



Legislative Building
Olympia, WA 98504-0482

Washington State Senate

Phone: (360) 786-7550
FAX: (360) 786-1999

December 22, 2022

RE: Chapter 6 Sediment Control: Soil Stabilization and Sediment Capture (Structural)

We are writing to comment on the Nonpoint Source plan as well as the chapters of the so-called Voluntary Clean Water Guidance that have been presented. Above all, our concern is that the hundreds of pages written claim to be voluntary guidance and simple research regarding Best Management Practices (BMP)'s. By claiming to have the Best Management Practices, the Department precludes the possibility that farmers may be able to develop their own practices which may be superior for their particular soil type and topography. These documents represent overly broad recommendations that may be used to create overly restrictive regulations that threaten the rights of private property owners and threaten to take any functional or economic use of viable agricultural land.

The Department proposes that the best solution to sediment and erosion are sediment basins. This may not always be ideal. Did the Department take into account existing erosion control measures? Has the Department studied historical erosion control measures? What type of capital investment is required to create sediment basins and then conduct farming activities around the basin?

This chapter, like the Tillage Chapter has good examples and ideas. However, much like the tillage chapter, the capital investment needed to effectively implement the recommendations is great. There needs to be flexibility and understanding of actual costs in the context of general agriculture.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Warnick".

Sen. Judy Warnick, Minority Caucus Chair, 13th District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelly Short".

Sen. Shelly Short, Minority Floor Leader, 7th District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Schoesler".

Sen. Mark Schoesler, 9th District



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Ron E. Muzzall

Sen. Ron Muzzall, Ranking Member, Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources, and Parks Committee
10th District

Keith L. Wagoner

Sen. Keith Wagoner, 39th District