
HOUSE BILL 1805

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Fuhrman, Thompson, Stevens, Beeksma and Cairnes

Read first time 02/09/95. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to endangered or threatened species designations by
2 the state fish and wildlife commission; amending RCW 77.12.020; and
3 adding a new section to chapter 77.12 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The state fish and wildlife commission may act to protect the
8 western gray squirrel, *Sciurus griseus*, and the North American lynx,
9 *Lynx canadensis*, from being hunted. However, the commission may not
10 designate either of these species as endangered or threatened.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.12.020 and 1994 c 264 s 53 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) The director shall investigate the habits and distribution of
14 the various species of wildlife native to or adaptable to the habitats
15 of the state. The commission shall determine whether a species should
16 be managed by the department and, if so, classify it under this
17 section.

1 (2) The commission may classify by rule wild animals as game
2 animals and game animals as fur-bearing animals.

3 (3) The commission may classify by rule wild birds as game birds or
4 predatory birds. All wild birds not otherwise classified are protected
5 wildlife.

6 (4) In addition to those species listed in RCW 77.08.020, the
7 commission may classify by rule as game fish other species of the class
8 Osteichthyes that are commonly found in fresh water except those
9 classified as food fish by the director.

10 (5) The director may recommend to the commission that a species of
11 wildlife should not be hunted or fished. The commission may designate
12 species of wildlife as protected. Any designation made under this
13 subsection must be consistent with section 1 of this act.

14 (6) If the director determines that a species of wildlife is
15 seriously threatened with extinction in the state of Washington, the
16 director may request its designation as an endangered species. The
17 commission may designate an endangered species. Any designation made
18 under this subsection must be consistent with section 1 of this act.

19 (7) If the director determines that a species of the animal
20 kingdom, not native to Washington, is dangerous to the environment or
21 wildlife of the state, the director may request its designation as
22 deleterious exotic wildlife. The commission may designate deleterious
23 exotic wildlife.

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