



Rule Adoption Notice

Instream Resources Protection and Water Resources Program for the Stillaguamish River, Chapter 173-505 WAC

As a result of legislation passed in 2003 (ESSB 5766) Ecology is required to send out notification to businesses affected by rule adoptions. To comply with this law and to keep the regulated community better informed of Ecology rule adoptions, you are receiving this notification of a rule adoption.

For more information or technical assistance:

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Online visit:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/instream-flows/isfhtm.html

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Requirements of the rule

The rule will establish instream flows for 32 rivers or streams in the basin, reserve a limited amount of ground water for future domestic use, reserve a limited amount of water for stockwatering; establish maximum limits for withdrawals from nine water sources, close lakes and ponds to new diversions, except for domestic use, and close numerous rivers and streams to new uses unless the use qualifies under identified exceptions.

A rule is necessary to support the goals and implement the policies of chapter 90.54 and 90.22 RCW. The statute specifies that perennial rivers and streams of the state shall be retained with base flows necessary to provide for preservation of wildlife, fish, scenic, aesthetic and other environmental values, and navigational values. Lakes and ponds shall be retained substantially in their natural condition. Adequate and safe supplies of water shall be preserved and protected in potable condition to satisfy human domestic needs. In addition, the statute provides that the Department of Ecology shall be so guided in the implementation of chapter 90.22 RCW to retain sufficient minimum flows or levels in streams, lakes or other public waters to provide adequate waters in such water sources to satisfy stockwatering requirements for stock on riparian grazing lands.

Effective Date

Chapter 173-505 WAC, Instream Resources Protection and Water Resources Program for the Stillaguamish River becomes effective on September 26, 2005.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appeal under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For additional information about appealing this adoption please contact Jerry Thielen, Ecology's Regulatory Affairs Manager at (360) 407-7551 or by email jthi461@ecy.wa.gov.

If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact the Water Resources Program at (360) 407-6600. For persons with a speech or hearing impairment, call 711 for relay service or 800-833-6388 for TTY.

