

2 **SSB 5637** - H COMM AMD **NOT CONSIDERED 4/6/01**
3 By Committee on Natural Resources

4

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that a comprehensive
8 program of monitoring is fundamental to making sound public policy and
9 programmatic decisions regarding salmon recovery and watershed health.
10 Monitoring provides accountability for results of management actions
11 and provides the data upon which an adaptive management framework can
12 lead to improvement of strategies and programs. Monitoring is also a
13 required element of any salmon recovery plan submitted to the federal
14 government for approval. While numerous agencies and citizen
15 organizations are engaged in monitoring a wide range of salmon recovery
16 and watershed health parameters, there is a greater need for
17 coordination of monitoring efforts, for using limited monitoring
18 resources to obtain information most useful for achieving relevant
19 local, state, and federal requirements regarding watershed health and
20 salmon recovery, and for making the information more accessible to
21 those agencies and organizations implementing watershed health programs
22 and projects. Regarding salmon recovery monitoring, the state
23 independent science panel has concluded that many programs already
24 monitor indicators relevant to salmonids, but the efforts are largely
25 uncoordinated or unlinked among programs, have different objectives,
26 use different indicators, lack support for sharing data, and lack
27 shared statistical designs to address specific issues raised by listing
28 of salmonid species under the federal endangered species act.

29 Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to encourage the
30 refocusing of existing agency monitoring activities necessary to
31 implement a comprehensive watershed health monitoring program, with a
32 focus on salmon recovery. The program should: Be based on a framework
33 of greater coordination of existing monitoring activities; require
34 monitoring activities most relevant to adopted local, state, and
35 federal watershed health objectives; and facilitate the exchange of
36 monitoring information with agencies and organizations carrying out

1 watershed health, salmon recovery, and water resources management
2 planning and programs.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 90.82 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 In conducting assessments and other studies that include monitoring
6 components or recommendations, the department and planning units shall
7 implement the monitoring recommendations developed under section 3 of
8 this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 77.85 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The monitoring oversight committee is hereby established. The
12 committee shall be comprised of the directors or their designated
13 representatives of:

- 14 (a) The salmon recovery office;
- 15 (b) The department of ecology;
- 16 (c) The department of fish and wildlife;
- 17 (d) The conservation commission;
- 18 (e) The Puget Sound action team;
- 19 (f) The department of natural resources;
- 20 (g) The department of transportation;
- 21 (h) The interagency committee for outdoor recreation; and
- 22 (i) Eight legislators designated as follows: The cochairs of the
23 natural resources committee of the house of representatives; the chair
24 and the ranking minority member of the senate natural resources, parks,
25 and shorelines committee; the cochairs of the agriculture and ecology
26 committee of the house of representatives; and the chair and the
27 ranking minority member of the senate environment, energy, and water
28 committee.

29 (2) The director of the salmon recovery office and the chair of the
30 salmon recovery funding board shall cochair the committee. The
31 cochairs shall convene the committee as necessary to develop, for the
32 consideration of the governor and legislature, a comprehensive and
33 coordinated monitoring strategy and action plan on watershed health
34 with a focus on salmon recovery. The committee shall invite
35 representation from the treaty tribes to participate in the committee's
36 efforts. In addition, the committee shall invite participation by
37 other state, local, and federal agencies and other entities as

1 appropriate. The committee shall address the monitoring
2 recommendations of the independent science panel provided under RCW
3 77.85.040(7) and of the joint legislative audit and review committee in
4 its report number 01-1 on investing in the environment.

5 (3) The independent science panel shall act as an advisor to the
6 monitoring oversight committee and shall review all work products
7 developed by the committee and make recommendations to the committee
8 cochairs.

9 (4) The committee may make recommendations to individual agencies
10 to improve coordination of monitoring activities.

11 (5) The committee shall:

12 (a) Define the monitoring goals, objectives, and questions that
13 must be addressed as part of a comprehensive statewide salmon recovery
14 monitoring and adaptive management framework;

15 (b) Identify and evaluate existing monitoring activities for
16 inclusion in the framework, while ensuring data consistency and
17 coordination and the filling of monitoring gaps;

18 (c) Recommend statistical designs appropriate to the objectives;

19 (d) Recommend performance measures appropriate to the objectives
20 and targeted to the appropriate geographical, temporal, and biological
21 scales;

22 (e) Recommend standardized monitoring protocols for salmon recovery
23 and watershed health;

24 (f) Recommend procedures to ensure quality assurance and quality
25 control of all relevant data;

26 (g) Recommend data transfer protocols to support easy access,
27 sharing, and coordination among different collectors and users;

28 (h) Recommend ways to integrate monitoring information into
29 decision making;

30 (i) Recommend organizational and governance structures for
31 oversight and implementation of the coordinated monitoring framework;

32 (j) Recommend stable sources of funding that will ensure the
33 continued operation and maintenance of the state's salmon recovery and
34 watershed health monitoring programs, once established; and

35 (k) Identify administrative actions that will be undertaken by
36 state agencies to implement elements of the coordinated monitoring
37 program.

38 (6) In developing the coordinated monitoring strategy, the
39 committee shall coordinate with other appropriate state, federal,

1 local, and tribal monitoring efforts, including but not limited to the
2 Northwest power planning council, the Northwest Indian fisheries
3 commission, the national marine fisheries service, and the United
4 States fish and wildlife service. The committee shall also consult
5 with watershed planning units under chapter 90.82 RCW, lead entities
6 under this chapter, professional organizations, and other appropriate
7 groups.

8 (7) The cochairs shall provide an interim report to the governor
9 and the members of the appropriate legislative committees by March 1,
10 2002, on the progress made in implementing this section. By December
11 1, 2002, the committee shall provide a monitoring strategy and action
12 plan to the governor, and the members of the appropriate legislative
13 committees for achieving a comprehensive watershed health monitoring
14 program with a focus on salmon recovery. The strategy and action plan
15 shall document the results of the committee's actions in addressing the
16 responsibilities described in subsection (5) of this section. In
17 addition, the monitoring strategy and action plan shall include an
18 assessment of existing state agency operations related to monitoring,
19 evaluation, and adaptive management of watershed health and salmon
20 recovery, and shall recommend any operational or statutory changes and
21 funding necessary to fully implement the enhanced coordination program
22 developed under this section. The plan shall make recommendations
23 based upon the goal of fully realizing an enhanced and coordinated
24 monitoring program by June 30, 2007."

25 Correct the title.

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