
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5632

State of Washington**54th Legislature****1995 Regular Session**

By Senate Committee on Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Senators A. Anderson, Drew, Owen, Hargrove, Swecker, Morton, Hale, Haugen, Finkbeiner, Strannigan, Moyer, Palmer, Johnson, Quigley and Rasmussen)

Read first time 02/27/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to flood damage reduction; amending RCW 36.70A.060,
2 36.70A.070, 36.70A.170, 43.21C.020, 75.20.100, 75.20.103, 75.20.130,
3 79.90.150, 79.90.300, 86.15.030, 86.15.050, 86.15.160, 86.26.105,
4 90.58.180, 86.12.200, 90.58.030, and 47.28.140; adding new sections to
5 chapter 75.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 79.90 RCW; adding a
6 new section to chapter 43.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 86.26
7 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 79.90.325; and declaring an
8 emergency.

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

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that river and stream
11 systems can threaten public and private property during flood events.
12 River systems react in different ways: When some rivers flood, they
13 scour; others fill in by sediment deposition. The legislature further
14 finds that when placing or removing organic debris in a river that
15 scours, it may be appropriate to place more debris for fish habitat; if
16 it is a river that deposits sediments and tends to fill in then it may
17 be appropriate to remove deposits to create some deeper pools and a
18 better flow pattern, that will help fish habitat as well as lessen
19 flood danger. The legislature therefore declares that reducing flood

1 damage through the use of structural and nonstructural projects is in
2 the public interest and that it is the duty of the state to assist in
3 funding flood control projects. Structural and nonstructural projects
4 include but are not limited to: Streambank stabilization, river
5 channel maintenance, land use restrictions, land buy-outs, flood
6 easements, and emergency notification. The legislature further
7 declares that counties be given the flexibility to make those decisions
8 that are best for their particular rivers, rather than prescribe or
9 constrain local government to the point where they cannot manage their
10 different types of rivers. The legislature further declares that local
11 governments should coordinate flood planning and flood projects so that
12 the projects do not cause flooding in other areas. Counties and cities
13 are encouraged to coordinate using watershed planning areas to provide
14 consistent planning throughout a water's course.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.70A.060 and 1991 sp.s. c 32 s 21 are each amended
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) Each county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW
18 36.70A.040, and each city within such county, shall adopt development
19 regulations on or before September 1, 1991, to assure the conservation
20 of agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands designated under
21 RCW 36.70A.170. Regulations adopted under this subsection may not
22 prohibit uses legally existing on any parcel prior to their adoption
23 and shall remain in effect until the county or city adopts development
24 regulations pursuant to RCW 36.70A.120. Such regulations shall assure
25 that the use of lands adjacent to agricultural, forest, or mineral
26 resource lands shall not interfere with the continued use, in the
27 accustomed manner and in accordance with best management practices, of
28 these designated lands for the production of food, agricultural
29 products, or timber, or for the extraction of minerals. Counties and
30 cities shall require that all plats, short plats, development permits,
31 and building permits issued for development activities on, or within
32 three hundred feet of, lands designated as agricultural lands, forest
33 lands, or mineral resource lands, contain a notice that the subject
34 property is within or near designated agricultural lands, forest lands,
35 or mineral resource lands on which a variety of commercial activities
36 may occur that are not compatible with residential development for
37 certain periods of limited duration.

1 (2) Each county and city shall adopt development regulations that
2 protect critical areas that are required to be designated under RCW
3 36.70A.170. For counties and cities that are required or choose to
4 plan under RCW 36.70A.040, such development regulations shall be
5 adopted on or before September 1, 1991. For the remainder of the
6 counties and cities, such development regulations shall be adopted on
7 or before March 1, 1992.

8 (3) Such counties and cities shall review these designations and
9 development regulations when adopting their comprehensive plans under
10 RCW 36.70A.040 and implementing development regulations under RCW
11 36.70A.120 and may alter such designations and development regulations
12 to insure consistency.

13 (4) Forest land and agricultural land located within urban growth
14 areas shall not be designated by a county or city as forest land or
15 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance under RCW
16 36.70A.170 unless the city or county has enacted a program authorizing
17 transfer or purchase of development rights.

18 (5) All development regulations developed under this section shall
19 be consistent with the comprehensive flood control management plan
20 adopted by the county under RCW 86.26.105.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 36.70A.070 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 7 are each
22 amended to read as follows:

23 The comprehensive plan of a county or city that is required or
24 chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall consist of a map or maps,
25 and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards
26 used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an
27 internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent
28 with the future land use map, and the comprehensive flood control
29 management plan adopted by the county under RCW 86.26.105. A
30 comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended with public
31 participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140.

32 Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for
33 each of the following:

34 (1) A land use element designating the proposed general
35 distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where
36 appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce,
37 industry, recreation, open spaces, public utilities, public facilities,
38 and other land uses. The land use element shall include population

1 densities, building intensities, and estimates of future population
2 growth. The land use element shall provide for protection of the
3 quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies.
4 Where applicable, the land use element shall review drainage, flooding,
5 and storm water run-off in the area and nearby jurisdictions and
6 provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those
7 discharges that pollute waters of the state, including Puget Sound or
8 waters entering Puget Sound.

9 (2) A housing element recognizing the vitality and character of
10 established residential neighborhoods that: (a) Includes an inventory
11 and analysis of existing and projected housing needs; (b) includes a
12 statement of goals, policies, and objectives for the preservation,
13 improvement, and development of housing; (c) identifies sufficient land
14 for housing, including, but not limited to, government-assisted
15 housing, housing for low-income families, manufactured housing,
16 multifamily housing, and group homes and foster care facilities; and
17 (d) makes adequate provisions for existing and projected needs of all
18 economic segments of the community.

19 (3) A capital facilities plan element consisting of: (a) An
20 inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities,
21 showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities; (b) a
22 forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities; (c) the
23 proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital
24 facilities; (d) at least a six-year plan that will finance such capital
25 facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies
26 sources of public money for such purposes; and (e) a requirement to
27 reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of
28 meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital
29 facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital
30 facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.

31 (4) A utilities element consisting of the general location,
32 proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities,
33 including, but not limited to, electrical lines, telecommunication
34 lines, and natural gas lines.

