
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6095

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Bailey, Skratek, Anderson and Barr)

Read first time 02/11/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to flood control; amending RCW 43.21C.020,
2 75.20.100, 75.20.103, 79.90.300, 86.16.120, 86.26.060, 90.58.030, and
3 90.58.100; adding a new section to chapter 43.21C RCW; adding new
4 sections to chapter 75.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 79.90
5 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 86.26 RCW; creating a new section;
6 repealing RCW 79.90.325; and declaring an emergency.

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

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.21C.020 and 1971 ex.s. c 109 s 2 are each amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) The legislature, recognizing that ~~((man))~~ people depend~~((s))~~ on
11 ~~((his))~~ their biological and physical surroundings for food, shelter,
12 and other needs, and for cultural enrichment as well~~((r))~~, and
13 recognizing further the profound impact of ~~((man's))~~ human activity on
14 the interrelations of all components of the natural environment,

1 particularly the profound influences of population growth, high-density
2 urbanization, industrial expansion, resource utilization and
3 exploitation, and new and expanding technological advances, and
4 recognizing further the critical importance of restoring and
5 maintaining environmental quality to the overall welfare and
6 development of ~~((man))~~ people, declares that it is the continuing
7 policy of the state of Washington, in cooperation with federal and
8 local governments, and other concerned public and private
9 organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including
10 financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to: (a)
11 Foster and promote the general welfare; (b) ~~((to))~~ create and maintain
12 conditions under which ~~((man))~~ people and nature can exist in
13 productive harmony; and (c) fulfill the social, economic, and other
14 requirements of present and future generations of Washington citizens.

15 (2) In order to carry out the policy set forth in this chapter, it
16 is the continuing responsibility of the state of Washington and all
17 agencies of the state to use all practicable means, consistent with
18 other essential considerations of state policy, to improve and
19 coordinate plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that
20 the state and its citizens may:

21 (a) Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of
22 the environment for succeeding generations;

23 (b) Assure for all people of Washington safe, healthful,
24 productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;

25 (c) Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment
26 without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and
27 unintended consequences;

28 (d) Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of
29 our national heritage;

1 (e) Maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports
2 diversity and variety of individual choice;

3 (f) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which
4 will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's
5 amenities; (~~and~~)

6 (g) Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the
7 maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources; and

8 (h) Provide for the prevention, minimization, and repair of flood
9 damage as defined in RCW 86.16.120.

10 (3) The legislature recognizes that each person has a fundamental
11 and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person
12 has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement
13 of the environment.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.21C RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 Any governmental agency, whether state, local, or municipal,
17 receiving a permit application for a project that is not a substantial
18 development as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3) and will aid in the
19 prevention or minimization of flood damages as defined in RCW
20 86.16.120, shall approve or disapprove the application within thirty
21 calendar days from the date the application is received. If the agency
22 determines that a detailed statement must be made, the agency shall
23 approve or disapprove the application within sixty days from the date
24 the application is received, unless, through the promulgation of a
25 formal order, the agency determines that the process cannot be
26 completed within such period.

27 Following a flood equal to or greater than a five-year flood event,
28 applications for projects to repair or enhance flood protection must be
29 approved or disapproved by the receiving governmental agency within

1 fifteen calendar days from the date the application is received. If
2 the agency determines that a detailed statement must be made, the
3 agency shall approve or disapprove the application within thirty days
4 from the date the application is received, unless, through the
5 promulgation of a formal order, the agency determines that the process
6 cannot be completed within such period. When a project is disapproved
7 or conditioned, the department shall provide the applicant sufficient
8 technical data to support disapproval or conditioning of the permit
9 application.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 75.20.100 and 1991 c 322 s 30 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 In the event that any person or government agency desires to
13 construct any form of hydraulic project or perform other work that will
14 use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any of the
15 salt or fresh waters of the state, such person or government agency
16 shall, before commencing construction or work thereon and to ensure the
17 proper protection of fish life, secure the written approval of the
18 department of fisheries or the department of wildlife as to the
19 adequacy of the means proposed for the protection of fish life. This
20 approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or conditioned. Except as
21 provided in RCW 75.20.1001 and 75.20.1002, the department of fisheries
22 or the department of wildlife shall grant or deny approval within
23 forty-five calendar days of the receipt of a complete application and
24 notice of compliance with any applicable requirements of the state
25 environmental policy act, made in the manner prescribed in this
26 section. The applicant may document receipt of application by filing
27 in person or by registered mail. A complete application for approval
28 shall contain general plans for the overall project, complete plans and
29 specifications of the proposed construction or work within the mean

