and increased competition for
3 funding.

4 (3) The legislature further finds that efforts by the department of
5 natural resources to consolidate state trust lands will provide more
6 opportunities for citizens to access larger blocks of state-owned
7 lands. Therefore, it is prudent to reexamine the policies for
8 recreational access on state-owned lands and establish a vision for the
9 future with recommended policy improvements that are:

- 10 (a) Environmentally responsible;
- 11 (b) Sustainably funded; and
- 12 (c) Compatible with trust land and state land management
13 obligations.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A work group is established to make
15 recommendations to improve recreation on state trust lands, aquatic
16 lands, and other state-owned lands managed by the department of natural
17 resources.

18 (2) The work group's recommendations to improve recreation on
19 state-owned lands must be compatible with adjacent and nearby land
20 uses, including residential land uses. The work group shall examine
21 relevant existing laws and rules and recommend policy changes and
22 funding alternatives for consideration by the legislature to ensure
23 safe, sustainable, and enjoyable recreational access. In conducting
24 this work, the work group must consider: The legal obligations for
25 trusts, aquatic lands, and natural areas; consistency with
26 environmental standards needed to protect lands and natural systems;
27 and related work group recommendations such as the Puget Sound action
28 agenda defined in chapter 90.71 RCW, the Washington biodiversity
29 strategy created in executive order 04-02, and the invasive species
30 council recommendations defined in chapter 79A.25 RCW. The work group
31 must provide recommendations on ways to coordinate trail maintenance
32 work with volunteer organizations on state-owned lands.

33 (3) The work group is comprised of a balanced representation of
34 individuals with recreational interests and knowledge regarding
35 specific regions of the state. The work group must consist of no more
36 than twenty-eight members appointed by the commissioner of public lands
37 in consultation with the following entities:

- 1 (a) Recreational associations and organizations;
- 2 (b) Environmental protection associations and organizations;
- 3 (c) Corporate and community leaders;
- 4 (d) Major landowners;
- 5 (e) Local governments;
- 6 (f) Tribal governments;
- 7 (g) The United States forest service;
- 8 (h) The parks and recreation commission;
- 9 (i) The recreation and conservation office;
- 10 (j) The department of fish and wildlife;
- 11 (k) State trust land beneficiaries;
- 12 (l) State land leaseholders and contractors;
- 13 (m) A representative of the governor, appointed by the governor;

14 and

- 15 (n) Members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate
- 16 and members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of
- 17 the house of representatives.

18 (4) The commissioner of public lands, or the commissioner's

19 designee, shall serve as chair, and the department of natural resources

20 shall provide technical and staff support for the work group created by

21 this section.

22 (5) Work group members that are not employees of state or federal

23 agencies shall be compensated as provided in RCW 43.03.250 and shall

24 receive reimbursement for travel expenses as provided by RCW 43.03.050

25 and 43.03.060. Costs associated with the work group must be paid by

26 the department of natural resources from the appropriation made

27 available to the department of natural resources for the purpose of

28 this study.

29 (6) The work group shall conduct a minimum of two open public

30 workshops to solicit input from key stakeholders, citizens, and local

31 jurisdictions, at least one of which must be conducted in a location

32 east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

33 (7) The work group shall hold meetings, at diverse locations

34 throughout the state, to gather input from key stakeholders, citizens,

35 and local jurisdictions regarding the group's proposed recommendations.

36 (8) The work group shall coordinate with the stakeholder

37 recreational advisory committees appointed or established by the

38 commissioner of public lands.

1 (9) The commissioner of public lands shall submit to the
2 appropriate standing committees of the legislature, no later than
3 December 1, 2008, a progress report with preliminary findings and
4 recommendations. The commissioner of public lands must submit a final
5 report by December 1, 2009, with findings and recommendations for
6 legislation that is necessary to implement the work group's findings.
7 (a) The reports must include an assessment of how various kinds of
8 recreation affect the costs and risks to:
9 (i) The interests of beneficiaries of state lands;
10 (ii) Private landowners, federal landowners, and state government
11 due to increased wildfire risks;
12 (iii) Local and state government due to personal injury and
13 property damage;
14 (iv) Natural habitat, water quality, and air quality; and
15 (v) The land uses and management plans of adjacent landowners.
16 (b) The reports must include recommendations for appropriate fund
17 sources to mitigate these identified risks."

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18 On page 1, line 4 of the title, after "resources;" strike the
19 remainder of the title and insert "and creating new sections."

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