CLERK OF THE COUNCIL Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

COUNTY COURTHOUSE 311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105 Bellingham, WA 98225-4038 (360) 676-6690



COUNCILMEMBERS
Barbara Brenner
Rud Browne
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Carol Frazey
Satpal Sidhu

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA REVISION NOTICE FOR FEBRUARY 12, 2019

The items listed below have been added to the Council's evening meeting agenda:

Other Items

14.	AB2019-133	Resolution requesting support for Washington State House and Senate bills related to: pollution prevention; increasing habitat and fish
		abundance; protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels; and improving the safety of oil transportation (paperwork attached)

15. AB2019-136 Request approval to send letter requesting state funding to support the work of the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee (paperwork attached)

1	PROPOSED BY: BROWNE
2	INTRODUCTION DATE: <u>FEBRUARY 12, 2019</u>
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5	RESOLUTION NO
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7	REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR WASHINGTON STATE HOUSE AND SENATE
8	BILLS RELATED TO: POLLUTION PREVENTION; INCREASING HABITAT AND
9	FISH ABUNDANCE; PROTECTION OF SOUTHERN RESIDENT ORCA WHALES FROM VESSELS; AND IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF OIL TRANSPORTATION
10 11	FROM VESSELS; AND IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF OIL TRANSPORTATION
11 12	WHEREAS, in March 2018, Governor Inslee issued Executive Order 18-02 which
13	directed state agencies to take immediate actions to help the endangered southern
14	resident orca population and established the Southern Resident Orca Task Force to
15	develop a long-term plan for recovering orcas: and
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17	WHEREAS, the Task Force includes nearly 50 members representing a wide
18	range of sectors including state agencies, the legislature, and state, tribal, federal and
19	local governments, as well as private sector and non-profit organizations; and
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21	WHEREAS, southern resident orcas primarily consume Chinook salmon,
22	bioaccumulate toxics in their blubber, and communicate underwater with members of
23	the pod; and
24	WHEREAS, there are currently 74 southern resident orcas, down from a healthy
25 26	population of about 200; and
20 27	population of about 200, and
28	WHEREAS, the orcas are struggling to survive as a result of declining Chinook
29	and other salmon runs, high-mortality rates due to relying upon their toxic blubber
30	reserves to sustain them, and increasing vessel traffic impairing their ability to
31	communicate amongst themselves while they hunt; and
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33	WHEREAS, the Southern Resident Orca Task Force focused on addressing the
34	above three key problems: prey availability (through habitat, hydropower, hatcheries,
35	harvest, and forage fish), toxics in the water, and noise disturbance from boats and
36	vessels; and
37 38	WHEREAS, during the Southern Resident Orca Task Force's deliberations last
39	summer, Tahlequah (J35) carried her dead calf for 17 days around the Salish Sea in
40	mourning and drew attention to the endangered population from around the world; and
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12	WHEREAS, the declining population of the southern resident orcas is an
13	indication of noise pollution interfering with the Orca's sonar used to find prey, the poor
14	health of our salmon runs and the environment; and

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WHEREAS, on November 16, 2018, the Southern Resident Orca Task Force released their final 36 recommendations to Governor Inslee; and

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee and the Legislature have introduced the following pieces of legislation based on recommendations from the Southern Resident Orca Task Force:

- HB 1194 preventing toxic pollution that affects public health or our environment.
- HB 1579, Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance, and SB 5580, implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing habitat and forage fish abundance.
- HB 1580 and SB 5577, concerning the protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels.
- HB 1578 and SB 5578, Reducing threats to southern resident killer whales by improving the safety of oil transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Whatcom County Council will forward this resolution in support of the above legislation to our 40th and 42nd Legislators and members of the Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks, Senate Environment, Energy & Technology, House Environment & Energy, and House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Committees.

ADOPTED this day of, 2019.					
ATTEST:	WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON				
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council	Rud Browne, Council Chair				
WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE APPROVED AS TO FORM:					
Civil Deputy Prosecutor					

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HOUSE BILL 1194

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Doglio, Fitzgibbon, Slatter, Fey, Peterson, Hudgins, Lekanoff, Macri, Shewmake, Dolan, Jinkins, Pollet, Goodman, Robinson, and Stanford

Read first time 01/16/19. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to preventing toxic pollution that affects public
- 2 health or the environment; amending RCW 70.240.040 and 43.21B.110;
- 3 adding a new chapter to Title 70 RCW; and prescribing penalties.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 8 (1) "Consumer product" means any item, including any component 9 parts and packaging, sold for residential or commercial use.
 - (2) "Department" means the department of ecology.
- 11 (3) "Director" means the director of the department.
- 12 (4) "Manufacturer" means any person, firm, association,
 13 partnership, corporation, governmental entity, organization, or joint
 14 venture that produces a product or is an importer or domestic
 15 distributor of a product sold or offered for sale in or into the
 16 state.
- 17 (5) "Organohalogen" means a class of chemicals that includes any 18 chemical containing one or more halogen elements bonded to carbon.
- 19 (6) "Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances" or "PFAS 20 chemicals" means a class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing 21 at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom.

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- 1 (7) "Phenolic compounds" means alkylphenol ethoxylates and 2 bisphenols.
- 3 (8) "Phthalates" means synthetic chemical esters of phthalic 4 acid.
- 5 (9) "Polychlorinated biphenyls" or "PCBs" means chemical forms 6 that consist of two benzene rings joined together and containing one 7 to ten chlorine atoms attached to the benzene rings.
- 8 (10) "Priority chemical" means a chemical or chemical class used 9 as, used in, or put in a consumer product including:
 - (a) Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances;
- 11 (b) Phthalates;

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- 12 (c) Organohalogen flame retardants;
- 13 (d) Flame retardants, as identified by the department under 14 chapter 70.240 RCW;
- 15 (e) Phenolic compounds;
- 16 (f) Polychlorinated biphenyls; or
- 17 (g) A chemical identified by the department as a priority 18 chemical under section 2 of this act.
- 19 (11) "Safer alternative" means an alternative that is less 20 hazardous to humans or the environment than the existing chemical or 21 chemical process. A safer alternative to a particular chemical may 22 include a chemical substitute or a change in materials or design that 23 eliminates the need for a chemical alternative.
- 24 (12) "Sensitive population" means a category of people that is 25 identified by the department that may be or is disproportionately or 26 more severely affected by priority chemicals, such as:
 - (a) Men and women of childbearing age;
 - (b) Infants and children;
- 29 (c) Pregnant women;
- 30 (d) Communities that are highly impacted by toxic chemicals;
- 31 (e) Persons with occupational exposure; and
- 32 (f) The elderly.
- 33 (13) "Sensitive species" means a species or grouping of animals 34 that is identified by the department that may be or is 35 disproportionately or more severely affected by priority chemicals, 36 such as:
- 37 (a) Southern resident killer whales;
- 38 (b) Salmon; and
- 39 (c) Forage fish.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Every five years, and consistent with the timeline established in section 5 of this act, the department must identify at least five priority chemicals that meet at least one of the following:
- 5 (1) The chemical or a member of a class of chemicals are 6 identified by the department as a:

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- (a) High priority chemical of high concern for children under chapter 70.240 RCW; or
 - (b) Persistent, bioaccumulative toxin under chapter 70.105 RCW;
- 10 (2) The chemical or members of a class of chemicals are 11 regulated:
- 12 (a) In consumer products under chapter 70.240, 70.76, 70.95G, 70.280, 70.285, 70.95M, or 70.75A RCW; or
- 14 (b) As a hazardous substance under chapter 70.105 or 70.105D RCW; 15 or
- 16 (3) The department determines the chemical or members of a class 17 of chemicals are a concern for sensitive populations and sensitive 18 species after considering the following factors:
- 19 (a) A chemical's or members of a class of chemicals' hazard 20 traits or environmental or toxicological endpoints;
- 21 (b) A chemical's or members of a class of chemicals' aggregate 22 effects;
- 23 (c) A chemical's or members of a class of chemicals' cumulative 24 effects with other chemicals with the same or similar hazard traits 25 or environmental or toxicological endpoints;
- 26 (d) A chemical's or members of a class of chemicals'
 27 environmental fate;
 - (e) The potential for a chemical or members of a class of chemicals to degrade, form reaction products, or metabolize into another chemical or a chemical that exhibits one or more hazard traits or environmental or toxicological endpoints, or both;
- 32 (f) The potential for the chemical or class of chemicals to contribute to or cause adverse health or environmental impacts;
- 34 (g) The chemical's or class of chemicals' potential impact on 35 sensitive populations, sensitive species, or environmentally 36 sensitive habitats;
- 37 (h) Potential exposures to the chemical or members of a class of 38 chemicals based on:
- 39 (i) Reliable information regarding potential exposures to the 40 chemical or members of a class of chemicals; and

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- 1 (ii) Reliable information demonstrating occurrence, or potential 2 occurrence, of multiple exposures to the chemical or members of a 3 class of chemicals.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) Every five years, and consistent with the timeline established in section 5 of this act, the department shall identify priority consumer products that are a significant source of or use of priority chemicals.

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- (2) When identifying priority consumer products under this section, the department must consider, at a minimum, the following criteria:
- 11 (a) The estimated volume of a priority chemical or priority 12 chemicals added to, used in, or present in the consumer product;
 - (b) The estimated volume or number of units of the consumer product sold or present in the state;
 - (c) The potential for exposure to priority chemicals by sensitive populations or sensitive species when the consumer product is used, disposed of, or has decomposed;
 - (d) The potential for priority chemicals to be found in the outdoor environment, with priority given to surface water, groundwater, marine waters, sediments, and other ecologically sensitive areas, when the consumer product is used, disposed of, or has decomposed;
 - (e) If another state or nation has identified or taken regulatory action to restrict or otherwise regulate the priority chemical in the consumer product; and
 - (f) Whether the department has already identified the consumer product in a chemical action plan completed under chapter 70.105 RCW as a source of a priority chemical or other reports or information gathered under chapter 70.240, 70.76, 70.95G, 70.280, 70.285, 70.95M, or 70.75A RCW.
- 31 (3) The department is not required to give equal weight to each 32 of the criteria in subsection (2)(a) through (f) of this section when 33 identifying priority consumer products that use or are a significant 34 source of priority chemicals.
 - (4) To assist with identifying priority consumer products under this section and making determinations as authorized under section 4 of this act, the department may request a manufacturer to submit a notice to the department that contains the information specified in RCW 70.240.040 (1) through (6) or other information relevant to

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- subsection (2)(a) through (d) of this section. The manufacturer must provide the notice to the department no later than six months after receipt of such a demand by the department.
- 4 (5)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the 5 department may not identify the following as priority consumer 6 products under this section:
 - (i) Food or beverages;
 - (ii) Tobacco products;

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- 9 (iii) Drug or biological products regulated by the United States 10 food and drug administration;
- 11 (iv) Finished products regulated by the federal aviation 12 administration; and
- 13 (v) Chemical products used to produce an agricultural commodity, 14 as defined in RCW 17.21.020.
- 15 (b) The department may identify the packaging of products listed 16 in (a) of this subsection as priority consumer products.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) Every five years, and consistent with the timeline established in section 5 of this act, the department must determine regulatory actions to increase transparency and to reduce the use of priority chemicals in priority consumer products. The department may:
 - (a) Determine that no regulatory action is currently required;
- 23 (b) Require a manufacturer to provide notice of the use of a 24 priority chemical or class of priority chemicals consistent with RCW 25 70.240.040; or
- (c) Restrict or prohibit the manufacture, wholesale, distribution, sale, retail sale, or use, or any combination thereof, of a priority chemical or class of priority chemicals in a consumer product.
- 30 (2)(a) The department may order a manufacturer to submit 31 information consistent with section 3(4) of this act.
 - (b) The department may require a manufacturer to provide:
- (i) A list of products containing priority chemicals;
- 34 (ii) Product ingredients;
- 35 (iii) Information regarding exposure and chemical hazard; and
- 36 (iv) A description of the amount and the function of the high 37 priority chemical in the product.

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- (3) The department may restrict or prohibit a priority chemical or members of a class of priority chemicals in a priority consumer product when it determines:
 - (a) Safer alternatives are feasible and available;

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- (b) The priority chemical or members of a class of priority 5 chemicals is not functionally necessary in the priority consumer 6 7 product;
 - (c) Another state or nation has restricted the priority chemical or members of a class of priority chemicals in a product; or
- 10 It is necessary to protect the health of sensitive 11 populations or sensitive species.
- 12 (4) A restriction or prohibition on a priority chemical in a 13 consumer product may include exemptions or exceptions, including 14 exemptions to address existing stock of a product in commerce at the 15 time that a restriction takes effect.
- 16 **Sec. 5**. (1)(a) By June 1, 2020, and consistent NEW SECTION. 17 with section 3 of this act, the department shall identify priority consumer products that are a significant source of or use of priority 18 19 chemicals specified in section 1(10) (a) through (f) of this act.
- (b) By June 1, 2022, and consistent with section 4 of this act, the department must determine regulatory actions regarding the priority chemicals and priority consumer products identified in (a) 23 of this subsection.
 - (c) By June 1, 2023, the department must adopt rules to implement regulatory actions determined under (b) of this subsection.
 - (2)(a) By June 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter, the department shall identify at least five priority chemicals specified in section 1(10) (a) through (g) of this act that are identified consistent with section 2 of this act.
- 30 (b) By June 1, 2025, and every five years thereafter, the department must identify priority consumer products that contain 31 32 priority chemicals, consistent with section 3 of this act.
 - (c) By June 1, 2027, and every five years thereafter, the department must determine regulatory actions for the priority chemicals in priority consumer products identified under (b) of this subsection, consistent with section 4 of this act.
- (d) By June 1, 2028, and every five years thereafter, the 37 38 department must adopt rules to implement regulatory actions 39 identified under (c) of this subsection.

p. 6 HB 1194 (3) When identifying priority chemicals and priority consumer products under this chapter, the department must notify the public of the selection, the basis for the selection, and a draft schedule for making determinations. The notice must be published in the Washington State Register. The department shall provide the public with an opportunity for review and comment of the regulatory determinations.