35 (5) Counties shall include a rural element including lands that are
36 not designated for urban growth, agriculture, forest, or mineral
37 resources. The rural element shall permit land uses that are
38 compatible with the rural character of such lands and provide for a
39 variety of rural densities.

1 (6) A transportation element that implements, and is consistent
2 with, the land use element. The transportation element shall include
3 the following subelements:

4 (a) Land use assumptions used in estimating travel;

5 (b) Facilities and services needs, including:

6 (i) An inventory of air, water, and land transportation facilities
7 and services, including transit alignments, to define existing capital
8 facilities and travel levels as a basis for future planning;

9 (ii) Level of service standards for all arterials and transit
10 routes to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system. These
11 standards should be regionally coordinated;

12 (iii) Specific actions and requirements for bringing into
13 compliance any facilities or services that are below an established
14 level of service standard;

15 (iv) Forecasts of traffic for at least ten years based on the
16 adopted land use plan to provide information on the location, timing,
17 and capacity needs of future growth;

18 (v) Identification of system expansion needs and transportation
19 system management needs to meet current and future demands;

20 (c) Finance, including:

21 (i) An analysis of funding capability to judge needs against
22 probable funding resources;

23 (ii) A multiyear financing plan based on the needs identified in
24 the comprehensive plan, the appropriate parts of which shall serve as
25 the basis for the six-year street, road, or transit program required by
26 RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW
27 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems;

28 (iii) If probable funding falls short of meeting identified needs,
29 a discussion of how additional funding will be raised, or how land use
30 assumptions will be reassessed to ensure that level of service
31 standards will be met;

32 (d) Intergovernmental coordination efforts, including an assessment
33 of the impacts of the transportation plan and land use assumptions on
34 the transportation systems of adjacent jurisdictions;

35 (e) Demand-management strategies.

36 After adoption of the comprehensive plan by jurisdictions required
37 to plan or who choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, local jurisdictions
38 must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit development approval
39 if the development causes the level of service on a transportation

1 facility to decline below the standards adopted in the transportation
2 element of the comprehensive plan, unless transportation improvements
3 or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made
4 concurrent with the development. These strategies may include
5 increased public transportation service, ride sharing programs, demand
6 management, and other transportation systems management strategies.
7 For the purposes of this subsection (6) "concurrent with the
8 development" shall mean that improvements or strategies are in place at
9 the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to
10 complete the improvements or strategies within six years.

11 The transportation element described in this subsection, and the
12 six-year plans required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for
13 counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems, must be
14 consistent.

15 **Sec. 4.** RCW 36.70A.170 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 17 are each
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (1) On or before September 1, 1991, each county, and each city,
18 shall designate where appropriate:

19 (a) Agricultural lands that are not already characterized by urban
20 growth and that have long-term significance for the commercial
21 production of food or other agricultural products;

22 (b) Forest lands that are not already characterized by urban growth
23 and that have long-term significance for the commercial production of
24 timber;

25 (c) Mineral resource lands that are not already characterized by
26 urban growth and that have long-term significance for the extraction of
27 minerals; and

28 (d) Critical areas.

29 (2) In making the designations required by this section, counties
30 and cities shall consider the guidelines established pursuant to RCW
31 36.70A.050, and shall make such designations so that they are
32 consistent with the comprehensive flood control management plan adopted
33 by the county under RCW 86.26.105.

34 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.21C.020 and 1971 ex.s. c 109 s 2 are each amended
35 to read as follows:

36 (1) The legislature, recognizing that ~~((man))~~ people depend~~((s))~~
37 ~~((his))~~ their biological and physical surroundings for food, shelter,

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

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

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

26 (b) Assure for all people of Washington safe, healthful,
27 productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;

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

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

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

35 (f) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which
36 will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's
37 amenities; ((and))

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

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

3 (3) The legislature recognizes that each person has a fundamental
4 and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person
5 has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement
6 of the environment.

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

9 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
10 this section apply to RCW 75.20.100, 75.20.103, and 75.20.130.

11 (1) "Bed" means the land below the ordinary high water lines of
12 state waters. This definition does not include irrigation ditches,
13 canals, storm water run-off devices, or other artificial watercourses
14 except where they exist in a natural watercourse that has been altered
15 by humans.

16 (2) "Commercial" means any facility or building used for commerce,
17 including those used for agricultural or industrial purposes.

18 (3) "Emergency" means an immediate threat to life, public land, or
19 private property, or an immediate threat of serious environmental
20 degradation.

21 (4) "Streambank stabilization" includes but is not limited to log
22 and debris removal; bank protection including riprap, jetties, and
23 groins; gravel removal; and erosion control.

24 (5) "To construct any form of hydraulic project or perform other
25 work" does not include the act of driving across an established ford.
26 Driving across streams or on wetted stream beds at areas other than
27 established fords requires approval. Work within the ordinary high
28 water line of state waters to construct or repair a ford or crossing
29 requires approval.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW
31 to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

6 (4) The permittee shall keep the maximum distance of excavation
7 toward the bank from the excavation line approximately equal throughout
8 the excavation zone. "Excavation zone" means the area between the
9 excavation line and the bank.

10 (5) The permittee shall identify the excavation zone with boundary
11 markers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 **Sec. 8.** RCW 75.20.100 and 1993 sp.s. c 2 s 30 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (1) In the event that any person or government agency desires to
34 construct any form of hydraulic project or perform other work that will
35 use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any of the
36 salt or fresh waters of the state, such person or government agency
37 shall, before commencing construction or work thereon and to ensure the
38 proper protection of fish life, secure the written approval of the

