

WEEK OF MARCH 20, 2023



for the
Washington State
House of Representatives

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a coalition of over twenty-five leading environmental groups who lobby in Olympia on a regular basis and organize around a set of priority bills each legislative session. As in the past, we will be sending you this weekly "Hot List" to assist you in your efforts to promote this common agenda.

Please feel free to contact Clifford Traisman (Washington Conservation Action, previously known as Washington Environmental Council & Washington Conservation Voters) at clifford@ctassociates.org if you have any questions regarding our positions on any bills affecting the environment, not just those found on the Hot List each week. The Hot List can also be found [here](#). Thank you.

House Committee Action



SUPPORT

*House Committee on
Environment & Energy:*
Public Hearing,
Monday, 3/20. Possible
Executive Session

SB 5094: Adding a climate resiliency element to water system plans.

- This bill requires large water systems to plan for a range of climate change related impacts to drinking water supplies including loss of snow pack, drought, sea level rise, flooding, and failure of groundwater to recharge.
- This process will enable the state to become more resilient and will help identify capital projects necessary to protect our water supplies.



SUPPORT

*House Committee on
Environment & Energy:*
Public Hearing,
Monday, 3/20. Possible
Executive Session

SB 5104: Relating to surveying Puget Sound marine shoreline habitat.

- Will establish an on-going survey of Puget Sound Shorelines to ensure that we have the data to make informed decisions on the management and restoration of Puget Sound shorelines.
- This data will help in efforts to recover salmon and orcas now listed as threatened and endangered.



*House Committee on
Agriculture & Natural
Resources: Possible
Executive Session*

ESSB 5371: Protecting southern resident orcas from vessels.

- Establishes a 1,000-yard buffer around Southern Resident orcas to allow the whales to feed and navigate waters more freely – an important strategy to support orca recovery.



*House Committee on
Agriculture & Natural
Resources: Public
Hearing, Tuesday, 3/21.
Possible Executive
Session*

SB 5390: Authorizing DNR to enter into a Spotted Owl Safe Harbor Agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- This bill allows completion of a Voluntary Safe Harbor Agreement for private landowners to grow and maintain spotted owl habitat without concern for regulatory restrictions.
- This will incentivize an increase in older forests in key areas for spotted owls and other species while allowing landowners to meet their economic goals.

about the coalition

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty-five leading environmental groups in Washington state that influence policy at the state level. For over a decade, the Coalition has selected joint priority issues to work on during legislative session to help focus environmental community resources and best achieve our shared goals.