1 higher high water line in salt water or within the ordinary high water
2 line in fresh water, and complete plans and specifications for the
3 proper protection of fish life. The department shall develop a
4 checklist to be provided with each application outlining the items
5 necessary to submit a complete application for approval. The
6 forty-five day requirement shall be suspended if (1) after ten working
7 days of receipt of the application, the applicant remains unavailable
8 or unable to arrange for a timely field evaluation of the proposed
9 project; (2) the site is physically inaccessible for inspection; or (3)
10 the applicant requests delay. Immediately upon determination that the
11 forty-five day period is suspended, the department of fisheries or the
12 department of wildlife shall notify the applicant in writing of the
13 reasons for the delay. If written notification is not provided to the
14 applicant within ten working days after the department's suspension
15 determination, the permit shall be deemed to have been approved and
16 shall become effective without departmental action after the ten days
17 have elapsed. Approval is valid for a period of up to five years from
18 date of issuance. The permittee must demonstrate substantial progress
19 on construction of that portion of the project relating to the approval
20 within two years of the date of issuance. If either the department of
21 fisheries or the department of wildlife denies approval, that
22 department shall provide the applicant, in writing, a statement of the
23 specific reasons why and how the proposed project would adversely
24 affect fish life. In determining permit approval, the department of
25 fisheries or the department of wildlife shall give equal consideration
26 to the protection of human life, public land or private property, or
27 both, and fish life as outlined in the state policy to minimize flood
28 damage described in chapter 86.16 RCW. For purposes of this section,
29 "equal consideration" means that if the department finds that a
30 proposed project provides a substantial benefit to the protection of

1 human life and private or public property and has a minor or unproven
2 impact on fish life, the project shall be approved. Protection of fish
3 life shall be the only ground upon which approval may be denied or
4 conditioned. When a project is denied or conditioned, the department
5 of fisheries or the department of wildlife shall provide the applicant
6 technical data supporting the denial or conditioning of the permit.
7 Chapter 34.05 RCW applies to any denial of project approval,
8 conditional approval, or requirements for project modification upon
9 which approval may be contingent. If any person or government agency
10 commences construction on any hydraulic works or projects subject to
11 this section without first having obtained written approval of the
12 department of fisheries or the department of wildlife as to the
13 adequacy of the means proposed for the protection of fish life, or if
14 any person or government agency fails to follow or carry out any of the
15 requirements or conditions as are made a part of such approval, the
16 person or director of the agency is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. If
17 any such person or government agency is convicted of violating any of
18 the provisions of this section and continues construction on any such
19 works or projects without fully complying with the provisions hereof,
20 such works or projects are hereby declared a public nuisance and shall
21 be subject to abatement as such.

22 For the purposes of this section and RCW 75.20.103, "bed" shall
23 mean the land below the ordinary high water lines of state waters.
24 This definition shall not include irrigation ditches, canals, storm
25 water run-off devices, or other artificial watercourses except where
26 they exist in a natural watercourse that has been altered by ((man))
27 people. For the purposes of this section and RCW 75.20.103,
28 "emergency" means an imminent threat to life, public land and private
29 property, or both, or an imminent threat of serious environmental
30 degradation.

1 The phrase "to construct any form of hydraulic project or perform
2 other work" shall not include the act of driving across an established
3 ford. Driving across streams or on wetted stream beds at areas other
4 than established fords requires approval. Work within the ordinary
5 high water line of state waters to construct or repair a ford or
6 crossing requires approval.

7 For each application, the department of fisheries and the
8 department of wildlife shall mutually agree on whether the department
9 of fisheries or the department of wildlife shall administer the
10 provisions of this section, in order to avoid duplication of effort.
11 The department designated to act shall cooperate with the other
12 department in order to protect all species of fish life found at the
13 project site. If the department of fisheries or the department of
14 wildlife receives an application concerning a site not in its
15 jurisdiction, it shall transmit the application to the other department
16 within three days and notify the applicant.

17 In case of an emergency arising from weather or stream flow
18 conditions or other natural conditions, the department of fisheries or
19 department of wildlife, through their authorized representatives, shall
20 issue immediately upon request oral approval for removing any
21 obstructions, repairing existing structures, restoring stream banks, or
22 to protect property threatened by the stream or a change in the stream
23 flow without the necessity of obtaining a written approval prior to
24 commencing work. Conditions of an oral approval shall be reduced to
25 writing within thirty days and complied with as provided for in this
26 section. Oral approval shall be granted immediately upon request, for
27 a stream crossing during an emergency situation.

28 Following a flood equal to or greater than a five-year flood event,
29 the department of fisheries or the department of wildlife shall approve
30 or deny applications for projects that will aid in the prevention or

1 minimization of flood damages as defined in RCW 86.16.120 within
2 fifteen calendar days of receipt of a complete application and notice
3 of compliance with any applicable requirements of the state
4 environmental policy act, made in the manner prescribed in this
5 section.

