

## wynden holman

May I suggest some other options ... I have lived/owned property bordering creeks for 30 years in Whatcom county ... Some may dismiss my comments as a joke but I am serious about protecting instream flows ....

Encourage land owners not to plant trees along rivers, streams, and ditches. Trees take a lot of water provide some canopy but in my experience dry up ditches and lower water levels.

Encourage development near wetlands. FILTERED run off from buildings recharge wetlands helping to keep streams flowing . Wetlands are natural filters.

Encourage drilling of 30ft wells. This brings water from below and helps bring water molecules to the surface through septic and irrigation. Thus helping saturate land, in turn helping to fill wetlands, streams and ditches when rain falls .

Decrease wetland buffers. Buffers encourage water not to make it to wetlands, rivers, and streams. Thus drying our natural filters.

Are county and state regulations hurting our instream flows? Without a doubt.