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SENATE BILL 6690

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senator Pridemore

Read first time 01/21/10. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to accessing land for outdoor recreation; amending  
2 RCW 77.32.380 and 77.12.880; and creating a new section.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.32.380 and 2003 c 317 s 4 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1)(a) Persons who enter upon or use clearly identified department  
7 improved access facilities with a motor vehicle may be required, while  
8 within or while using an improved access facility, to display ((a  
9 ~~current annual fish and wildlife lands vehicle use permit~~)) on the  
10 motor vehicle ((~~while within or while using an improved access~~  
11 ~~facility~~)) one of the following:

12 (i) A current annual fish and wildlife lands vehicle use permit as  
13 provided in this section;

14 (ii) A wild on Washington, endangered wildlife, or Washington's  
15 wildlife special license plate as authorized in chapter 46.16 RCW; or

16 (iii) A personalized license plate as defined in RCW 46.16.560.

17 ((An)) (b) As used in this section, "improved access facility"  
18 ((is)) means a clearly identified area specifically created for motor

1 vehicle parking, and includes any boat launch or boat ramp associated  
2 with the parking area, but does not include the department parking  
3 facilities at the Gorge Concert Center near George, Washington.

4 (2)(a) One vehicle use permit shall be issued at no charge with an  
5 initial purchase of either an annual saltwater, freshwater,  
6 combination, small game hunting, big game hunting, or trapping license,  
7 or a watchable wildlife decal, issued by the department.

8 (b) The annual fee for a fish and wildlife lands vehicle use  
9 permit, if purchased separately, is ~~((ten dollars))~~:

10 (i) Twenty dollars beginning on the effective date of this section;

11 (ii) Twenty-five dollars beginning July 2, 2011; and

12 (iii) Thirty dollars beginning July 1, 2013.

13 (c) A person to whom the department has issued a vehicle use permit  
14 or who has purchased a vehicle use permit separately may purchase  
15 additional vehicle use permits from the department at a cost of  
16 ~~((five))~~ ten dollars per vehicle use permit.

17 (d) Revenue derived from the sale of fish and wildlife lands  
18 vehicle use permits shall be used solely for the following purposes:

19 (i) Stewardship and maintenance of department improved access  
20 facilities; and

21 (ii) Maintenance and tangible physical improvements to land managed  
22 by the department, such as fence construction and upkeep, weed control,  
23 road maintenance, and restoration projects.

24 (e) The revenue collected under this section may not be used by the  
25 department for administrative, scientific, or enforcement purposes.

26 (3) Youth groups may use department improved access facilities  
27 without possessing a vehicle use permit when accompanied by a vehicle  
28 use permit holder.

29 ~~((+2))~~ (4) The vehicle use permit must be displayed from the  
30 interior of the motor vehicle so that it is clearly visible from  
31 outside of the motor vehicle before entering upon or using the motor  
32 vehicle on a department improved access facility. The vehicle use  
33 permit can be transferred between two vehicles and must contain space  
34 for the vehicle license numbers of each vehicle.

35 ~~((+3))~~ (5)(a) Failure to display the fish and wildlife lands  
36 vehicle use permit or applicable license plate type, if required by  
37 this section, is ~~((an))~~ a natural resources infraction under chapter  
38 7.84 RCW, and department employees are authorized to issue a notice of

1    infraction to the registered owner of any motor vehicle entering upon  
2    or using a department improved access facility (~~((without such a vehicle~~  
3    ~~use permit))~~) in violation of this section.

4        (b) The penalty for ((failure to clearly display the vehicle use  
5    ~~permit))~~ a violation of this section is sixty-six dollars. This  
6    penalty ~~((is))~~ must be reduced to thirty dollars if the registered  
7    owner provides proof to the court that he or she purchased a vehicle  
8    use permit within fifteen days after the issuance of the notice of  
9    violation.

10        **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.12.880 and 2003 c 153 s 3 are each amended to read  
11    as follows:

12        (1) The department shall manage wildlife programs in a manner that  
13    provides for public opportunities to view wildlife and supports nature-  
14    based and wildlife viewing tourism without impairing the state's  
15    wildlife resources.

16        (2)(a) The department may develop information accessible through  
17    the department's internet web site that promotes outdoor recreational  
18    and wildlife viewing opportunities. The web-based information may  
19    include, but is not limited to, information about:

20        (i) The department's wildlife areas and access sites;

21        (ii) Public and private lands open to the public for recreational  
22    access; and

23        (iii) Information promoting watchable wildlife and nature-based  
24    tourism activities.

25        (b) The department may require, as a condition of accessing the  
26    web-based information authorized in this section, the purchase of  
27    certain recreational license documents provided for in chapter 77.32  
28    RCW, including the fish and wildlife lands vehicle use permit issued  
29    under RCW 77.32.380. The commission may identify by rule which  
30    recreational license documents provide access to the web-based  
31    information.

32        (c) Information relating to hunting and fishing regulations, as  
33    well as general information pertaining to the department, must be  
34    accessible to the general public without having to first purchase a  
35    license from the department.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    (1) This act applies prospectively only.  
2    However, the department of fish and wildlife may limit web-based access  
3    under section 2 of this act to information relating to outdoor  
4    recreational and wildlife viewing opportunities collected prior to the  
5    effective date of this section.

6        (2) The privilege of accessing information under section 2 of this  
7    act applies only to the convenience of instantaneous access via the  
8    department's internet web site. Nothing in this act is intended to  
9    limit the public's ability to otherwise access information under  
10   chapter 42.56 RCW.

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