
SENATE BILL 5104

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Salomon, Rolfes, Lias, Nobles, Pedersen, and Stanford

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1 AN ACT Relating to surveying Puget Sound marine shoreline
2 habitat; adding a new section to chapter 43.21A RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that marine
6 nearshore habitat in Puget Sound is important for the recovery of
7 threatened and endangered species of salmon, orcas, and marine birds.
8 Critical nearshore components include forage fish spawning habitat,
9 submerged aquatic vegetation, benthic substrate, adjacent upland
10 vegetation, and the geomorphic processes that support a healthy
11 ecosystem and food web. Establishing and regularly updating a
12 publicly available baseline survey and map of general shoreline
13 conditions, including the presence, location, and condition of
14 nearshore development, is a critical tool for regulatory planning and
15 restoration and mitigation opportunity identification by state
16 agencies, local jurisdictions, tribal governments, and
17 nongovernmental organizations.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21A
19 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The department must conduct and maintain a baseline survey of
2 Puget Sound marine shorelines that utilizes new technology to capture
3 georeferenced oblique aerial and 360 degree on-the-water imagery.
4 Nothing in this section creates a requirement for the department to
5 perform change analysis. However, the software used must have the
6 capacity for change analysis review. These identified technologies
7 are intended to be a minimum requirement and the department may
8 utilize and incorporate additional tools and technologies as they
9 become available. The survey must document and map existing general
10 shoreline conditions, structures, and structure conditions. This
11 information must be available to the public and incorporated into
12 state geographic information system mapping.

13 (2) The initial marine oblique aerial and on-the-water imagery
14 must be completed and publicly available by June 30, 2024, and
15 updated on a regular two-year cycle thereafter. The survey to
16 document and map existing shoreline conditions, structures, and
17 structure conditions must be completed and publicly available by June
18 30, 2025, and updated on a regular two-year cycle thereafter.

19 (3) For the purposes of this section, "Puget Sound" means Puget
20 Sound and related inland salt waters of the state of Washington
21 inside the boundary line between Washington and British Columbia, the
22 Strait of Juan de Fuca, Hood Canal, and the San Juan Islands.

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