## 6206-S2 AMH FW H4472.1

2 **2SSB 6206** - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife

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- 5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 6 following:
- 7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A warm water game fish enhancement program 8 is created in the department to be funded from the sale of a warm water game fish surcharge and the revenue attributed to the sale of 9 department fishing licenses that are purchased by fishers who fish for 10 certain warm water game fish species. The enhancement program shall be 11 12 designed to increase the opportunities to fish for and catch warm water game fish including: Largemouth black bass, smallmouth black bass, 13 channel catfish, black crappie, white crappie, walleye, and tiger 14 musky, and other species as defined by the department. The program 15 16 shall be designed to use a practical applied approach to increasing 17 warm water fishing. The department shall use the funds available efficiently to assure the greatest increase in the fishing for warm 18 19 water fish at the lowest cost. This approach shall involve the 20 minimization of overhead and administrative costs and the maximization of productive in-the-field activities. 21
- 22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. In order to fish throughout the state for 23 warm water game fish, a person fifteen years of age or older shall pay to the department an annual warm water game fish surcharge. For the 24 purposes of this section, "warm water game fish" means largemouth black 25 26 bass, smallmouth black bass, walleye, black crappie, white crappie, channel catfish, and tiger musky. The department shall use the most 27 cost-effective format in designing and administering the surcharge. 28 29 Revenues from the surcharge shall be deposited in the warm water game 30 fish account created under section 4 of this act. The annual surcharge 31 shall be in the following amounts:
- (1) For residents and nonresidents between fifteen and sixty-nine years of age and for nonresidents seventy years of age or older who hold an annual fishing license issued under RCW 77.32.101, five dollars;

- 1 (2) For residents seventy years of age or older who hold an annual 2 fishing license issued under RCW 77.32.101, one dollar; and
- 3 (3) For residents and nonresidents between fifteen and sixty-nine 4 years of age and nonresidents seventy years of age and older who hold 5 a temporary fishing license under RCW 77.32.161, two dollars.

Sec. 3. The goals of the warm water game fish 6 NEW SECTION. 7 enhancement program are to improve the fishing for warm water game fish using cost-effective management. Development of new ponds and lakes 8 9 shall be an important and integral part of the program. The department shall work with the department of natural resources to coordinate the 10 reclamation of surface mines and the development of warm water game 11 Improvement of warm water fishing shall be coordinated 12 fish ponds. with the protection and conservation of cold water fish populations. 13 14 This shall be accomplished by carefully designing the warm water 15 projects to have minimal adverse effects upon the cold water fish New pond and lake development should have beneficial 16 effects upon wildlife due to the increase in lacustrine and wetland 17 18 habitat that will accompany the improvement of warm water fish habitat. The department shall not develop projects that will increase the 19 populations of undesirable or deleterious fish species such as carp, 20 squawfish, walking catfish, and others. 21

Fish culture programs shall be used in conditions where they will prove to be cost-effective. Consideration should be made for development of urban area enhancement of fishing opportunity for put-and-take species, such as channel catfish, which are amenable to production by low-cost fish culture methods. Fish culture shall also be used for stocking of high value species, such as walleye, smallmouth bass, and tiger musky. Introduction of special genetic strains that show high potential for recreational fishing improvement, including Florida strain largemouth bass, shall be considered.

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Transplantation and introduction of exotic warm water fish shall be carefully reviewed to assure that adverse effects to native fish and wildlife populations do not occur. This review shall include an analysis of consequences from disease and parasite introduction.

Population management through the use of fish toxicants, including rotenone or derris root, shall be considered as a management option in the warm water game fish enhancement program. However, any use of fish toxicants shall be subject to a thorough review to prevent adverse

- 1 effects to cold water fish, desirable warm water fish, and other biota.
- 2 Eradication of deleterious fish species shall be a goal of the program.
- 3 Habitat improvement shall be a major aspect of the warm water
- 4 enhancement program. Habitat improvement opportunities shall be
- 5 defined with scientific investigations, field surveys, and by using the
- 6 extensive experience of other state management entities. Installation
- 7 of cover, structure, water flow control structures, screens, spawning
- 8 substrate, vegetation control, and other management techniques shall be
- 9 fully used. The department shall work to gain access to privately
- 10 owned waters that can be developed with habitat improvements to improve
- 11 the warm water resource for public fishing. Habitat improvements shall
- 12 be conducted in such a manner as to have secondary benefits to
- 13 waterfowl, other wildlife, and cold water fish.
- 14 The program may include research if necessary to achieve overall
- 15 program goals.
- 16 The department shall use the resources of cooperative groups to
- 17 assist in the planning and implementation of the warm water game fish
- 18 enhancement program. In the development of the program the department
- 19 shall actively involve the organized fishing clubs that primarily fish
- 20 for warm water fish.
- 21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 4.** The warm water game fish account is hereby
- 22 created in the state wildlife fund. Moneys in the account are subject
- 23 to legislative appropriation and shall be used for the purpose of
- 24 funding the warm water game fish enhancement program under section 3 of
- 25 this act. Revenues from the warm water game fish surcharge established
- 26 under section 2 of this act shall be deposited into the account.
- 27 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** The director shall make every effort to
- 28 allocate funding among department fish management programs proportional
- 29 to the revenues from the sale of fishing licenses issued under RCW
- 30 77.32.101 and attributable to fishing for the species managed within
- 31 each of the programs.
- 32 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act shall
- 33 constitute a new chapter in Title 77 RCW.
- 34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 7.** (1) Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this act
- 35 shall take effect July 1, 1994.

1 (2) Section 2 of this act shall take effect January 1, 1995."

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