

## Impact of Initiative 1631 on current natural resources programs

We are getting many questions about the potential impacts of Initiative 1631 on existing programs such as Floodplains by Design and programs for stormwater solution and forest health. As outlined in the text of the proposed initiative, the main impact of 1631 would be a new source of funding for existing programs that restore forests and water resources, and potential to develop new programs. Eventually the policy is structured to generate about \$1 billion a year in revenue. **25 percent of that, or \$250 million a year, would be dedicated to the Clean Water and Healthy Forests investments.** Another 5 percent would be dedicated to Healthy Communities investments. Allocation of funding within these categories would be a competitive process.

Clean Water and Healthy Forests, Section 5, starting page 16:

### Water

- **Restore and protect** estuaries, fisheries, and marine shoreline habitats, and prepare for sea level rise;
- Increase the ability to **remediate and adapt** to the impacts of ocean acidification;
- **Reduce flood risk** and restore natural floodplain ecological function;
- Increase the sustainable supply of water and **improve aquatic habitat**, including groundwater mapping and modeling; or
- **Improve infrastructure** treating stormwater from previously developed areas within an urban growth boundary designated under chapter 36.70A RCW, with a preference given to projects that use green stormwater infrastructure.

(Funding for projects in the Puget Sound basin must be consistent with Puget Sound Action Agenda)

### Forests

- Increase resilience to wildfire in the face of increased temperature and drought
- Improve forest health and reduce vulnerability to changes in hydrology, insect infestation, and other impacts of climate change.
- The Department of Natural Resources may consider supporting cross laminated timber and other mass timber technologies in support of this work.

Healthy Communities, Section 6, starting on page 19.

- Enhancing community preparedness and awareness before, during, and after wildfires;
- Developing and implementing resources to support fire suppression, prevention, and recovery for tribal communities impacted or potentially impacted by wildfires;
- Relocating communities on tribal lands that are impacted by flooding and sea level rise; and
- Developing and implementing education programs and teacher professional development opportunities at public schools to expand awareness of and increase preparedness for the environmental, social, and economic impacts of climate change and strategies to reduce pollution.

**Initiative 1631 full text:** [https://www.sos.wa.gov/assets/elections/initiatives/finaltext\\_1482.pdf](https://www.sos.wa.gov/assets/elections/initiatives/finaltext_1482.pdf)