
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2753

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville and Rockefeller)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to the management of state-owned forest land;
2 amending RCW 79.10.320; creating new sections; providing an expiration
3 date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that trust
6 beneficiaries, rural communities, and sustainable forest harvest
7 management may benefit if wood produced on state-owned forests can be
8 certified as sustainable and marketed as such. It is the intent of
9 this legislation to provide the legislature, the board of natural
10 resources, and other interested parties with the information that will
11 allow for an informed decision on this policy question prior to the
12 final adoption of a sustainable harvest calculation by the board of
13 natural resources.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of natural resources
15 shall prepare a report for the legislature and the board of natural
16 resources that identifies:

17 (a) What changes to the current state forest management practices,
18 including the provisions of any applicable habitat conservation plans,

1 need to be implemented for state-managed forests to achieve third-party
2 sustainable forestry certification under the standards of major
3 sustainable forestry certification organizations;

4 (b) What added changes in operational costs would be associated
5 with the changes in management practices necessary to achieve
6 certifications;

7 (c) Whether and how the preferred sustainable harvest level
8 alternative identified by the board of natural resources would satisfy
9 the state's responsibilities under any applicable habitat conservation
10 plans; and

11 (d) How the preferred sustainable harvest level calculation
12 identified by the board of natural resources increases or decreases the
13 cost of compliance with the standards of major sustainable forestry
14 certification organizations.

15 (2) The department of natural resources shall complete its report
16 and submit it to the board of natural resources and the appropriate
17 standing committees of the legislature no later than September 14,
18 2004. The department shall include in its report sufficient detail on
19 its calculations to facilitate the review and comment process
20 established in subsection (3) of this section.

21 (3) The department of natural resources shall make copies of the
22 report available to any interested party who wishes to review and
23 comment on the report. Comments should be addressed to the chairs of
24 the appropriate standing committees of the legislature.

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 79.10.320 and 2003 c 334 s 538 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (1) The department shall manage the state-owned lands under its
28 jurisdiction which are primarily valuable for the purpose of growing
29 forest crops on a sustained yield basis insofar as compatible with
30 other statutory directives. To this end, the department shall
31 periodically adjust the acreages designated for inclusion in the
32 sustained yield management program and calculate a sustainable harvest
33 level.

34 (2) For the final sustainable harvest level intended to be adopted
35 by the board during calendar year 2004, the board may identify a single
36 preferred harvest level alternative, and may only adopt a sustainable
37 harvest level after:

1 (a) The report required in section 2 of this act has been produced
2 and delivered to the appropriate standing committees of the
3 legislature;

4 (b) A legislative review of the report has been conducted by the
5 appropriate standing committees of the legislature; and

6 (c) At least one hearing has been held by the board of natural
7 resources on the findings in the report and the results of the
8 legislative review.

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. This act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
12 immediately.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This act expires July 1, 2005.

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