6 This section shall not apply to the construction of any form of
7 hydraulic project or other work which diverts water for agricultural
8 irrigation or stock watering purposes authorized under or recognized as
9 being valid by the state's water codes, or when such hydraulic project
10 or other work is associated with streambank stabilization (~~(to protect~~
11 ~~farm and agricultural land))~~) as defined in RCW (~~(84.34.020)~~) 75.20.103.
12 These irrigation or stock watering diversion and streambank
13 stabilization projects shall be governed by RCW 75.20.103.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 75.20.103 and 1991 c 322 s 31 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 In the event that any person or government agency desires to
17 construct any form of hydraulic project or other work that diverts
18 water for agricultural irrigation or stock watering purposes, or when
19 such hydraulic project or other work is associated with streambank
20 stabilization (~~(to protect farm and agricultural land as defined in RCW~~
21 ~~84.34.020))~~), and when such diversion or streambank stabilization will
22 use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any river
23 or stream or will utilize any waters of the state or materials from the
24 stream beds, the person or government agency shall, before commencing
25 construction or work thereon and to ensure the proper protection of
26 fish life, secure a written approval from the department of fisheries
27 or the department of wildlife as to the adequacy of the means proposed
28 for the protection of fish life. This approval shall not be
29 unreasonably withheld or conditioned. Except as provided in RCW

1 75.20.1001 and 75.20.1002, the department of fisheries or the
2 department of wildlife shall grant or deny the approval within
3 forty-five calendar days of the receipt of a complete application and
4 notice of compliance with any applicable requirements of the state
5 environmental policy act, made in the manner prescribed in this
6 section. The applicant may document receipt of application by filing
7 in person or by registered mail. A complete application for an
8 approval shall contain general plans for the overall project, complete
9 plans and specifications of the proposed construction or work within
10 ordinary high water line, and complete plans and specifications for the
11 proper protection of fish life. The department shall develop a
12 checklist to be provided with each application outlining the items
13 necessary to submit a complete application for approval. The
14 forty-five day requirement shall be suspended if (1) after ten working
15 days of receipt of the application, the applicant remains unavailable
16 or unable to arrange for a timely field evaluation of the proposed
17 project; (2) the site is physically inaccessible for inspection; or (3)
18 the applicant requests delay.

19 Immediately upon determination that the forty-five day period is
20 suspended, the department of fisheries or the department of wildlife
21 shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the delay. If
22 written notification is not provided to the applicant within ten
23 working days after the department's suspension determination, the
24 permit shall be deemed approved and shall become effective without
25 departmental action after the ten days have elapsed.

26 An approval shall remain in effect without need for periodic
27 renewal for projects that divert water for agricultural irrigation or
28 stock watering purposes and that involve seasonal construction or other
29 work. Approval for streambank stabilization projects shall remain in
30 effect without need for periodic renewal if the problem causing the

1 need for the streambank stabilization occurs on an annual or more
2 frequent basis. The permittee must notify the appropriate agency before
3 commencing the construction or other work within the area covered by
4 the approval.

5 The permittee must demonstrate substantial progress on construction
6 of that portion of the project relating to the approval within two
7 years of the date of issuance. If either the department of fisheries
8 or the department of wildlife denies approval, that department shall
9 provide the applicant, in writing, a statement of the specific reasons
10 why and how the proposed project would adversely affect fish life. In
11 determining permit approval, the department of fisheries or the
12 department of wildlife shall give equal consideration to the protection
13 of human life, public land or private property, or both, and fish life
14 as outlined in the state policy to minimize flood damage described in
15 chapter 86.16 RCW. For purposes of this section, "equal consideration"
16 means when the department finds that a proposed project provides a
17 substantial benefit to the protection of human life and private or
18 public property and has a minor or unproven impact on fish life, the
19 project shall be approved. Protection of fish life shall be the only
20 ground upon which approval may be denied or conditioned. When a
21 project is denied or conditioned, the department of fisheries or the
22 department of wildlife shall provide the applicant technical data
23 supporting the denial or conditioning of the permit. Issuance, denial,
24 conditioning, or modification shall be appealable to the hydraulic
25 appeals board established in RCW 43.21B.005 within thirty days of the
26 notice of decision. The burden shall be upon the department of
27 fisheries or the department of wildlife to show that the denial or
28 conditioning of an approval is solely aimed at the protection of fish
29 life.

1 The department granting approval may, after consultation with the
2 permittee, modify an approval due to changed conditions. The
3 modifications shall become effective unless appealed to the hydraulic
4 appeals board within thirty days from the notice of the proposed
5 modification. The burden is on the department issuing the approval to
6 show that changed conditions warrant the modification in order to
7 protect fish life.

8 A permittee may request modification of an approval due to changed
9 conditions. The request shall be processed within forty-five calendar
10 days of receipt of the written request. A decision by the department
11 that issued the approval may be appealed to the hydraulic appeals board
12 within thirty days of the notice of the decision. The burden is on the
13 permittee to show that changed conditions warrant the requested
14 modification and that such modification will not impair fish life.

