



# Legislative Update



## *Report on the Results of the 2021 Legislative Session*

Ron Shultz, WSCC Policy Director  
WSCC Informational Session – May 19, 2021

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

This was a long, 105-day session with the primary purpose to pass an operating and capital budget for the 2021-23 biennium.

Several important bills of interest to the Commission and districts passed this session.

Details of the bills are still being reviewed.

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## 2021-23 Operating Budget

Commission will receive full details tomorrow from Sarah.

Highlights of 2021-23 operating budget:

- Previous “Orca/Salmon” funding incorporated into base.
- New add of \$2m for CTA. Ongoing.
- New add \$3m for fire recovery funding. One time.
- Funding for Food Policy Forum work.
- Funding for soil health/SFF work through MTCA and Fed/other authority.

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## **Proposed Operating Budgets by Fiscal Year**

	<b><u>2019-21 Biennium</u></b>	<b><u>Governor Proposal</u></b>	<b><u>House Proposed</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Proposed</u></b>	<b><u>Compromise</u></b>
FY 2020 Operating – excluding provisos	7,275,000				
FY 2021 Operating – excluding provisos	7,384,000	7,187,000*	7,187,000**	7,242,000**	7,187,000**
FY 2022 Operating – excluding provisos		7,669,000	8,016,000	8,013,000	8,081,000
FY 2023 Operating – excluding provisos		7,647,000	7,995,000	8,033,000	8,083,000
Toxics Account		1,110,000	1,110,000	1,000,000	1,110,000

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Proposed Operating Details

	<u>WSCC Request</u>	<u>Governor Proposal</u>	<u>House Proposed</u>	<u>Senate Proposed</u>	<u>Compromise</u>
Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)	5,000,000	n/f	n/f	5,000,000	2,000,000
Food Policy Forum	600,000	458,000	458,000	340,000	340,000
Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)	8,462,000	8,410,000	8,448,000	8,450,000	8,450,000
Wildfire Recovery	n/r	n/r	3,000,000	n/f	3,000,000
Okanogan Water Bank	n/r	n/r	125,000	n/f	125,000
Meat & Poultry Inspection (if 5045 passes)	n/r	n/r	n/r	4,262,000	n/f
Pollinator Health (if 5253 passes)	n/r	n/r	n/r	27,000	27,000
Agency Savings	n/r	(204,000)	n/f	(204,000)	n/f
Temporary Layoffs and Other Savings	n/r	(229,000)	n/f	n/f	n/f
General Wage Increase Reduction	n/r	(156,000)	n/f	n/f	n/f

**NOTE:** n/r = not requested    n/f = not funded



# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## 2021-23 Capital Budget

### Highlights:

- Same level funding for NRI.
- Reduced funding for shellfish.
- Reduced funding for CREP.
- Reduced funding for irrigation efficiencies.
- Met RCPP needs.

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Proposed 2021-23 Capital Budget Proposals

	<u>Current 2019-2021 Appropriation</u>	<u>WSCC Request</u>	<u>Governor Proposal</u>	<u>House Proposal</u>	<u>Senate Proposal</u>	<u>Reapprop Actual</u>	<u>Compromise</u>
Natural Resource Investments (NRI)	4,000,000*	11,905,000	7,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000		4,000,000
Reappropriation 2019-21				2,367,000	2,367,000	2,111,756	2,367,000
CREP (Cost Share & TA)	3,700,000*	7,725,000	6,000,000	4,250,000	3,700,000		4,000,000
CREP Cost Share 2017-19 Reappropriation				1,553,000	1,553,000		1,553,000
CREP Cost Share 2019-21 Reappropriation				1,800,000	1,800,000	384,000	1,800,000
CREP Contract 2019-21 Reappropriation				629,000	529,000	516,973	629,000
CREP PIP Loan		100,000*	500,000	160,000	160,000		160,000
Reappropriation 2019-21				100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Reappropriation 2017-19				350,000	350,000	318,828	350,000

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Proposed 2021-23 Capital Budget Proposals

	<u>Current 2019-2021 Appropriation</u>	<u>WSCC Request</u>	<u>Governor Proposal</u>	<u>House Proposal</u>	<u>Senate Proposal</u>	<u>Reappropriation Actual</u>	<u>Compromise</u>
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)							
	6,249,000*	9,762,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	4,000,000		7,000,000
Reappropriation 2019-21				5,123,000	5,123,000	4,953,334	5,123,000
Reappropriation 2017-19				3,033,000	3,033,000	0	3,033,000
Shellfish	4,000,000**	4,000,000	4,000,000	3,500,000	4,000,000		3,500,000
Reappropriation 2019-21				1,970,000	1,970,000	1,540,205	1,970,000
Irrigation Efficiencies	4,000,000*	4,000,000	4,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000		2,000,000
Reappropriation 2019-21				3,880,000	3,880,000	3,880,000	3,880,000
Ranch and Farmland Preservation Projects – Reappropriation				4,662,000	4,662,000	4,671,473	4,662,000



# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Operating Budget:

