

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2472**

Chapter 195, Laws of 2008

60th Legislature  
2008 Regular Session

STATE-OWNED LANDS--RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/08

Passed by the House March 8, 2008  
Yeas 93 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 6, 2008  
Yeas 49 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Approved March 27, 2008, 4:01 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2472** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

March 28, 2008

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2472**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session**

**By** House Ecology & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Blake, Warnick, Condotta, Sells, Linville, Hinkle, VanDeWege, McCoy, Lantz, Morrell, Loomis, Kretz, Chase, Kristiansen, and McDonald; by request of Department of Natural Resources)

READ FIRST TIME 01/22/08.

1            AN    ACT    Relating   to    establishing   a    work   group   to    make  
2    recommendations   for    improving   recreation   on    state   trust   lands,   aquatic  
3    lands,   and   other   state-owned   lands   managed   by   the   department   of   natural  
4    resources;   and   creating   new   sections.

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

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

- 13            (a)    Renewable   energy   resources;
- 14            (b)    Sustainable   revenue   for   school   construction,   local   governments,  
15    and   other   state   institutions;
- 16            (c)    Recreational   and   educational   opportunities;
- 17            (d)    Habitat   for   fish   and   wildlife;
- 18            (e)    Clean   air   and   water;   and

1 (f) Funding for restoration and public access to state-owned  
2 aquatic lands.

3 (2) The legislature further finds that the state's population has  
4 nearly doubled from three million four hundred thousand to six million  
5 five hundred thousand since the multiple use concept was adopted under  
6 chapter 79.10 RCW, and is projected to increase by another two million  
7 two hundred thousand by 2030. Population growth has increased demand  
8 for recreational access and presents current and future challenges that  
9 must be addressed, such as: Increasing potential for conflict with  
10 adjacent and nearby land uses, including residential land uses; new  
11 forms of trail-based recreation that compete with traditional uses; the  
12 rapid increase of motorized and mechanized recreation; changes in  
13 ownership patterns of large land holdings across the state; the  
14 incompatibility of certain human activities with environmental  
15 protections for endangered species, clean water, clean air, climate  
16 impacting emissions, and habitat; and increased competition for  
17 funding.

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

- 24 (a) Environmentally responsible;
- 25 (b) Sustainably funded; and
- 26 (c) Compatible with trust land and state land management  
27 obligations.

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

32 (2) The work group's recommendations to improve recreation on  
33 state-owned lands must be compatible with adjacent and nearby land  
34 uses, including residential land uses. The work group shall examine  
35 relevant existing laws and rules and recommend policy changes and  
36 funding alternatives for consideration by the legislature to ensure  
37 safe, sustainable, and enjoyable recreational access. In conducting

1 this work, the work group must consider: The legal obligations for  
2 trusts, aquatic lands, and natural areas; consistency with  
3 environmental standards needed to protect lands and natural systems;  
4 and related work group recommendations such as the Puget Sound action  
5 agenda defined in chapter 90.71 RCW, the Washington biodiversity  
6 strategy created in executive order 04-02, and the invasive species  
7 council recommendations defined in chapter 79A.25 RCW. The work group  
8 must provide recommendations on ways to coordinate trail maintenance  
9 work with volunteer organizations on state-owned lands.

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

- 15 (a) Recreational associations and organizations;
- 16 (b) Environmental protection associations and organizations;
- 17 (c) Corporate and community leaders;
- 18 (d) Major landowners;
- 19 (e) Local governments;
- 20 (f) Tribal governments;
- 21 (g) The United States forest service;
- 22 (h) The parks and recreation commission;
- 23 (i) The recreation and conservation office;
- 24 (j) The department of fish and wildlife;
- 25 (k) State trust land beneficiaries;
- 26 (l) State land leaseholders and contractors;
- 27 (m) A representative of the governor, appointed by the governor;

28 and

29 (n) Members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate  
30 and members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of  
31 the house of representatives.

32 (4) The commissioner of public lands, or the commissioner's  
33 designee, shall serve as chair, and the department of natural resources  
34 shall provide technical and staff support for the work group created by  
35 this section.

36 (5) Work group members that are not employees of state or federal  
37 agencies shall be compensated as provided in RCW 43.03.250 and shall  
38 receive reimbursement for travel expenses as provided by RCW 43.03.050

1 and 43.03.060. Costs associated with the work group must be paid by  
2 the department of natural resources from the appropriation made  
3 available to the department of natural resources for the purpose of  
4 this study.

5 (6) The work group shall conduct a minimum of two open public  
6 workshops to solicit input from key stakeholders, citizens, and local  
7 jurisdictions, at least one of which must be conducted in a location  
8 east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

9 (7) The work group shall hold meetings, at diverse locations  
10 throughout the state, to gather input from key stakeholders, citizens,  
11 and local jurisdictions regarding the group's proposed recommendations.

12 (8) The work group shall coordinate with the stakeholder  
13 recreational advisory committees appointed or established by the  
14 commissioner of public lands.

15 (9) The commissioner of public lands shall submit to the  
16 appropriate standing committees of the legislature, no later than  
17 December 1, 2008, a progress report with preliminary findings and  
18 recommendations. The commissioner of public lands must submit a final  
19 report by December 1, 2009, with findings and recommendations for  
20 legislation that is necessary to implement the work group's findings.

21 (a) The reports must include an assessment of how various kinds of  
22 recreation affect the costs and risks to:

- 23 (i) The interests of beneficiaries of state lands;
- 24 (ii) Private landowners, federal landowners, and state government  
25 due to increased wildfire risks;
- 26 (iii) Local and state government due to personal injury and  
27 property damage;
- 28 (iv) Natural habitat, water quality, and air quality; and
- 29 (v) The land uses and management plans of adjacent landowners.

30 (b) The reports must include recommendations for appropriate fund  
31 sources to mitigate these identified risks.

Passed by the House March 8, 2008.  
Passed by the Senate March 6, 2008.  
Approved by the Governor March 27, 2008.  
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