

2 **E2SSB 5342** - H AMD 738 FAILED 4/13/95
3 By Representative Kessler and others

4

5 On page 41, after line 7, insert the following:

6 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 33. The sum of fifteen million dollars, or as
7 much thereof as may be necessary is appropriated for the biennium
8 ending June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the department of fish
9 and wildlife for the watershed restoration jobs grant program.

10 (1) The goals of this program are to:

11 (a) Restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat in priority
12 watersheds as established by the watershed coordinating council;

13 (b) Provide good wage jobs for dislocated natural resource workers
14 in distressed communities;

15 (c) Assist in establishing new businesses in watershed restoration;
16 and

17 (d) Carry out projects developed through local initiatives.

18 (2) Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars of this amount is provided
19 solely for watershed restoration programs to be completed by the
20 department of ecology s Washington conservation corps crews in priority
21 watersheds as established by the watershed coordinating council.

22 (3) Five hundred seventy thousand dollars of this amount shall be
23 used by the department of fish and wildlife to provide technical and
24 engineering support for watershed restoration projects and to monitor
25 implemented projects.

26 (4) State agencies shall expend no more than three percent of total
27 funding for direct administration of this program, except funds
28 expended by the Washington conservation corp shall be subject solely to
29 the limitations set forth in RCW 43.220.230. Of this amount three
30 hundred fifty thousand dollars is solely for the department of fish and
31 wildlife to administer the program. The remaining amount may be used
32 by appropriate state agencies as determined by the watershed
33 restoration jobs grant advisory task force created in subsection (7) of
34 this section.

35 (5) State agencies, local governments, tribes, and nonprofit
36 organizations shall be eligible for these grants. Funds may be

1 expended for directly associated planning, design, and engineering
2 costs. Funds shall be used for specific projects and not for ongoing
3 operational costs. Examples of the type of eligible projects include,
4 but are not limited to, closure or improvement of forest roads, repair
5 of culverts, removal of fish passage barriers, and stream restoration
6 and protection.

7 (6) At least eleven million dollars of this amount shall be
8 allocated for projects selected on the following basis:

9 (a) The watershed priorities established by the watershed
10 coordinating council;

11 (b) The number of dislocated natural resource workers employed by
12 the project;

13 (c) The extent to which the project fits into an existing watershed
14 plan;

15 (d) The extent of local partnerships or match for the project.

16 (7) Two million dollars of this amount shall be allocated for
17 projects in nonpriority watersheds, which are based on strong
18 scientific principles and which employ dislocated natural resource
19 workers.

20 (8) The department of fish and wildlife and the department of
21 natural resources shall administer the program in consultation with the
22 watershed coordinating council. For the purposes of administering this
23 program the department of fish and wildlife and the department of
24 natural resources shall create a watershed restoration jobs grant
25 advisory task force. This task force shall consist of the department
26 of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources, the
27 department of ecology, the Puget Sound water quality authority, the
28 executive director of the Washington conservation commission, the
29 employment security department, the work force training board, and the
30 rural community assistance coordinator who shall serve as the task
31 force chair. The task force shall consult with tribal governments, the
32 federal government, and labor and other interested stakeholders.

33 (9) The department of fish and wildlife and the department of
34 natural resources shall, in consultation with the watershed
35 coordinating council, provide a report on the effectiveness of the
36 watershed restoration jobs grant program to the governor and
37 legislature by October 1, 1996."

1 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively, correct internal
2 references accordingly, and fix the title.

3 EFFECT: Appropriates \$15 million for the watershed restoration
4 jobs grant program.

--- END ---