1 department as to the adequacy of the means proposed for the protection
2 of fish life. The hydraulic project approval authority of the
3 department shall be limited to construction or other work that occurs
4 at or below the mean higher high water line in salt water and estuaries
5 or at or below the ordinary high water line in fresh water. The
6 department shall neither deny nor condition a hydraulic project
7 approval on the basis of human or animal actions or environmental
8 conditions that occur above the higher high water line in salt water
9 and estuaries or above the ordinary high water line in fresh water.
10 The department may not limit, condition, or otherwise affect the
11 amount, timing, or delivery method of water diverted under chapter
12 90.03 RCW after the water leaves the stream channel and before it is
13 returned to the stream. This approval shall not be unreasonably
14 withheld. Except as provided in RCW 75.20.1001 ((and 75.20.1002)), the
15 department shall grant or deny approval within forty-five calendar days
16 of the receipt of a complete application and notice of compliance with
17 any applicable requirements of the state environmental policy act, made
18 in the manner prescribed in this section. The applicant may document
19 receipt of application by filing in person or by registered mail. A
20 complete application for approval shall contain general plans for the
21 overall project, complete plans and specifications of the proposed
22 construction or work within the mean higher high water line in salt
23 water or within the ordinary high water line in fresh water, and
24 complete plans and specifications for the proper protection of fish
25 life. The forty-five day requirement shall be suspended if ((+1)) (a)
26 after ten working days of receipt of the application, the applicant
27 remains unavailable or unable to arrange for a timely field evaluation
28 of the proposed project; ((+2)) (b) the site is physically
29 inaccessible for inspection; or ((+3)) (c) the applicant requests
30 delay. Immediately upon determination that the forty-five day period
31 is suspended, the department shall notify the applicant in writing of
32 the reasons for the delay. Approval is valid for a period of up to
33 five years from date of issuance. The permittee must demonstrate
34 substantial progress on construction of that portion of the project
35 relating to the approval within two years of the date of issuance. If
36 the department denies approval, the department shall provide the
37 applicant, in writing, a statement of the specific reasons why and how
38 the proposed project would adversely affect fish life. Protection of

1 fish life shall be the only ground upon which approval may be denied or
2 conditioned.

3 (2) In making a decision as to whether fish life is protected, the
4 department of fish and wildlife shall determine if a project as
5 proposed or modified:

6 (a) Presents no substantial risk to fish life and provides fish
7 habitat productivity equivalent to preproject conditions at the project
8 site within two years of the project's completion; or

9 (b)(i) Protects a residential, commercial, industrial, or public
10 facility or structure that is likely to incur significant flood damage
11 during the next flood season if the project is not completed; and (ii)
12 lessens the loss of fish life or habitat as compared to a project
13 resulting from an emergency request under this section.

14 The department with jurisdiction shall approve a project if it
15 determines that the project meets either (a) or (b) of this subsection.

16 (3) Chapter 34.05 RCW applies to any denial of project approval,
17 conditional approval, or requirements for project modification upon
18 which approval may be contingent. If any person or government agency
19 commences construction on any hydraulic works or projects subject to
20 this section without first having obtained written approval of the
21 department as to the adequacy of the means proposed for the protection
22 of fish life, or if any person or government agency fails to follow or
23 carry out any of the requirements or conditions as are made a part of
24 such approval, the person or director of the agency is guilty of a
25 gross misdemeanor. If any such person or government agency is
26 convicted of violating any of the provisions of this section and
27 continues construction on any such works or projects without fully
28 complying with the provisions hereof, such works or projects are hereby
29 declared a public nuisance and shall be subject to abatement as such.

30 ~~((For the purposes of this section and RCW 75.20.103, "bed" shall~~
31 ~~mean the land below the ordinary high water lines of state waters.~~
32 ~~This definition shall not include irrigation ditches, canals, storm~~
33 ~~water run-off devices, or other artificial watercourses except where~~
34 ~~they exist in a natural watercourse that has been altered by man.~~

35 ~~The phrase "to construct any form of hydraulic project or perform~~
36 ~~other work" shall not include the act of driving across an established~~
37 ~~ford. Driving across streams or on wetted stream beds at areas other~~
38 ~~than established fords requires approval. Work within the ordinary~~

1 ~~high water line of state waters to construct or repair a ford or~~
2 ~~crossing requires approval.))~~

3 (4) In case of an emergency arising from weather or stream flow
4 conditions or other natural conditions, upon request the department,
5 through its authorized representatives, shall ~~((issue))~~ grant
6 immediately ~~((upon request))~~, oral approval for removing any
7 obstructions, repairing existing structures, restoring stream banks, or
8 ~~((to protect))~~ protecting property threatened by the stream or a change
9 in the stream flow without ~~((the necessity of obtaining))~~ requiring a
10 written approval prior to commencing work. Conditions of an oral
11 approval shall be reduced to writing within thirty days and complied
12 with as provided for in this section. Oral approval shall be granted
13 immediately upon request, for a stream crossing during an emergency
14 situation.

15 (5) This section shall not apply to the repair of an existing flood
16 control project if the project is determined by the county to be:

17 (a) Consistent with a currently approved comprehensive flood
18 control management plan; and

19 (b) Necessary to avoid flood damage during the next flood season.

20 (6) This section shall not apply to the construction of any form of
21 hydraulic project or other work which diverts water for agricultural
22 irrigation or stock watering purposes authorized under or recognized as
23 being valid by the state's water codes, or when such hydraulic project
24 or other work is associated with streambank stabilization to protect
25 farm and agricultural land as defined in RCW 84.34.020. These
26 irrigation or stock watering diversion and streambank stabilization
27 projects shall be governed by RCW 75.20.103.

28 **Sec. 9.** RCW 75.20.103 and 1993 sp.s. c 2 s 32 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 (1) In the event that any person or government agency desires to
31 construct any form of hydraulic project or other work that diverts
32 water for agricultural irrigation or stock watering purposes, or when
33 such hydraulic project or other work is associated with streambank
34 stabilization or flood damage reduction to protect farm and
35 agricultural land as defined in RCW 84.34.020, and when such
36 ~~((diversion or streambank stabilization))~~ hydraulic project will use,
37 divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any river or
38 stream or will utilize any waters of the state or materials from the

1 stream beds, the person or government agency shall, before commencing
2 construction or work thereon and to ensure the proper protection of
3 fish life, secure a written approval from the department as to the
4 adequacy of the means proposed for the protection of fish life. The
5 hydraulic project approval authority of the department shall be limited
6 to construction or other work that occurs at or below the mean higher
7 high water line in salt water and estuaries or at or below the ordinary
8 high water line in fresh water. The department shall neither deny nor
9 condition a hydraulic project approval on the basis of human or animal
10 actions or environmental conditions that occur above the higher high
11 water line in salt water and estuaries or above the ordinary high water
12 line in fresh water. The department may not limit, condition, or
13 otherwise affect the amount, timing, or delivery method of water
14 diverted under chapter 90.03 RCW after the water leaves the stream
15 channel and before it is returned to the stream. This approval shall
16 not be unreasonably withheld. Except as provided in RCW 75.20.1001
17 ((and 75.20.1002)), the department shall grant or deny the approval
18 within forty-five calendar days of the receipt of a complete
19 application ((and notice of compliance with any applicable requirements
20 of the state environmental policy act,)) made in the manner prescribed
21 in this section. The applicant may document receipt of application by
22 filing in person or by registered mail.

