HOUSE BILL 1792

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Kretz, Blake, Short, and Condotta

Read first time 01/28/15. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

AN ACT Relating to requiring the department of fish and wildlife a mend the existing wolf conservation and management plan; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. (1) The department of fish and wildlife 6 must amend the existing wolf conservation and management plan, as 7 adopted in December 2011, to better address the wolf recovery rate 8 and uneven distribution that has occurred since the initial adoption 9 of the plan.

10 (2) The department of fish and wildlife must amend the wolf 11 conservation and management plan as the department best sees fit to 12 manage the state's growing wolf population. However, the amendments 13 must include, at a minimum:

(a) The identification of a management result, based on a minimum number of wolves and an appropriate distribution pattern in two of the three recovery zones identified in the plan, that allows recovery to be deemed successful; and

(b) A change in the metric for identifying successful wolf recovery that is based on the number of wolf packs in the state and not on the number of breeding pairs.

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(3) The amendments to the wolf conservation and management plan
made under this section are not subject to the provision of RCW
43.21C.030(2)(c).

4 (4) The amendments to the wolf conservation and management plan 5 required under this section must be completed by June 30, 2017.

6 (5) This section expires June 30, 2018.

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