
SENATE BILL 5894

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Owen, Haugen, Wood, Kohl, Fairley, Sellar, Rasmussen, Oke, Schow and Winsley

Read first time 02/13/95. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to wetlands owned by the department of
2 transportation; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The department of transportation shall
5 develop a strategic plan for the long-term monitoring and maintenance
6 of wetlands owned by the department. The plan must consider:

7 (1) An evaluation of the long-term monitoring and maintenance costs
8 of existing and planned sites;

9 (2) The feasibility of developing wetland banks that could be used
10 by other public entities. Consideration must be given to allocating
11 costs for the initial development of a bank and to prorating ongoing
12 monitoring and maintenance costs;

13 (3) The feasibility of selling, contracting, or transferring title
14 of department-owned wetland bank property or mitigation sites to other
15 public agencies or nonprofit environmental corporations;

16 (4) A legal analysis of the state constitutional prohibition
17 against lending of the state's credit;

1 (5) An analysis of the statutory barriers prohibiting mitigation of
2 wetland losses on a regional or watershed basis and recommendations for
3 achieving a regional or watershed approach to mitigation;

4 (6) A summary of planned or potential wetland banks; and

5 (7) An analysis of how wetland habitat can be valued and quantified
6 and how mitigation credits could be developed.

7 The department shall present the strategic plan to the standing
8 committees on transportation of the senate and the house of
9 representatives no later than January 15, 1997.

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