
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6431

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senate Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development (originally sponsored by Senators Honeyford, Hatfield, Delvin, Hobbs, Haugen, Schoesler, and Shin)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to harmonizing federal exemptions for agricultural
2 practices with state law; and adding a new section to chapter 90.48
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 90.48 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The discharge of dredge or fill material is not prohibited by or
8 otherwise subject to regulation under this chapter if the discharge of
9 dredge or fill material is:

10 (1) From normal farming, silviculture, or ranching activities such
11 as plowing, seeding, cultivating, minor drainage, harvesting for the
12 production of food, fiber, and forest products, or upland soil and
13 water conservation practices when conducted according to sound
14 agricultural practices;

15 (2) For the purposes of construction or maintenance of farm or farm
16 stock ponds or irrigation ditches, or the maintenance of drainage
17 ditches when conducted according to sound agricultural practices; or

18 (3) For the purpose of construction or maintenance of farm roads or
19 forest roads, or temporary roads for moving mining equipment, where

1 these roads are constructed and maintained in accordance with best
2 management practices to ensure that flow and circulation patterns and
3 chemical and biological characteristics of the navigable waters are not
4 impaired, that the reach of the navigable waters is not reduced, and
5 that any adverse effect on the aquatic environment will be otherwise
6 minimized.

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