

6120

Sponsor(s): Senators Hargrove, Owen, Oke, Haugen, L. Smith, Erwin, Snyder and Winsley

Brief Description: Concerning fisheries enhancement.

**SB 6120 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Provides that all cooperative groups and regional fisheries enhancement groups shall have equal priority to the dispersement of fish eggs and fish fry.

Prohibits the diversion of fisheries enhancement funds.

Provides for three additional employees for the department of fish and wildlife.

Promotes Indian tribal salmon enhancement projects.

Directs the department to produce a bimonthly newsletter concerning enhancement techniques.

Requires a two-year study of all streams to determine if there are impediments to fish passage due to roads, railroads, boat passage, or other transportation construction.

Promotes use of department of transportation gravel sites for fish rearing purposes.

Provides for a program to educate the public concerning fish enhancement programs.

Promotes a public and private land beaver dam habitat program to increase rearing habitat for coho salmon.

Requires facilities closed by the state to be made available for operation by regional fisheries enhancement groups.

Exempts certain enhancement projects from shoreline management requirements.