

## History of Legislative Amendments to WWRP (1990 – 2016)

| Year | Subject of Amendment(s)                        | Changes to Made to WWRP   | Bill No. & Session Law   |
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| 2016 | WWRP –Allocation, Eligibility, & Other Changes | <p>Recommendations made by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) in 2015 were incorporated into WWRP as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modified WWRP Account Structure:<br/>Riparian Protection Account (RPA) was moved from a separate account into a new category within the Habitat and Conservation Account (HCA).<br/>Forest Preservation Account (FPA) was renamed as the Farm &amp; Forest Account (FFA) dedicating 90% of funds to farmland preservation projects and 10% to forest land projects.</li> <li>• Shifted Allocation Among WWRP's Accounts:<br/>A new formula for distributing funds was established, providing 45% to HCA, 45% to Outdoor Recreation Account (ORA), and 10% to the FFA regardless of the amount of appropriation.</li> <li>• Shifted Allocation within the HCA<br/>With the addition of riparian habitat to the HCA, the percentage of funds for state lands restoration and enhancement increased, while the percentage of funding for the remaining previous categories decreased.</li> <li>• Modified WWRP Eligibility and Application Processes<br/>Nonprofit nature conservancies' eligibility within the HCA was expanded to include natural areas, critical habitat and urban wildlife categories. State Parks were made eligible to apply for restoration and enhancement funding within the HCA.<br/>Applicants must confer applications with appropriate local governments.</li> <li>• Modified Allowable Costs and Management Requirements Under the WWRP<br/>Noxious weed control was added to incidental costs paid from HCA grant for land acquisition.<br/>Certain projects must be accessible for recreation and outdoor education unless RCFB approved a limitation otherwise.<br/>Added that RCFB can waive a local match for projects that meet the needs of an underserved population or a community in need.</li> <li>• Included Definitions and Implementing Provisions<br/>Made changes to allocation under the WWRP effective for appropriations after July 1, 2016. Provided timeline for implementation of various provisions of the bill.<br/>Defined terms and modified existing definitions.</li> </ul> | <p><b>SSB 6227</b><br/><i>Ch. 149,</i><br/><i>Laws of 2016</i></p> |

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| 2015 | Capital Budget – RCO Review of WWRP  | <p>The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) was directed to review the WWRP, and prepare a final report to the Legislature by December 1, 2015 recommending statutory and policy changes. The RCO's review was directed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze the program design, including criteria, and information and coordination required for projects to proceed through the selection processes.</li> <li>• Evaluate the allocation categories and percentages to determine how WWRP balances statewide needs, including its effectiveness in assessing and serving the needs of smaller and traditionally underserved populations and communities with lower per-capita income levels.</li> <li>• Evaluate the ability of the public to access program - funded projects must be considered, as well as support for projects and landscapes with multiple values.</li> <li>• Examine how state agencies acquire or manage habitat land through the program, such as through gifts, mitigation, direct negotiation with landowners, from land trusts and other nongovernmental organizations, easements, and other pathways. Analyze both advantages and disadvantages of all approaches, including purchase and stewardship costs, timing of land availability compared to funding availability, and alternatives to state ownership, such as long-term management by non-state agencies and conservation without buying the land.</li> </ul> | <b>2ESHB 1115</b><br><i>Ch 3,</i><br><i>Laws of 2015</i>   |
| 2009 | WWRP Applicants – Procedures   | <p>Mitigation banking projects were removed from the statutory list of allowable uses of the Habitat Conservation Account and the Riparian Protection Account.</p> <p>Nonprofit nature conservancy organizations and associations were added to the list of eligible recipients of funding from the four WWRP accounts, and the Conservation Commission was added to eligible recipients of funding from the Riparian Protection Account and the Farmlands Preservation Account.</p> <p>The Recreation and Conservation Office was directed to evaluate and report on the advantages, disadvantages, and costs of various land preservation mechanisms including fee simple acquisitions, conservation easements, term conservation easements, and leases.</p>  | <b>SHB 1957</b><br><i>Ch 341,</i><br><i>Laws of 2009</i>   |
| 2009 | Mitigation banking   | <p>Mitigation banking project eligibility was removed from the Critical Habitat and Urban Wildlife Habitat categories of the Habitat Conservation Account.</p> <p>Mitigation banking project eligibility was removed from the Riparian Protection category of the Riparian Protection Account.</p>  | <b>SB 5348</b><br><i>Ch 16,</i><br><i>Laws of 2009</i>     |
| 2008 | Urban Forestry Partnerships – Pollution Prevention (Evergreen Communities Recognition Program) | <p>Evergreen Communities Recognition Program was created. Cities and counties were authorized to pursue recognition as an Evergreen Community. In addition, Evergreen Communities were entitled to a competitive advantage for certain state grant programs benefitting local governments. These programs include grants for public works projects, water pollution control facilities, water quality, habitat improvements, and aquatic lands enhancement.</p>   | <b>E2SHB 2844</b><br><i>Ch 299,</i><br><i>Laws of 2008</i> |
| 2007 | Puget Sound Partnership  | <p>Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) was created. Among other things, the PSP was directed to designate entities that consistently achieve outstanding progress in implementing the Action Agenda as Puget Sound Partners,</p>  | <b>ESSB 5372</b><br><i>Ch 341,</i>                         |