23 (2) A complete application for an approval shall:

24 (a) Contain general plans for the overall project, complete plans
25 and specifications of the proposed construction or work within ordinary
26 high water line, and complete plans and specifications for the proper
27 protection of fish life; and

28 (b) Not be required to include notice of compliance with any
29 applicable requirements of the state environmental policy act. Final
30 approval of a project may not be granted until any applicable
31 requirements of the state environmental policy act have been satisfied.

32 (3) The forty-five day requirement shall be suspended if ~~((1))~~:

33 (a) After ten working days of receipt of the application, the
34 applicant remains unavailable or unable to arrange for a timely field
35 evaluation of the proposed project; ~~((2))~~

36 (b) The site is physically inaccessible for inspection; ~~((or (3)))~~

37 (c) After forty-four days of receipt of a complete application, a
38 notice of compliance with the state environmental policy act has not
39 been issued; or

1 (d) The applicant requests delay.

2 (4) Immediately upon determination that the forty-five day period
3 is suspended, the department shall notify the applicant in writing of
4 the reasons for the delay.

5 (5) In making a decision as to whether fish life is protected, the
6 department shall determine if a project as proposed or modified:

7 (a) Presents no substantial risk to fish life and provides fish
8 habitat productivity equivalent to preproject conditions at the project
9 site within two years of the project's completion; or

10 (b)(i) Protects a residential, commercial, industrial, or public
11 facility or structure that is likely to incur significant flood damage
12 during the next flood season if the project is not completed; and (ii)
13 lessens the loss of fish life or habitat as compared to a project
14 resulting from an emergency request under this section.

15 The department shall approve a project if it determines that the
16 project meets either (a) or (b) of this subsection.

17 (6) An approval shall remain in effect without need for periodic
18 renewal for projects that divert water for agricultural irrigation or
19 stock watering purposes and that involve seasonal construction or other
20 work. Approval for streambank stabilization projects shall remain in
21 effect without need for periodic renewal if the problem causing the
22 need for the streambank stabilization occurs on an annual or more
23 frequent basis. The permittee must notify the appropriate agency
24 before commencing the construction or other work within the area
25 covered by the approval.

26 (7) The permittee must demonstrate substantial progress on
27 construction of that portion of the project relating to the approval
28 within two years of the date of issuance. If the department denies
29 approval, the department shall provide the applicant, in writing, a
30 statement of the specific reasons why and how the proposed project
31 would adversely affect fish life. Protection of fish life shall be the
32 only ground upon which approval may be denied or conditioned.
33 Issuance, denial, conditioning, or modification shall be appealable to
34 the hydraulic appeals board established in RCW 43.21B.005 within thirty
35 days of the notice of decision. The burden shall be upon the
36 department to show that the denial or conditioning of an approval is
37 solely aimed at the protection of fish life.

38 (8) The department may, after consultation with the permittee,
39 modify an approval due to changed conditions. The modifications shall

1 become effective unless appealed to the hydraulic appeals board within
2 thirty days from the notice of the proposed modification. The burden
3 is on the department to show that changed conditions warrant the
4 modification in order to protect fish life.

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

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

24 (11) In case of an emergency arising from weather or stream flow
25 conditions or other natural conditions, the department, through its
26 authorized representatives, shall issue immediately upon request oral
27 approval for removing any obstructions, repairing existing structures,
28 restoring stream banks, or to protect property threatened by the stream
29 or a change in the stream flow without the necessity of obtaining a
30 written approval prior to commencing work. Conditions of an oral
31 approval shall be reduced to writing within thirty days and complied
32 with as provided for in this section. Oral approval shall be granted
33 immediately upon request, for a stream crossing during an emergency.

34 (~~For purposes of this chapter, "streambank stabilization" shall~~
35 ~~include but not be limited to log and debris removal, bank protection~~
36 ~~(including riprap, jetties, and groins), gravel removal and erosion~~
37 ~~control.))~~

1 (12) This section shall not apply to a project involving the repair
2 of an existing flood control facility if the project is determined by
3 the county to be:

4 (a) Consistent with a previously approved comprehensive flood
5 control management plan; and

6 (b) Necessary to avoid flood damage during the next flood season.

7 **Sec. 10.** RCW 75.20.130 and 1993 sp.s. c 2 s 37 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) There is hereby created within the environmental hearings
10 office under RCW 43.21B.005 the hydraulic appeals board of the state of
11 Washington.

12 (2) The hydraulic appeals board shall consist of three members:
13 The director of the department of ecology or the director's designee,
14 the director of the department of agriculture or the director's
15 designee, and the director or the director's designee of the department
16 whose action is appealed under subsection (6) of this section. A
17 decision must be agreed to by at least two members of the board to be
18 final.

19 (3) The board may adopt rules necessary for the conduct of its
20 powers and duties or for transacting other official business.

21 (4) The board shall make findings of fact and prepare a written
22 decision in each case decided by it, and that finding and decision
23 shall be effective upon being signed by two or more board members and
24 upon being filed at the hydraulic appeals board's principal office, and
25 shall be open to public inspection at all reasonable times.

26 (5) The board has exclusive jurisdiction to hear appeals arising
27 from the approval, denial, conditioning, or modification of a hydraulic
28 approval issued by the department under the authority granted in RCW
29 75.20.103 for the diversion of water for agricultural irrigation or
30 stock watering purposes or when associated with streambank
31 stabilization to protect farm and agricultural land as defined in RCW
32 84.34.020.

33 (6)(a) Any person aggrieved by the approval, denial, conditioning,
34 or modification of a hydraulic approval pursuant to RCW 75.20.103 may
35 seek review from the board by filing a request for the same within
36 thirty days of notice of the approval, denial, conditioning, or
37 modification of such approval.

1 (b) The review proceedings authorized in (a) of this subsection are
2 subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to procedures
3 in adjudicative proceedings.

4 (c) If a review proceeding authorized in (a) of this subsection
5 finds for the aggrieved permit applicant, the applicant may be awarded
6 any legal and engineering costs involved in challenging the permit
7 decision.

