Fish Habitat Enhancement Streamlined Permitting

SSB 5381 Rule Making

Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects

- RCW 77.55.181 and WAC 220-660-050
- Streamlined permitting is available to qualifying projects
- Projects are limited in scale and must be approved by a party or sponsor as described in statute
- Results in issuance of an HPA permit and a waiver for all other local government permits
- The legislature made some tweaks to the program in 2021, triggering rule making for WAC 220-660-050 (Procedures)

SSB 5381

- Adds federally recognized tribes to the list of project approvers.
- Qualifies WSDOT fish passage barrier corrections as part of larger projects for streamlining (not only stand alone projects as previously stated)
- WSDOT may use APPS to apply for streamlining (previously could only use a JARPA form)
- Permit review period for WSDOT fish barrier removal projects is reduced from 45 days to 30 days
- Allows local governments to require permits and fees as necessary to meet National Flood Insurance Program regulations.

 Sections 2 and 3 from the bill concern the Shoreline Management Act and WSDOT fish barrier removal permitting.

Expedited Rule Timeline

