

Chapter 173-527, Water Management Rule for the Lewis Basin, Chapter 173-528, Water Management Rule for the Salmon-Washougal Basin

The Department of Ecology adopted Water Resources Management Program for the Lewis Basin, Chapter 173-527 WAC and Water Resources Management Program for the Salmon-Washougal Basin, Chapter 173-528 WAC. The rule adoption also includes the repeal of Chapter 173-592 WAC, Reservation of Future Public Water Supply for Clark County. The rule adoption is effective January 19, 2009.

Summary of the rule adopted December 19, 2008

The purpose of the water management rules is to adopt recommendations in the Watershed Management Plan. The key provisions include:

- Setting instream flow levels in the watersheds to protect aquatic resources, including habitat for threatened and endangered salmonids;
- Closing sub-basins to future withdrawals;
- Designating “regional supply areas” for future water supply;
- Establishing limited reservations of water for future use; and
- Specifying conditions for accessing the water reserves to benefit instream resources and better manage limited supply.

Response to Comments

Ecology’s response to comments received during the public comment period is now available. Download a copy of the Concise Explanatory Statement at:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/instream-flows/lewis_salmon_washougal.html

WHY IT MATTERS MORE INFORMATION

The Department of Ecology is adopting the rules to:

- Set instream flows to protect fish habitat
- Reserve water for future uses

**The rule becomes effective
January 19, 2009**

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For more information:

Visit the website:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/instream-flows/lewis_salmon_washougal.html

Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Resources Program at 360-407-6600. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341

Whom does this rule affect?

This rulemaking will affect the following:

- Future land owners and developers;
- Well drillers
- Local and state agencies;
- Public and interested parties

When does the rule become effective?

The rule is effective **January 19, 2009**.

Other Information

To get updates on Ecology's rule-making activities, sign-up for the **WAC Track** e-mail list. Go to: www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed 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.