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|             |  | and work with other state agencies to create grant and loan preferences for those entities. The PSP was also directed to work with other state agencies to establish grant and loan program criteria prohibiting funding to projects and activities that conflict with the Action Agenda. In prioritizing project funding requests, agencies administering state grant and loan programs must consider whether a project is referenced in the Action Agenda and give preferences to Puget Sound Partners over other entities eligible to be designated as Partners.  | <i>Laws of 2007</i>                                       |
| <b>2007</b> | Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation – Recreation & Conservation Funding Board         | The Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) was renamed the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board. The Office of the Interagency Committee (OIC) was renamed the Recreation and Conservation Office. The name changes had no impact on the validity of any contracts, agreements, or any other documents.   | <b>HB 1813</b><br><i>Ch 241,</i><br><i>Laws of 2007</i>   |
| <b>2005</b> | Habitat Conservation Programs – Riparian Protection Account and Farmlands Preservation Account | <p>Two new funds were created for administration by the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC). The Riparian Protection Account was created to distribute funds for the acquisition or enhancement or restoration of riparian habitat. Riparian habitat was defined as land adjacent to water bodies, as well as submerged land and stream beds, which can provide habitat for fish and wildlife species. The Farmlands Preservation Account was created and funds were authorized to be used for the acquisition of farmlands, their enhancement or restoration, or both.</p> <p>Appropriations for a biennium of up to 40 million dollars or less were split equally between the Habitat Conservation Account and the Outdoor Recreation Account. The Riparian Protection Account and Farmlands Preservation Account receive a portion of any appropriations to the WWRP exceeding 40 million dollars. The IAC may use moneys appropriated to an account, that are not obligated to a specific project, to fund alternate projects from the same account in future biennia.</p> <p>Within the Habitat Conservation Account, allocations to the existing categories were increased and a new category was created for restoration and enhancement projects by state agencies, leaving no unallocated funds. Within the Outdoor Recreation Account, allocations to the existing categories were also increased and a new category was created for development and renovation projects on state lands, leaving no unallocated funds.</p> <p>Criteria for grants for habitat conservation and outdoor recreation were revised to include such considerations as consistency with land use, shoreline, watershed, and recovery plans, inclusion of noxious weed control management plans, and the statewide significance of critical habitat projects.</p> <p>The IAC was authorized to retain up to three percent of WWRP funds for administration and to accept private donations to WWRP accounts. Project lists to be prepared and submitted to Governor in even numbered years.</p> <p>Lands acquired by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) using funds from the Habitat Conservation Account were made subject to payments in lieu of property taxes and for weed control. Lands acquired by state agencies using funds from the Riparian Protection Account were also made subject to payments in lieu of property taxes and for weed control. The IAC, DNR, DFW, and counties were required, by December 1, 2005, to provide a report to the legislature regarding the impact of payments in lieu of local property taxes.</p> | <b>ESSB 5396</b><br><i>Ch 303,</i><br><i>Laws of 2005</i> |

