

SB 6091-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Addresses the availability of water to support development.

Requires the department of ecology to: (1) Establish watershed restoration and enhancement committees in certain water resource inventory areas;

(2) Prepare and adopt a watershed restoration and enhancement plan for certain watersheds in collaboration with the committee; and

(3) Initiate two pilot projects to measure water use from all new groundwater withdrawals for domestic purposes exempt from permitting.

Creates the joint legislative task force on water resource mitigation to: (1) Review the treatment of surface water and groundwater appropriations as they relate to instream flows and fish habitat;

(2) Develop and recommend a mitigation sequencing process and scoring system to address appropriations; and

(3) Review the state supreme court decision in *Foster v. Department of Ecology*.

Declares an intent to appropriate three hundred million dollars for projects to achieve the goals of this act.

Creates the watershed restoration and enhancement account, the watershed restoration and enhancement taxable bond account, and the watershed restoration and enhancement bond account.