

1 **2SSB 5886 - H AMD 596 ADOPTED 4-15-97**

2 By Representative Buck

3 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
4 following:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6 (1) Currently, many of the salmon stocks on the Washington coast  
7 and in Puget Sound are severely depressed and may soon be listed under  
8 the federal endangered species act.

9 (2) Immediate action is needed to reverse the severe decline of  
10 this resource and ensure its very survival.

11 (3) The cooperation and participation of private landowners is  
12 crucial in efforts to restore and enhance salmon populations.

13 (4) Regional fisheries enhancement groups have been exceptionally  
14 successful in their efforts to work with private landowners to restore  
15 and enhance salmon habitat on private lands.

16 (5) Regional fisheries enhancement groups have provided the most  
17 cost-effective approach to assisting the recovery of salmon fisheries  
18 in Washington state. Work undertaken by regional fisheries enhancement  
19 groups returns an average of nine dollars in matching funds for every  
20 one dollar in expenditures from the regional enhancement account.

21 (6) State funding for regional fisheries enhancement groups has  
22 been declining and is a significant limitation to current fisheries  
23 enhancement and habitat restoration efforts.

24 (7) Therefore, a stable funding source is essential to the success  
25 of the regional enhancement groups and their efforts to work  
26 cooperatively with private landowners to restore salmon resources.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 75.50 RCW  
28 to read as follows:

29 The department may provide start-up funds to regional fisheries  
30 enhancement groups for costs associated with any enhancement project.  
31 The regional fisheries enhancement group advisory board and the  
32 department shall develop guidelines for providing funds to the regional  
33 fisheries enhancement groups.

1           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 75.50 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3           (1) The regional fisheries enhancement project account is created  
4 in the state treasury. All receipts from federal sources and moneys  
5 from state sources specified by law must be deposited into the account.  
6 Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation.  
7 Expenditures from the account may be used for the sole purpose of  
8 fisheries enhancement and habitat restoration by regional fisheries  
9 enhancement groups.

10          (2) The salmonid recovery account is created in the custody of the  
11 state treasurer. All receipts from private gifts, grants, bequests,  
12 and donations must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from  
13 the account may be used for the sole purpose of fisheries enhancement  
14 and habitat restoration by regional fisheries enhancement groups. Only  
15 the director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from  
16 the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under  
17 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for  
18 expenditures.-

19           Correct the title.

**EFFECT:** Creates two accounts dedicated to regional fisheries enhancement groups. The account consisting of federal and state appropriations is legislatively appropriated; the account consisting of private donations is not. The Department of Fish and Wildlife is authorized to provide start-up funds to regional fisheries enhancement groups.