

**Water Storage Task Force  
2000 Budget Proviso Language**

(27) \$150,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2001 is provided solely for creating the task force on water storage. The purpose of the task force is to examine the role of increased water storage in providing water supplies to meet the needs of fish, population growth, and economic development, and to enhance the protection of people's lives and their property and the protection of aquatic habitat through flood control facilities. For this purpose, increased storage may be in the form of surface storage including off-stream storage, underground storage, or the enlargement or enhancement of existing structures. The task force shall also examine means of providing funding for increased water storage.

The department of ecology shall provide staff support for the task force and the director of the department of ecology shall convene the first meeting of the task force not less than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

No member of the task force shall receive compensation, per diem, or reimbursement of expenses from the task force or the department of ecology for his or her activities as a member of the task force. However, each may receive such compensation, per diem, and/or reimbursement as is authorized by the entity he or she is employed by, is appointed from, or represents on the task force.

Following its examination, the task force shall report its recommendations to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2000.