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|             |   | State or local agencies were directed to review a proposed project application with the local government with jurisdiction over lands proposed for acquisition with WWRP grant funds.  |   |
|             |   | Moneys appropriated for purposes of riparian protection, critical habitat, and urban wildlife habitat were authorized to be used to fund mitigation banking projects. Such moneys were not, however, allowed to be used to supplant a state or local agency's obligation to provide mitigation.  |   |
|             |   | Habitat and recreation lands acquired using WWRP grant funds were prohibited from being converted to a use other than that for which funds were originally approved without the approval of the IAC.   |   |
| <b>2003</b> | Outdoor Recreation Account – Implementing State Parks & Outdoor Recreation Funding Task Force Recommendation for Temporary Reallocation | The WWRP's allocation for state parks was changed from 75 percent land acquisition and 25 percent park development to 50 percent for land acquisition and 50 percent for park development through June 30, 2009. Beginning July 1, 2009, the minimum amount that must be used for acquisition costs reverted to 75 percent.  | <b>SHB 1136</b><br><i>Ch 184,</i><br><i>Laws of 2003</i>  |
| <b>2001</b> | Capital Budget Programs Investing in the Environment – Implementing JLARC Recommendations   | <p>Recommendations of the joint legislative audit and review committee (JLARC) regarding capital budget programs investing in the environment were implemented as follows:</p> <p>The Office of Financial Management (OFM) was required to assist the Departments of Ecology, Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, the State Conservation Commission, Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and the Public Works Board within the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development in developing outcome focused performance measures for administering grant and loan programs related to natural resources or the environment. Performance measures must be used in determining grant eligibility, for program management, and performance assessment. The agencies were required to consult with grant or loan recipients and other interested parties and report to the OFM on implementation. The OFM was required to report to the natural resource and fiscal committees of the Legislature on the implementation of this section, along with any recommended changes to current law, by July 31, 2002.</p> <p>The OFM and the Salmon Recovery Office were directed to help these natural resource-related agencies develop recommendations for a monitoring program to measure outcome focused performance measures. The recommendations must be consistent with the framework and coordinated monitoring strategy developed by the monitoring oversight committee established in SSB 5637 (2001). SSB 5637 was enacted in 2001 to coordinate state agency monitoring activities with appropriate state, federal, local, and tribal government monitoring efforts.</p> <p>Several natural resource-related grant or loan programs were directed to require grant or loan applicants to incorporate a description of the environmental benefits of projects into their grant or loan applications, and these must be considered by the agency in the prioritization and selection process. The agencies were directed to coordinate their performance measure systems with other agencies to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p>Performance measure requirements were also applied to programs administered by the Department of Fish and Wildlife related to protecting or recovering fish stocks that are funded by the capital budget.</p> | <b>ESHB 1785</b><br><i>Ch 227,</i><br><i>Laws of 2001</i> |

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| <b>2000</b> | Natural Resources – Technical Corrections after Recodification                               | In 1999, the Legislature recodified many chapters from various titles into a new title - Title 79A. Internal cross-references in these recodified sections were not updated so that Title 79A contained many inaccurate cross-references. Technical corrections were made in 2000 to various provisions of Titles 76, 78, 79, and 79A RCW.  | <b>SHB 2399</b><br><i>Ch 11,</i><br><i>Laws of 2000</i>  |
| <b>1999</b> | Recodification   | WWRP's chapter of law was recodified from RCW 43.98A to RCW 79A.15.   | <b>SSB 5179</b><br><i>Ch 249,</i><br><i>Laws of 1999</i> |
| <b>1999</b> | Capital Budget for 1999-2001   | Remaining money from 1997-99 biennium was reappropriated and allocated to the program established in the 1997-99 Capital Budget, which had dedicated \$4 million of the Habitat Conservation Account to matching grants for riparian zone habitat protection projects that implement watershed plans.   | <b>SHB 1165</b><br><i>Ch 379,</i><br><i>Laws of 1999</i> |
| <b>1997</b> | Capital Budget for 1997-1999   | During 1997-99 biennium, Habitat Conservation Account moneys were authorized to be used for the administrative costs of implementing the pilot watershed plan implementation program and developing an inventory of public lands. Amounts remaining in the Habitat Conservation Account could be allocated for matching grants for riparian zone habitat protection projects that implement watershed plans. Riparian zone habitat protection projects could be approved where the local agency share was less than the amount to be awarded from the habitat conservation account. | <b>SSB 6063</b><br><i>Ch 235,</i><br><i>Laws of 1997</i> |
| <b>1990</b> | Wildlife Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands – Funding for Acquisition and Development | Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) was created in state law.   | <b>SSB 6412</b><br><i>Ch 14,</i><br><i>Laws of 1990</i>  |

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