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

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

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

14 (a) Give priority consideration to the preservation of the
15 streamway environment with special attention given to preservation of
16 those areas considered aesthetically or environmentally unique for
17 stream segments with a naturally unconfined channel;

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 (5) The department may permit river channel relocations only when
38 an overriding public benefit can be shown. Filling, grading,

1 lagooning, or dredging which would result in substantial detriment to
2 navigable waters by reason of erosion, sedimentation, or impairment of
3 fish and aquatic life are not authorized.

4 (6) No person may remove sand and gravel below the wetted perimeter
5 of navigable rivers unless authorized by a hydraulics permit issued by
6 either the department of fisheries or department of wildlife under RCW
7 75.20.100 and 75.20.103. These removals may be authorized for
8 maintenance and improvement of navigational channels or for creating
9 backwater channels for fish rearing or improvement of the flow capacity
10 of the channels.

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

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

16 (b) The removal provides recreational benefits;

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (c) Removal will impact esthetics of nearby recreational
30 facilities.

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

33 (10) The department shall condition sand and gravel removal leases
34 to allow removal of only that amount which is naturally replenished on
35 an annual basis, except in instances where a lapse in material removal
36 has occurred. If such a lapse has occurred, then an amount of material
37 equivalent to the amount estimated to have accumulated since the last
38 material removal operation, including debris and vegetation, may be

1 removed if consistent with the county comprehensive flood control
2 management plan.

3 **Sec. 12.** RCW 79.90.150 and 1991 c 337 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 When gravel, rock, sand, silt or other material from any aquatic
6 lands is removed by any public agency or under public contract for
7 channel or harbor improvement, or flood control, use of such material
8 may be authorized by the department of natural resources for a public
9 purpose on land owned or leased by the state or any municipality,
10 county, or public corporation: PROVIDED, That when no public land site
11 is available for deposit of such material, its deposit on private land
12 with the landowner's permission is authorized and may be designated by
13 the department of natural resources to be for a public purpose. Prior
14 to removal and use, the state agency, municipality, county, or public
15 corporation contemplating or arranging such use shall first obtain
16 written permission from the department of natural resources. No
17 payment of royalty shall be required for such gravel, rock, sand, silt,
18 or other material used for such public purpose, but a charge will be
19 made if such material is subsequently sold or used for some other
20 purpose: PROVIDED, That the department may authorize such public
21 agency or private landowner to dispose of such material without charge
22 when necessary to implement disposal of material. No charge shall be
23 required for any use of the material obtained under the provisions of
24 this chapter when used solely on an authorized site. No charge shall
25 be required for any use of the material obtained under the provisions
26 of this chapter if the material is used for public purposes by local
27 governments. No charge may be required for removal or use of such
28 material if the removal of the material is determined by the county
29 engineer or equivalent position to be for flood control purposes.
30 Public purposes include, but are not limited to, construction and
31 maintenance of roads, dikes, and levies. Nothing in this section shall
32 repeal or modify the provisions of RCW 75.20.100 or eliminate the
33 necessity of obtaining a permit for such removal from other state or
34 federal agencies as otherwise required by law.

35 **Sec. 13.** RCW 79.90.300 and 1991 c 322 s 26 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

1 (1) The department of natural resources, upon application by any
2 person or when determined by the department to be in the best interest
3 of the state, may enter into a contract or lease providing for the
4 removal and sale of rock, gravel, sand, and silt, or other valuable
5 materials located within or upon beds of navigable waters, or upon any
6 tidelands or shorelands belonging to the state and providing for
7 payment to be made therefor by such royalty as the department may fix,
8 by negotiation, by sealed bid, or at public auction. If application is
9 made for the purchase of any valuable material situated within or upon
10 aquatic lands the department shall inspect and appraise the value of
11 the material in the application. The department may reduce or
12 eliminate royalties in areas prone to flooding. Removal of material
13 from within the ordinary high water mark must be construed as being
14 removed for flood control purposes. The department may include a
15 provision in contracts for the removal of rock, gravel, sand, or silt
16 that allows for payment to be made as the material is sold.

17 (2) The department shall actively seek to encourage through permit
18 requirements and adjusted fees the removal of accumulated materials
19 from rivers and streams where there is a flood damage reduction
20 benefit. The department shall develop policies to accomplish this
21 goal.

22 **Sec. 14.** RCW 86.15.030 and 1969 ex.s. c 195 s 2 are each amended
23 to read as follows:

24 Upon receipt of a petition asking that a zone be created, or upon
25 motion of the board, the board shall adopt a resolution which shall
26 describe the boundaries of such proposed zone; describe in general
27 terms the flood control needs or requirements within the zone; set a
28 date for public hearing upon the creation of such zone, which shall be
29 not more than thirty days after the adoption of such resolution.
30 Notice of such hearing and publication shall be had in the manner
31 provided in RCW 36.32.120(7).

32 At the hearing scheduled upon the resolution, the board shall
33 permit all interested parties to be heard. Thereafter, the board may
34 reject the resolution or it may modify the boundaries of such zone and
35 make such other corrections or additions to the resolutions as they
36 deem necessary to the accomplishment of the purpose of this chapter:
37 PROVIDED, That if the boundaries of such zone are enlarged, the board
38 shall hold an additional hearing following publication and notice of

1 such new boundaries: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the boundaries of any zone
2 shall generally follow the boundaries of the watershed area affected:
3 PROVIDED FURTHER, That the immediately preceding proviso shall in no
4 way limit or be construed to prohibit the formation of a county-wide
5 flood control zone district authorized to be created by RCW 86.15.025.

6 Within (~~ten~~) thirty days after final hearing on a resolution, the
7 board shall issue its (~~order~~) ordinance creating the flood control
8 zone district.

9 **Sec. 15.** RCW 86.15.050 and 1961 c 153 s 5 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 The board (~~of county commissioners of each county~~) shall be ex
12 officio, by virtue of their office, supervisors of the zones created in
13 each county. The supervisors of the district shall conduct the
14 business of the flood control zone district according to the regular
15 rules and procedures that it adopts.