15 If any person or government agency commences construction on any
16 hydraulic works or projects subject to this section without first
17 having obtained written approval of the department of fisheries or the
18 department of wildlife as to the adequacy of the means proposed for the
19 protection of fish life, or if any person or government agency fails to
20 follow or carry out any of the requirements or conditions as are made
21 a part of such approval, the person or director of the agency is guilty
22 of a gross misdemeanor. If any such person or government agency is
23 convicted of violating any of the provisions of this section and
24 continues construction on any such works or projects without fully
25 complying with the provisions hereof, such works or projects are hereby
26 declared a public nuisance and shall be subject to abatement as such.

27 For each application, the department of fisheries and the
28 department of wildlife shall mutually agree on whether the department
29 of fisheries or the department of wildlife shall administer the
30 provisions of this section, in order to avoid duplication of effort.

1 The department designated to act shall cooperate with the other
2 department in order to protect all species of fish life found at the
3 project site. If the department of fisheries or the department of
4 wildlife receives an application concerning a site not in its
5 jurisdiction, it shall transmit the application to the other department
6 within three days and notify the applicant.

7 In case of an emergency arising from weather or stream flow
8 conditions or other natural conditions, the department of fisheries or
9 department of wildlife, through their authorized representatives, shall
10 issue immediately upon request oral approval for removing any
11 obstructions, repairing existing structures, restoring stream banks, or
12 to protect property threatened by the stream or a change in the stream
13 flow without the necessity of obtaining a written approval prior to
14 commencing work. Conditions of an oral approval shall be reduced to
15 writing within thirty days and complied with as provided for in this
16 section.

17 Following a flood equal to or greater than a five-year flood event,
18 the department of fisheries or the department of wildlife shall approve
19 or deny applications for projects that will aid in the prevention or
20 minimization of flood damages as defined in RCW 86.16.120 within
21 fifteen calendar days of the receipt of a complete application and
22 notice of compliance with any applicable requirements of the state
23 environmental policy act, made in the manner prescribed in this
24 section.

25 For purposes of this chapter, "streambank stabilization" shall
26 include but not be limited to log and debris removal, bank protection
27 (including riprap, jetties, and groins), gravel removal and erosion
28 control.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The permitting department may impose the following conditions on
4 persons applying under RCW 75.20.100 or 75.20.103:

5 (1) The permittee shall establish an excavation line. "Excavation
6 line" means a line on the dry bed, parallel to the water's edge unless
7 otherwise stated, that changes with water level fluctuations.

8 (2) The permittee may not remove bed material from the water side
9 of the excavation line.

10 (3) The permittee shall begin excavating at the excavation line and
11 proceed toward the bank, perpendicular to the alignment of the
12 watercourse.

13 (4) The permittee shall keep the maximum distance of excavation
14 toward the bank from the excavation line approximately equal throughout
15 the excavation zone. "Excavation zone" means the area between the
16 excavation line and the bank.

17 (5) The permittee shall identify the excavation zone with boundary
18 markers.

19 (6) The permittee shall maintain a minimum one-half percent
20 gradient upward from the excavation line in the excavation zone.

21 (7) The permittee shall ensure that the excavation zone is free of
22 pits or potholes.

23 (8) The permittee shall not stockpile or spoil excavated materials
24 within the ordinary high water line except from June 15 to October 15.

25 (9) The permittee may not allow any equipment within the wetted
26 perimeter of the watercourse without specific permission.

27 (10) The permittee shall dispose of debris in the excavation zone
28 so it does not reenter the watercourse.

29 (11) The permittee may not perform gravel washing or crushing
30 operations below the ordinary high water line.

1 (12) The permittee shall be allowed to remove only that amount of
2 rock, sand, gravel, or silt which is naturally replenished on an annual
3 basis, except in instances where a lapse in material removal has
4 occurred. If such lapse has occurred, then an amount of material
5 equivalent to the amount estimated to have accumulated since the last
6 material removal operation, including debris and vegetation, may be
7 removed.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 The departments of fisheries, wildlife, natural resources, and
11 ecology shall jointly develop a memorandum of understanding to
12 facilitate the consideration of projects that will aid in the
13 minimization or prevention of flood damage as defined in RCW 86.16.120.
14 To reduce the duplication of information required by a project's
15 permits, the departments must provide in their memorandum procedures to
16 share data to the extent practicable among themselves and with other
17 agencies that may be involved in approving or denying a permit
18 application. The departments' memorandum must provide a plan to
19 implement a comprehensive permit process that is streamlined and easily
20 understandable to permit applicants.

