
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2424

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By House Agriculture and Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Kretz, Lekanoff, Springer, Schmick, Dent, and Chapman)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating cooperative agreements between the
2 state and federally recognized tribes for the successful
3 collaborative management of Washington's wildlife resources; and
4 creating new sections.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
7 confederated tribes of the Colville reservation have been successful
8 in managing both wolves and ungulate populations on the Colville
9 reservation for abundance and to limit conflict with humans and
10 livestock. The legislature further finds that wolf management has
11 been less successful on adjacent lands, including the portion of land
12 north of the current Colville reservation that the confederated
13 tribes of the Colville reservation ceded to the United States in
14 1892, often referred to as "the north half."

15 (2) The legislature finds that the department of fish and
16 wildlife has entered into cooperative agreements with various tribal
17 governments in the state, including the confederated tribes of the
18 Colville reservation, to work on a government-to-government basis to
19 collaboratively manage the state's fish and wildlife. The legislature
20 further finds that the cooperative agreement between the confederated
21 tribes of the Colville reservation and the Washington state

1 department of fish and wildlife addresses cooperative wildlife
2 management on a portion of land ceded to the United States by the
3 Colville tribes. Because the cooperative agreement calls for the
4 review to be dynamic and to be reviewed by the parties annually,
5 making modifications as to which the parties mutually agree, it is
6 the intent of the legislature to enable the department of fish and
7 wildlife to coordinate its wolf management strategies with those
8 proven to be successful by the confederated tribes of the Colville
9 reservation.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department shall engage on a
11 government-to-government basis with the confederated tribes of the
12 Colville reservation for the purpose of seeking to update the 1998
13 cooperative fish and wildlife management agreement entered into
14 between the department and the confederated tribes of the Colville
15 reservation. The purpose of updating the 1998 cooperative agreement
16 is to coordinate the department's approach to wolf management on the
17 north half with the approach to wolf management taken by the
18 confederated tribes of the Colville reservation within the boundaries
19 of the Colville reservation.

20 (2) The department must report to the legislature by June 30,
21 2025, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036, on a plan for the department
22 to coordinate its approach to wolf management on the north half with
23 the approach to wolf management taken by the confederated tribes of
24 the Colville reservation within the boundaries of the Colville
25 reservation.

26 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
27 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

28 (a) "Department" means the department of fish and wildlife.

29 (b) "The north half" means the portion of land originally part of
30 the Colville Indian reservation that the tribes ceded to the federal
31 government in 1892.

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