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- 7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1)A manufacturer that 8 information or records to the department under this chapter may 9 request that the information or records be made available only for 10 the confidential use of the department, the director, appropriate division of the department. The director shall give 11 consideration to the request and if this action is not detrimental to 12 13 the public interest and is otherwise within accord with the policies and purposes of chapter 43.21A RCW, the director must grant the 14 15 request for the information to remain confidential as authorized in 43.21A.160. Under the procedures established 16 43.21A.160, the director must keep confidential any records furnished 17 by a manufacturer under this chapter that relate to proprietary 18 19 manufacturing processes or chemical formulations used in products or 20 processes.
 - (2) For records or other information furnished to the department by a federal agency on the condition that the information be afforded the same confidentiality protections as under federal law, the director may determine that the information or records be available only for the confidential use of the director, the department, or the appropriate division of the department. All such records and information are exempt from public disclosure. The director is authorized to enter into an agreement with the federal agency furnishing the records or information to ensure the confidentiality of the records or information.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. (1) A manufacturer violating a requirement of this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or an order issued under this chapter, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation in the case of a first offense. Manufacturers who are repeat violators are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each repeat offense.

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- 1 (2) Any penalty provided for in this section, and any order 2 issued by the department under this chapter, may be appealed to the 3 pollution control hearings board.
- 4 (3) All penalties collected under this chapter shall be deposited in the state toxics control account created in RCW 70.105D.070.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. (1) The department may adopt rules as necessary for the purpose of implementing, administering, and enforcing this chapter.
- 9 (2) The department must adopt rules to implement the 10 determinations of regulatory actions specified in section 4(1) (b) or 11 (c) of this act.
- 12 **Sec. 9.** RCW 70.240.040 and 2008 c 288 s 5 are each amended to 13 read as follows:

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- ((Beginning six months after the department has adopted rules under section 8(5) of this act,)) A manufacturer of a children's product or a consumer product containing a priority chemical subject to a rule adopted to implement a determination made consistent with section 4(1)(b) of this act, or a trade organization on behalf of its member manufacturers, shall provide notice to the department that the manufacturer's product contains a high priority chemical or a priority chemical identified under chapter 70.--- RCW (the new chapter created in section 12 of this act). The notice must be filed annually with the department and must include the following information:
- (1) The name of the chemical used or produced and its chemical abstracts service registry number;
- (2) A brief description of the product or product component containing the substance;
 - (3) A description of the function of the chemical in the product;
- 30 (4) The amount of the chemical used in each unit of the product 31 or product component. The amount may be reported in ranges, rather 32 than the exact amount;
- 33 (5) The name and address of the manufacturer and the name, 34 address, and phone number of a contact person for the manufacturer; 35 and
- 36 (6) Any other information the manufacturer deems relevant to the appropriate use of the product.

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Sec. 10. RCW 43.21B.110 and 2013 c 291 s 34 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

- (1) The hearings board shall only have jurisdiction to hear and decide appeals from the following decisions of the department, the director, local conservation districts, the air pollution control boards or authorities as established pursuant to chapter 70.94 RCW, local health departments, the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, the parks and recreation commission, and authorized public entities described in chapter 79.100 RCW:
- 10 (a) Civil penalties imposed pursuant to RCW 18.104.155, 70.94.431, 70.105.080, 70.107.050, section 7 of this act, 76.09.170, 77.55.291, 78.44.250, 88.46.090, 90.03.600, 90.46.270, 90.48.144, 90.56.310, 90.56.330, and 90.64.102.
- 14 (b) Orders issued pursuant to RCW 18.104.043, 18.104.060, 15 43.27A.190, 70.94.211, 70.94.332, 70.105.095, section 7 of this act, 16 86.16.020, 88.46.070, 90.14.130, 90.46.250, 90.48.120, and 90.56.330.
 - (c) Except as provided in RCW 90.03.210(2), the issuance, modification, or termination of any permit, certificate, or license by the department or any air authority in the exercise of its jurisdiction, including the issuance or termination of a waste disposal permit, the denial of an application for a waste disposal permit, the modification of the conditions or the terms of a waste disposal permit, or a decision to approve or deny an application for a solid waste permit exemption under RCW 70.95.300.
- 25 (d) Decisions of local health departments regarding the grant or denial of solid waste permits pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW.
 - (e) Decisions of local health departments regarding the issuance and enforcement of permits to use or dispose of biosolids under RCW 70.95J.080.
 - (f) Decisions of the department regarding waste-derived fertilizer or micronutrient fertilizer under RCW 15.54.820, and decisions of the department regarding waste-derived soil amendments under RCW 70.95.205.
 - (g) Decisions of local conservation districts related to the denial of approval or denial of certification of a dairy nutrient management plan; conditions contained in a plan; application of any dairy nutrient management practices, standards, methods, and technologies to a particular dairy farm; and failure to adhere to the plan review and approval timelines in RCW 90.64.026.

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1 (h) Any other decision by the department or an air authority 2 which pursuant to law must be decided as an adjudicative proceeding 3 under chapter 34.05 RCW.

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- (i) Decisions of the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, and the department that are reviewable under chapter 76.09 RCW, and the department of natural resources' appeals of county, city, or town objections under RCW 76.09.050(7).
- 9 (j) Forest health hazard orders issued by the commissioner of public lands under RCW 76.06.180.
- 11 (k) Decisions of the department of fish and wildlife to issue, 12 deny, condition, or modify a hydraulic project approval permit under 13 chapter 77.55 RCW.
- 14 (1) Decisions of the department of natural resources that are 15 reviewable under RCW 78.44.270.
- 16 (m) Decisions of an authorized public entity under RCW 79.100.010 17 to take temporary possession or custody of a vessel or to contest the 18 amount of reimbursement owed that are reviewable by the hearings 19 board under RCW 79.100.120.
- 20 (2) The following hearings shall not be conducted by the hearings 21 board:
- (a) Hearings required by law to be conducted by the shorelines hearings board pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW.
- 24 (b) Hearings conducted by the department pursuant to RCW 25 70.94.332, 70.94.390, 70.94.395, 70.94.400, 70.94.405, 70.94.410, and 26 90.44.180.
- (c) Appeals of decisions by the department under RCW 90.03.110 and 90.44.220.
- 29 (d) Hearings conducted by the department to adopt, modify, or 30 repeal rules.
- 31 (3) Review of rules and regulations adopted by the hearings board 32 shall be subject to review in accordance with the provisions of the 33 administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. Sections 1 through 8 and 13 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. This act may be known and cited as the pollution prevention for healthy people and Puget Sound act.

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HOUSE BILL 1579

66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session State of Washington

By Representatives Fitzgibbon, Peterson, Lekanoff, Doglio, Macri, Stonier, Tharinger, Stanford, Jinkins, Robinson, Pollet, Valdez, Cody, Kloba, Slatter, Frame, and Davis; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources.

- AN ACT Relating to implementing recommendations of the southern 1 resident killer whale task force related to increasing 2 abundance; amending RCW 77.08.020, 77.32.010, and 43.21B.110; adding 3 new sections to chapter 77.55 RCW; creating a new section; repealing 4 RCW 77.55.141 and 77.55.291; and prescribing penalties. 5
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON: 6
- 7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1)The legislature finds that the 8 population of southern resident killer whales has declined in recent years and currently stands at a thirty-year low of seventy-four 9 animals. 10
- (2) The governor convened the southern resident killer whale task force after the 2018 legislative session to study and identify 12 13 actions that could be taken to help sustain and recover this important species. In the course of its work, the task force found 14 that chinook salmon compose the largest portion of the whales' diet, 15 16 and are therefore critical to the recovery of the species. Further, several runs of chinook salmon in Washington state are listed under 17 18 the federal endangered species act, making chinook recovery all the 19 more urgent.
- 20 (3) The task force identified four overarching southern resident killer whale recovery goals and adopted several recommendations for 21

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- specific actions under each goal. Goal one identified by the task force is to increase chinook abundance, and actions under that goal relate to habitat protection, protection of chinook prey, such as forage fish, and reducing impacts of nonnative chinook predators.
- 5 (4) To address the need identified by the task force to increase 6 chinook abundance, the legislature intends to take initial, important 7 steps consistent with recommendations made by the governor's southern 8 resident killer whale task force.
- 9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.08.020 and 1989 c 218 s 2 are each amended to 10 read as follows:
- 11 (1) As used in this title or rules of the commission, "game fish"
 12 means those species of the class Osteichthyes that shall not be
 13 fished for except as authorized by rule of the commission and
 14 includes:

15 Scie	entific Name	Common Name
16 Ami	bloplites rupestris	rock bass
17 Core	regonus clupeaformis	lake white fish
18 Ictal	lurus furcatus	blue catfish
19 Ictal	lurus melas	black bullhead
20 Ictal	lurus natalis	yellow bullhead
21 Ictal	lurus nebulosus	brown bullhead
22 ((let	talurus punctatus	channel catfish))
23 Lep	omis cyanellus	green sunfish
24 Lep	omis gibbosus	pumpkinseed
25 Lep	omis gulosus	warmouth
26 Lepo	omis macrochirus	bluegill
27 Lota	a lota	burbot or freshwater ling
28 ((M	icropterus dolomieui	smallmouth bass
29 Mie	eropterus salmoides	largemouth bass))
30 Onc	corhynchus nerka (in its	kokanee or silver trout
31	landlocked form)	
32 Perc	ca flavescens	yellow perch
33 Pom	nixis annularis	white crappie
34 Pom	nixis nigromaculatus	black crappie
35 Pros	sopium williamsoni	mountain white fish
36 Onc	orhynchus aquabonita	golden trout

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1	Oncorhynchus clarkii	cutthroat trout
2	Oncorhynchus mykiss	rainbow or steelhead trout
3	Salmo salar (in its	Atlantic salmon
4	landlocked form)	
5	Salmo trutta	brown trout
6	Salvelinus fontinalis	eastern brook trout
7	Salvelinus malma	Dolly Varden trout
8	Salvelinus namaycush	lake trout
9	((Stizostedion vitreum	Walleye))
10	Thymallus articus	arctic grayling

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- 11 (2) Private sector cultured aquatic products as defined in RCW 12 15.85.020 are not game fish.
- 13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 77.32.010 and 2014 c 48 s 26 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or department rule, a recreational license issued by the director is required to hunt, fish, or take wildlife or seaweed. A recreational fishing or shellfish license is not required for carp((, smelt,)) and crawfish, and a hunting license is not required for bullfrogs.
- 20 (2) A pass or permit issued under RCW 79A.80.020, 79A.80.030, or 79A.80.040 is required to park or operate a motor vehicle on a recreation site or lands, as defined in RCW 79A.80.010.
- (3) The commission may, by rule, indicate that a fishing permit issued to a nontribal member by the Colville Tribes shall satisfy the license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on the waters of Lake Rufus Woods and on the north shore of Lake Rufus Woods, and that a Colville Tribes tribal member identification card shall satisfy the license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on all waters of Lake Rufus Woods.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
- 32 (1) When the department determines that a violation of this 33 chapter, or of any of the rules that implement this chapter, has 34 occurred or is about to occur, it shall first attempt to achieve 35 voluntary compliance. The department shall offer information and 36 technical assistance to the project proponent, identifying one or

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- more means to accomplish the project proponent's purposes within the 1 The department shall provide a reasonable 2 framework of the law. timeline to achieve voluntary compliance that takes 3 factors specific to the violation, such as the 4 consideration complexity of the hydraulic project, the actual or potential harm to 5 fish life or fish habitat, and the environmental conditions at the 6 7 time.
 - (2) If a person violates this chapter, or any of the rules that implement this chapter, or deviates from a permit, the department may issue a notice of correction in accordance with chapter 43.05 RCW, a notice of violation in accordance with chapter 43.05 RCW, a stop work order, a notice to comply, or a notice of civil penalty as authorized by law and subject to chapter 43.05 RCW and RCW 34.05.110.
- 14 (3) For purposes of this section, the term "project proponent"
 15 means a person who has applied for a hydraulic project approval, a
 16 person identified as an authorized agent on an application for a
 17 hydraulic project approval, a person who has obtained a hydraulic
 18 project approval, or a person who undertakes a hydraulic project
 19 without a hydraulic project approval.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
- 22 (1) The department may serve upon a project proponent a stop work 23 order, which is a final order of the department, if:
- 24 (a) There is any violation of this chapter or of the rules 25 implementing this chapter;
 - (b) There is a deviation from the hydraulic project approval; or
- (c) Immediate action is necessary to prevent continuation of or to avoid more than minor harm to fish life or fish habitat.
 - (2) (a) The stop work order must set forth:
- 30 (i) The specific nature, extent, and time of the violation, 31 deviation, harm, or potential harm;
- (ii) The specific course of action needed to correct or prevent a continuing violation, deviation, harm, or potential harm; and
 - (iii) The right to an appeal.

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- 35 (b) A stop work order may require that any project proponent stop 36 all work connected with the violation until corrective action is 37 taken.
- 38 (3) Within five business days of issuing the stop work order, the 39 department shall mail a copy of the stop work order to the last known

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address of any project proponent, to the last known address of the 1 owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, and to 2 the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located. 3 Substantial compliance with these mailing requirements is deemed 4 satisfactory compliance with this subsection. For purposes of this 5 subsection, "substantial compliance" means mailing to the last known 6 address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is 7 located, to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is 8 located, and to the last known address of any project proponent who 9 has applied for a hydraulic project approval, who is identified as an 10 authorized agent on an application for a hydraulic project approval, 11 12 or who has obtained a hydraulic project approval.

