

ESSB 5187 - H AMD TO H AMD (H-1823.1/23) **524**

By Representative Waters

WITHDRAWN 04/03/2023

1 On page 359, line 27, increase the natural climate solutions
2 account--state appropriation by \$83,000,000

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4 On page 360, line 19, correct the total.

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6 On page 367, after line 34, insert the following:

7 "(33) \$83,000,000 of the natural climate solutions account--state
8 appropriation is provided solely for the purchase of property to be
9 managed for increased carbon sequestration and carbon storage through
10 sustainable harvests and as replacement trust lands for existing
11 encumbered forested state trust lands and for structurally complex,
12 carbon dense, forested state trust lands that may be transferred from
13 trust status. The amount provided in this subsection is also to be
14 used to carry out additional silvicultural activities on state trust
15 lands and to hold a series of forest policy discussions. Of the amount
16 provided in this subsection:

17 (a) \$70,000,000 is provided solely for land purchases in westside
18 timber counties, including forest land, commercial land, or other
19 private or public land. The land must be purchased within a willing
20 county identified in coordination with the Washington association of
21 counties. The land once purchased must be considered as part of the
22 land bank created in RCW 79.19.020. The property must be purchased
23 before the sale or exchange of any existing trust land is considered.
24 Transfers must utilize the trust land transfer process.

25 (i) Up to 2,000 acres of the new land may be considered as
26 replacement land for any existing structurally complex, carbon dense
27 forest existing on state trust lands. Any state forest land considered

1 for replacement must have agreement from the specific county
2 beneficiary.

3 (ii) The remainder of the new purchased land may be used as
4 exchange land for any encumbered state forest lands in Clallam,
5 Jefferson, Pacific, Skamania, and Wahkiakum counties. Any exchanged
6 land under this purpose must be designated as state forest transfer
7 land.

8 (b) \$10,000,000 is provided solely for the department to enhance
9 forest stand growth on managed trust lands in western Washington,
10 employing silviculture to increase growth and vigor of the trees, for
11 healthy, resilient forests.

12 (c) \$3,000,000 is provided solely for the department to contract
13 with a facilitator for the purpose of convening a stakeholder group to
14 collaborate on the protection of older timber stands on department of
15 natural resources managed lands, the protection of a viable wood
16 supply for the current timber market, and the definition of terms to
17 be used when developing future forest policy pertaining to the storage
18 of carbon and perpetual forests, while meeting the department's trust
19 management responsibilities. The group should also provide
20 recommendation for defining the management regime of the lands
21 purchased with amounts provided by this subsection intended to
22 increase forest sequestration above what it would otherwise be in the
23 absence of the purchase by the department of natural resources, as
24 well as for using consulting businesses for buying large forest
25 parcels in a competitive marketplace, and may include contracting with
26 researchers and universities for additional analysis. A report of the
27 stakeholder group's recommendations must be submitted to the
28 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2024."

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30 On page 564, after line 13, insert the following:

31 "Climate Investment Account: For transfer to the natural climate
32 solutions account, \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2025, no earlier
33 than June 1, 2025. . . \$26,000,000"

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EFFECT: Provides \$83.0M from the Natural Climate Solutions Account (NCSA) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for (1) land purchases in westside timber counties, to be considered part of DNR's Land Bank, (2) silvicultural activities on trust lands in western Washington, and (3) a stakeholder group on the protection of older timber stands on DNR-managed lands. Transfers \$26.0M from the Climate Investment Account to the NCSA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increases Natural Climate Solutions Account appropriations by \$83,000,000. Reduces Climate Investment Account resources by \$26,000,000. Increases Natural Climate Solutions Account resources by \$26,000,000.

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