16 **Sec. 16.** RCW 86.15.160 and 1986 c 278 s 60 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 For the purposes of this chapter the supervisors may authorize:

19 (1) An annual excess ad valorem tax levy within any zone or
20 participating zones when authorized by the voters of the zone or
21 participating zones under RCW 84.52.052 and 84.52.054;

22 (2) An assessment upon property, including state property,
23 specially benefited by flood control improvements or storm water
24 control improvements imposed under chapter 86.09 RCW;

25 (3) Within any zone or participating zones an annual ad valorem
26 property tax levy of not to exceed fifty cents per thousand dollars of
27 assessed value when the levy will not take dollar rates that other
28 taxing districts may lawfully claim and that will not cause the
29 combined levies to exceed the constitutional and/or statutory
30 limitations, and the additional levy, or any portion thereof, may also
31 be made when dollar rates of other taxing units is released therefor by
32 agreement with the other taxing units from their authorized levies
33 under chapter 39.67 RCW;

34 (4) A charge, under RCW 36.89.080 through 36.89.100, for the
35 furnishing of service to those who are receiving or will receive
36 benefits from storm water control facilities (~~and~~) or who are
37 contributing to an increase in surface water runoff. Except as

1 otherwise provided in RCW 90.03.525, any public entity and public
2 property, including the state and state property, shall be liable for
3 the charges to the same extent a private person and privately owned
4 property is liable for the charges, and in setting these rates and
5 charges, consideration may be made of in-kind services, such as stream
6 improvements or donation of property;

7 (5) The creation of local improvement districts and utility local
8 improvement districts, the issuance of improvement district bonds and
9 warrants, and the imposition, collection, and enforcement of special
10 assessments on all property, including any state-owned or other
11 publicly-owned property, specially benefited from improvements in the
12 same manner as provided for counties by chapter 36.94 RCW.

13 **Sec. 17.** RCW 86.26.105 and 1986 c 46 s 5 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 (~~(A comprehensive flood control management plan shall determine the
16 need for flood control work, consider alternatives to in-stream flood
17 control work, identify and consider potential impacts of in-stream
18 flood control work on the state's in-stream resources, and identify the
19 river's meander belt or floodway.))~~) A comprehensive flood control
20 management plan shall be completed and adopted (~~((within at least three
21 years of the certification that it is being prepared, as provided in
22 RCW 86.26.050))~~) by any county that has experienced at least two
23 presidentially declared flood disasters within the most recent ten-year
24 period by December 31, 1999, or within two years of a second
25 presidentially declared flood disaster.

26 If (~~((after this three-year period has elapsed)),~~) by December 31,
27 1999, or by the end of the two-year period following a second
28 presidentially declared flood disaster such a comprehensive flood
29 control plan has not been completed and adopted, grants for flood
30 control maintenance projects shall not be made to the county or
31 municipal corporations in the county until a comprehensive flood
32 control plan is completed and adopted by the appropriate local
33 authority. These limitations on grants shall not preclude allocations
34 for emergency purposes made pursuant to RCW 86.26.060, however priority
35 consideration for emergency assistance shall be given to those counties
36 required to plan under this section who have completed their plans.

1 **Sec. 18.** RCW 90.58.180 and 1994 c 253 s 3 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) Any person aggrieved by the granting, denying, or rescinding of
4 a permit on shorelines of the state pursuant to RCW 90.58.140 may seek
5 review from the shorelines hearings board by filing a request for the
6 same within thirty days of the date of filing as defined in RCW
7 90.58.140(6).

8 Concurrently with the filing of any request for review with the
9 board as provided in this section pertaining to a final order of a
10 local government, the requestor shall file a copy of his or her request
11 with the department and the attorney general. If it appears to the
12 department or the attorney general that the requestor has valid reasons
13 to seek review, either the department or the attorney general may
14 certify the request within thirty days after its receipt to the
15 shorelines hearings board following which the board shall then, but not
16 otherwise, review the matter covered by the requestor. The failure to
17 obtain such certification shall not preclude the requestor from
18 obtaining a review in the superior court under any right to review
19 otherwise available to the requestor. The department and the attorney
20 general may intervene to protect the public interest and insure that
21 the provisions of this chapter are complied with at any time within
22 fifteen days from the date of the receipt by the department or the
23 attorney general of a copy of the request for review filed pursuant to
24 this section. The shorelines hearings board shall initially schedule
25 review proceedings on such requests for review without regard as to
26 whether such requests have or have not been certified or as to whether
27 the period for the department or the attorney general to intervene has
28 or has not expired, unless such review is to begin within thirty days
29 of such scheduling. If at the end of the thirty day period for
30 certification neither the department nor the attorney general has
31 certified a request for review, the hearings board shall remove the
32 request from its review schedule.

33 (2) The department or the attorney general may obtain review of any
34 final order granting a permit, or granting or denying an application
35 for a permit issued by a local government by filing a written request
36 with the shorelines hearings board and the appropriate local government
37 within thirty days from the date the final order was filed as provided
38 in RCW 90.58.140(6).

1 (3) The review proceedings authorized in subsections (1) and (2) of
2 this section are subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW
3 pertaining to procedures in adjudicative proceedings. Judicial review
4 of such proceedings of the shorelines hearings board is governed by
5 chapter 34.05 RCW.

6 (4) If the review proceedings authorized in subsection (1) of this
7 section find for the requestor, and if the requestor is the permit
8 applicant, the requestor may be awarded any legal and engineering costs
9 involved in challenging the permit decision.

10 (5) A local government may appeal to the shorelines hearings board
11 any rules, regulations, or guidelines adopted or approved by the
12 department within thirty days of the date of the adoption or approval.
13 The board shall make a final decision within sixty days following the
14 hearing held thereon.

15 If the board determines that the rule, regulation, or guideline:

16 (a) Is clearly erroneous in light of the policy of this chapter; or

17 (b) Constitutes an implementation of this chapter in violation of
18 constitutional or statutory provisions; or

19 (c) Is arbitrary and capricious; or

20 (d) Was developed without fully considering and evaluating all
21 material submitted to the department by the local government; or

22 (e) Was not adopted in accordance with required procedures;

23 the board shall enter a final decision declaring the rule, regulation,
24 or guideline invalid, remanding the rule, regulation, or guideline to
25 the department with a statement of the reasons in support of the
26 determination, and directing the department to adopt, after a thorough
27 consultation with the affected local government, a new rule,
28 regulation, or guideline. Unless the board makes one or more of the
29 determinations as hereinbefore provided, the board shall find the rule,
30 regulation, or guideline to be valid and enter a final decision to that
31 effect.