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- (4) Issuance of a stop work order may be informally appealed by a project proponent who was served with the stop work order or who received a copy of the stop work order from the department, or by the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the stop work order. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A stop work order that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.
- (5) The project proponent who was served with the stop work order or who received a copy of the stop work order from the department, or the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, may commence an appeal to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the stop work order. If such an appeal is commenced, the proceeding is an adjudicative proceeding under the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. The recipient of the stop work order must comply with the order of the department immediately upon being served, but the board may stay, modify, or discontinue the order, upon motion, under such conditions as the board may impose.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, "project proponent" has the 33 same meaning as defined in section 4(3) of this act.
- Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 77.55 35 NEW SECTION. RCW to read as follows: 36
 - If a violation of this chapter or of the rules (1)(a)implementing this chapter, a deviation from the hydraulic project approval, damage to fish life or fish habitat, or potential damage to

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fish life or fish habitat, has occurred and the department determines that a stop work order is unnecessary, the department may issue and serve upon a project proponent a notice to comply, which must clearly set forth:

- (i) The nature, extent, date, and time of the violation;
- (ii) Any necessary corrective action; and
- (iii) The right to an appeal.

- (b) The notice to comply may require that any project proponent take corrective action to prevent, correct, or compensate for adverse impacts to fish life or fish habitat.
- (2) Within five business days of issuing the notice to comply, the department shall mail a copy of the notice to comply to the last known address of any project proponent, to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, and to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located. Substantial compliance with these mailing requirements is deemed satisfactory compliance with this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial compliance" means mailing to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located, and to the last known address of any project proponent who has applied for a hydraulic project approval, who is identified as an authorized agent on an application for a hydraulic project approval, or who has obtained a hydraulic project approval.
- (3) Issuance of a notice to comply may be informally appealed by a project proponent who was served with the notice to comply or who received a copy of the notice to comply from the department, or by the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice to comply. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A notice to comply that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.
- (4) The project proponent who was served with the notice to comply, the project proponent who received a copy of the notice to comply from the department, or the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located may commence an appeal to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice to comply. If such an appeal is commenced, the proceeding is an adjudicative

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- 1 proceeding under the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.
- 2 The recipient of the notice to comply must comply with the notice to
- 3 comply immediately upon being served, but the board may stay, modify,
- 4 or discontinue the notice to comply, upon motion, under such
- 5 conditions as the board may impose.

- 6 (5) For the purposes of this section, "project proponent" has the same meaning as defined in section 4(3) of this act.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 77.55 9 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The department may levy civil penalties of up to ten thousand dollars for every violation of this chapter or of the rules that implement this chapter. Each and every violation is a separate and distinct civil offense.
 - (2) The penalty provided must be imposed by notice in writing by the department, provided either by certified mail or by personal service, to the person incurring the penalty and to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located, describing the violation. The civil penalty notice must set forth:
 - (a) The basis for the penalty;
 - (b) The amount of the penalty; and
 - (c) The right of the person incurring the penalty to appeal the civil penalty.
 - (3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, any person incurring any penalty under this chapter may appeal the penalty to the board pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW. Appeals must be filed within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice of civil penalty in accordance with RCW 43.21B.230.
 - (b) Issuance of a civil penalty may be informally appealed by the person incurring the penalty to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice of civil penalty. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A civil penalty that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.
 - (4) The penalty imposed becomes due and payable thirty days after receipt of a notice imposing the penalty unless an appeal is filed. Whenever an appeal of any penalty incurred under this chapter is filed, the penalty becomes due and payable only upon completion of

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- all review proceedings and the issuance of a final order confirming the penalty in whole or in part. When the penalty becomes past due, it is also subject to interest at the rate allowed by RCW 43.17.240 for debts owed to the state.
- 5 (5) If the amount of any penalty is not paid within thirty days after it becomes due and payable, the attorney general, upon the 6 7 request of the director, shall bring an action in the name of the state of Washington in the superior court of Thurston county or of 8 9 the county in which such a violation occurred, to recover the penalty. In all such actions, the rules of civil procedures and the 10 rules of evidence are the same as in an ordinary civil action. The 11 department is also entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and 12 costs incurred in connection with the penalty recovered under this 13 section. All civil penalties received or recovered by state agency 14 action for violations as prescribed in subsection (1) of this section 15 16 must be deposited into the state's general fund. The department is authorized to retain any attorneys' fees and costs it may be awarded 17 in connection with an action brought to recover a civil penalty 18 19 issued pursuant to this section.
- 20 (6) The department shall adopt by rule a penalty schedule to be 21 effective by January 1, 2020. The penalty schedule must be developed 22 in consideration of the following:
 - (a) Previous violation history;

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- (b) Severity of the impact on fish life and fish habitat;
- 25 (c) Whether the violation of this chapter or of its rules was 26 intentional;
 - (d) Cooperation with the department;
- 28 (e) Reparability of any adverse effects resulting from the 29 violation; and
- 30 (f) The extent to which a penalty to be imposed on a person for a 31 violation committed by another should be reduced if the person was 32 unaware of the violation and has not received a substantial economic 33 benefit from the violation.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 77.55 RCW to read as follows:
- The department may apply for an administrative inspection warrant in either Thurston county superior court or the superior court in the county in which the hydraulic project is located. The court may issue an administrative inspection warrant where:

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- 1 (1) Department personnel need to inspect the hydraulic project 2 site to ensure compliance with this chapter or with rules adopted to 3 implement this chapter; or
- 4 (2) Department personnel have probable cause to believe that a 5 violation of this chapter or of the rules that implement this chapter 6 is occurring or has occurred.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 77.55 8 RCW to read as follows:
- (1) The department may disapprove an application for hydraulic 9 project approval submitted by a person who has failed to comply with 10 a final order issued pursuant to section 5 or 6 of this act or who 11 has failed to pay civil penalties issued pursuant to section 7 of 12 13 this act. Applications may be disapproved for up to one year from the issuance of a notice of intent to disapprove applications under this 14 15 section, or until all outstanding civil penalties are paid and all outstanding notices to comply and stop work orders are complied with, 16 17 whichever is longer.
- 18 (2) The department shall provide written notice of its intent to 19 disapprove an application under this section to the applicant and to 20 any authorized agent or landowner identified in the application.
- 21 (3) The disapproval period runs from thirty days following the 22 date of actual notice of intent or when all administrative and 23 judicial appeals, if any, have been exhausted.
- 24 (4) Any person provided the notice may seek review from the board 25 by filing a request for review within thirty days of the date of the 26 notice of intent to disapprove applications.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
- Any violation of this chapter or of the rules adopted to implement this chapter is declared to be a public nuisance.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 77.55

 RCW to read as follows:
- The remedies under this chapter are not exclusive and do not limit or abrogate any other civil or criminal penalty, remedy, or right available in law, equity, or statute.

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1 **Sec. 12.** RCW 43.21B.110 and 2013 c 291 s 34 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

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- (1) The hearings board shall only have jurisdiction to hear and decide appeals from the following decisions of the department, the director, local conservation districts, the air pollution control boards or authorities as established pursuant to chapter 70.94 RCW, local health departments, the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, the parks and recreation commission, and authorized public entities described in chapter 79.100 RCW:
- 10 (a) Civil penalties imposed pursuant to RCW 18.104.155, 11 70.94.431, 70.105.080, 70.107.050, 76.09.170, ((77.55.291)) section 7 of this act, 78.44.250, 88.46.090, 90.03.600, 90.46.270, 90.48.144, 13 90.56.310, 90.56.330, and 90.64.102.
- 14 (b) Orders issued pursuant to RCW 18.104.043, 18.104.060, 15 43.27A.190, 70.94.211, 70.94.332, 70.105.095, 86.16.020, 88.46.070, 16 90.14.130, 90.46.250, 90.48.120, and 90.56.330.
 - (c) Except as provided in RCW 90.03.210(2), the issuance, modification, or termination of any permit, certificate, or license by the department or any air authority in the exercise of its jurisdiction, including the issuance or termination of a waste disposal permit, the denial of an application for a waste disposal permit, the modification of the conditions or the terms of a waste disposal permit, or a decision to approve or deny an application for a solid waste permit exemption under RCW 70.95.300.
 - (d) Decisions of local health departments regarding the grant or denial of solid waste permits pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW.
 - (e) Decisions of local health departments regarding the issuance and enforcement of permits to use or dispose of biosolids under RCW 70.95J.080.
 - (f) Decisions of the department regarding waste-derived fertilizer or micronutrient fertilizer under RCW 15.54.820, and decisions of the department regarding waste-derived soil amendments under RCW 70.95.205.
- 34 (g) Decisions of local conservation districts related to the 35 denial of approval or denial of certification of a dairy nutrient 36 management plan; conditions contained in a plan; application of any 37 dairy nutrient management practices, standards, methods, and 38 technologies to a particular dairy farm; and failure to adhere to the 39 plan review and approval timelines in RCW 90.64.026.

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(h) Any other decision by the department or an air authority which pursuant to law must be decided as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW.

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- (i) Decisions of the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, and the department that are reviewable under chapter 76.09 RCW, and the department of natural resources' appeals of county, city, or town objections under RCW 76.09.050(7).
- 9 (j) Forest health hazard orders issued by the commissioner of public lands under RCW 76.06.180.
- 11 (k) Decisions of the department of fish and wildlife to issue, 12 deny, condition, or modify a hydraulic project approval permit under 13 chapter 77.55 RCW, to issue a stop work order, to issue a notice to 14 comply, to issue a civil penalty, or to issue a notice of intent to 15 disapprove applications.
- 16 (1) Decisions of the department of natural resources that are reviewable under RCW 78.44.270.
- 18 (m) Decisions of an authorized public entity under RCW 79.100.010 19 to take temporary possession or custody of a vessel or to contest the 20 amount of reimbursement owed that are reviewable by the hearings 21 board under RCW 79.100.120.
- 22 (2) The following hearings shall not be conducted by the hearings 23 board:
- 24 (a) Hearings required by law to be conducted by the shorelines 25 hearings board pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW.
- 26 (b) Hearings conducted by the department pursuant to RCW 70.94.332, 70.94.390, 70.94.395, 70.94.400, 70.94.405, 70.94.410, and 90.44.180.
- 29 (c) Appeals of decisions by the department under RCW 90.03.110 30 and 90.44.220.
- 31 (d) Hearings conducted by the department to adopt, modify, or 32 repeal rules.
- 33 (3) Review of rules and regulations adopted by the hearings board 34 shall be subject to review in accordance with the provisions of the 35 administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

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- 1 (1) RCW 77.55.141 (Marine beach front protective bulkheads or rockwalls) and 2010 c 210 s 28, 2005 c 146 s 501, & 1991 c 279 s 1; 3 and
- 4 (2) RCW 77.55.291 (Civil penalty) and 2010 c 210 s 31, 2005 c 146 s 701, 2000 c 107 s 19, 1993 sp.s. c 2 s 35, 1988 c 36 s 35, & 1986 c 6 173 s 6.

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Z-0456.2		

SENATE BILL 5580

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Palumbo, Frockt, Dhingra, Keiser, Kuderer, and Saldaña; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

AN ACT Relating to implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing habitat and forage fish abundance; amending RCW 77.08.020, 77.32.010, and 43.21B.110; adding new sections to chapter 77.55 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW 77.55.141 and 77.55.291; and prescribing penalties.

- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the 9 population of southern resident killer whales has declined in recent 10 years and currently stands at a thirty-year low of seventy-four 11 animals.
- (2) The governor convened the southern resident killer whale task 12 force after the 2018 legislative session to study and identify 13 actions that could be taken to help sustain and recover this 14 important species. In the course of its work, the task force found 15 that chinook salmon compose the largest portion of the whales' diet, 16 and are therefore critical to the recovery of the species. Further, 17 several runs of chinook salmon in Washington state are listed under 18 the federal endangered species act, making chinook recovery all the 19 20 more urgent.

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(3) The task force identified four overarching southern resident killer whale recovery goals and adopted several recommendations for specific actions under each goal. Goal one identified by the task force is to increase chinook abundance, and actions under that goal relate to habitat protection, protection of chinook prey, such as forage fish, and reducing impacts of nonnative chinook predators.

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- 7 (4) To address the need identified by the task force to increase 8 chinook abundance, the legislature intends to take initial, important 9 steps consistent with recommendations made by the governor's southern 10 resident killer whale task force.
- 11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.08.020 and 1989 c 218 s 2 are each amended to 12 read as follows:
 - (1) As used in this title or rules of the commission, "game fish" means those species of the class Osteichthyes that shall not be fished for except as authorized by rule of the commission and includes:

17	Scientific Name	Common Name
18	Ambloplites rupestris	rock bass
19	Coregonus clupeaformis	lake white fish
20	Ictalurus furcatus	blue catfish
21	Ictalurus melas	black bullhead
22	Ictalurus natalis	yellow bullhead
23	Ictalurus nebulosus	brown bullhead
24	((Ictalurus punctatus	ehannel-eatfish))
25	Lepomis cyanellus	green sunfish
26	Lepomis gibbosus	pumpkinseed
27	Lepomis gulosus	warmouth
28	Lepomis macrochirus	bluegill
29	Lota lota	burbot or freshwater ling
30	((Micropterus dolomieui	smallmouth bass
31	Micropterus salmoides	largemouth bass))
32	Oncorhynchus nerka (in its	kokanee or silver trout
33	landlocked form)	
34	Perca flavescens	yellow perch
35	Pomixis annularis	white crappie
36	Pomixis nigromaculatus	black crappie

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1	Prosopium williamsoni	mountain white fish
2	Oncorhynchus aquabonita	golden trout
3	Oncorhynchus clarkii	cutthroat trout
4	Oncorhynchus mykiss	rainbow or steelhead trout
5	Salmo salar (in its	Atlantic salmon
6	landlocked form)	
7	Salmo trutta	brown trout
8	Salvelinus fontinalis	eastern brook trout
9	Salvelinus malma	Dolly Varden trout
10	Salvelinus namaycush	lake trout
11	((Stizostedion vitreum	Walleye))
12	Thymallus articus	arctic grayling

