
SENATE BILL 5907

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Salomon, Liias, and Nobles

Prefiled 12/26/23. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing for recreational licensing of
2 eulachon, crawfish, and carp; amending RCW 77.32.010; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that as
6 Washington's growing population accesses limited natural resources,
7 there is a need to increase compliance, and provide education, on
8 appropriate gear, seasons, and species take limits.

9 (2) The legislature further finds that previously unregulated
10 species are under increased recreational harvest. Recreational
11 licensing is an appropriate mechanism to educate the public and
12 preserve opportunity in the future.

13 (3) The legislature further finds that eulachon, also known as
14 Pacific smelt and Columbia river smelt, are listed as a threatened
15 species under the endangered species act and licensing requirements
16 are needed to provide angler education and allow for better
17 regulation and monitoring to prevent them from becoming endangered.

18 (4) The legislature also finds that licensing for carp will aid
19 in enforcement of illegal fishing where people fishing for regulated
20 species without a required license have claimed to be fishing for

1 carp, thereby negatively affecting the fisheries of other regulated
2 species.

3 (5) The legislature further finds that licensing for crawfish
4 will provide the public with education that enables them to
5 distinguish between native and invasive crawfish species,
6 facilitating the removal of invasive crawfish.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.32.010 and 2019 c 290 s 3 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or department
10 rule, a recreational license issued by the director is required to
11 hunt, fish, or take wildlife or seaweed. A ~~((recreational fishing or~~
12 ~~shellfish license is not required for carp, freshwater smelt, and~~
13 ~~crawfish, and a))~~ hunting license is not required for bullfrogs.

14 (2) A pass or permit issued under RCW 79A.80.020, 79A.80.030, or
15 79A.80.040 is required to park or operate a motor vehicle on a
16 recreation site or lands, as defined in RCW 79A.80.010.

17 (3) The commission may, by rule, indicate that a fishing permit
18 issued to a nontribal member by the Colville Tribes shall satisfy the
19 license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on the waters
20 of Lake Rufus Woods and on the north shore of Lake Rufus Woods, and
21 that a Colville Tribes tribal member identification card shall
22 satisfy the license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on
23 all waters of Lake Rufus Woods.

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