32 (~~(5)~~) (6) Rules, regulations, and guidelines shall be subject to
33 review in superior court, if authorized pursuant to RCW 34.05.570(2).
34 No review shall be granted by a superior court on petition from a local
35 government unless the local government shall first have obtained review
36 under subsection (~~(4)~~) (5) of this section and the petition for court
37 review is filed within three months after the date of final decision by
38 the shorelines hearings board.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** A new section is added to chapter 43.17 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 Each appropriate agency shall actively seek to encourage through
4 permit requirements the removal of accumulated materials from rivers
5 and streams where there is a measurable flood damage reduction benefit.
6 Each agency shall develop policies to accomplish this goal. Policies
7 should consider the benefits of a designed, open-channel hydraulic
8 engineering criteria to facilitate the natural downstream movement of
9 detrimental material.

10 **Sec. 20.** RCW 86.12.200 and 1991 c 322 s 3 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 The county legislative authority of any county may adopt a
13 comprehensive flood control management plan for any drainage basin that
14 is located wholly or partially within the county.

15 A comprehensive flood control management plan shall include the
16 following elements:

17 (1) Designation of areas that are susceptible to periodic flooding,
18 from inundation by bodies of water or surface water runoff, or both,
19 including the river's meander belt or floodway;

20 (2) Establishment of a comprehensive scheme of flood control
21 protection and improvements for the areas that are subject to such
22 periodic flooding, that includes: (a) Determining the need for, and
23 desirable location of, flood control improvements to protect or
24 preclude flood damage to structures, works, and improvements, based
25 upon a ~~((cost/benefit))~~ cost-benefit ratio between the expense of
26 providing and maintaining these improvements and the benefits arising
27 from these improvements; (b) establishing the level of flood protection
28 that each portion of the system of flood control improvements will be
29 permitted; (c) identifying alternatives to in-stream flood control
30 work; (d) identifying areas where flood waters could be directed during
31 a flood to avoid damage to buildings and other structures; ~~((and))~~ (e)
32 identifying areas where a river may migrate into a new channel and
33 developing options to prevent the creation of the new channel; (f)
34 identifying practices that will avoid long-term accretion of sediments;
35 and (g) identifying sources of revenue that will be sufficient to
36 finance the comprehensive scheme of flood control protection and
37 improvements;

1 (3) Establishing land use regulations that preclude the location of
2 structures, works, or improvements in critical portions of such areas
3 subject to periodic flooding, including a river's meander belt or
4 floodway, and permitting only flood-compatible land uses in such areas;

5 (4) Establishing restrictions on construction activities in areas
6 subject to periodic floods that require the flood proofing of those
7 structures that are permitted to be constructed or remodeled; and

8 (5) Establishing restrictions on land clearing activities and
9 development practices that exacerbate flood problems by increasing the
10 flow or accumulation of flood waters, or the intensity of drainage, on
11 low-lying areas. Land clearing activities do not include forest
12 practices as defined in chapter 76.09 RCW.

13 A comprehensive flood control management plan shall be subject to
14 the minimum requirements for participation in the national flood
15 insurance program, requirements exceeding the minimum national flood
16 insurance program that have been adopted by the department of ecology
17 for a specific flood plain pursuant to RCW 86.16.031, and rules adopted
18 by the department of ecology pursuant to chapter 86.16 RCW and RCW
19 86.26.050 relating to flood plain management activities. When a county
20 plans under chapter 36.70A RCW, it (~~may~~) must incorporate the portion
21 of its comprehensive flood control management plan relating to land use
22 restrictions in its comprehensive plan and development regulations
23 adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW.

24 **Sec. 21.** RCW 90.58.030 and 1987 c 474 s 1 are each amended to read
25 as follows:

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

28 (1) Administration:

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

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

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

34 (d) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
35 association, organization, cooperative, public or municipal
36 corporation, or agency of the state or local governmental unit however
37 designated;

1 (e) "Hearing board" means the shoreline hearings board established
2 by this chapter.

3 (2) Geographical:

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

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

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

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

28 (e) "Shorelines of state-wide significance" means the following
29 shorelines of the state:

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

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

36 (A) Nisqually Delta--from DeWolf Bight to Tatsolo Point,

37 (B) Birch Bay--from Point Whitehorn to Birch Point,

38 (C) Hood Canal--from Tala Point to Foulweather Bluff,

1 (D) Skagit Bay and adjacent area--from Brown Point to Yokeko Point,
2 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 (f) "Wetlands" or "wetland areas" means those lands extending
22 landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a
23 horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and
24 contiguous flood plain areas landward two hundred feet from such
25 floodways; and all marshes, bogs, swamps, and river deltas associated
26 with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the
27 provisions of this chapter; the same to be designated as to location by
28 the department of ecology(~~(: PROVIDED, That)~~). However, any county or
29 city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year-flood plain to be
30 included in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a
31 minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land extending landward two
32 hundred feet (~~(therefrom)~~);

33 (g) "Floodway" means those portions of the area of a river valley
34 lying streamward from the outer limits of a watercourse upon which
35 flood waters are carried during periods of flooding that occur with
36 reasonable regularity, although not necessarily annually, said floodway
37 being identified, under normal condition, by changes in surface soil
38 conditions or changes in types or quality of vegetative ground cover
39 condition. The floodway shall not include those lands that can

1 reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by flood
2 control devices maintained by or maintained under license from the
3 federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

4 (3) Procedural terms:

5 (a) "Guidelines" means those standards adopted to implement the
6 policy of this chapter for regulation of use of the shorelines of the
7 state prior to adoption of master programs. Such standards shall also
8 provide criteria to local governments and the department in developing
9 master programs;

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

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

17 (d) "Development" means a use consisting of the construction or
18 exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping;
19 filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving
20 of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or
21 temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the
22 surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any
23 state of water level;

24 (e) "Substantial development" shall mean any development of which
25 the total cost or fair market value exceeds two thousand five hundred
26 dollars, or any development which materially interferes with the normal
27 public use of the water or shorelines of the state; except that the
28 following shall not be considered substantial developments for the
29 purpose of this chapter:

30 (i) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or
31 developments, including damage by accident, fire, or elements;

32 (ii) Improvements to dikes and levees if the improvement is
33 determined by a county to be consistent with a comprehensive flood
34 control management plan developed under chapter 86.26 RCW;