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- 13 (2) Private sector cultured aquatic products as defined in RCW 15.85.020 are not game fish.
- 15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 77.32.010 and 2014 c 48 s 26 are each amended to 16 read as follows:
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or department rule, a recreational license issued by the director is required to hunt, fish, or take wildlife or seaweed. A recreational fishing or shellfish license is not required for carp((, smelt,)) and crawfish, and a hunting license is not required for bullfrogs.
- (2) A pass or permit issued under RCW 79A.80.020, 79A.80.030, or 79A.80.040 is required to park or operate a motor vehicle on a recreation site or lands, as defined in RCW 79A.80.010.
- 25 (3) The commission may, by rule, indicate that a fishing permit 26 issued to a nontribal member by the Colville Tribes shall satisfy the 27 license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on the waters 28 of Lake Rufus Woods and on the north shore of Lake Rufus Woods, and 29 that a Colville Tribes tribal member identification card shall 30 satisfy the license requirements in subsection (1) of this section on 31 all waters of Lake Rufus Woods.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
- 34 (1) When the department determines that a violation of this 35 chapter, or of any of the rules that implement this chapter, has 36 occurred or is about to occur, it shall first attempt to achieve

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- voluntary compliance. The department shall offer information and 1 2 technical assistance to the project proponent, identifying one or more means to accomplish the project proponent's purposes within the 3 framework of the law. The department shall provide a reasonable 4 achieve voluntary compliance that takes into 5 timeline to consideration factors specific to the violation, such as the 6 complexity of the hydraulic project, the actual or potential harm to 7 fish life or fish habitat, and the environmental conditions at the 8 9 time.
 - (2) If a person violates this chapter, or any of the rules that implement this chapter, or deviates from a permit, the department may issue a notice of correction in accordance with chapter 43.05 RCW, a notice of violation in accordance with chapter 43.05 RCW, a stop work order, a notice to comply, or a notice of civil penalty as authorized by law and subject to chapter 43.05 RCW and RCW 34.05.110.
 - (3) For purposes of this section, the term "project proponent" means a person who has applied for a hydraulic project approval, a person identified as an authorized agent on an application for a hydraulic project approval, a person who has obtained a hydraulic project approval, or a person who undertakes a hydraulic project without a hydraulic project approval.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
- 24 (1) The department may serve upon a project proponent a stop work 25 order, which is a final order of the department, if:
- 26 (a) There is any violation of this chapter or of the rules 27 implementing this chapter;
 - (b) There is a deviation from the hydraulic project approval; or
 - (c) Immediate action is necessary to prevent continuation of or to avoid more than minor harm to fish life or fish habitat.
 - (2)(a) The stop work order must set forth:
- 32 (i) The specific nature, extent, and time of the violation, 33 deviation, harm, or potential harm;
- (ii) The specific course of action needed to correct or prevent a continuing violation, deviation, harm, or potential harm; and
 - (iii) The right to an appeal.

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37 (b) A stop work order may require that any project proponent stop 38 all work connected with the violation until corrective action is 39 taken.

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(3) Within five business days of issuing the stop work order, the department shall mail a copy of the stop work order to the last known address of any project proponent, to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, and to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located. Substantial compliance with these mailing requirements is deemed satisfactory compliance with this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial compliance" means mailing to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located, and to the last known address of any project proponent who has applied for a hydraulic project approval, who is identified as an authorized agent on an application for a hydraulic project approval, or who has obtained a hydraulic project approval.

- (4) Issuance of a stop work order may be informally appealed by a project proponent who was served with the stop work order or who received a copy of the stop work order from the department, or by the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the stop work order. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A stop work order that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.
- (5) The project proponent who was served with the stop work order or who received a copy of the stop work order from the department, or the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, may commence an appeal to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the stop work order. If such an appeal is commenced, the proceeding is an adjudicative proceeding under the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. The recipient of the stop work order must comply with the order of the department immediately upon being served, but the board may stay, modify, or discontinue the order, upon motion, under such conditions as the board may impose.
- 35 (6) For the purposes of this section, "project proponent" has the 36 same meaning as defined in section 4(3) of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:

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- (1)(a) If a violation of this chapter or of the rules implementing this chapter, a deviation from the hydraulic project approval, damage to fish life or fish habitat, or potential damage to fish life or fish habitat, has occurred and the department determines that a stop work order is unnecessary, the department may issue and serve upon a project proponent a notice to comply, which must clearly set forth:
 - (i) The nature, extent, date, and time of the violation;
 - (ii) Any necessary corrective action; and
 - (iii) The right to an appeal.

- (b) The notice to comply may require that any project proponent take corrective action to prevent, correct, or compensate for adverse impacts to fish life or fish habitat.
- (2) Within five business days of issuing the notice to comply, the department shall mail a copy of the notice to comply to the last known address of any project proponent, to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, and to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located. Substantial compliance with these mailing requirements is deemed satisfactory compliance with this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial compliance" means mailing to the last known address of the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located, and to the last known address of any project proponent who has applied for a hydraulic project approval, who is identified as an authorized agent on an application for a hydraulic project approval, or who has obtained a hydraulic project approval.
- (3) Issuance of a notice to comply may be informally appealed by a project proponent who was served with the notice to comply or who received a copy of the notice to comply from the department, or by the owner of the land on which the hydraulic project is located, to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice to comply. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A notice to comply that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.
- (4) The project proponent who was served with the notice to comply, the project proponent who received a copy of the notice to comply from the department, or the owner of the land on which the

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- 1 hydraulic project is located may commence an appeal to the board
- 2 within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice to comply.
- 3 If such an appeal is commenced, the proceeding is an adjudicative
- 4 proceeding under the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.
- 5 The recipient of the notice to comply must comply with the notice to
- 6 comply immediately upon being served, but the board may stay, modify,
- 7 or discontinue the notice to comply, upon motion, under such
- 8 conditions as the board may impose.

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- 9 (5) For the purposes of this section, "project proponent" has the same meaning as defined in section 4(3) of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The department may levy civil penalties of up to ten thousand dollars for every violation of this chapter or of the rules that implement this chapter. Each and every violation is a separate and distinct civil offense.
 - (2) The penalty provided must be imposed by notice in writing by the department, provided either by certified mail or by personal service, to the person incurring the penalty and to the local jurisdiction in which the hydraulic project is located, describing the violation. The civil penalty notice must set forth:
 - (a) The basis for the penalty;
 - (b) The amount of the penalty; and
- 24 (c) The right of the person incurring the penalty to appeal the 25 civil penalty.
 - (3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, any person incurring any penalty under this chapter may appeal the penalty to the board pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW. Appeals must be filed within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice of civil penalty in accordance with RCW 43.21B.230.
 - (b) Issuance of a civil penalty may be informally appealed by the person incurring the penalty to the department within thirty days from the date of receipt of the notice of civil penalty. Requests for informal appeal must be filed in the form and manner prescribed by the department by rule. A civil penalty that has been informally appealed to the department is appealable to the board within thirty days from the date of receipt of the department's decision on the informal appeal.

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- (4) The penalty imposed becomes due and payable thirty days after receipt of a notice imposing the penalty unless an appeal is filed. Whenever an appeal of any penalty incurred under this chapter is filed, the penalty becomes due and payable only upon completion of all review proceedings and the issuance of a final order confirming the penalty in whole or in part. When the penalty becomes past due, it is also subject to interest at the rate allowed by RCW 43.17.240 for debts owed to the state.
- (5) If the amount of any penalty is not paid within thirty days after it becomes due and payable, the attorney general, upon the request of the director, shall bring an action in the name of the state of Washington in the superior court of Thurston county or of the county in which such a violation occurred, to recover the penalty. In all such actions, the rules of civil procedures and the rules of evidence are the same as in an ordinary civil action. The department is also entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with the penalty recovered under this section. All civil penalties received or recovered by state agency action for violations as prescribed in subsection (1) of this section must be deposited into the state's general fund. The department is authorized to retain any attorneys' fees and costs it may be awarded in connection with an action brought to recover a civil penalty issued pursuant to this section.
- (6) The department shall adopt by rule a penalty schedule to be effective by January 1, 2020. The penalty schedule must be developed in consideration of the following:
 - (a) Previous violation history;

- (b) Severity of the impact on fish life and fish habitat;
- 29 (c) Whether the violation of this chapter or of its rules was 30 intentional;
 - (d) Cooperation with the department;
- 32 (e) Reparability of any adverse effects resulting from the 33 violation; and
- 34 (f) The extent to which a penalty to be imposed on a person for a 35 violation committed by another should be reduced if the person was 36 unaware of the violation and has not received a substantial economic 37 benefit from the violation.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:

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- The department may apply for an administrative inspection warrant in either Thurston county superior court or the superior court in the county in which the hydraulic project is located. The court may issue an administrative inspection warrant where:
- (1) Department personnel need to inspect the hydraulic project site to ensure compliance with this chapter or with rules adopted to implement this chapter; or
- 8 (2) Department personnel have probable cause to believe that a 9 violation of this chapter or of the rules that implement this chapter 10 is occurring or has occurred.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The department may disapprove an application for hydraulic project approval submitted by a person who has failed to comply with a final order issued pursuant to section 5 or 6 of this act or who has failed to pay civil penalties issued pursuant to section 7 of this act. Applications may be disapproved for up to one year from the issuance of a notice of intent to disapprove applications under this section, or until all outstanding civil penalties are paid and all outstanding notices to comply and stop work orders are complied with, whichever is longer.
- 22 (2) The department shall provide written notice of its intent to 23 disapprove an application under this section to the applicant and to 24 any authorized agent or landowner identified in the application.
- 25 (3) The disapproval period runs from thirty days following the 26 date of actual notice of intent or when all administrative and 27 judicial appeals, if any, have been exhausted.
- 28 (4) Any person provided the notice may seek review from the board 29 by filing a request for review within thirty days of the date of the 30 notice of intent to disapprove applications.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
- 32 RCW to read as follows:

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- Any violation of this chapter or of the rules adopted to implement this chapter is declared to be a public nuisance.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 77.55
 RCW to read as follows:

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- The remedies under this chapter are not exclusive and do not limit or abrogate any other civil or criminal penalty, remedy, or
- 3 right available in law, equity, or statute.

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- 4 **Sec. 12.** RCW 43.21B.110 and 2013 c 291 s 34 are each amended to 5 read as follows:
- (1) The hearings board shall only have jurisdiction to hear and decide appeals from the following decisions of the department, the director, local conservation districts, the air pollution control boards or authorities as established pursuant to chapter 70.94 RCW, local health departments, the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, the parks and recreation commission, and authorized public entities described in chapter 79.100 RCW:
- 13 (a) Civil penalties imposed pursuant to RCW 18.104.155, 70.94.431, 70.105.080, 70.107.050, 76.09.170, ((77.55.291)) section 7 of this act, 78.44.250, 88.46.090, 90.03.600, 90.46.270, 90.48.144, 90.56.310, 90.56.330, and 90.64.102.
- 17 (b) Orders issued pursuant to RCW 18.104.043, 18.104.060, 18 43.27A.190, 70.94.211, 70.94.332, 70.105.095, 86.16.020, 88.46.070, 19 90.14.130, 90.46.250, 90.48.120, and 90.56.330.
 - (c) Except as provided in RCW 90.03.210(2), the issuance, modification, or termination of any permit, certificate, or license by the department or any air authority in the exercise of its jurisdiction, including the issuance or termination of a waste disposal permit, the denial of an application for a waste disposal permit, the modification of the conditions or the terms of a waste disposal permit, or a decision to approve or deny an application for a solid waste permit exemption under RCW 70.95.300.
- 28 (d) Decisions of local health departments regarding the grant or denial of solid waste permits pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW.
- 30 (e) Decisions of local health departments regarding the issuance 31 and enforcement of permits to use or dispose of biosolids under RCW 32 70.95J.080.
- 33 (f) Decisions of the department regarding waste-derived 34 fertilizer or micronutrient fertilizer under RCW 15.54.820, and 35 decisions of the department regarding waste-derived soil amendments 36 under RCW 70.95.205.
- 37 (g) Decisions of local conservation districts related to the 38 denial of approval or denial of certification of a dairy nutrient 39 management plan; conditions contained in a plan; application of any

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- dairy nutrient management practices, standards, methods, and technologies to a particular dairy farm; and failure to adhere to the plan review and approval timelines in RCW 90.64.026.
 - (h) Any other decision by the department or an air authority which pursuant to law must be decided as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW.

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- (i) Decisions of the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, and the department that are reviewable under chapter 76.09 RCW, and the department of natural resources' appeals of county, city, or town objections under RCW 76.09.050(7).
- 12 (j) Forest health hazard orders issued by the commissioner of public lands under RCW 76.06.180.
 - (k) Decisions of the department of fish and wildlife to issue, deny, condition, or modify a hydraulic project approval permit under chapter 77.55 RCW, to issue a stop work order, to issue a notice to comply, to issue a civil penalty, or to issue a notice of intent to disapprove applications.
- 19 (1) Decisions of the department of natural resources that are 20 reviewable under RCW 78.44.270.
- 21 (m) Decisions of an authorized public entity under RCW 79.100.010 22 to take temporary possession or custody of a vessel or to contest the 23 amount of reimbursement owed that are reviewable by the hearings 24 board under RCW 79.100.120.
- 25 (2) The following hearings shall not be conducted by the hearings 26 board:
- 27 (a) Hearings required by law to be conducted by the shorelines 28 hearings board pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW.
- 29 (b) Hearings conducted by the department pursuant to RCW 30 70.94.332, 70.94.390, 70.94.395, 70.94.400, 70.94.405, 70.94.410, and 31 90.44.180.
- 32 (c) Appeals of decisions by the department under RCW 90.03.110 and 90.44.220.
- 34 (d) Hearings conducted by the department to adopt, modify, or 35 repeal rules.
- 36 (3) Review of rules and regulations adopted by the hearings board 37 shall be subject to review in accordance with the provisions of the 38 administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:
- 3 (1) RCW 77.55.141 (Marine beach front protective bulkheads or 4 rockwalls) and 2010 c 210 s 28, 2005 c 146 s 501, & 1991 c 279 s 1; and
- 6 (2) RCW 77.55.291 (Civil penalty) and 2010 c 210 s 31, 2005 c 146 7 s 701, 2000 c 107 s 19, 1993 sp.s. c 2 s 35, 1988 c 36 s 35, & 1986 c 8 173 s 6.

