

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6023

As of February 5, 2010

Title: An act relating to accessing lands for outdoor recreation.

Brief Description: Concerning accessing lands for outdoor recreation.

Sponsors: Senator Jacobsen.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation: 2/19/09.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, OCEAN & RECREATION

Staff: Sherry McNamara (786-7402)

Background: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) manages nearly a million acres of wildlife habitat and more than 150 water access sites. These lands provide wildlife protection while also allowing wildlife viewing, hiking, water sports, hunting, fishing, and other compatible recreation.

A Vehicle Use Permit is required to be displayed when using these recreation access sites. Improved access facilities are identified areas specifically created for vehicle parking and recreation use activities.

Currently, a Vehicle Use Permit costs \$10.95 for the year. Hunters and fishers get a Vehicle Use Permit without additional cost, as part of their license purchase. Prominent red and white regulatory signs are placed at sites where a Vehicle Use Permit is required.

Summary of Bill: Persons with a motor vehicle displaying a Washington's Wildlife, Wild on Washington, or an Endangered Wildlife special license plate authorized by the Department of Licensing do not need to display a current Vehicle Use Permit when using WDFW recreation access sites.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

[OFM requested ten-year cost projection pursuant to I-960.]

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: OTHER: The WDFW would like to merge this concept with the house bill that increases the cost of a Vehicle Use Permit in steps from \$10 to \$30. The house bill version also provides WDFW with the ability to provide enhanced website access with special features to persons holding a Vehicle Use Permit.

Persons Testifying: OTHER: Steve Pozzanghera, WDFW.