
SENATE BILL 6727

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Poulsen, Keiser and Prentice

Read first time 01/30/2002. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Shorelines.

1 AN ACT Relating to the protection of salmon spawning beds; adding
2 a new section to chapter 77.95 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.95 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1)(a) The department must prohibit activities that harm or disturb
7 the spawning beds of salmon during periods when nests of eggs are
8 incubating. These activities include, but are not limited to, wading
9 in or standing on, driving vehicles or motorized boats over, dragging
10 of boat anchors through, digging in or removing spawning gravel, scuba
11 diving, or any other physical disturbance of the salmon spawning beds.

12 (b) During egg incubation periods, fishing is allowed only from
13 shore or from a nonpowered boat that is free floating or tethered to an
14 above water appurtenance. A violation of this subsection (1)(b) is an
15 infraction under chapter 7.84 RCW and is subject to a penalty of not
16 less than one hundred dollars per violation.

17 (2) The department must adopt rules to implement subsection (1) of
18 this section and must include the information in brochures that are

1 normally disseminated to persons applying for hunting, fishing, and
2 boating licenses in retail outlets that cater to outdoor recreation.

3 (3) The department, at its discretion, may allow specific
4 activities such as bridge construction and repair, flood control, bank
5 restoration, and other necessary activities. The department may also
6 allow specified recreational activities, such as swimming and wading in
7 specified areas such as forest service camps, public parks, and private
8 resorts.

9 (4) The department must work cooperatively with native American
10 tribal comanagers for fish resources in implementing and enforcing the
11 requirements of this section.

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