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HOUSE BILL 1580

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Blake, Kretz, Kirby, Peterson, Appleton, Shewmake, Morris, Cody, and Jinkins; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources.

- AN ACT Relating to the protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels; amending RCW 77.15.740; adding a new section to chapter 77.15 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 77.70 RCW; and declaring an emergency.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.15.740 and 2014 c 48 s 22 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, it is unlawful <u>for a person</u> to:
 - (a) Cause a vessel or other object to approach, in any manner, within ((two)) four hundred yards of a southern resident orca whale;
 - (b) Position a vessel to be in the path of a southern resident orca whale at any point located within four hundred yards of the whale. This includes intercepting a southern resident orca whale by positioning a vessel so that the prevailing wind or water current carries the vessel into the path of the whale at any point located within four hundred yards of the whale;
 - (c) Fail to disengage the transmission of a vessel that is within ((two)) four hundred yards of a southern resident orca whale; $((orchite{e}))$
- 20 (d) <u>Cause a vessel or other object to exceed a speed greater than</u>
 21 seven knots over ground at any point located within one-half nautical

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1 mile (one thousand thirteen yards) of a southern resident orca whale;
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(e) Feed a southern resident orca whale.

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- (2) A person is exempt from subsection (1) of this section if that person is:
- (a) Operating a federal government vessel in the course of his or her official duties, or operating a state, tribal, or local government vessel when engaged in official duties involving law enforcement, search and rescue, or public safety;
- (b) Operating a vessel in conjunction with a vessel traffic service established under 33 C.F.R. and following a traffic separation scheme, or complying with a vessel traffic service measure of direction. This also includes support vessels escorting ships in the traffic lanes, such as tug boats;
- 15 (c) Engaging in an activity, including scientific research, 16 pursuant to a permit or other authorization from the national marine 17 fisheries service and the department;
 - (d) Lawfully engaging in a treaty Indian or commercial fishery that is actively setting, retrieving, or closely tending fishing gear. Commercial fishing vessels in transit are not exempt from subsection (1) of this section;
 - (e) Conducting vessel operations necessary to avoid an imminent and serious threat to a person, vessel, or the environment, including when necessary for overall safety of navigation and to comply with state and federal navigation requirements; or
 - (f) Engaging in rescue or clean-up efforts of a beached southern resident orca whale overseen, coordinated, or authorized by a volunteer stranding network.
 - (3) For the purpose of this section, "vessel" includes aircraft while on the surface of the water, and every description of watercraft on the water that is used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water. However, "vessel" does not include inner tubes, air mattresses, sailboards, and small rafts, or flotation devices or toys customarily used by swimmers.
- 35 (4)(a) A violation of this section is a natural resource 36 infraction punishable under chapter 7.84 RCW and carries a fine of 37 five hundred dollars, not including statutory assessments added 38 pursuant to RCW 3.62.090.

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- 1 (b) A person who qualifies for an exemption under subsection (2)
- 2 of this section may offer that exemption as an affirmative defense,
- 3 which that person must prove by a preponderance of the evidence.
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 77.15 5 RCW to read as follows:
- 6 (1) Commercial whale watching operators are prohibited from 7 approaching or intercepting within six hundred fifty yards in any 8 direction of a southern resident orca whale until January 1, 2023.
- 9 (2) By August 1, 2019, the department must adopt rules, including 10 emergency rules if necessary, to implement this section.
- 11 (3) The department shall complete a report to the governor and 12 the legislature on the effectiveness of the prohibition by November 13 30, 2022, including the best available science on commercial whale 14 watching vessel disturbance and noise, and the current status of the 15 population. This report must be in compliance with RCW 43.01.036.
- 16 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this 17 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 18 (a) "Commercial whale watching" means the act of taking, or 19 offering to take, passengers aboard a vessel in order to view marine 20 mammals in their natural habitat for a fee.
- (b) "Commercial whale watching operators" includes commercial vessels and kayak rentals that are engaged in the business of whale watching.
- (c) "Commercial whale watching vessel" means any vessel that is being used as a means of transportation for individuals to engage in commercial whale watching.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 77.70 RCW to read as follows:
- 29 (1) A commercial whale watching license is required for all 30 businesses engaged in commercial whale watching activities as 31 permitted in section 4 of this act.
- 32 (2) The initial annual fee for a commercial whale watching 33 license involving motorized or sailing vessels is:
- 34 (a) One to twenty-four passengers, four hundred twenty-five 35 dollars;
- 36 (b) Twenty-five to fifty passengers, six hundred twenty-five 37 dollars;

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- 1 (c) Fifty-one to one hundred passengers, nine hundred twenty-five dollars:
- 3 (d) One hundred to one hundred fifty passengers, one thousand 4 nine hundred twenty-five dollars; and
- 5 (e) One hundred fifty-one passengers or greater, two thousand 6 nine hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 7 (3) The initial annual fee for commercial whale watching license 8 involving kayaks is four hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 9 (4) The application fee for a commercial whale watching license 10 is seventy-five dollars.
- 11 (5) "Commercial whale watching" has the same meaning as defined 12 in section 2 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 77.70 RCW to read as follows:

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- (1) The department must implement a limited-entry whale watching license program for the inland waters of Washington for all whale species by January 1, 2021. The limited-entry whale watching license must be designed to reduce the daily and cumulative impacts on southern resident orca whales and consider the economic viability of license holders. In designing the program, the department may only license entities that have operated a commercial whale watch business for at least forty-five trips in Washington waters over 2016, 2017, and 2018. The department shall at a minimum consider limitations on:
 - (a) The number of commercial whale watching operators;
- 25 (b) The number of days and hours that commercial whale watching operators can operate;
- 27 (c) The duration spent in the vicinity of southern resident orca 28 whales; and
- 29 (d) The areas in which commercial whale watching operators may 30 operate.
- 31 (2) The limited-entry whale watching license program must use an 32 automatic identification system to enable effective monitoring and 33 compliance.
- 34 (3) The limited-entry whale watching license program may consider 35 options for the purchase and retirement of commercial whale watching 36 operations.
- 37 (4) The department may phase in requirements, but must adopt 38 rules to implement this section.

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(5) The department shall complete an analysis and report to the governor and the legislature on the effectiveness of the limited 3 entry whale watching program and any recommendations for changes to the license fee structure by November 30, 2022, and every two years thereafter until 2026. This report must be in compliance with RCW 5 43.01.036.

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- 7 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this 8 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 9 (a) "Commercial whale watching" has the same meaning as defined 10 in section 2 of this act.
- (b) "Commercial whale watching operators" has the same meaning as 11 12 defined in section 2 of this act.
- 13 (c) "Inland waters of Washington" means Puget Sound and related 14 inland marine waters, including all salt waters of the state of Washington inside the international boundary line between Washington 15 and British Columbia, and lying east of the junction of the Pacific 16 Ocean and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the rivers and streams 17 draining to Puget Sound as mapped by water resource inventory areas 1 18 through 19 in WAC 173-500-040 as it exists on July 1, 2007. 19
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary 20 21 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or 22 safety, or support of the state government and its existing public 23 institutions, and take effect immediately.

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SENATE BILL 5577

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Frockt, Liias, McCoy, Dhingra, Hunt, Keiser, Kuderer, Saldaña, and Wilson, C.; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks.

- AN ACT Relating to the protection of southern resident orca whales from vessels; amending RCW 77.15.740; adding a new section to chapter 77.15 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 77.70 RCW; and declaring an emergency.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.15.740 and 2014 c 48 s 22 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, it is unlawful for a person to:
- 10 (a) Cause a vessel or other object to approach, in any manner, 11 within ((two)) four hundred yards of a southern resident orca whale;
 - (b) Position a vessel to be in the path of a southern resident orca whale at any point located within four hundred yards of the whale. This includes intercepting a southern resident orca whale by positioning a vessel so that the prevailing wind or water current carries the vessel into the path of the whale at any point located within four hundred yards of the whale;
- (c) Fail to disengage the transmission of a vessel that is within ((two)) four hundred yards of a southern resident orca whale; ((or))
 - (d) Cause a vessel or other object to exceed a speed greater than seven knots over ground at any point located within one-half nautical

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1 mile (one thousand thirteen yards) of a southern resident orca whale;
2 or

(e) Feed a southern resident orca whale.

- (2) A person is exempt from subsection (1) of this section if that person is:
- (a) Operating a federal government vessel in the course of his or her official duties, or operating a state, tribal, or local government vessel when engaged in official duties involving law enforcement, search and rescue, or public safety;
- (b) Operating a vessel in conjunction with a vessel traffic service established under 33 C.F.R. and following a traffic separation scheme, or complying with a vessel traffic service measure of direction. This also includes support vessels escorting ships in the traffic lanes, such as tug boats;
 - (c) Engaging in an activity, including scientific research, pursuant to a permit or other authorization from the national marine fisheries service and the department;
 - (d) Lawfully engaging in a treaty Indian or commercial fishery that is actively setting, retrieving, or closely tending fishing gear. Commercial fishing vessels in transit are not exempt from subsection (1) of this section;
 - (e) Conducting vessel operations necessary to avoid an imminent and serious threat to a person, vessel, or the environment, including when necessary for overall safety of navigation and to comply with state and federal navigation requirements; or
 - (f) Engaging in rescue or clean-up efforts of a beached southern resident orca whale overseen, coordinated, or authorized by a volunteer stranding network.
- (3) For the purpose of this section, "vessel" includes aircraft while on the surface of the water, and every description of watercraft on the water that is used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water. However, "vessel" does not include inner tubes, air mattresses, sailboards, and small rafts, or flotation devices or toys customarily used by swimmers.
- 35 (4)(a) A violation of this section is a natural resource 36 infraction punishable under chapter 7.84 RCW and carries a fine of 37 five hundred dollars, not including statutory assessments added 38 pursuant to RCW 3.62.090.

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- 1 (b) A person who qualifies for an exemption under subsection (2) 2 of this section may offer that exemption as an affirmative defense, 3 which that person must prove by a preponderance of the evidence.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 77.15
 RCW to read as follows:
- 6 (1) Commercial whale watching operators are prohibited from 7 approaching or intercepting within six hundred fifty yards in any 8 direction of a southern resident orca whale until January 1, 2023.
- 9 (2) By August 1, 2019, the department must adopt rules, including 10 emergency rules if necessary, to implement this section.

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- (3) The department shall complete a report to the governor and the legislature on the effectiveness of the prohibition by November 30, 2022, including the best available science on commercial whale watching vessel disturbance and noise, and the current status of the population. This report must be in compliance with RCW 43.01.036.
- 16 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this 17 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 18 (a) "Commercial whale watching" means the act of taking, or 19 offering to take, passengers aboard a vessel in order to view marine 20 mammals in their natural habitat for a fee.
- 21 (b) "Commercial whale watching operators" includes commercial 22 vessels and kayak rentals that are engaged in the business of whale 23 watching.
- (c) "Commercial whale watching vessel" means any vessel that is being used as a means of transportation for individuals to engage in commercial whale watching.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 77.70 RCW to read as follows:
- 29 (1) A commercial whale watching license is required for all 30 businesses engaged in commercial whale watching activities as 31 permitted in section 4 of this act.
- 32 (2) The initial annual fee for a commercial whale watching 33 license involving motorized or sailing vessels is:
- 34 (a) One to twenty-four passengers, four hundred twenty-five 35 dollars;
- 36 (b) Twenty-five to fifty passengers, six hundred twenty-five 37 dollars;

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- 1 (c) Fifty-one to one hundred passengers, nine hundred twenty-five dollars:
- 3 (d) One hundred to one hundred fifty passengers, one thousand 4 nine hundred twenty-five dollars; and
- 5 (e) One hundred fifty-one passengers or greater, two thousand 6 nine hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 7 (3) The initial annual fee for commercial whale watching license involving kayaks is four hundred twenty-five dollars.
- 9 (4) The application fee for a commercial whale watching license 10 is seventy-five dollars.
- 11 (5) "Commercial whale watching" has the same meaning as defined 12 in section 2 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 77.70 RCW to read as follows:
- 15 (1) The department must implement a limited-entry whale watching 16 license program for the inland waters of Washington for all whale 17 species by January 1, 2021. The limited-entry whale watching license 18 must be designed to reduce the daily and cumulative impacts on southern resident orca whales and consider the economic viability of 19 20 license holders. In designing the program, the department may only 21 license entities that have operated a commercial whale watch business 22 for at least forty-five trips in Washington waters over 2016, 2017, 23 and 2018. The department shall at a minimum consider limitations on:
 - (a) The number of commercial whale watching operators;

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- 25 (b) The number of days and hours that commercial whale watching 26 operators can operate;
- 27 (c) The duration spent in the vicinity of southern resident orca 28 whales; and
- 29 (d) The areas in which commercial whale watching operators may 30 operate.
- 31 (2) The limited-entry whale watching license program must use an 32 automatic identification system to enable effective monitoring and 33 compliance.
- 34 (3) The limited-entry whale watching license program may consider 35 options for the purchase and retirement of commercial whale watching 36 operations.
- 37 (4) The department may phase in requirements, but must adopt 38 rules to implement this section.

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- (5) The department shall complete an analysis and report to the governor and the legislature on the effectiveness of the limited entry whale watching program and any recommendations for changes to the license fee structure by November 30, 2022, and every two years thereafter until 2026. This report must be in compliance with RCW 43.01.036.
- 7 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this 8 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 9 (a) "Commercial whale watching" has the same meaning as defined 10 in section 2 of this act.
- 11 (b) "Commercial whale watching operators" has the same meaning as 12 defined in section 2 of this act.
- 13 (c) "Inland waters of Washington" means Puget Sound and related 14 inland marine waters, including all salt waters of the state of 15 Washington inside the international boundary line between Washington 16 and British Columbia, and lying east of the junction of the Pacific 17 Ocean and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the rivers and streams 18 draining to Puget Sound as mapped by water resource inventory areas 1 19 through 19 in WAC 173-500-040 as it exists on July 1, 2007.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately.

