

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 646

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS FOR A CONSERVATION EASEMENT; APPROPRIATING ADDI-
2 TIONAL MONEYS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017; PROVID-
3 ING REAPPROPRIATION FOR THE FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016;
4 APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONEYS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR
5 FISCAL YEAR 2017; EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AND EXPRESSING ADDI-
6 TIONAL LEGISLATIVE INTENT.
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. In addition to any other appropriation provided by law,
10 there is hereby appropriated to the Department of Lands, for the Forest
11 Resources Management Program, \$5,000,000 from the Federal Grant Fund to be
12 expended from trustee and benefit payments, for the period July 1, 2016,
13 through June 30, 2017.

14 SECTION 2. REAPPROPRIATION FOR FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM. There is hereby
15 reappropriated to the Department of Lands any unexpended and unencumbered
16 balances of moneys appropriated or reappropriated for the Forest Resources
17 Management Program, from the Federal Grant Fund for trustee and benefit pay-
18 ments, for fiscal year 2016, to be used for the Forest Legacy Program, for the
19 period July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017.

20 SECTION 3. In addition to any other appropriation provided by law,
21 there is hereby appropriated to the Department of Fish and Game, for the
22 Wildlife Program, \$2,000,000 from the Fish and Game (Federal) Fund to be
23 expended from capital outlay for the period July 1, 2016, through June 30,
24 2017.

25 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The Forest Legacy Program (FLP) is a
26 federal program that supports state efforts to protect environmentally sen-
27 sitive forests through the use of conservation easements. It is the intent
28 of the Legislature that moneys appropriated in this act shall be used by the
29 Department of Lands, and the Department of Fish and Game to purchase the
30 Clagstone Meadows conservation easement, in Bonner County, on behalf of the
31 State of Idaho.

32 SECTION 5. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the Legislature that
33 the conservation easement shall stipulate public access to certain proper-
34 ties for hunting, fishing and outdoor activities, provided that the owner
35 may close access for short periods of time because of safety concerns during
36 timber harvest, treatment and property maintenance activities, and because
37 of fire and other natural disasters, or because of public misuse. Further-
38 more, it is the intent of the Legislature that the land classification shall

1 not be devalued, and that future property taxes owed by the landowner shall
2 not be diminished because of the conservation easement.