RCW 90.56.030 Powers and duties. The powers, duties, and functions conferred by this chapter shall be exercised by the department of ecology and shall be deemed an essential government function in the exercise of the police power of the state. Such powers, duties, and functions of the department shall extend to all waters under the jurisdiction of the state. [1991 c 200 § 104; 1971 ex.s. c 180 § 2. Formerly RCW 90.48.370.]