



# Legislative Update – 2022 Legislative Session



Washington State  
**Conservation  
Commission**

WSSC Regular Meeting – December 2, 2021

Ron Shultz, SCC Policy Director

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- The Washington Legislature will begin their next session on Monday, January 10, 2022. This will be a short, 60-day session, ending March 11, 2022.
- Covid will still have impacts on the operation of the Legislature. The Senate recently approved a plan for a hybrid approach to session, with in-person floor action and remote committee days. The House may have a similar approach.
- Another key issue on the minds of legislators during session will be the new redistricting maps as well as the 2022 election.

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Anticipated key issues for the upcoming session include:

Governor's Salmon Plan – will include both budget and policy components.

Green Technical Service – legislation to establish technical assistance from the SCC to conservation districts to work with landowners on energy efficiency and green energy opportunities.

Conservation District Elections – Legislation from the Commission, as well as possible bills from legislators.

Supplemental Budget – Both operating and capital. The Commission has three supplemental budget proposals. The Governor's proposed supplemental budget is due to be released by December 17.

# WSCC DECISION PROCESS ON LEGISLATION

- Each year prior to session, the Commission reviews and approves the process to be used by Commission staff for taking a position on legislation during session.
- The proposed process begins with the review of introduced legislation by Commission staff.
- The Commission will once again convene a weekly legislative team meeting. These meetings include Commission staff, WACD staff and the WACD legislative liaison.

# WSCC DECISION PROCESS ON LEGISLATION

- During these weekly meetings, recently introduced bills are discussed and it's determined whether a position should be taken or just tracked.
- The team reviews the legislative committee meeting calendar for the following week to determine whether the Commission should testify on any bills being heard during the week.
- The WSCC executive director has the final decision on the position to take on a bill and whether to testify on a bill.

# WSSC DECISION PROCESS ON LEGISLATION

- The WSSC executive director will also have the authority to determine whether an issue in a bill is of such significance that it needs to be referred to the Commission's executive committee or the full Commission for discussion and position approval.
- Commission staff will communicate to the Commission on a weekly basis all positions on legislation, the status of all bills tracked, and issues of interest before the Legislature. This communication will be via the regular Friday Update.

# WSCC DECISION PROCESS ON LEGISLATION

- Commission staff recommends approval of this process.





# Thank you! Questions?

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