21 **Sec. 7.** RCW 79.90.300 and 1991 c 322 s 26 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 The department of natural resources, upon application by any person
24 or when determined by the department to be in the best interest of the
25 state, may enter into a contract or lease providing for the removal and
26 sale of rock, gravel, sand, and silt, or other valuable materials
27 located within or upon beds of navigable waters, or upon any tidelands
28 or shorelands belonging to the state and providing for payment to be

1 made therefor by such royalty as the department may fix, by
2 negotiation, by sealed bid, or at public auction. If application is
3 made for the purchase of any valuable material situated within or upon
4 aquatic lands the department shall inspect and appraise the value of
5 the material in the application. The department may reduce or
6 eliminate royalties in areas prone to flooding. Removal of material
7 from within the ordinary high water mark shall be construed as being
8 removed for flood control purposes. The department may include a
9 provision in contracts for the removal of rock, gravel, sand, or silt
10 which allows for payment to be made as the material is sold.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 79.90 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) Use or modification, or both, of any river system must involve
14 basic hydraulic principles, as well as harmonize as much as possible
15 with existing aquatic ecosystems, and human needs.

16 (2) The department, commissioner, and board shall:

17 (a) Give priority consideration to the preservation of the
18 streamway environment with special attention given to preservation of
19 those areas considered aesthetically or environmentally unique;

20 (b) Encourage bank and island stabilization programs which rely
21 mainly on natural vegetative systems as holding elements;

22 (c) Encourage research to develop alternative methods of channel
23 control, utilizing natural systems of stabilization;

24 (d) Recognize natural plant and animal communities and other
25 features that provide an ecological balance to a streamway in
26 evaluating competing human uses and require protection from significant
27 human impact; and

1 (e) Recognize that hydraulic conditions may require the
2 installation of riprap or other similar measure to further protect
3 natural systems of stabilization.

4 (3) No person may remove normal stream depositions of logs,
5 uprooted tree snags, and stumps which abut on shorelands and do not
6 intrude on the navigational channel or reduce flow, or adversely
7 redirect a river course, and are not harmful to life and property
8 without the department's permission but the department must consider
9 the need to protect the resultant dependent aquatic systems.

10 (4) No person may fill indentations such as mudholes, eddies,
11 pools, and aeration drops without permission of the department.

12 (5) The department may permit river channel relocations only when
13 an overriding public benefit can be shown. Filling, grading,
14 lagooning, or dredging which would result in substantial detriment to
15 navigable waters by reason of erosion, sedimentation, or impairment of
16 fish and aquatic life are not authorized.

17 (6) No person may remove sand and gravel below the wetted perimeter
18 of navigable rivers unless authorized by a hydraulics permit issued by
19 either the department of fisheries or department of wildlife under RCW
20 75.20.100 and 75.20.103. These removals may be authorized for
21 maintenance and improvement of navigational channels or for creating
22 backwater channels for fish rearing or improvement of the flow capacity
23 of the channels.

24 (7) The department may allow sand and gravel removals above the
25 wetted perimeter of a navigable river which are not harmful to public
26 health and safety when any or all of the following situations exist:

27 (a) The removal is designed to create or improve a feature such as
28 a pond, wetland, or other habitat valuable for fish and wildlife;

29 (b) The removal provides recreational benefits;

1 (c) The removal will aid in reducing a detrimental accumulation of
2 aggregates in downstream lakes, reservoirs, and river beds;

3 (d) The removal will aid in reducing damage to private or public
4 land and property abutting a navigable river; or

5 (e) The removal will contribute to increased flood protection for
6 private or public land.

7 (8) The department may not allow sand and gravel removals above the
8 wetted perimeter of a navigable river when:

9 (a) The location of such material is below a dam and has inadequate
10 supplementary feeding of gravel or sand;

11 (b) Removal will cause unstable hydraulic conditions detrimental to
12 fish, wildlife, public health, and safety; or

13 (c) Removal will impact esthetics of nearby recreational
14 facilities.

15 (9) No person may perform bank dumping or junk revetment on aquatic
16 lands.

17 (10) The department shall condition sand and gravel removal leases
18 to allow removal of only that amount which is naturally replenished on
19 an annual basis, except in instances where a lapse in material removal
20 has occurred. If such a lapse has occurred, then an amount of material
21 equivalent to the amount estimated to have accumulated since the last
22 material removal operation, including debris and vegetation, may be
23 removed.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** RCW 79.90.325 and 1984 c 212 s 10 are
25 each repealed.

26 **Sec. 10.** RCW 86.16.120 and 1935 c 159 s 2 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

1 Damages within the meaning of this chapter (~~shall~~) include loss
2 of human life and damages to homes and possessions; harmful
3 inundation((~~τ~~)); water erosion of soil, stream banks, and beds((~~τ~~));
4 stream channel shifting and changes((~~τ~~)); harmful deposition by water
5 of eroded and shifting soils, rocks, gravel, and debris upon property
6 or in the beds of streams or other bodies of water((~~τ~~)); damages by
7 high water to public roads, highways, bridges, utilities, and to works
8 built for protection against floods or inundation((~~τ~~)); the
9 interruption by floods of travel, communication, and commerce((~~τ~~));
10 harm to livestock by flood waters; reduction in the flow capacity of
11 streams due to the accumulation of deposited silt, soils, gravel, and
12 other materials in the beds of streams; the accumulations of deposited
13 soils, rocks, gravel, sand, and other materials on stream bars that may
14 result in a change in the flow direction of streams or erosion of
15 stream banks; damage to fisheries, fish propagation facilities, and
16 fish habitat; degradation of scenic, historic, and recreational values
17 of rivers; and all other high water influences and results which
18 injuriously affect the public health and the safety of property.

