

History of Puget Sound Watersheds

Large logjams in rivers: habitat effects, reasons for removal, effects of removal on habitat in rivers & on surrounding lands

Natural functions of wetlands

Virgin river channels in lowland areas: habitat value; alterations, reasons for them, & impacts on salmon habitat and flooding

Early logging practices: general impacts of logging; method for transporting logs to mills & impacts on salmon habitat; impact of sawmills on salmon habitat

Skokomish River alterations & impacts on flooding

Differences of flood impacts between species of salmon & reasons

3 major rivers in the Snohomish Watershed

Impacts of cattle & farming

Ways that river are being restored in the Snohomish River Watershed & purposes

Urban & Suburban Habitat

Sources of contamination in urban streams.

Alterations that cause urban flooding

City actions to reduce urban stream flooding

Types & functions of sewage systems

Problems with sewage systems & government actions to correct them

Street Edge Alternatives: examples & rationales

Regulations on new construction and their purposes

Issaquah Highlands design practices & their purpose

Alteration of Lake Washington & Ship Canal & impacts on salmon

Managing the Watersheds

Motivation for & general requirements of the Growth Management Act

“Urban Growth Boundary” definition and purpose

General aspects of King County CAO regulations on rural land development, streams and wetlands, farms, grading & clearing

Forum Results

The Washington Farm Bureau recently filed a Property Fairness Initiative. A similar and more detailed bill was also introduced in Olympia in mid-January 2006. Together these are very similar to Measure 37 adopted in Oregon in 2004. Compose a “Letter to the Editor” stating your view on this initiative. Be sure to address the following points.

- a) What would governments be required to do
- b) Arguments espoused by the advocates of the initiative
- c) Arguments espoused by the opponents of the initiative
- d) Methods available to the county, besides imposing regulations, to implement habitat protection, and the advantages and disadvantages of each
- e) Your position on the initiative, your justification for your position, and your response to possible objections to your position