
SENATE BILL 5343

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Parlette, Doumit, Mulliken, Hale and Deccio

Read first time 01/22/2003. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water.

1 AN ACT Relating to watershed planning; and amending RCW 90.82.060.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.82.060 and 2001 c 229 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Planning conducted under this chapter must provide for a
6 process to allow the local citizens within a WRIA or multi-WRIA area to
7 join together in an effort to: (a) Assess the status of the water
8 resources of their WRIA or multi-WRIA area; and (b) determine how best
9 to manage the water resources of the WRIA or multi-WRIA area to balance
10 the competing resource demands for that area within the parameters
11 under RCW 90.82.120.

12 (2) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for a
13 WRIA only with the concurrence of: (a) All counties within the WRIA;
14 (b) the largest city or town within the WRIA unless the WRIA does not
15 contain a city or town; and (c) the water supply utility obtaining the
16 largest quantity of water from the WRIA or, for a WRIA with lands
17 within the Columbia Basin project, the water supply utility obtaining
18 from the Columbia Basin project the largest quantity of water for the
19 WRIA. To apply for a grant for organizing the planning unit as

1 provided for under RCW 90.82.040(2)(a), these entities shall designate
2 the entity that will serve as the lead agency for the planning effort
3 and indicate how the planning unit will be staffed. For purposes of
4 this chapter, WRIA 40 must be divided so that the portion of the WRIA
5 located entirely within Chelan county is WRIA 40a and the remaining
6 portion is WRIA 40b. Planning may be conducted separately for WRIA 40a
7 and 40b. WRIA 40a is eligible for one-half of the funding available
8 for a single WRIA, and WRIA 40b is eligible for one-half of the funding
9 available for a multi-WRIA area.

10 (3) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for a
11 multi-WRIA area only with the concurrence of: (a) All counties within
12 the multi-WRIA area; (b) the largest city or town in each WRIA unless
13 the WRIA does not contain a city or town; and (c) the water supply
14 utility obtaining the largest quantity of water in each WRIA.

15 (4) If entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section decide
16 jointly and unanimously to proceed, they shall invite all tribes with
17 reservation lands within the management area.

18 (5) The entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section,
19 including the tribes if they affirmatively accept the invitation,
20 constitute the initiating governments for the purposes of this section.

21 (6) The organizing grant shall be used to organize the planning
22 unit and to determine the scope of the planning to be conducted. In
23 determining the scope of the planning activities, consideration shall
24 be given to all existing plans and related planning activities. The
25 scope of planning must include water quantity elements as provided in
26 RCW 90.82.070, and may include water quality elements as contained in
27 RCW 90.82.090, habitat elements as contained in RCW 90.82.100, and
28 instream flow elements as contained in RCW 90.82.080. The initiating
29 governments shall work with state government, other local governments
30 within the management area, and affected tribal governments, in
31 developing a planning process. The initiating governments may hold
32 public meetings as deemed necessary to develop a proposed scope of work
33 and a proposed composition of the planning unit. In developing a
34 proposed composition of the planning unit, the initiating governments
35 shall provide for representation of a wide range of water resource
36 interests.

37 (7) Each state agency with regulatory or other interests in the
38 WRIA or multi-WRIA area to be planned shall assist the local citizens

1 in the planning effort to the greatest extent practicable, recognizing
2 any fiscal limitations. In providing such technical assistance and to
3 facilitate representation on the planning unit, state agencies may
4 organize and agree upon their representation on the planning unit.
5 Such technical assistance must only be at the request of and to the
6 extent desired by the planning unit conducting such planning. The
7 number of state agency representatives on the planning unit shall be
8 determined by the initiating governments in consultation with the
9 governor's office.

10 (8) As used in this section, "lead agency" means the entity that
11 coordinates staff support of its own or of other local governments and
12 receives grants for developing a watershed plan.

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