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SENATE BILL 6231

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State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen and Shin

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving the coordination of marine protected  
2 areas in Washington; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington  
5 contains an array of marine protected areas managed by state, federal,  
6 tribal, and local governments. The many entities managing marine  
7 protected areas have developed distinct goals for protected areas,  
8 criteria for protected area establishment, management practices,  
9 terminology, and monitoring practices for these areas. The legislature  
10 supports all efforts to protect, conserve, and sustainably manage  
11 marine life and resources. However, the legislature finds that  
12 additional coordination between marine protected areas managers will  
13 improve the collective resource protection capacity of marine protected  
14 areas in Washington. The legislature further finds that additional  
15 coordination between state agencies and local governments and citizens  
16 will increase local involvement in, and the success of, marine  
17 protected areas.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) The marine protected areas work group is  
2 established. The work group shall:

3        (a) Examine the current inventory and management of Washington's  
4 marine protected areas;

5        (b) Develop recommendations to improve coordination and consistency  
6 among marine protected areas and marine protected areas managers  
7 regarding goals for protected areas, criteria for protected area  
8 establishment, management practices, terminology, and monitoring  
9 practices;

10       (c) Develop recommendations to improve the integration of science  
11 into marine protected area establishment and management decisions;

12       (d) Develop recommendations to further integrate local governments  
13 and nongovernmental organizations into the establishment and management  
14 of marine protected areas; and

15       (e) Provide any other recommendations to improve the effectiveness  
16 of marine protected areas in Washington.

17       (2) The director of fish and wildlife, or the director's designee,  
18 shall chair the work group. The chair shall invite representatives of  
19 state agencies and local governments with jurisdiction over or that  
20 manage marine protected areas in Washington to participate in the work  
21 group. These entities must include, but are not limited to, the  
22 department of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources,  
23 the state parks and recreation commission, and appropriate marine  
24 resources committees. The chair shall invite representatives of  
25 appropriate federal agencies and tribal governments to participate in  
26 the work group. The chair may also invite other appropriate state  
27 agencies to participate in the work group. The chair is responsible  
28 for convening the work group and for directing the work of the work  
29 group. State agencies invited to participate in the work group must  
30 participate and work cooperatively with the department of fish and  
31 wildlife to carry out this act.

32       (3) For the purposes of this section, "marine protected area" means  
33 a geographic marine or estuarine area designated by a state, federal,  
34 tribal, or local government in order to provide long-term protection  
35 for part or all of the resources within that area.

36       (4) By December 1, 2009, the work group must provide the  
37 appropriate committees of the legislature with: (a) An inventory of

1 marine protected areas in Washington; and (b) a summary of the issues  
2 and recommendations identified under subsection (1)(b) through (e) of  
3 this section.

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