

2SHB 2047 - H AMD 388

By Representative Ramos

NOT CONSIDERED 12/23/2019

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington
4 is one of twenty-two states that have formed the United States
5 climate alliance. The natural and working lands initiative within
6 this alliance was created to identify best practices and policy
7 pathways for protecting and enhancing resilient carbon sinks on
8 natural and working lands and in forest products. Natural and working
9 land types include forests, croplands, rangelands, wetlands,
10 grasslands, aquatic lands, and urban green space.

11 (2) The legislature intends Washington to continue to participate
12 in the natural and working lands initiative to identify opportunities
13 to advance carbon sequestration and storage regarding natural and
14 working lands and forest products, including:

15 (a) Improving inventory methods for land-based carbon flux;

16 (b) Identifying best practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
17 and increase resilient carbon sequestration, including through forest
18 products;

19 (c) Advancing programs, policies, and incentives to reduce
20 greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing catastrophic wildfire,
21 and enhance resilient carbon sequestration;

22 (d) Undertaking actions that will support a collective alliance-
23 wide goal to maintain natural and working lands as a net sink of
24 carbon and to protect and increase carbon storage capacity, while
25 balancing near and long-term sequestration objectives;

26 (e) Integrating priority actions and pathways into state
27 greenhouse gas mitigation plans by 2020; and

28 (f) Recognizing the carbon sequestration benefits of forest
29 products based on a life-cycle analysis and product substitution.

30 (3) The legislature further intends that the state should build
31 on existing efforts to understand carbon stocks, flux, trends,
32 emissions, and benefits of carbon sequestration in forest products

1 across the state's natural and working lands and identify
2 opportunities to improve these inventories. This work must supplement
3 existing inventories and scientifically based methodologies with the
4 goal to improve inventory methods for land-based carbon flux in
5 Washington state and to link carbon sequestration on natural and
6 working lands in the state with the products made from those lands.

7 (4) This section expires January 1, 2023.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
9 appropriated for this specific purpose, the department must build on
10 existing efforts to conduct inventories of carbon stocks, flux,
11 trends, emissions, and sequestration in wood products across the
12 state's terrestrial and aquatic lands and fill information gaps to
13 develop a more complete inventory of carbon on natural and working
14 lands.

15 (2) The department must coordinate with the natural and working
16 lands carbon sequestration advisory group created in section 4 of
17 this act in the implementation of this section. This includes sharing
18 with the advisory group the results of the inventory already
19 initiated on carbon flux, stocks, trends, and forest products carbon
20 sequestration on all forestlands throughout the state.

21 (3) By December 1, 2020, and consistent with RCW 43.01.036, the
22 department must submit a report to the legislature:

23 (a) Summarizing the results of the inventory required under this
24 section;

25 (b) Assessing any needs to further improve the carbon inventory
26 on natural and working lands, accounting for carbon sequestration in
27 forest products;

28 (c) Recommending, if relevant, improvements in carbon inventory
29 activities such as data collection, frequency of inventory and
30 reporting, and inventory methods; and

31 (d) Recommending an appropriate schedule on which the department
32 will update or recomplete the carbon inventory initiated under this
33 section for the purposes of sufficiently identifying stocks, flux,
34 and trends in carbon related to Washington's natural and working
35 lands.

36 (4) This section expires January 1, 2023.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
38 appropriated for this specific purpose, the department may serve in a

1 liaison role to assist interested owners of private and other
2 nonstate-owned or managed forestland and aquatic lands to connect
3 with existing opportunities to be compensated for carbon services and
4 other incentive-based carbon reducing programs.

5 (2) The department must coordinate with the natural and working
6 lands carbon sequestration advisory group created in section 4 of
7 this act in the implementation of this section.

8 (3) Nothing in the section requires a landowner to:

9 (a) Use the state as a liaison or a resource in pursuing
10 opportunities in carbon markets; or

11 (b) Participate in a carbon market or incentive program.

12 (4) Nothing in the section is intended to change or interfere
13 with landowner property rights.

