

2 SHB 2055 - S AMD TO NAT COMM AMD (S-3070.1/93)  
3 By Senators Owen, Oke, Sutherland and Erwin

4 ADOPTED 4/12/93

5 On page 48, after line 2 of the amendment, insert the following:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 83.** The legislature finds that recreational  
7 fishing opportunities for salmon and marine bottomfish have been  
8 dwindling in recent years. It is important to restore diminished  
9 recreational fisheries and to enhance the salmon and marine bottomfish  
10 resource to assure sustained productivity. Investments made in  
11 recreational fishing programs will repay the people of the state many  
12 times over in increased economic activity and in an improved quality of  
13 life.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 84.** There is created a new position in the  
15 department subject to the civil service law, chapter 41.06 RCW, to be  
16 known as the sport fishing program administrator. The sport fishing  
17 program administrator shall be an advocate for increasing recreational  
18 salmon and marine bottomfish harvesting opportunities through programs  
19 specifically designed to improve recreational fishing in south Puget  
20 Sound, central Puget Sound, north Puget Sound, Hood Canal, and Lake  
21 Washington.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 85.** The duties of the sport fishing program  
23 administrator are to use resources within the department to: Develop  
24 a short-term program of hatchery-based salmon enhancement using  
25 freshwater pond sites for the final rearing phase; solicit support from  
26 cooperative projects, regional enhancement groups, and other supporting  
27 organizations; conduct comprehensive research on resident and migratory  
28 salmon production opportunities; and conduct research on marine  
29 bottomfish production limitations and on methods for artificial  
30 propagation of marine bottomfish.

31 Long-term duties of the sport fishing program administrator are to:  
32 Fully implement enhancement efforts for Puget Sound and Hood Canal  
33 resident salmon and marine bottomfish; identify opportunities to  
34 reestablish salmon runs into areas where they no longer exist;

1 encourage naturally spawning salmon populations to develop to their  
2 fullest extent; and fully utilize hatchery programs to improve  
3 recreational fishing.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 86.** The department shall seek recommendations  
5 from persons who are expert on the planning and operation of programs  
6 for enhancement of recreational fisheries. The department shall fully  
7 use the expertise of the University of Washington college of fisheries  
8 and the sea grant program to develop research and enhancement programs.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 87.** The department shall develop new locations  
10 for the freshwater rearing of delayed-release chinook salmon. In  
11 calendar year 1994, at least one freshwater pond chinook salmon rearing  
12 site shall be developed and begin production in each of the following  
13 areas: South Puget Sound, central Puget Sound, north Puget Sound, and  
14 Hood Canal. Natural or artificial pond sites shall be preferred to net  
15 pens due to higher survival rates experienced from pond rearing.  
16 Rigorous predatory bird control measures shall be implemented. The  
17 goal of the program is to increase the production and planting of  
18 delayed release chinook salmon to a level of three million fish  
19 annually by the year 2000.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 88.** The department shall conduct research,  
21 develop methods, and implement programs for the artificial rearing and  
22 release of marine bottomfish species. Lingcod, halibut, rockfish, and  
23 Pacific cod shall be the species of primary emphasis due to their  
24 importance in the recreational fishery.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 89.** The department shall undertake additional  
26 research to more fully evaluate improved enhancement techniques,  
27 hooking mortality rates, methods of mass marking, improvement of catch  
28 models, and sources of marine bottomfish mortality. Research shall be  
29 designed to give the best opportunity to provide information that can  
30 be applied to real-world recreational fishing needs.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 90.** The department shall work with the  
32 department of ecology, the department of wildlife, and local government  
33 entities to streamline the siting process for new enhancement projects.  
34 The department is encouraged to work with the legislature to develop

1 statutory changes that enable expeditious processing and granting of  
2 permits for fish enhancement projects.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 91.** The department's information and education  
4 section shall develop a public awareness program designed to educate  
5 the public on the elements of the recreational fishing program and to  
6 recruit volunteers to assist the department in implementing  
7 recreational fishing projects. Economic benefits of the program shall  
8 be emphasized.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 92.** The department shall increase efforts to  
10 document the effects of bird predators, harbor seals, sea lions, and  
11 predatory fish upon the salmon and marine fish resource. Every  
12 opportunity shall be explored to convince the federal government to  
13 amend the marine mammal protection act to allow for lethal removal of  
14 predatory marine mammals, as well as to work with the United States  
15 fish and wildlife service to achieve workable control measures for  
16 predatory birds.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 93.** Indian tribal fishing interests and non-  
18 Indian commercial fishing groups shall be invited to participate in  
19 development of plans for selective fisheries that target hatchery-  
20 produced fish and minimize catch of naturally spawned fish. In  
21 addition, talks shall be initiated on the feasibility of altering the  
22 rearing programs of department hatcheries to achieve higher survival  
23 and greater production of chinook and coho salmon.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 94.** The department shall coordinate the sport  
25 fishing program with the wild stock initiative to assure that the two  
26 programs are compatible and potential conflicts are avoided.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 95.** The department shall develop plans for  
28 increased recreational access to salmon and marine fish resources.  
29 Proposals for new boat launching ramps and pier fishing access shall be  
30 developed.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 96.** The department shall contract with private  
32 consultants, aquatic farms, or construction firms, where appropriate,

1 to achieve the highest benefit-to-cost ratio for recreational fishing  
2 projects.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 97.** The requirements and provisions of this  
4 chapter are to be performed in addition to and not at the expense of  
5 existing salmon programs of the department. Nothing in this chapter  
6 shall be construed to authorize the department to advocate or to  
7 improve recreational fishing at the expense of commercial fishing or to  
8 increase recreational enhancement to the detriment of commercial  
9 enhancement.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 98.** Beginning January 1, 1994, persons who  
11 recreationally fish for salmon or marine bottomfish in marine area  
12 codes 5 through 13 shall be assessed an annual recreational surcharge  
13 of ten dollars, in addition to other licensing requirements. Funds  
14 from the surcharge shall be deposited in the recreational fisheries  
15 enhancement account created in section 99 of this act, except that the  
16 first five hundred thousand dollars shall be deposited in the general  
17 fund before June 30, 1995, to repay the appropriation made by section  
18 20, chapter . . . . ., Laws of 1993 (section 102 of this act).

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 99.** The recreational fisheries enhancement  
20 account is created in the state treasury. All receipts from section 98  
21 of this act shall be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account  
22 may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account  
23 may be used only for recreational fisheries enhancement programs.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 100.** The department shall develop and present  
25 to the legislature, no later than January 1, 1994, proposed legislation  
26 for a recreational fishing capital facilities improvement program  
27 financed through general obligation bonds.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** Sections 84 through 99 of this act shall  
29 constitute a new chapter in Title 75 RCW.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** The sum of five hundred thousand dollars,  
31 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the  
32 biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the  
33 recreational fisheries enhancement account created in section 99 of

1 this act for the purpose of achieving early implementation of this act.  
2 Funds appropriated by this section shall be repaid to the general fund  
3 from the proceeds of the surcharge established in section 98 of this  
4 act. Repayment shall occur before June 30, 1995.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** Sections 83 through 102 of this act are  
6 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health,  
7 or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public  
8 institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1993."

9 Renumber the remaining section consecutively.

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13 On page 48, line 23 of the title amendment, after "43 RCW;" insert  
14 "adding a new chapter to Title 75 RCW;"

15 On page 48, line 24 of the title amendment, after "43.131.376;"  
16 strike the remainder of the title and insert "making an appropriation;  
17 providing effective dates; and declaring an emergency."

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