### **By Issue:**

#### Long-Term Forest Health – HB 1168

Commerce	\$84,000
DNR	\$130,423,000

#### Environmental Justice Task Force Implementation – SB 5141

Ecology	\$1,506,000
PS Partnership	\$688,000
DNR	\$3,927,000
WSDA	\$144,000

#### Pollinator Health – SB 5253

Conservation Commission	\$27,000
WDFW	\$268,000
DNR	\$184,000
WSDA	\$102,000
WSU	\$445,000

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Operating Budget:

### **Summary of Other Agency Items:**

#### OFM

Study NEG in GMA	\$256,000
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#### Commerce:

Okanogan County Biochar Research	\$160,000
Growth Policy Framework Task Force	\$450,000
Guidance for Incorporating Climate Change into GMA	\$3,271,000

#### Ecology

Salmon Recovery Project Streamlining	\$262,000
Water Rights Adjudication Issues	\$1,250,000
Lake Vancouver Clean-up	\$150,000
Water Banking	\$40,000
Water Bank Pilot Grant Program	\$9,000,000
Water Bank Administration	\$1,000,000

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Operating Budget:

### RCO

Equity Review of RCO Programs	\$375,000
Orca Task Force Staffing	\$140,000

### WDFW

Wolf Conflict Mitigation Strategies	\$954,000
Evaluation of Forest Practices Adaptive Management	\$250,000
Restoration of Shrub Steppe Habitat	\$2,350,000
Cougar Local Government Assistance	\$100,000
Wolf Advisory Group Facilitation	\$260,000

### Puget Sound Partnership

Equity Action Plan Development	\$576,000
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# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Operating Budget:

### DNR

Urban and Community Forestry	\$2,689,000
Small Forest Landowner Office	\$2,000,000
Neighboring Landowner Stewardship Agreements	\$450,000

### WSDA

Equity in Farming	\$180,000
Wolf-Livestock Management Program and Collaborative	\$952,000
Willapa Bay Pest Management Plan and Coordination	\$1,400,000
Meat and Poultry Processing Small Farm Assist	\$336,000
Meat and Poultry Processing Grant Program	\$3,664,000

### WSU

Soil Health Initiative	\$2,076,000
Solar Energy Siting Least-Conflict Pilot Project	\$500,000

### EWU

Deep Lake Watershed Analysis	\$56,000
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# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Capital Budget:

### **Ecology**

Water Irrigation Efficiencies Program, reapprop	\$2,233,000
Chehalis Basin Strategy	\$70,000,000
Floodplains by Design	\$50,908,000
Streamflow Restoration Program	\$40,000,000
Columbia River Water Supply Development Program	\$45,000,000
Proviso – For Grant CD	\$400,000
Yakima River Basin Water Supply	\$42,000,000
Water Banking	\$5,000,000



# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Other Budget Items of Interest – Capital Budget:

### **RCO**

Washington Wildlife Recreation Grants	\$100,000,000
Farm and Forest Account—State	\$10,000,000
Thornton Ranch Agricultural Easement	\$917,000
Hoch Family Farm Agricultural Easement	\$505,000
Salmon Recovery Funding Board Programs	\$80,000,000
Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board	\$26,795,000
Coleman Creek Kittitas Co Conservation Dist	\$1,481,000
Cougar Creek Asotin Co Conservation Dist	\$485,000
Naneum Creek Kittitas Co Conservation Dist	\$844,000
Puget Sound Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program	\$15,708,000
Zangle Cove Bulkhead Removal Thurston Conservation District	\$79,000
Oyster Bay Shoreline Restoration Project Mason Conservation Dist	\$76,000
DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve Bulkhead Removal Pierce CD	\$95,000
Family Forest Fish Passage Program	\$5,957,000

### **WDFW**

Shrub steppe and Rangeland Cooperative Wildlife Fencing	\$1,500,000
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# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Bills of Interest Passing:

HB 1143 Walla Walla banked water to trust water. Gov signed April 21.

2SHB 1168 DNR long-term forest health and reduction of wildfire dangers.

E2SHB 1216 Concerning urban and community forestry. House concurred in Senate amendments.

E2SHB 1382 Streamlining the environmental permitting process for salmon recovery projects.

E2SSB 5126 Washington Climate Commitment Act.

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESULTS

## Bills of Interest Passing:

E2SSB 5141 Implementing the recommendations of the environmental justice task force.

ESB 5220 Concerning taxation of salmon recovery grants.

SSB 5230 Concerning agreements for allocation of ground water resulting from BOR projects.

2SSB 5253 Implementing the recommendations of the pollinator health task force.

SSB 5273 Concerning the replacement of shoreline armoring.

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REVIEW

## Next Steps:

- SCC staff will be analyzing the bills passed and signed and distributing the results to all conservation districts.
- SCC staff will identify new work coming from legislation passed and signed.
- Commission will make decisions on funding allocations.
- SCC staff will, beginning July 1, begin implementation of funding allocations.
- Now to September 2021, development of supplemental budget requests.
- Now to December 2021, identify and develop any legislative policy requests.
- Through the interim, engage with legislator to discuss SCC and CD work.
- Work with CDs on possible legislative tours and legislator outreach.

Questions?



# Thank you!

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Washington State  
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