

SB 5488-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that, in 2006, after listing the southern resident orcas as endangered, the federal government designated critical orca habitat and released a proposed recovery plan for the southern resident orcas. The legislature intends for the state to participate in the finalization of the federal recovery plan and to take those actions necessary to achieve the continued survival and recovery of southern resident orcas, in cooperation with federal agencies, tribal and local governments, and nongovernmental organizations.

Requires the department of fish and wildlife and the team to, by November 1, 2009: (1) Briefly summarize the actions taken under this act;

(2) Briefly summarize additional efforts necessary to achieve orca recovery that are appropriate for implementation at the state or local level; and

(3) Provide any legislative recommendations necessary to achieve orca recovery in the form of draft legislation.