

SENATE BILL 5113

Authorizing the application of barley straw to waters of the state

PROGRAM IMPACTS

This legislation allows the use of barley straw to clarify water without a state waste discharge permit. The bill lays out specific requirements for using barley straw.

Ecology's permit for Aquatic Plant and Algae Management covers the application of barley straw to state waters. Ecology issued the permit in March 2006. Since then, no one has applied to use barley straw. Barley straw works best in small, artificial ponds. If you treat an artificial water body five acres or under with no drainage during and for two weeks after treatment, you do not need permit coverage. So, most applications of barley straw are already exempt.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

Ecology staff answer questions about barley straw as needed now. Since we do not have any current permits, the workload will likely not change.

WORK PLAN

Ecology will inform interested applicators about the state law. Ecology will update our website to clarify that permits are not needed.

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