35 (iii) Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to
36 single family residences;

37 (~~(iii)~~) (iv) Emergency construction necessary to protect property
38 from damage by the elements;

1 (~~(iv)~~) (v) Construction and practices normal or necessary for
2 farming, irrigation, and ranching activities, including agricultural
3 service roads and utilities on wetlands, and the construction and
4 maintenance of irrigation structures including but not limited to head
5 gates, pumping facilities, and irrigation channels: PROVIDED, That a
6 feedlot of any size, all processing plants, other activities of a
7 commercial nature, alteration of the contour of the wetlands by
8 leveling or filling other than that which results from normal
9 cultivation, shall not be considered normal or necessary farming or
10 ranching activities. A feedlot shall be an enclosure or facility used
11 or capable of being used for feeding livestock hay, grain, silage, or
12 other livestock feed, but shall not include land for growing crops or
13 vegetation for livestock feeding and/or grazing, nor shall it include
14 normal livestock wintering operations;

15 (~~(v)~~) (vi) Construction or modification of navigational aids such
16 as channel markers and anchor buoys;

17 (~~(vi)~~) (vii) Construction on wetlands by an owner, lessee, or
18 contract purchaser of a single family residence for his own use or for
19 the use of his family, which residence does not exceed a height of
20 thirty-five feet above average grade level and which meets all
21 requirements of the state agency or local government having
22 jurisdiction thereof, other than requirements imposed pursuant to this
23 chapter;

24 (~~(vii)~~) (viii) Construction of a dock, including a community
25 dock, designed for pleasure craft only, for the private noncommercial
26 use of the owner, lessee, or contract purchaser of single and multiple
27 family residences, the cost of which does not exceed two thousand five
28 hundred dollars;

29 (~~(viii)~~) (ix) Operation, maintenance, or construction of canals,
30 waterways, drains, reservoirs, or other facilities that now exist or
31 are hereafter created or developed as a part of an irrigation system
32 for the primary purpose of making use of system waters, including
33 return flow and artificially stored ground water for the irrigation of
34 lands;

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

38 (~~(x)~~) (xi) Operation and maintenance of any system of dikes,
39 ditches, drains, or other facilities existing on September 8, 1975,

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

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

11 **Sec. 22.** RCW 47.28.140 and 1991 c 322 s 29 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 When in the opinion of the governing authorities representing the
14 department and any agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or
15 political subdivision of the state of Washington, any highway, road, or
16 street will be benefited or improved by constructing, reconstructing,
17 locating, relocating, laying out, repairing, surveying, altering,
18 improving, or maintaining, or by the establishment adjacent to, under,
19 upon, within, or above any portion of any such highway, road, or street
20 of an urban public transportation system, by either the department or
21 any agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political
22 subdivision of the state, and it is in the public interest to do so,
23 the authorities may enter into cooperative agreements wherein either
24 agrees to perform the work and furnish the materials necessary and pay
25 the cost thereof, including necessary engineering assistance, which
26 costs and expenses shall be reimbursed by the party whose
27 responsibility it was to do or perform the work or improvement in the
28 first instance. The work may be done by either day labor or contract,
29 and the cooperative agreement between the parties shall provide for the
30 method of reimbursement. In the case of some special benefit or
31 improvement to a state highway derived from ~~((any project that assists
32 in preventing or minimizing flood damages as defined in RCW 86.16.120
33 or from))~~ the construction of any public works project, including any
34 urban public transportation system, the department may contribute to
35 the cost thereof by making direct payment to the particular state
36 department, agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or
37 political subdivision on the basis of benefits received, but such
38 payment shall be made only after a cooperative agreement has been

1 entered into for a specified amount or on an actual cost basis prior to
2 the commencement of the particular public works project.

3 In the case of a special benefit or improvement to a state highway
4 derived from a project that assists in preventing or reducing flood
5 damages as defined in RCW 86.16.120, the department shall contribute to
6 the cost of the benefit or improvement by making direct payment to the
7 particular state department, agency, instrumentality, municipal
8 corporation, or political subdivision on the basis of contribution to
9 the problem or benefits received. The department may make payment only
10 after an agreement has been entered into between the department and the
11 appropriate state or local government entity. The department shall
12 contribute costs on the basis of benefits received.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. A new section is added to chapter 86.26 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 A flood protection project is work necessary to preserve, restore,
16 or improve either natural or human-made stream banks or flood control
17 facilities that repair or prevent flood damage as defined in RCW
18 86.16.120 including but not limited to damage by erosion, stream flow,
19 sheet runoff, or other damages by the sea or other bodies of water.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 24. The department of transportation shall
21 provide to the respective counties an inventory of all state highways
22 and bridges, that are located in federal emergency management agency-
23 designated flood plains, and are located within each county with two or
24 more presidentially declared flood disasters within the most recent
25 ten-year period. The department of transportation shall provide any
26 available flood plain information to assist the counties as they
27 prepare the county comprehensive flood control management plan. The
28 department shall provide input and cooperate with the counties in
29 identifying any state roads or bridges that may cause a constriction to
30 the natural flow of flood waters. The department shall also assist the
31 counties in identifying state roads that, either by themselves or in
32 conjunction with levees or other structures in the flood plain, may
33 potentially entrap floodwaters in areas originally intended to be
34 floodproofed. The county comprehensive flood control management plan
35 should identify flooding events that pose a serious threat to critical
36 transportation facilities in the form of damage to a roadway or to a

1 bridge, or closure to the roadway or bridge during times of a flooding
2 emergency.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** A new section is added to chapter 75.20 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 By December 31, 1996, the departments of fish and wildlife, natural
6 resources, and ecology shall jointly develop a memorandum of
7 understanding to facilitate the consideration of projects that will aid
8 in the minimization or prevention of flood damage as defined in RCW
9 86.16.120. To reduce the duplication of information required by a
10 project's permits, the departments must provide in their memorandum
11 procedures to share data to the extent practicable among themselves and
12 with other agencies that may be involved in approving or denying a
13 permit application. The departments' memorandum must provide a plan to
14 implement a comprehensive permit process that is streamlined and easily
15 understandable to permit applicants.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** RCW 79.90.325 and 1984 c 212 s 10 are each
17 repealed.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 27.** This act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
20 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
21 effect immediately.

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