

Department of Ecology

MAY 08 2019

Department of Ecology
Water Resources Program
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Water Resources Program

5 May 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept these comments on the rule making for Whatcom County in consequence of the Hirst Decision concerning water use/rights in the county.

I feel it is of prime importance that adequate and quality water for agriculture and salmon survival should not be sacrificed to favor rural development.

Water conservation to alleviate the water problem must be adequately addressed. Cities, including Bellingham, have successfully used a variety of incentives to effectively reduce water usage. These include water usage metering and rebate programs for the installation of efficient water fixtures. Besides reducing consumption, these methods can save money for users and producers in the long term.

Also please address the potential effects on water resources that we must expect from changes in the climate. Failure to do so is short-sighted.

Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.

Respectfully,



Lynne Pendleton
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Bellingham, WA 98225