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HOUSE BILL 1578

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Lekanoff, Peterson, Doglio, Fitzgibbon, Shewmake, Robinson, Slatter, Valdez, Bergquist, Morris, Stanford, Tharinger, Cody, Jinkins, Kloba, Pollet, Frame, Davis, and Macri; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

AN ACT Relating to reducing threats to southern resident killer whales by improving the safety of oil transportation; amending RCW 88.16.190, 88.46.240, 90.56.565, and 88.46.165; adding a new section to chapter 88.16 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 88.46 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that a variety of 8 existing policies designed to reduce the risk of oil spills have helped contribute to a relatively strong safety record for oil moved 9 by water, pipeline, and train in recent years in Washington state. 10 Nevertheless, gaps exist in our safety regimen, especially deriving 11 from shifts in the modes of overwater transportation of oil and the 12 increased transport of oils that may submerge or sink, contributing 13 to an unacceptable threat to Washington waters, where a catastrophic 14 spill would inflict potentially irreversible damage on the endangered 15 southern resident killer whales. In addition to the unique marine and 16 cultural resources in Puget Sound that would be damaged by an oil 17 18 spill, the geographic, bathometric, and other environmental peculiarities of Puget Sound present navigational challenges that 19 20 heighten the risk of an oil spill incident occurring. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to enact certain new safety 21

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requirements designed to reduce the current, acute risk from existing 1 infrastructure and activities of an oil spill that could eradicate 2 3 our whales, violate the treaty fishing rights of federally recognized 4 Indian tribes, damage commercial fishing prospects, undercut many 5 aspects of the economy that depend on the Salish Sea, and otherwise harm the health and well-being of Washington residents. In enacting 6 7 such measures, however, it is not the intent of the legislature to mitigate, offset, or otherwise encourage additional projects or 8 9 activities that would increase the frequency or severity of oil spills in the Salish Sea. Furthermore, it is the intent of the 10 legislature for this act to spur international discussions among 11 federal, state, provincial, and industry leaders in the United States 12 and Canada to develop an agreement for the shared funding of an 13 emergency rescue tug available to vessels in distress in the narrow 14 Straits of the San Juan Islands and other boundary waters, which 15 would lessen oil spill risks to the marine environment in both the 16 17 United States and Canada.

- 18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 88.16.190 and 1994 c 52 s 1 are each amended to read 19 as follows:
 - (1) Any oil tanker, whether enrolled or registered, of greater than one hundred and twenty-five thousand <u>metric</u> deadweight tons shall be prohibited from proceeding beyond a point east of a line extending from Discovery Island light south to New Dungeness light.
 - (2) ((An oil tanker, whether enrolled or registered, of forty to one hundred and twenty-five thousand deadweight tons may proceed beyond the points enumerated in subsection (1) if such tanker possesses all of the following standard safety features:
- 28 (a) Shaft horsepower in the ratio of one horsepower to each two 29 and one-half deadweight tons; and
 - (b) Twin screws; and

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- 31 (c) Double bottoms, underneath all oil and liquid cargo 32 compartments; and
- 33 (d) Two radars in working order and operating, one of which must 34 be collision avoidance radar; and
- 35 (e) Such other navigational position location systems as may be 36 prescribed from time to time by the board of pilotage commissioners:
 - PROVIDED, That, if such forty to one hundred and twenty-five thousand deadweight ton tanker is in ballast or is under escort of a tug or tugs with an aggregate shaft horsepower equivalent to five

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percent of the deadweight tons of that tanker, subsection (2) of this 1 section shall not apply: PROVIDED FURTHER, That additional tug shaft 2 3 horsepower equivalencies may be required under certain conditions as 4 established by rule and regulation of the Washington utilities and 5 transportation commission pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW: PROVIDED FURTHER, That)) (a) (i) An oil tanker of forty to one hundred twenty-6 7 five thousand metric deadweight tons may operate in the waters east of a line extending from Discovery Island light south to New 8 Dungeness light and all points in the Puget Sound area, including but 9 not limited to the San Juan Islands and connected waterways and the 10 waters south of Admiralty Inlet, to the extent that these waters are 11 within the territorial boundaries of Washington, only if the oil 12 tanker is under the escort of a tug or tugs that have an aggregate 13 shaft horsepower equivalent to at least five percent of the metric 14 15 deadweight tons of the escorted oil tanker.

(ii) Effective October 1, 2019, oil tankers of less than forty thousand metric deadweight tons, and articulated tug barges and waterborne vessels or barges of greater than five thousand metric deadweight tons may operate in Rosario Strait and connected waterways to the east only if the vessel is under the escort of a tug or tugs that have an aggregate shaft horsepower equivalent to at least five percent of the metric deadweight tons of a forty thousand metric deadweight ton oil tanker. The requirements of this subsection may be adjusted by rule by the board of pilotage commissioners, consistent with section 3(3)(b) of this act.

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- (b) An oil tanker, articulated tug barge, or waterborne vessel or barge in ballast is not required to be under the escort of a tug.
- $\underline{\text{(c)}}$ A tanker assigned a deadweight of less than forty thousand $\underline{\text{metric}}$ deadweight tons at the time of construction or reconstruction as reported in Lloyd's Register of Ships is not subject to the provisions of RCW 88.16.170 (($\underline{\text{through } 88.16.190}$)) and 88.16.180.
- 32 <u>(3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this</u> 33 <u>section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.</u>
 - (a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
- 37 <u>(b) "Oil tanker" means a self-propelled deep draft tank vessel</u>
 38 <u>designed to transport oil in bulk. "Oil tanker" does not include an</u>
 39 articulated tug barge tank vessel.

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- 1 (c) "Waterborne vessel or barge" includes any ship, barge, or
 2 other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this
 3 state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product
 4 in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than
 5 providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3**. A new section is added to chapter 88.16 7 RCW to read as follows:
- 8 (1)(a) By December 31, 2025, the board of pilotage commissioners, in consultation with the department of ecology, must adopt rules 9 10 regarding tug escorts to address the peculiarities of Puget Sound for oil tankers of less than forty thousand metric deadweight tons, 11 articulated tug barges, and waterborne vessels or barges of greater 12 than five thousand metric deadweight tons operating in the waters 13 east of the line extending from Discovery Island light south to New 14 Dungeness light and all points in the Puget Sound area. This rule 15 16 making must address the tug escort requirements applicable to Rosario 17 Strait and connected waterways to the east established in RCW 88.16.190(2)(a)(ii), and may adjust those requirements. 18
- 19 (b) To achieve the rule-making deadline in (a) of this 20 subsection, the board of pilotage commissioners must adhere to the 21 following interim milestones:

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- (i) By September 1, 2020, identify and define the zones, specified in subsection (3)(a) of this section, to inform the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section; and
- (ii) By September 1, 2023, consult with stakeholders as required under subsection (6) of this section and complete the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section. By September 1, 2023, the department of ecology must submit a summary of the results of the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section to the legislature consistent with RCW 43.01.036.
- 31 (2) When developing rules, the board of pilotage commissioners 32 must consider:
- 33 (a) The results of the most recently completed vessel traffic 34 risk assessments;
- 35 (b) The report developed by the department of ecology as required 36 under section 206, chapter 262, Laws of 2018;
- 37 (c) The recommendations of tribes with usual and accustomed 38 fishing rights in these areas; and

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- 1 (d) The recommendations included in the southern resident orca 2 task force report, November 2018.
 - (3) In the rules adopted under this section, the board of pilotage commissioners must:
 - (a) Make decisions about risk protection on the basis of geographic zones in the waters specified in subsection (1)(a) of this section. As the initial foci of the rules, the board of pilotage commissioners must equally prioritize geographic zones encompassing (i) Rosario Strait and connected waterways to the east; and (ii) Haro Strait and Boundary Pass;
- 11 (b) Specify operational requirements, such as tethering, for tug
 12 escorts;
 - (c) Include functionality requirements for tug escorts, such as aggregate shaft horsepower for tethered tug escorts; and
 - (d) Be designed to achieve best achievable protection, as defined under RCW 88.46.010, as informed by consideration of:
 - (i) Accident records in British Columbia and Washington waters;
- 18 (ii) Existing propulsion and design standards for covered tank 19 vessels; and
- 20 (iii) The characteristics of the waterways.

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- (4) The rules adopted under this section may not require oil tankers, articulated tug barges, waterborne vessels, or barges to be under the escort of a tug when these vessels are in ballast.
- (5) To inform rule making, the board of pilotage commissioners must conduct an analysis of tug escorts using the model developed by the department of ecology under section 5 of this act. The board of pilotage commissioners may:
- (a) Develop subsets of oil tankers of less than forty thousand metric deadweight tons, and articulated tug barges and waterborne vessels or barges of greater than five thousand metric deadweight tons, and situations that could preclude the requirements of the rule making for a given zone or vessel; and
- 33 (b) Enter into an interagency agreement with the department of 34 ecology to assist with conducting the analysis and developing the 35 rules.
 - (6) The board of pilotage commissioners must consult with the United States coast guard, the Puget Sound harbor safety committee, treaty tribes, ports, local governments, state agencies, and other appropriate entities before adopting tug escort rules for Puget Sound. Considering relevant information elicited during the

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- consultations required under this subsection, the board of pilotage commissioners must also design the rules with a goal of avoiding or minimizing the impacts of underwater noise from vessels in the Salish Sea, focusing vessel traffic into established shipping lanes, protecting and minimizing vessel traffic impacts to established treaty fishing areas, and respecting and preserving the treaty-protected fishing rights of federally recognized Indian tribes in the Salish Sea.
 - (7) Rules adopted under this section must be periodically updated consistent with section 6 of this act.

- (8) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
- (b) "Oil tanker" means a self-propelled deep draft tank vessel designed to transport oil in bulk. "Oil tanker" does not include an articulated tug barge tank vessel.
 - (c) "Waterborne vessels or barges" includes any ship, barge, or other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 88.46 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The department may adopt rules to require the owners and operators of covered vessels transiting to or from a Washington port through Haro Strait, Boundary Pass, or Rosario Strait to collectively establish and fund an emergency response system that provides for an emergency response towing vessel in a manner similar to the requirements of RCW 88.46.125 through 88.46.139. These rules must:
 - (a) Require that an emergency response towing vessel be stationed in the vicinity of the San Juan Islands and be able to respond immediately to a vessel in distress in Haro Strait, Boundary Pass, Rosario Strait, and connected navigable waterways;
 - (b) Establish minimum deployment and equipment standards for an emergency response towing vessel, which may include requirements related to the speed and availability of the vessel for deployment,

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the functionality of the vessel in severe weather conditions, and other operational capabilities;

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- (c) Allow the requirements of this section to be fulfilled by one or more private organizations or nonprofit cooperatives providing umbrella coverage under contract to single or multiple covered vessels;
- (d) Allow the department, at its discretion, to contract with the emergency response towing vessel in response to a potentially emerging maritime casualty or as a precautionary measure during severe storms. In all instances of use by the department, the department must be responsible for the cost of its use of an emergency response towing vessel;
- 13 (e) Not allow the emergency response towing vessel to be 14 restricted from responding to distressed vessels that are not covered 15 vessels;
 - (f) Require the owner or operator of a vessel that receives assistance from the emergency response towing vessel to submit a written report to the department as soon as practicable regarding the deployment of the emergency response system;
 - (g) Be designed with a goal of avoiding or minimizing the impacts of underwater noise from vessels in the Salish Sea, focusing vessel traffic into established shipping lanes, protecting and minimizing vessel traffic impacts to established fishing areas, and respecting and preserving the treaty-protected fishing rights of federally recognized Indian tribes in the Salish Sea;
 - (h) Be designed to maximize the incremental risk reduction offered by an emergency response system in light of the requirements established in or authorized by RCW 88.16.190;
- 29 (i) Consider whether the adoption of rules under this section 30 would establish the perverse effects of either:
- 31 (i) Encouraging the development of or mitigating the impacts of 32 oil infrastructure in British Columbia; or
- 33 (ii) Discouraging regulatory authorities in Canada from 34 establishing tug escorts, emergency response systems, or similar 35 maritime safety requirements for vessels operating in international 36 boundary waters;
- 37 (j) Consider input received during the 2019 Salish Sea shared 38 waters forum;
- 39 (k) Be carried out in consultation with the entities identified 40 in section 3(6) of this act; and

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- 1 (1) Rely, in part, upon analysis of the emergency response towing 2 vessel using the model developed by the department under section 5 of 3 this act.
- 4 (2) Rules adopted under this section must be periodically updated consistent with section 6 of this act.
- 6 (3) The department must prioritize Haro Strait and Boundary Pass 7 as the initial focus of analysis conducted in support of rule-making 8 processes under this section.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 88.46 10 RCW to read as follows:
- develop and maintain 11 The department must model quantitatively assess current and potential future risks of oil 12 spills from covered vessels in Washington waters, as it conducts 13 ongoing oil spill risk assessments. The department must consult with 14 15 the United States coast guard, tribes, and stakeholders to: Determine model assumptions; develop scenarios to show the likely impacts of 16 17 changes to model assumptions, including potential changes in vessel traffic, commodities transported, and vessel safety 18 and risk reduction measures; and update the model periodically. 19
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 88.46 21 RCW to read as follows:

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- (1) By October 1, 2028, and every ten years thereafter, the board of pilotage commissioners and the department must together consider:
- (a) The effects of rules established under RCW 88.16.190 and sections 3 and 4 of this act on vessel traffic patterns and oil spill risks in the Salish Sea. Factors considered must include modeling developed by the department under section 5 of this act and may include: (i) Vessel traffic data; (ii) vessel accident and incident data, such as incidents where tug escorts or an emergency response towing vessel acted to reduce spill risks; and (iii) consultation with the United States coast guard, federally recognized Indian tribes, and stakeholders; and
- (b) Whether experienced or forecasted changes to vessel traffic patterns or oil spill risk in the Salish Sea necessitate an update to the tug escort rules adopted under RCW 88.16.190 and section 3 of this act, or to the emergency response towing vessel requirements adopted under section 4 of this act.

