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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5753**

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**State of Washington**

**52nd Legislature**

**1991 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senators Oke, Bauer, Owen, Craswell, Metcalf, Roach, Nelson, L. Smith, Amondson and Thorsness).

Read first time February 27, 1991.

1       AN ACT Relating to upland wildlife habitats and populations;  
2 amending RCW 77.32.350; adding new sections to chapter 77.12 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

5       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.**       The legislature finds that the state's  
6 upland wildlife habitats are in transition. As the state's population  
7 increases, preservation of the state's upland wildlife habitat will  
8 require greater protection and maintenance. Emphasis on upland game  
9 bird production will allow for enhanced recreational opportunities.

10       The legislature further finds that there is a growing need for  
11 management of habitat areas, both public and private, throughout the  
12 state to provide the necessary upland wildlife habitat base to support  
13 increased natural production of upland birds; and that providing for  
14 better coordination of landowner involvement in habitat programs for

1 restoration or creation of habitats through joint partnerships of  
2 private and public sectors is necessary to achieve that end.

3 The legislature recognizes that the department of wildlife is  
4 establishing an upland wildlife habitat advisory council in support of  
5 the Washington state ecosystem project, and that membership on this  
6 council will reflect the various interested parties. It is the intent  
7 of the legislature that the department of wildlife shall work  
8 cooperatively with this council in furtherance of the study and report  
9 required by section 2 of this act, in addition to any other issues that  
10 shall be considered by the council.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of wildlife shall prepare  
12 a study and report to the legislature on the study by January 1992.  
13 The study shall address program progress and supporting information  
14 relating to upland bird populations, production, or restoration in the  
15 following areas:

16 (1) Increases in both private and public habitat acquisitions  
17 directly related to the joint federal and state ecosystems project.

18 (2) Increased partnerships between the department of wildlife,  
19 other county, state, and federal agencies, landowners, conservation  
20 organizations, and the citizens of the state.

21 (3) Restoration of critical upland habitats and their associated  
22 wildlife through strategic fee-title acquisition and complimentary  
23 enhancement of private lands through technical assistance and incentive  
24 programs.

25 (4) Implementation of good neighbor policies relating to the  
26 stewardship of acquired or restored upland bird lands and the process  
27 by which they are acquired or restored.

28 (5) Recommendations regarding future efforts necessary to further  
29 promote the ecosystems program.

1 (6) Status of upland bird populations and recreational  
2 opportunities.

3 (7) Improvements and associated cost to both eastern and western  
4 Washington upland bird programs.

5 (8) Enhanced use of citizen volunteers and others, to assist the  
6 department with the upland wildlife restoration program.

7 (9) Existing game bird farms on Whidbey Island and Lewis county,  
8 including the feasibility of enhancement of those farms and the need  
9 for additional game bird farms in both western and eastern Washington.

10 (10) The status of upland bird release programs in other states.

11 (11) The development of a program to encourage and assist  
12 agricultural and range landowners to maintain sufficient upland  
13 wildlife habitat on agricultural and range lands for increased upland  
14 bird populations.

15 (12) Development of an enforcement plan or program that would  
16 enhance the enforcement of unlawful taking of upland birds and provide  
17 for stricter adherence to bag limits.

18 (13) Conduct an upland wildlife habitat assessment for eastern  
19 Washington that will include operation and maintenance costs for  
20 acquired or managed properties.

21 (14) Provide information demonstrating upland bird population  
22 trends and hunter harvest data in Washington state over the past twenty  
23 years.

24 (15) Recommend supplemental licensing and fees for the hunting of  
25 upland birds in both eastern and western Washington that will support  
26 the upland bird hunting program and more fully fund the pheasant  
27 release program.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 77.32.350 and 1990 c 84 s 6 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

1 In addition to a basic hunting license, a supplemental license,  
2 permit, or stamp is required to hunt for quail, partridge, pheasant, or  
3 migratory waterfowl, to hunt with a raptor, or to hunt wild animals  
4 with a dog.

5 (1) A hound permit is required to hunt wild animals, except rabbits  
6 and hares, with a dog. The fee for this permit is ten dollars.

7 (2) An eastern Washington upland game bird permit is required to  
8 hunt for quail, partridge, and pheasant in eastern Washington. The fee  
9 for this permit is eight dollars.

10 (3) A western Washington upland game bird permit is required to  
11 hunt for quail, partridge, and pheasant in western Washington. The fee  
12 for this permit is (~~fifteen dollars~~) thirty-five dollars effective  
13 thirty days following the effective date of this act. Effective  
14 January 1, 1992, the permit shall be available as a season option, an  
15 early season option, a late season option, a juvenile full season  
16 option or a two-day option. The fee for this permit is:

17 (a) For the full season option, thirty-five dollars;

18 (b) For the early season option, twenty-five dollars;

19 (c) For the late season option, twenty-five dollars;

20 (d) For the juvenile full season or the two-day option, twenty  
21 dollars.

22 For the purposes of this subsection a juvenile is defined as a  
23 person under fifteen years of age upon the opening date of the western  
24 Washington pheasant season.

25 (4) A falconry license is required to possess or hunt with a  
26 raptor, including seasons established exclusively for hunting in that  
27 manner. The fee for this license is thirty dollars.

28 (5) A migratory waterfowl stamp affixed to a basic hunting license  
29 is required for all persons sixteen years of age or older to hunt  
30 migratory waterfowl. The fee for the stamp is five dollars.

1       (6) The migratory waterfowl stamp shall be validated by the  
2 signature of the licensee written across the face of the stamp.

3       (7) The migratory waterfowl stamps required by this section expire  
4 on March 31st following the date of issuance.

5       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 4.**       The wildlife commission shall establish  
6 by rule an enforcement punchcard to be used for the hunting of  
7 pheasants in western Washington.

8       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.**       The sum of seven hundred seventy  
9 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
10 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, to the department  
11 of wildlife from the wildlife fund for the purposes of this act.

12       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.**       Sections 1 and 4 of this act are each  
13 added to chapter 77.12 RCW.