
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5008

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Shorelines
(originally sponsored by Senators Stevens, Swecker, Zarelli,
Hochstatter and Rossi)

READ FIRST TIME 02/27/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to primary and secondary forest roads; creating new
2 sections; and making appropriations.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is important that the state of Washington
5 provide adequate access to outdoor recreation opportunities, while at
6 the same time ensuring that such access is compatible with prudent land
7 management and species protection under the forests and fish agreement
8 and the department of natural resources habitat conservation plan. The
9 legislature recognizes that nonhighway road access is a critical
10 component of outdoor recreation opportunity, either as a means for
11 reaching a recreation destination, or as part of the recreation
12 experience itself. As road access decreases on federal and private
13 lands due to road closures, public use of roads on state-owned lands is
14 increasing. This places a greater burden, from potential overuse of
15 roads and increased public misuse, on state land management agencies
16 such as the department of natural resources. The legislature also
17 recognizes the importance of fully understanding the feasibility and
18 associated costs of increasing public access to public lands, while
19 maintaining the safety of the public and employees of land management

1 agencies and avoiding additional environmental impacts or loss of
2 public resources.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of natural resources shall
4 undertake a study of state trust lands and report back to the
5 legislature by July 1, 2003, concerning:

6 (1) Problems created by vandalism, garbage, and illegal materials
7 dumping, other misuses of public resources, and the causes of such
8 problems;

9 (2) Recommendations on how to collaboratively approach these
10 problems, including issues of law enforcement;

11 (3) Recommendations on needed state legislation;

12 (4) The estimated costs to implement such recommendations; and

13 (5) An analysis of road standards, current and anticipated public
14 use of roads on public lands, the estimated costs associated with
15 ensuring that roads are maintained to standards that will provide a
16 greater value to the state land management agencies, and the public's
17 future use and benefit. This analysis must be consistent with road
18 maintenance and abandonment plans required under the forests and fish
19 agreement. Special consideration must be given to forest roads and
20 public access issues in the Cascade foothills region of Snohomish,
21 King, and Pierce counties.

22 In carrying out the study, the department of natural resources must
23 involve federal and state land management agencies, including, but not
24 limited to, the United States department of agriculture, the United
25 States forest service, the bureau of land management, the national park
26 service, the United States fish and wildlife service, the Washington
27 department of fish and wildlife, the state parks and recreation
28 commission, and the interagency committee for outdoor recreation. The
29 department of natural resources must also involve representatives of
30 private landowners, county parks, recreation groups, members of the
31 disabled community, and the federally recognized tribes in Washington
32 state.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars,
34 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
35 year ending June 30, 2002, from the general fund to the department of
36 natural resources for the purposes of this act.

1 (2) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as
2 may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30,
3 2003, from the general fund to the department of natural resources for
4 the purposes of this act.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
6 act referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
7 June 30, 2001, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
8 void.

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