FINAL BILL REPORT SSB 5006

C 182 L 03

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Allowing nonconsumptive wildlife activities on public lands.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen and Haugen).

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources

Background: State lands leased for grazing or agricultural purposes are open to the public for hunting and fishing under certain circumstances. Nonconsumptive wildlife activities, otherwise known as "watchable wildlife," are not currently included in the list of multiple use activities which are compatible with the Department of Natural Resources' trust management responsibilities for public lands.

Summary: Nonconsumptive wildlife activities are included as a legitimate reason for entry into trust lands leased for grazing or agriculture purposes when allowed by the Department of Natural Resources managing agencies. Multiple use management of state trust lands must include nonconsumptive wildlife activities, which will be defined by the Board of Natural Resources. Lands are not open and available for wildlife activities when access could endanger crops on the land or when access could endanger the person accessing the land.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	48 0
House	95 0

Effective: July 27, 2003