19 **Sec. 11.** RCW 86.26.060 and 1984 c 212 s 5 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 Grants for flood control maintenance shall be so employed that as
22 far as possible, funds will be on hand to meet unusual, unforeseeable
23 and emergent flood conditions. Allocations by the department of
24 ecology, for emergency purposes, shall in each instance be in amounts
25 which together with funds provided by local authority, if any, under
26 reasonable exercise of its emergency powers, shall be adequate for the
27 preservation of life and property, and with due regard to similar needs
28 elsewhere in the state. The department shall place a higher priority
29 in allocating funds on flood damage repair projects than all other

1 requests except for work required on flood control management plans
2 under RCW 86.26.050.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 86.26 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 A flood protection project is work necessary to preserve, restore,
6 or improve either natural or human-made stream banks or flood control
7 facilities which repair or prevent flood damage as defined in RCW
8 86.16.120 including but not limited to damage by erosion, stream flow,
9 sheet runoff, or other damages by the sea or other bodies of water."

10 **Sec. 13.** RCW 90.58.030 and 1987 c 474 s 1 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the
13 following definitions and concepts apply:

14 (1) Administration:

15 (a) "Department" means the department of ecology;

16 (b) "Director" means the director of the department of ecology;

17 (c) "Local government" means any county, incorporated city, or town
18 which contains within its boundaries any lands or waters subject to
19 this chapter;

20 (d) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
21 association, organization, cooperative, public or municipal
22 corporation, or agency of the state or local governmental unit however
23 designated;

24 (e) "Hearing board" means the shoreline hearings board established
25 by this chapter.

26 (2) Geographical:

27 (a) "Extreme low tide" means the lowest line on the land reached by
28 a receding tide;

1 (b) "Ordinary high water mark" on all lakes, streams, and tidal
2 water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks
3 and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common
4 and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon
5 the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in
6 respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it
7 may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in
8 accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department:
9 PROVIDED, That in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be
10 found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the
11 line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark
12 adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water;

13 (c) "Shorelines of the state" are the total of all "shorelines" and
14 "shorelines of state-wide significance" within the state;

15 (d) "Shorelines" means all of the water areas of the state,
16 including reservoirs, and their associated wetlands, together with the
17 lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of state-wide
18 significance; (ii) shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a
19 point where the mean annual flow is twenty cubic feet per second or
20 less and the wetlands associated with such upstream segments; and (iii)
21 shorelines on lakes less than twenty acres in size and wetlands
22 associated with such small lakes;

23 (e) "Shorelines of state-wide significance" means the following
24 shorelines of the state:

25 (i) The area between the ordinary high water mark and the western
26 boundary of the state from Cape Disappointment on the south to Cape
27 Flattery on the north, including harbors, bays, estuaries, and inlets;

28 (ii) Those areas of Puget Sound and adjacent salt waters and the
29 Strait of Juan de Fuca between the ordinary high water mark and the
30 line of extreme low tide as follows:

1 (A) Nisqually Delta--from DeWolf Bight to Tatsolo Point,
2 (B) Birch Bay--from Point Whitehorn to Birch Point,
3 (C) Hood Canal--from Tala Point to Foulweather Bluff,
4 (D) Skagit Bay and adjacent area--from Brown Point to Yokeko Point,
5 and

6 (E) Padilla Bay--from March Point to William Point;

7 (iii) Those areas of Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca and
8 adjacent salt waters north to the Canadian line and lying seaward from
9 the line of extreme low tide;

10 (iv) Those lakes, whether natural, artificial, or a combination
11 thereof, with a surface acreage of one thousand acres or more measured
12 at the ordinary high water mark;

13 (v) Those natural rivers or segments thereof as follows:

14 (A) Any west of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a
15 point where the mean annual flow is measured at one thousand cubic feet
16 per second or more,

17 (B) Any east of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a
18 point where the annual flow is measured at two hundred cubic feet per
19 second or more, or those portions of rivers east of the crest of the
20 Cascade range downstream from the first three hundred square miles of
21 drainage area, whichever is longer;

22 (vi) Those wetlands associated with (i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of
23 this subsection (2)(e);

24 (f) "Wetlands" or "wetland areas" means those lands extending
25 landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a
26 horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and
27 contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such
28 floodways; and all marshes, bogs, swamps, and river deltas associated
29 with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the
30 provisions of this chapter; the same to be designated as to location by

