

2 ESHB 2741 - S COMM AMD  
3 By Committee on Natural Resources

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

8 (1) In times of decreasing revenues and increasing demands, it is  
9 critically important to ensure the efficient use of scarce financial  
10 resources by avoiding overlap and duplication of effort among  
11 watershed-based planning efforts;

12 (2) Comprehensive planning for the management of natural resources  
13 on a watershed basis is desirable because it has the potential to  
14 address multiple concerns in an integrated and efficient manner;

15 (3) Implementation of watershed-based planning may be complicated  
16 by multiple land ownerships, different management missions and  
17 objectives, different ways of collecting information, and legal  
18 constraints such as federal and state antitrust statutes;

19 (4) Many different entities, including federal, state, and local  
20 governments, tribes, and landowners are already conducting watershed-  
21 based planning, research, and monitoring programs;

22 (5) There exists a compelling need for a consistent process for  
23 collecting and sharing information and data among all interested  
24 parties; and

25 (6) There also exists a compelling need to ensure that the goals  
26 and objectives of watershed planning efforts are coordinated and  
27 consistent with each other.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) State agencies involved in watershed-  
29 based natural resource planning efforts shall coordinate their planning  
30 and implementation processes. These cooperating state agencies shall  
31 include, but not be limited to, the departments of natural resources,  
32 agriculture, ecology, fish and wildlife, health, and community, trade,  
33 and economic development; the Puget Sound water quality authority; and  
34 the office of the governor. These agencies will meet as a group and  
35 include at those meetings representatives of federal agencies, local

1 governments, tribes, private landowners, environmental groups, the  
2 public water supply entities utilizing water from the watershed,  
3 resource user groups, and other interested parties.

4 (2) The commissioner of public lands shall coordinate discussions  
5 of watershed-based natural resource planning among these various  
6 parties. The department of natural resources will provide a reasonable  
7 level of staff support for the work of the group.

8 (3) On or before December 15, 1994, the department of natural  
9 resources shall prepare a report for the legislature based on the  
10 group's discussions and findings. At a minimum this report shall  
11 include:

12 (a) Identification of barriers to coordination and cooperation in  
13 watershed-based planning and management of natural resources;

14 (b) Recommendations on the collection, storage, and maintenance of  
15 information in watershed analysis, planning, monitoring, and research  
16 programs. These recommendations could lead to the establishment of  
17 protocols governing data collection and information exchange;

18 (c) Identification of actual and potential overlap and duplication  
19 of effort in watershed-based natural resource planning efforts;

20 (d) Identification of gaps of coverage in existing and proposed  
21 watershed planning projects;

22 (e) Examination of the possible establishment of a central  
23 depository and of a process for periodically updating and distributing  
24 information on watershed-based natural resource planning efforts;

25 (f) Identification of strategies for developing cooperative  
26 watershed-based planning efforts which provide an opportunity for  
27 participants to:

28 (i) Establish coordinated and consistent goals and objectives which  
29 emphasize the natural and economic values of the watershed; and

30 (ii) Identify approaches for coordinating and financing the  
31 implementation of watershed-based plans; and

32 (g) A process providing for ongoing review, revision, and update of  
33 watershed-based plans and management activities."

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1        On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "planning;" strike the  
2 remainder of the title and insert "and creating new sections."

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