14 (5) The department must issue a final report to the legislature
15 by December 1, 2022, and an interim report by December 1, 2020,
16 consistent with RCW 43.01.036, that:

17 (a) Detail the programs related to the implementation of this
18 section;

19 (b) Identify barriers, including costs, to the use of incentive-
20 based carbon reducing or sequestering programs;

21 (c) Identify roles public and private entities may serve in
22 connecting landowners to incentive-based carbon reducing or
23 sequestering programs;

24 (d) Identify any challenges emerging from an expanded use of
25 carbon markets, including impacts to workforce and infrastructure
26 availability, and make recommendations to avoid these impacts; and

27 (e) Explore how existing federal, state, and private programs may
28 be leveraged, coordinated, and supplemented to achieve carbon
29 beneficial results in natural and working lands and identify
30 roadblocks to achieve better scalability.

31 (6) This section expires January 1, 2023.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
33 appropriated for this specific purpose, the office of the governor
34 and the department must form a natural and working lands carbon
35 sequestration advisory group.

36 (2) The advisory group created by this section has the following
37 duties:

38 (a) To advise the state on participation in the United States
39 climate alliance natural and working lands initiative;

1 (b) To advise the state on inventory methods under section 2 of
2 this act;

3 (c) To advise the state on strategies to effectively advance and
4 accelerate carbon sequestration on natural and working lands
5 throughout the state, including in forest products, while maintaining
6 and enhancing the forest products industry; and

7 (d) To provide expertise and information related to the
8 implementation of sections 2 and 3 of this act.

9 (3) (a) To the extent feasible, members of the advisory group must
10 be composed of interests that reflect the diverse interests and
11 expertise involved on the subject of carbon sequestration on natural
12 and working lands as those lands are defined by this act. This
13 advisory group must be composed of the following representatives or a
14 representative of an association that represents such an entity:

15 (i) Two representatives of the department, including proprietary
16 management;

17 (ii) One invited representative of a tribal government that
18 manages working forestland;

19 (iii) An environmental nongovernment organization;

20 (iv) A large private forestland owner;

21 (v) A small forestland owner;

22 (vi) The consortium for research on renewable industrial
23 materials;

24 (vii) The University of Washington's center for international
25 trade in forest products;

26 (viii) A forest product manufacturer;

27 (ix) The shellfish industry;

28 (x) A conservation nongovernment organization that owns and
29 manages natural and working lands;

30 (xi) A federal government agency that manages natural and working
31 lands;

32 (xii) A local government agency that manages natural and working
33 lands; and

34 (xiii) The governor's office.

35 (b) The natural and working lands carbon sequestration advisory
36 group established in this section constitutes a class one group under
37 RCW 43.03.220.

38 (c) The office of the governor and the department may add
39 additional members to the advisory group as deemed beneficial for the
40 discussion around working and natural land uses not represented in

1 the enumerated members provided in this section. The office of the
2 governor and the department must strive to maintain a balance of
3 representation on the advisory group and advisory group members must
4 approve additional members by a majority vote.

5 (4) The office of the governor and the department must jointly
6 submit recommendations resulting from the natural and working lands
7 carbon sequestration advisory group to the legislature by December 1,
8 2020.

9 (5) This section expires January 1, 2023.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act
11 constitute a new chapter in Title 79 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** If specific funding for the purposes of
13 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
14 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
15 act is null and void."

16 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Modifies statement of legislative intent.

Requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to coordinate with the Natural and Working Lands Carbon Sequestration Advisory Group created in the act.

Authorizes, rather than requires, the DNR to serve in a liaison role to landowners regarding opportunities to be compensated for carbon services and other incentive-based carbon reducing programs.

Makes various modifications to the section related to the DNR's liaison role, including specifying that landowners are not required to participate in a carbon market or incentive program, and that nothing in the section is intended to change landowner property rights.

Modifies the scope of the DNR's liaison report, including adding a requirement that the report explore how existing public and private programs can be coordinated to achieve beneficial results in natural and working lands.

Changes the deadline for the DNR's final liaison report from December 1, 2023, to December 1, 2022.

Specifies duties for the Natural and Working Lands Carbon Sequestration Advisory Group.

Specifies membership composition of the Natural and Working Lands Carbon Sequestration Advisory Group, including representatives from the DNR, a tribal government that manages working forestland, large and small forestland owners, the shellfish industry, and a

conservation organization that owns and manages natural and working lands, among others.

--- END ---