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- 1 (2) In the event that the department or board of pilotage commissioners determines that updates are merited to the rules, the department or board, as appropriate, must notify the appropriate standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate, and must thereafter adopt rules consistent with the requirements of RCW 88.16.190, section 3 of this act, including the consultation process outlined in section 3(6) of this act, and section 4 of this act.
- 9 **Sec. 7**. RCW 88.46.240 and 2018 c 262 s 204 are each amended to 10 read as follows:
 - (1) The department must establish the Salish Sea shared waters forum to address common issues in the cross-boundary waterways between Washington state and British Columbia such as: Enhancing efforts to reduce oil spill risk; addressing navigational safety; and promoting data sharing.
 - (2) The department must:

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- 17 (a) Coordinate with provincial and federal Canadian agencies when 18 establishing the Salish Sea shared waters forum; and
- 19 (b) Seek participation from stakeholders that, at minimum, 20 includes representatives of the following: State, provincial, and 21 federal governmental entities, regulated entities, environmental 22 organizations, tribes, and first nations.
- 23 (3) The Salish Sea shared waters forum must meet at least once 24 per year to consider the following:
- 25 (a) Gaps and conflicts in oil spill policies, regulations, and 26 laws;
- 27 (b) Opportunities to reduce oil spill risk, including requiring 28 tug escorts for oil tankers, articulated tug barges, and other 29 waterborne vessels or barges;
- 30 (c) Enhancing oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response 31 capacity; and
- 32 (d) Whether an emergency response system in Haro Strait, Boundary 33 Pass, and Rosario Strait, similar to the system implemented by the 34 maritime industry pursuant to RCW 88.46.130, will decrease oil spill 35 risk and how to fund such a shared system.
- 36 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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- (a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
 - (b) "Waterborne vessel or barge" ((means)) includes any ship, barge, or other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- (5) In advance of the 2019 meeting of the Salish Sea shared waters forum, the department must partner with the coast Salish gathering, which is the transboundary natural resource policy dialogue of elected officials representing federal, state, provincial, first nations, and tribal governments within the Salish Sea, to discuss the specifics of how the shared system described in subsection (3)(d) of this section could be funded. The 2019 meeting of the Salish Sea shared waters forum must include continued discussion of the specifics covered on this topic during the coast Salish gathering.
 - (6) This section expires July 1, 2021.

- **Sec. 8**. RCW 90.56.565 and 2015 c 274 s 8 are each amended to 21 read as follows:
 - (1) (a) A facility that receives crude oil from a railroad car must provide advance notice to the department that the facility will receive crude oil from a railroad car, as provided in this section. The advance notice must include the route taken to the facility within the state, if known, and the scheduled time, location, volume, region per bill of lading, type, and gravity as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, of crude oil received. Each week, a facility that provides advance notice under this section must provide the required information regarding the scheduled arrival of railroad cars carrying crude oil to be received by the facility in the succeeding seven-day period. A facility is not required to provide advance notice when there is no receipt of crude oil from a railroad car scheduled for a seven-day period.
 - (b) Twice per year, pipelines that transport crude oil must report to the department the following information about the crude oil transported by the pipeline through the state: The volume of crude oil, gravity of the crude oil as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, type of crude oil, and

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the state or province of origin of the crude oil. This report must be submitted each year by July 31st for the period January 1st through June 30th and by January 31st for the period July 1st through December 31st.

- (2) The department may share information provided by a facility through the advance notice system established in this section with the state emergency management division and any county, city, tribal, port, or local government emergency response agency upon request.
- (3) The department must publish information collected under this section on a quarterly basis on the department's internet web site. With respect to the information reported under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the information published by the department must be aggregated on a statewide basis by route through the state, by week, and by type of crude oil. The report may also include other information available to the department including, but not limited to, place of origin, modes of transport, number of railroad cars delivering crude oil, and number and volume of spills during transport and delivery.
- (4) A facility providing advance notice under this section is not responsible for meeting advance notice time frame requirements under subsection (1) of this section in the event that the schedule of arrivals of railroad cars carrying crude oil changes during a sevenday period.
- (5) Consistent with the requirements of chapter 42.56 RCW, the department and any state, local, tribal, or public agency that receives information provided under this section may not disclose any such information to the public or to nongovernmental entities that contains proprietary, commercial, or financial information unless that information is aggregated. The requirement for aggregating information does not apply when information is shared by the department with emergency response agencies as provided in subsection (2) of this section.
- 33 (6) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.
 34 The advance notice system required in this section must be consistent
 35 with the oil transfer reporting system adopted by the department
 36 pursuant to RCW 88.46.165.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 88.46.165 and 2006 c 316 s 1 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

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(1) The department's rules authorized under RCW 88.46.160 and this section shall be scaled to the risk posed to people and to the environment, and be categorized by type of transfer, volume of oil, frequency of transfers, and such other risk factors as identified by the department.

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- (2) The rules may require prior notice be provided before an oil transfer, regulated under this chapter, occurs in situations defined by the department as posing a higher risk. The notice may include the time, location, and volume of the oil transfer, as well as the region per bill of lading, gravity as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, and type of crude oil. The rules may not require prior notice when marine fuel outlets are transferring less than three thousand gallons of oil in a single transaction to a ship that is not a covered vessel and the transfers are scheduled less than four hours in advance.
- 16 (3) The department may require semiannual reporting of volumes of 17 oil transferred to ships by a marine fuel outlet.
- 18 (4) The rules may require additional measures to be taken in 19 conjunction with the deployment of containment equipment or with the 20 alternatives to deploying containment equipment. However, these 21 measures must be scaled appropriately to the risks posed by the oil 22 transfer.
- (5) The rules shall include regulations to enhance the safety of oil transfers over water originating from vehicles transporting oil over private roads or highways of the state.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Sections 8 and 9 of this act take effect July 1, 2021.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

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SENATE BILL 5578

State of Washington 66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Van De Wege, Liias, Carlyle, Frockt, Billig, Conway, Hunt, Pedersen, Palumbo, McCoy, Dhingra, Keiser, Kuderer, Saldaña, and Wilson, C.; by request of Office of the Governor

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

- AN ACT Relating to reducing threats to southern resident killer whales by improving the safety of oil transportation; amending RCW 88.16.190, 88.46.240, 90.56.565, and 88.46.165; adding a new section to chapter 88.16 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 88.46 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- Sec. 1. The legislature finds that a variety of 7 NEW SECTION. existing policies designed to reduce the risk of oil spills have 8 9 helped contribute to a relatively strong safety record for oil moved by water, pipeline, and train in recent years in Washington state. 10 Nevertheless, gaps exist in our safety regimen, especially deriving 11 from shifts in the modes of overwater transportation of oil and the 12 increased transport of oils that may submerge or sink, contributing 13 to an unacceptable threat to Washington waters, where a catastrophic 14 spill would inflict potentially irreversible damage on the endangered 15 southern resident killer whales. In addition to the unique marine and 16 cultural resources in Puget Sound that would be damaged by an oil 17 geographic, bathometric, and other environmental 18 the peculiarities of Puget Sound present navigational challenges that 19 heighten the risk of an oil spill incident occurring. Therefore, it 20 is the intent of the legislature to enact certain new safety 21

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requirements designed to reduce the current, acute risk from existing 1 infrastructure and activities of an oil spill that could eradicate 2 3 our whales, violate the treaty fishing rights of federally recognized Indian tribes, damage commercial fishing prospects, undercut many 4 aspects of the economy that depend on the Salish Sea, and otherwise 5 harm the health and well-being of Washington residents. In enacting 6 7 such measures, however, it is not the intent of the legislature to mitigate, offset, or otherwise encourage additional projects or 8 activities that would increase the frequency or severity of oil 9 spills in the Salish Sea. Furthermore, it is the intent of the 10 legislature for this act to spur international discussions among 11 federal, state, provincial, and industry leaders in the United States 12 and Canada to develop an agreement for the shared funding of an 13 14 emergency rescue tug available to vessels in distress in the narrow Straits of the San Juan Islands and other boundary waters, which 15 16 would lessen oil spill risks to the marine environment in both the United States and Canada. 17

- 18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 88.16.190 and 1994 c 52 s 1 are each amended to read 19 as follows:
 - (1) Any oil tanker, whether enrolled or registered, of greater than one hundred and twenty-five thousand <u>metric</u> deadweight tons shall be prohibited from proceeding beyond a point east of a line extending from Discovery Island light south to New Dungeness light.
 - (2) ((An oil tanker, whether enrolled or registered, of forty to one hundred and twenty-five thousand deadweight tons may proceed beyond the points enumerated in subsection (1) if such tanker possesses all of the following standard safety features:
- 28 (a) Shaft horsepower in the ratio of one horsepower to each two 29 and one-half deadweight tons; and
 - (b) Twin screws; and

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- 31 (c) Double bottoms, underneath all oil and liquid cargo 32 compartments; and
- 33 (d) Two radars in working order and operating, one of which must 34 be collision avoidance radar; and
- 35 (e) Such other navigational position location systems as may be 36 prescribed from time to time by the board of pilotage commissioners:
 - PROVIDED, That, if such forty to one hundred and twenty-five thousand deadweight ton tanker is in ballast or is under escort of a tug or tugs with an aggregate shaft horsepower equivalent to five

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1 percent of the deadweight tons of that tanker, subsection (2) of this section shall not apply: PROVIDED FURTHER, That additional tug shaft 2 horsepower equivalencies may be required under certain conditions as 3 established by rule and regulation of the Washington utilities and 4 transportation commission pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW: PROVIDED 5 FURTHER, That)) (a)(i) An oil tanker of forty to one hundred twenty-6 7 five thousand metric deadweight tons may operate in the waters east of a line extending from Discovery Island light south to New 8 Dungeness light and all points in the Puget Sound area, including but 9 10 not limited to the San Juan Islands and connected waterways and the waters south of Admiralty Inlet, to the extent that these waters are 11 within the territorial boundaries of Washington, only if the oil 12 tanker is under the escort of a tug or tugs that have an aggregate 13 14 shaft horsepower equivalent to at least five percent of the metric 15 deadweight tons of the escorted oil tanker.

thousand metric deadweight tons, and articulated tug barges and waterborne vessels or barges of greater than five thousand metric deadweight tons may operate in Rosario Strait and connected waterways to the east only if the vessel is under the escort of a tug or tugs that have an aggregate shaft horsepower equivalent to at least five percent of the metric deadweight tons of a forty thousand metric deadweight ton oil tanker. The requirements of this subsection may be adjusted by rule by the board of pilotage commissioners, consistent with section 3(3)(b) of this act.

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- (b) An oil tanker, articulated tug barge, or waterborne vessel or barge in ballast is not required to be under the escort of a tug.
 - $\underline{\text{(c)}}$ A tanker assigned a deadweight of less than forty thousand $\underline{\text{metric}}$ deadweight tons at the time of construction or reconstruction as reported in Lloyd's Register of Ships is not subject to the provisions of RCW 88.16.170 (($\underline{\text{through } 88.16.190}$)) $\underline{\text{and } 88.16.180}$.
- (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- 34 <u>(a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing</u>
 35 <u>vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment</u>
 36 affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
- 37 <u>(b) "Oil tanker" means a self-propelled deep draft tank vessel</u>
 38 <u>designed to transport oil in bulk. "Oil tanker" does not include an</u>
 39 articulated tug barge tank vessel.

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- 1 (c) "Waterborne vessel or barge" includes any ship, barge, or
 2 other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this
 3 state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product
 4 in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than
 5 providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 88.16 7 RCW to read as follows:

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- (1) (a) By December 31, 2025, the board of pilotage commissioners, in consultation with the department of ecology, must adopt rules regarding tug escorts to address the peculiarities of Puget Sound for oil tankers of less than forty thousand metric deadweight tons, articulated tug barges, and waterborne vessels or barges of greater than five thousand metric deadweight tons operating in the waters east of the line extending from Discovery Island light south to New Dungeness light and all points in the Puget Sound area. This rule making must address the tug escort requirements applicable to Rosario Strait and connected waterways to the east established in RCW 88.16.190(2)(a)(ii), and may adjust those requirements.
- 19 (b) To achieve the rule-making deadline in (a) of this 20 subsection, the board of pilotage commissioners must adhere to the 21 following interim milestones:
 - (i) By September 1, 2020, identify and define the zones, specified in subsection (3)(a) of this section, to inform the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section; and
 - (ii) By September 1, 2023, consult with stakeholders as required under subsection (6) of this section and complete the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section. By September 1, 2023, the department of ecology must submit a summary of the results of the analysis required under subsection (5) of this section to the legislature consistent with RCW 43.01.036.
- 31 (2) When developing rules, the board of pilotage commissioners 32 must consider:
- 33 (a) The results of the most recently completed vessel traffic 34 risk assessments;
- 35 (b) The report developed by the department of ecology as required 36 under section 206, chapter 262, Laws of 2018;
- 37 (c) The recommendations of tribes with usual and accustomed 38 fishing rights in these areas; and

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- 1 (d) The recommendations included in the southern resident orca 2 task force report, November 2018.
 - (3) In the rules adopted under this section, the board of pilotage commissioners must:
 - (a) Make decisions about risk protection on the basis of geographic zones in the waters specified in subsection (1)(a) of this section. As the initial foci of the rules, the board of pilotage commissioners must equally prioritize geographic zones encompassing (i) Rosario Strait and connected waterways to the east; and (ii) Haro Strait and Boundary Pass;
- 11 (b) Specify operational requirements, such as tethering, for tug 12 escorts;
 - (c) Include functionality requirements for tug escorts, such as aggregate shaft horsepower for tethered tug escorts; and
 - (d) Be designed to achieve best achievable protection, as defined under RCW 88.46.010, as informed by consideration of:
 - (i) Accident records in British Columbia and Washington waters;
- 18 (ii) Existing propulsion and design standards for covered tank 19 vessels; and
 - (iii) The characteristics of the waterways.