1 the department of ecology(~~(: PROVIDED, That)~~). However, any county or
2 city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year-flood plain to be
3 included in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a
4 minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land extending landward two
5 hundred feet ((therefrom)). The county or city shall take into account
6 any modifications to the floodway or adjacent land made by the
7 establishment of a flood zone density flood plain or density fringe
8 flood plain, as approved by the department of ecology;

9 (g) "Floodway" means those portions of the area of a river valley
10 lying streamward from the outer limits of a watercourse upon which
11 flood waters are carried during periods of flooding that occur with
12 reasonable regularity, although not necessarily annually, said floodway
13 being identified, under normal condition, by changes in surface soil
14 conditions or changes in types or quality of vegetative ground cover
15 condition. The floodway shall not include those lands that can
16 reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by flood
17 control devices maintained by or maintained under license from the
18 federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

19 (3) Procedural terms:

20 (a) "Guidelines" means those standards adopted to implement the
21 policy of this chapter for regulation of use of the shorelines of the
22 state prior to adoption of master programs. Such standards shall also
23 provide criteria to local governments and the department in developing
24 master programs;

25 (b) "Master program" shall mean the comprehensive use plan for a
26 described area, and the use regulations together with maps, diagrams,
27 charts, or other descriptive material and text, a statement of desired
28 goals, and standards developed in accordance with the policies
29 enunciated in RCW 90.58.020;

1 (c) "State master program" is the cumulative total of all master
2 programs approved or adopted by the department of ecology;

3 (d) "Development" means a use consisting of the construction or
4 exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping;
5 filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving
6 of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or
7 temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the
8 surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any
9 state of water level;

10 (e) "Substantial development" shall mean any development of which
11 the total cost or fair market value exceeds ~~((two thousand five
12 hundred))~~ five thousand dollars, or any development which materially
13 interferes with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the
14 state; except that the following shall not be considered substantial
15 developments for the purpose of this chapter:

16 ~~(i) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or
17 developments, including damage by accident, fire, or elements;~~

18 ~~(ii) Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to
19 single family residences;~~

20 ~~(iii) Emergency construction, including flood control and
21 restoration, necessary to protect property from damage by the elements;~~

22 ~~(iv) Construction and practices normal or necessary for farming,
23 irrigation, and ranching activities, including agricultural service
24 roads and utilities on wetlands, and the construction and maintenance
25 of irrigation structures including but not limited to head gates,
26 pumping facilities, and irrigation channels: PROVIDED, That a feedlot
27 of any size, all processing plants, other activities of a commercial
28 nature, alteration of the contour of the wetlands by leveling or
29 filling other than that which results from normal cultivation, shall
30 not be considered normal or necessary farming or ranching activities.~~

1 ~~A feedlot shall be an enclosure or facility used or capable of being~~
2 ~~used for feeding livestock hay, grain, silage, or other livestock feed,~~
3 ~~but shall not include land for growing crops or vegetation for~~
4 ~~livestock feeding and/or grazing, nor shall it include normal livestock~~
5 ~~wintering operations;~~

6 ~~(v) Construction or modification of navigational aids such as~~
7 ~~channel markers and anchor buoys;~~

8 ~~(vi) Construction on wetlands by an owner, lessee, or contract~~
9 ~~purchaser of a single family residence for his own use or for the use~~
10 ~~of his family, which residence does not exceed a height of thirty five~~
11 ~~feet above average grade level and which meets all requirements of the~~
12 ~~state agency or local government having jurisdiction thereof, other~~
13 ~~than requirements imposed pursuant to this chapter;~~

14 ~~(vii) Construction of a dock, including a community dock, designed~~
15 ~~for pleasure craft only, for the private noncommercial use of the~~
16 ~~owner, lessee, or contract purchaser of single and multiple family~~
17 ~~residences, the cost of which does not exceed two thousand five hundred~~
18 ~~dollars;~~

19 ~~(viii) Operation, maintenance, or construction of canals,~~
20 ~~waterways, drains, reservoirs, or other facilities that now exist or~~
21 ~~are hereafter created or developed as a part of an irrigation system~~
22 ~~for the primary purpose of making use of system waters, including~~
23 ~~return flow and artificially stored ground water for the irrigation of~~
24 ~~lands;~~

25 ~~(ix) The marking of property lines or corners on state owned lands,~~
26 ~~when such marking does not significantly interfere with normal public~~
27 ~~use of the surface of the water;~~

28 ~~(x) Operation and maintenance of any system of dikes, ditches,~~
29 ~~drains, or other facilities existing on September 8, 1975, which were~~

1 created, developed, or utilized primarily as a part of an agricultural
2 drainage or diking system;

3 (xi) Any action commenced prior to December 31, 1982, pertaining to
4 (A) the restoration of interim transportation services as may be
5 necessary as a consequence of the destruction of the Hood Canal bridge,
6 including, but not limited to, improvements to highways, development of
7 park and ride facilities, and development of ferry terminal facilities
8 until a new or reconstructed Hood Canal bridge is open to traffic; and
9 (B) the reconstruction of a permanent bridge at the site of the
10 original Hood Canal bridge.

