

6731

Sponsor(s): Senators Spanel and Gardner

Brief Description: Creating a Lake Whatcom forest land management plan.

**SB 6731 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Requires the management plan to address at least the following topics: (1) Procedures for coordinating management activities with other major forest land owners in the watershed and involving watershed residents in management activities;

(2) establishing riparian management zones along all type five streams, as classified under chapter 5, Laws of 1999 sp. sess. The department shall manage lands within such zones to protect water quality and riparian habitat, and include restrictions upon timber harvest and yarding activities;

(3) harvest and road construction upon unstable slopes should be carefully regulated, including limiting new road construction on unstable slopes and providing windthrow buffers during harvest; and

(4) creating and implementing a sustainable yield model specific to the Lake Whatcom watershed that encompasses the revised management standards.

Requires the management plan to be completed and implementation initiated by June 30, 2001.