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- (4) The rules adopted under this section may not require oil tankers, articulated tug barges, waterborne vessels, or barges to be under the escort of a tug when these vessels are in ballast.
- (5) To inform rule making, the board of pilotage commissioners must conduct an analysis of tug escorts using the model developed by the department of ecology under section 5 of this act. The board of pilotage commissioners may:
- (a) Develop subsets of oil tankers of less than forty thousand metric deadweight tons, and articulated tug barges and waterborne vessels or barges of greater than five thousand metric deadweight tons, and situations that could preclude the requirements of the rule making for a given zone or vessel; and
- (b) Enter into an interagency agreement with the department of ecology to assist with conducting the analysis and developing the rules.
- (6) The board of pilotage commissioners must consult with the United States coast guard, the Puget Sound harbor safety committee, treaty tribes, ports, local governments, state agencies, and other appropriate entities before adopting tug escort rules for Puget Sound. Considering relevant information elicited during the

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- consultations required under this subsection, the board of pilotage commissioners must also design the rules with a goal of avoiding or minimizing the impacts of underwater noise from vessels in the Salish focusing vessel traffic into established shipping lanes, protecting and minimizing vessel traffic impacts to established treaty fishing areas, and respecting and preserving the treaty-protected fishing rights of federally recognized Indian tribes in the Salish Sea.
 - (7) Rules adopted under this section must be periodically updated consistent with section 6 of this act.

- (8) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
- (b) "Oil tanker" means a self-propelled deep draft tank vessel designed to transport oil in bulk. "Oil tanker" does not include an articulated tug barge tank vessel.
- (c) "Waterborne vessels or barges" includes any ship, barge, or other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 88.46 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) The department may adopt rules to require the owners and operators of covered vessels transiting to or from a Washington port through Haro Strait, Boundary Pass, or Rosario Strait to collectively establish and fund an emergency response system that provides for an emergency response towing vessel in a manner similar to the requirements of RCW 88.46.125 through 88.46.139. These rules must:
 - (a) Require that an emergency response towing vessel be stationed in the vicinity of the San Juan Islands and be able to respond immediately to a vessel in distress in Haro Strait, Boundary Pass, Rosario Strait, and connected navigable waterways;
 - (b) Establish minimum deployment and equipment standards for an emergency response towing vessel, which may include requirements related to the speed and availability of the vessel for deployment,

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the functionality of the vessel in severe weather conditions, and other operational capabilities;

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- (c) Allow the requirements of this section to be fulfilled by one or more private organizations or nonprofit cooperatives providing umbrella coverage under contract to single or multiple covered vessels;
- (d) Allow the department, at its discretion, to contract with the emergency response towing vessel in response to a potentially emerging maritime casualty or as a precautionary measure during severe storms. In all instances of use by the department, the department must be responsible for the cost of its use of an emergency response towing vessel;
- 13 (e) Not allow the emergency response towing vessel to be 14 restricted from responding to distressed vessels that are not covered 15 vessels;
 - (f) Require the owner or operator of a vessel that receives assistance from the emergency response towing vessel to submit a written report to the department as soon as practicable regarding the deployment of the emergency response system;
 - (g) Be designed with a goal of avoiding or minimizing the impacts of underwater noise from vessels in the Salish Sea, focusing vessel traffic into established shipping lanes, protecting and minimizing vessel traffic impacts to established fishing areas, and respecting and preserving the treaty-protected fishing rights of federally recognized Indian tribes in the Salish Sea;
 - (h) Be designed to maximize the incremental risk reduction offered by an emergency response system in light of the requirements established in or authorized by RCW 88.16.190;
 - (i) Consider whether the adoption of rules under this section would establish the perverse effects of either:
- 31 (i) Encouraging the development of or mitigating the impacts of 32 oil infrastructure in British Columbia; or
- 33 (ii) Discouraging regulatory authorities in Canada from 34 establishing tug escorts, emergency response systems, or similar 35 maritime safety requirements for vessels operating in international 36 boundary waters;
- (j) Consider input received during the 2019 Salish Sea shared waters forum;
- (k) Be carried out in consultation with the entities identified in section 3(6) of this act; and

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- 1 (1) Rely, in part, upon analysis of the emergency response towing 2 vessel using the model developed by the department under section 5 of 3 this act.
- 4 (2) Rules adopted under this section must be periodically updated consistent with section 6 of this act.
- 6 (3) The department must prioritize Haro Strait and Boundary Pass 7 as the initial focus of analysis conducted in support of rule-making 8 processes under this section.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 88.46 10 RCW to read as follows:
- department must develop and maintain 11 quantitatively assess current and potential future risks of oil 12 spills from covered vessels in Washington waters, as it conducts 13 ongoing oil spill risk assessments. The department must consult with 14 the United States coast guard, tribes, and stakeholders to: Determine 15 model assumptions; develop scenarios to show the likely impacts of 16 changes to model assumptions, including potential changes in vessel 17 traffic, commodities transported, and vessel safety 18 reduction measures; and update the model periodically. 19
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 88.46 RCW to read as follows:
- 22 (1) By October 1, 2028, and every ten years thereafter, the board 23 of pilotage commissioners and the department must together consider:

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- (a) The effects of rules established under RCW 88.16.190 and sections 3 and 4 of this act on vessel traffic patterns and oil spill risks in the Salish Sea. Factors considered must include modeling developed by the department under section 5 of this act and may include: (i) Vessel traffic data; (ii) vessel accident and incident data, such as incidents where tug escorts or an emergency response towing vessel acted to reduce spill risks; and (iii) consultation with the United States coast guard, federally recognized Indian tribes, and stakeholders; and
- (b) Whether experienced or forecasted changes to vessel traffic patterns or oil spill risk in the Salish Sea necessitate an update to the tug escort rules adopted under RCW 88.16.190 and section 3 of this act, or to the emergency response towing vessel requirements adopted under section 4 of this act.

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- In the event that the department or board of pilotage 1 commissioners determines that updates are merited to the rules, the 2 department or board, as appropriate, must notify the appropriate 3 standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate, 4 and must thereafter adopt rules consistent with the requirements of 5 RCW 88.16.190, section 3 of this act, including the consultation 6 process outlined in section 3(6) of this act, and section 4 of this 7 act. 8
- 9 **Sec. 7.** RCW 88.46.240 and 2018 c 262 s 204 are each amended to 10 read as follows:
 - (1) The department must establish the Salish Sea shared waters forum to address common issues in the cross-boundary waterways between Washington state and British Columbia such as: Enhancing efforts to reduce oil spill risk; addressing navigational safety; and promoting data sharing.
 - (2) The department must:

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- 17 (a) Coordinate with provincial and federal Canadian agencies when 18 establishing the Salish Sea shared waters forum; and
- 19 (b) Seek participation from stakeholders that, at minimum, 20 includes representatives of the following: State, provincial, and 21 federal governmental entities, regulated entities, environmental 22 organizations, tribes, and first nations.
- 23 (3) The Salish Sea shared waters forum must meet at least once 24 per year to consider the following:
- 25 (a) Gaps and conflicts in oil spill policies, regulations, and 26 laws;
- 27 (b) Opportunities to reduce oil spill risk, including requiring 28 tug escorts for oil tankers, articulated tug barges, and other 29 waterborne vessels or barges;
- (c) Enhancing oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response capacity; and
- 32 (d) Whether an emergency response system in Haro Strait, Boundary 33 Pass, and Rosario Strait, similar to the system implemented by the 34 maritime industry pursuant to RCW 88.46.130, will decrease oil spill 35 risk and how to fund such a shared system.
- 36 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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- (a) "Articulated tug barge" means a tank barge and a towing vessel joined by hinged or articulated fixed mechanical equipment affixed or connecting to the stern of the tank barge.
- (b) "Waterborne vessel or barge" ((means)) includes any ship, barge, or other watercraft capable of traveling on the navigable waters of this state and capable of transporting any crude oil or petroleum product in quantities of ten thousand gallons or more for purposes other than providing fuel for its motor or engine.
- In advance of the 2019 meeting of the Salish Sea shared waters forum, the department must partner with the coast Salish gathering, which is the transboundary natural resource policy dialogue of elected officials representing federal, state, provincial, first nations, and tribal governments within the Salish Sea, to discuss the specifics of how the shared system described in subsection (3)(d) of this section could be funded. The 2019 meeting of the Salish Sea shared waters forum must include continued discussion of the specifics covered on this topic during the coast Salish gathering.
 - (6) This section expires July 1, 2021.

- **Sec. 8**. RCW 90.56.565 and 2015 c 274 s 8 are each amended to 21 read as follows:
 - (1) (a) A facility that receives crude oil from a railroad car must provide advance notice to the department that the facility will receive crude oil from a railroad car, as provided in this section. The advance notice must include the route taken to the facility within the state, if known, and the scheduled time, location, volume, region per bill of lading, type, and gravity as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, of crude oil received. Each week, a facility that provides advance notice under this section must provide the required information regarding the scheduled arrival of railroad cars carrying crude oil to be received by the facility in the succeeding seven-day period. A facility is not required to provide advance notice when there is no receipt of crude oil from a railroad car scheduled for a seven-day period.
 - (b) Twice per year, pipelines that transport crude oil must report to the department the following information about the crude oil transported by the pipeline through the state: The volume of crude oil, gravity of the crude oil as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, type of crude oil, and

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the state or province of origin of the crude oil. This report must be submitted each year by July 31st for the period January 1st through June 30th and by January 31st for the period July 1st through December 31st.

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- (2) The department may share information provided by a facility through the advance notice system established in this section with the state emergency management division and any county, city, tribal, port, or local government emergency response agency upon request.
- (3) The department must publish information collected under this section on a quarterly basis on the department's internet web site. With respect to the information reported under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the information published by the department must be aggregated on a statewide basis by route through the state, by week, and by type of crude oil. The report may also include other information available to the department including, but not limited to, place of origin, modes of transport, number of railroad cars delivering crude oil, and number and volume of spills during transport and delivery.
- (4) A facility providing advance notice under this section is not responsible for meeting advance notice time frame requirements under subsection (1) of this section in the event that the schedule of arrivals of railroad cars carrying crude oil changes during a sevenday period.
- (5) Consistent with the requirements of chapter 42.56 RCW, the department and any state, local, tribal, or public agency that receives information provided under this section may not disclose any such information to the public or to nongovernmental entities that contains proprietary, commercial, or financial information unless that information is aggregated. The requirement for aggregating information does not apply when information is shared by the department with emergency response agencies as provided in subsection (2) of this section.
- 33 (6) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.
 34 The advance notice system required in this section must be consistent
 35 with the oil transfer reporting system adopted by the department
 36 pursuant to RCW 88.46.165.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 88.46.165 and 2006 c 316 s 1 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

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(1) The department's rules authorized under RCW 88.46.160 and this section shall be scaled to the risk posed to people and to the environment, and be categorized by type of transfer, volume of oil, frequency of transfers, and such other risk factors as identified by the department.

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- (2) The rules may require prior notice be provided before an oil transfer, regulated under this chapter, occurs in situations defined by the department as posing a higher risk. The notice may include the time, location, and volume of the oil transfer, as well as the region per bill of lading, gravity as measured by standards developed by the American petroleum institute, and type of crude oil. The rules may not require prior notice when marine fuel outlets are transferring less than three thousand gallons of oil in a single transaction to a ship that is not a covered vessel and the transfers are scheduled less than four hours in advance.
- (3) The department may require semiannual reporting of volumes of oil transferred to ships by a marine fuel outlet.
- 18 (4) The rules may require additional measures to be taken in 19 conjunction with the deployment of containment equipment or with the 20 alternatives to deploying containment equipment. However, these 21 measures must be scaled appropriately to the risks posed by the oil 22 transfer.
- 23 (5) The rules shall include regulations to enhance the safety of 24 oil transfers over water originating from vehicles transporting oil 25 over private roads or highways of the state.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Sections 8 and 9 of this act take effect July 1, 2021.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

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CLERK OF THE COUNCIL Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

COUNTY COURTHOUSE 311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105 Bellingham, WA 98225-4038 (360) 778-5010



COUNCILMEMBERS
Barbara Brenner
Rud Browne
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Carol Frazey
Satpal Sidhu

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

February 12, 2019

Senator Liz Lovelett Senator Doug J. Ericksen P.O. Box 40442 Olympia, WA 98504

Representative Debra Lekanoff Representative Jeff Morris Representative Sharon Shewmake Representative Luanne Van Werven P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am writing on behalf of the Whatcom County Council to express the importance of the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) in restoring and protecting our local marine and nearshore environment. The MRC is made up of local volunteers who prioritize and lead restoration, protection and education projects and serve as a marine resources advisory body to local elected officials. Among the many projects the Whatcom County MRC has implemented are:

- Executing a pilot Olympia oyster restoration project in North Chuckanut Bay to re-establish the native population, and enhance the bio-filtration capacity in the bay for improved water quality.
- Providing a source of education in the community on local marine resource issues
- Established a Pollution Identification and Correction program in the North Chuckanut Bay recreational shellfish area, which includes intensive water quality sampling and community outreach, in effort to open the area to shellfish harvest.
- Use of coordinated citizen science to fill important data gaps for critical marine habitats and species in our region, like bull kelp and forage fish.

Federal funding for this volunteer based effort has been reduced since 2011. Further, critical state funding for MRC projects ends this year and these funds provide 44% of the budget that MRCs receive from the Northwest Straits Commission. We urge you to support restoration of state funding during the 2019 Legislative session.

Project implementation through our MRC is a cost-effective way of contributing to recovery and protection of marine resources that are important to our county. We appreciate your past support and hope that we can count on your help to see that this important work will continue.

Sincerely,

Rud Browne, Chair Whatcom County Council

cc. Eleanor Hines, Chair, Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee Northwest Straits Commission