11 **Sec. 14.** RCW 90.58.100 and 1991 c 322 s 32 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (1) The master programs provided for in this chapter, when adopted
14 and approved by the department, as appropriate, shall constitute use
15 regulations for the various shorelines of the state. In preparing the
16 master programs, and any amendments thereto, the department and local
17 governments shall to the extent feasible:

18 (a) Utilize a systematic interdisciplinary approach which will
19 insure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the
20 environmental design arts;

21 (b) Consult with and obtain the comments of any federal, state,
22 regional, or local agency having any special expertise with respect to
23 any environmental impact;

24 (c) Consider all plans, studies, surveys, inventories, and systems
25 of classification made or being made by federal, state, regional, or
26 local agencies, by private individuals, or by organizations dealing
27 with pertinent shorelines of the state;

28 (d) Conduct or support such further research, studies, surveys, and
29 interviews as are deemed necessary;

1 ~~(e) Utilize all available information regarding hydrology,~~
2 ~~geography, topography, ecology, economics, and other pertinent data;~~

3 ~~(f) Employ, when feasible, all appropriate, modern scientific data~~
4 ~~processing and computer techniques to store, index, analyze, and manage~~
5 ~~the information gathered.~~

6 ~~(2) The master programs shall include, when appropriate, the~~
7 ~~following:~~

8 ~~(a) An economic development element for the location and design of~~
9 ~~industries, transportation facilities, port facilities, tourist~~
10 ~~facilities, commerce and other developments that are particularly~~
11 ~~dependent on their location on or use of the shorelines of the state;~~

12 ~~(b) A public access element making provision for public access to~~
13 ~~publicly owned areas;~~

14 ~~(c) A recreational element for the preservation and enlargement of~~
15 ~~recreational opportunities, including but not limited to parks,~~
16 ~~tidelands, beaches, and recreational areas;~~

17 ~~(d) A circulation element consisting of the general location and~~
18 ~~extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation~~
19 ~~routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities, all~~
20 ~~correlated with the shoreline use element;~~

21 ~~(e) A use element which considers the proposed general distribution~~
22 ~~and general location and extent of the use on shorelines and adjacent~~
23 ~~land areas for housing, business, industry, transportation,~~
24 ~~agriculture, natural resources, recreation, education, public buildings~~
25 ~~and grounds, and other categories of public and private uses of the~~
26 ~~land;~~

27 ~~(f) A conservation element for the preservation of natural~~
28 ~~resources, including but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and~~
29 ~~vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection;~~

1 ~~(g) An historic, cultural, scientific, and educational element for~~
2 ~~the protection and restoration of buildings, sites, and areas having~~
3 ~~historic, cultural, scientific, or educational values;~~

4 ~~(h) An element that gives the same consideration to the state-wide~~
5 ~~interest in the prevention and minimization of flood damages as defined~~
6 ~~in RCW 86.16.120 as that given any other master program element; and~~

7 ~~(i) Any other element deemed appropriate or necessary to effectuate~~
8 ~~the policy of this chapter.~~

9 ~~(3) The master programs shall include such map or maps, descriptive~~
10 ~~text, diagrams and charts, or other descriptive material as are~~
11 ~~necessary to provide for ease of understanding.~~

12 ~~(4) Master programs will reflect that state-owned shorelines of the~~
13 ~~state are particularly adapted to providing wilderness beaches,~~
14 ~~ecological study areas, and other recreational activities for the~~
15 ~~public and will give appropriate special consideration to same.~~

16 ~~(5) Each master program shall contain provisions to allow for the~~
17 ~~varying of the application of use regulations of the program, including~~
18 ~~provisions for permits for conditional uses and variances, to insure~~
19 ~~that strict implementation of a program will not create unnecessary~~
20 ~~hardships or thwart the policy enumerated in RCW 90.58.020. Any such~~
21 ~~varying shall be allowed only if extraordinary circumstances are shown~~
22 ~~and the public interest suffers no substantial detrimental effect. The~~
23 ~~concept of this subsection shall be incorporated in the rules adopted~~
24 ~~by the department relating to the establishment of a permit system as~~
25 ~~provided in RCW 90.58.140(3).~~

26 ~~NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** If specific funding for the purposes of~~
27 ~~this act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June~~
28 ~~30, 1992, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act shall be null and~~
29 ~~void.~~

1 ~~NEW SECTION. Sec. 16.~~ — This act is necessary for the immediate
2 ~~preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the~~
3 ~~state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take~~
4 ~~effect immediately.~~