



Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2860

Columbia River Basin – Water Supply

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ESSHB 2860 - Sections

- 1) Legislative Intent
- 2) Water Supply Development Account
- 3) Use of water supply created
- 4) Voluntary Regional Agreements
- 5) Water Supply Inventory and Demand Forecast
- 6) Water Resources Information System
- 7) Appropriations
- 8) Account Management
- 9) Authorization
- 10) Effective July 1, 2006
- 11) Funding required or act is null and void

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1) Legislative Intent

“... development of new water supplies that includes storage and conservation in order to meet the economic and community development needs of people and the instream flow needs of fish.”

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- 2) Water Supply Development Account funds may be used to:**
- Assess, plan, and develop new storage (2/3 of funds);
 - Improve or alter existing storage facilities;
 - Implement conservation projects; and
 - Any other actions providing access to new water supplies.

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- 2) **Water Supply Development Account funds shall not be used to:**
- Acquire or transfer water from one WRIA to another without legislative authority;
 - Construct a new storage facility **until** Ecology evaluates water use, quantity, and benefits and costs of uses, including short- and long-term economic, cultural, and environmental effects.

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3) Use of water supply created

- Two-thirds of active storage for out-of-stream uses
 - Alternatives to groundwater use in Odessa Subarea
 - Source for pending water right applications
 - Uninterruptible supply for interruptible water rights on the mainstem
 - New municipal, domestic, industrial, and irrigation water needs
- One-third of active storage for instream flows

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4) **Voluntary Regional Agreements**

- Provide new water for out-of-stream use
 - No negative impact on Columbia River instream flows
 - No negative impact on Snake River instream flows
 - Harmony with adopted watershed plans
- Expires June 30, 2012.

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- 5) **Columbia River Water Supply Inventory and Supply/Demand Forecast**
 - Ecology develop reports
 - Implemented conservation projects
 - Potential water supply and storage projects
 - Cost per acre-foot;
 - Benefit to instream needs;
 - Benefit to out-of-stream needs; and
 - Environmental and cultural impacts.
 - Both are due November 15, 2006

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6) Columbia River Mainstem Water Resources Information System

- Ecology compile information
 - Total aggregate quantity of water rights
 - Total aggregate volume of current water use (metering data)
- Ecology publish aggregate data no later than June 30, 2009

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7) Appropriations

- \$6,000,000
 - Off-mainstem storage feasibility studies
 - Impacts of changing operations at Potholes reservoir
 - Purchase and installation of water measuring devices

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7) Appropriations (continued)

- \$10,000,000
 - Storage development or storage enhancement projects
 - Surface water supply for Odessa Subarea within the Columbia Basin Federal Reclamation Project;
 - Enhance water supplies for the Walla Walla and Yakima Rivers; and
 - Investments resulting in water use efficiency.

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- 11) If specific authority to issue general obligation bonds of at least two hundred million dollars for the purposes of this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by June 30, 2006, in a bond authorization act, this act is null and void.