
HOUSE BILL 2424

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Kretz, Lekanoff, Springer, Schmick, and Dent

1 AN ACT Relating to updating cooperative agreements between the
2 state and federally recognized tribes for the successful
3 collaborative management of Washington's wildlife resources; and
4 creating new sections.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
7 confederated tribes of the Colville reservation have been successful
8 in managing both wolves and ungulate populations on the Colville
9 reservation for abundance and to limit conflict with humans and
10 livestock. The legislature further finds that wolf management has
11 been less successful on adjacent lands, including the portion of land
12 north of the current Colville reservation that the confederated
13 tribes of the Colville reservation ceded to the United States in
14 1892, often referred to as "the north half."

15 (2) The legislature finds that the department of fish and
16 wildlife has entered into cooperative agreements with various tribal
17 governments in the state, including the confederated tribes of the
18 Colville reservation, to work on a government-to-government basis to
19 collaboratively manage the state's fish and wildlife. The legislature
20 further finds that the cooperative agreement between the confederated
21 tribes of the Colville reservation and the Washington state

1 department of fish and wildlife addresses cooperative wildlife
2 management on a portion of land ceded to the United States by the
3 Colville tribes. Because the cooperative agreement calls for the
4 review to be dynamic and to be reviewed by the parties annually,
5 making modifications as to which the parties mutually agree, it is
6 the intent of the legislature to enable the department of fish and
7 wildlife to align its wolf management strategies with those proven to
8 be successful by the confederated tribes of the Colville reservation.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department shall engage on a
10 government-to-government basis with the confederated tribes of the
11 Colville reservation for the purpose of seeking to update the 1998
12 cooperative fish and wildlife management agreement entered into
13 between the department and the confederated tribes of the Colville
14 reservation. The purpose of updating the 1998 cooperative agreement
15 is to align the department's approach to wolf management on the north
16 half with the approach to wolf management taken by the confederated
17 tribes of the Colville reservation within the boundaries of the
18 Colville reservation.

19 (2) The department must report to the legislature by June 30,
20 2025, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036, on a plan for the department
21 to align its approach to wolf management on the north half with the
22 approach to wolf management taken by the confederated tribes of the
23 Colville reservation within the boundaries of the Colville
24 reservation.

25 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
26 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

27 (a) "Department" means the department of fish and wildlife.

28 (b) "The north half" means the portion of land originally part of
29 the Colville Indian reservation that the tribes ceded to the federal
30 government in 1892.

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