LWVWA Climate, Natural Resources & Transportation Lobby Team

Outlook for 2022 and Beyond

And how you can participate

Martin Gibbins
LWVWA Climate & Natural Resources Lobby Team

• Who’s on the team.
• Brief outlook for addressing climate change in Washington State.
• Opportunities for action.
• Type questions in the Chat or raise your hand during Q&A at end

This will be a high-level overview.
The LWVWA Environment Team

- Climate Change and Energy  Marty Gibbins
- Forests  Sherri Dysart
- Rivers  Raelene Gold
- Transportation, Land use, Growth Management  Cynthia Stewart

With assistance from Phyllis Farrell and Ann Aagaard
https://www.lwvwa.org/2021Issues
Olympia, we have a problem...

**ALL TIME Record Heat Today, 6-29-21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>All Time Record</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandpoint</td>
<td>104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonners Ferry</td>
<td>105</td>
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<td>Winthrop</td>
<td>106</td>
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<td>Spokane</td>
<td>108</td>
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<td>Republic</td>
<td>108</td>
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<td>Coeur d’Alene</td>
<td>109</td>
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<td>Colville</td>
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<td>Wenatchee</td>
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<td>Pullman</td>
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<td>Ritzville</td>
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<td>Omak</td>
<td>114</td>
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<td>Ephrata</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewiston</td>
<td>117</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Tuesday Forecast Highs**

- Olympia: 106°F
- Seattle: 90°F
- Spokane: 100°F
- Coeur d’Alene: 109°F
- Sandpoint: 104°F
- Bonners Ferry: 105°F
- Winthrop: 106°F
- Republic: 108°F
- Spokane: 108°F
- Coeur d’Alene: 109°F
- Colville: 109°F
- Wenatchee: 110°F
- Pullman: 110°F
- Ritzville: 112°F
- Omak: 114°F
- Ephrata: 115°F
- Lewiston: 117°F
Tracking Washington’s Greenhouse Gases

(Paris Agreement line is Unofficial)

HB 2311 (2020)

https://ecology.wa.gov/Air-Climate/Climate-change/Greenhouse-gases/2018-Data
Tracking Washington’s Greenhouse Gases

(Paris Agreement & Legislative Progress are Unofficial)

Recent Legislative Progress (notional)
- Other GHG reduction policies
- Clean Energy Transformation Act
- Clean Fuel Standard
- Climate Commitment Act
- Remaining reductions needed

https://ecology.wa.gov/Air-Climate/Climate-change/Greenhouse-gases/2018-Data
Historical And Projected Gross Greenhouse Gas Emissions In Washington State – How We Will Reach the Goal

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress
Climate & Energy

• Take another run at Clean Buildings HB 1084 stalled in 2021
  – Break into perhaps 4 bills covering: performance standards for smaller buildings, increase incentives for electrification and reduce disincentives, focus on reducing natural gas.
• Attention expected on a standard for green hydrogen.
• Continued emphasis on climate equity in legislation and tracking (HEAL Act).
• Reduce plastic waste by improving packaging and enabling more effective recycling.
• Update GMA to improving climate response through comprehensive planning and close a loophole in rural development permitting.
• Refinements to the Climate Commitment Act (SB 5126).
• A Climate Assembly was held last fall and winter.
Bills for 2022

1. **State Salmon Strategy** update Governor and Treaty Tribes bold effort to save our salmon, focusing on endangered salmon runs, and riparian habitat restoration. Upholding tribal treaty rights to salmon.

2. **Saving Salmon, Saving Orcas** focus on Puget Sound shoreline survey and restoration for forage fish, prey for chinook salmon, prey for southern resident orcas.
Other Issues:
3. Columbia River Treaty
Ongoing Negotiations with Canada
• Update on 1964 Treaty that creating 3 storage dams in CA. Canada managed to maximize hydropower production and for flood risk.
• Modernized treaty includes goal of ecosystem function to preserve flows and habitat best for salmon.
4. **Lower Snake River Dam Removal** -
   - Best action to increase Chinook salmon. Support by NW Tribes.
   - Idaho’s Rep. Mike Simpson’ Initiative spurred Governor Inslee and Senator Murray to work on a plan equitable to all interests, due July, 2022.
   - Hydropower, barging, wheat growers, and Ports of Clarkston and Lewiston affected.
5. **Yakima River Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP)** - cooperated effort of irrigators and Yakama tribe to provide water storage and fish passage. Request for funding.

6. **Chehalis River Strategy** - to address flooding in basin and preserve salmon and steelhead in river. Request for funding.
WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress
Sherri Dysart – Forests

• Carbon Sequestration & Biodiversity (Pro-forestation)
• "Keep Washington Evergreen" Initiative
WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress
Pro-forestation

- Forested land in the western United States classified into priority for preservation to mitigate climate change.
- Priority based on the co-occurrence of low vulnerability to drought and fire plus low, medium, and high potential carbon sequestration.

Carbon sequestration and biodiversity co-benefits of preserving forests in the western United States
WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Forests

“Keep Washington Evergreen”: Restore, Conserve, Reforest

Initiated by Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz

Goals:
– Restore: 1 million acres of forest health restored
– Conserve: 1 million acres of working forest conserved
– Reforest: 1 million acres reforested by 2040

Funding Asks:
– Operating $1M analyses to identify and prioritize our most critical and threatened working forests and urban tree canopy
– Capital $25M purchase critical forested lands at risk of permanent conversion
Washington State Supreme Court Case
Conservation NW, et al. v. Commissioner of Public Lands et al., No.; 99183-9

- Oral arguments: held October 21, 2021; can be viewed on TVW
- Asks the Court to interpret WA State Constitution, Article 16, Section 1, as providing that “all the public lands granted to the state are held in trust for all the people.”
- That means “Manage for a diversity of values beyond maximizing economic return”

Simply by existing, our forests combat climate change, prevent landslides and floods, nurture thousands of different animal species many of which are endangered, and much more . . . . By logging our forests, we systematically remove all these benefits and turn them into cash. . . . Forests do things nothing else can, for Washington state citizens, Washington state animals, and the world at large. They are irreplacedable - money is not.

--Climate Action Families Youth Member Joey J.
• Last state transportation package adopted in 2018

• Sen. Hobbs replacement will determine priorities for 2022

• Current funding allocations as shown
League is pushing for massive transit funding infusion

- Need shift in priorities
- Local transit agencies need help
- Federal infrastructure funding helpful
WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress
Cynthia Stewart - Growth Management Act (GMA)

- GMA adopted in 1990; now 31 years old
- Intention to preserve rural & resource lands
- Mandated categories for comprehensive plans:
  - Land Use
  - Housing
  - Capital Facilities Plan
  - Utilities
  - Transportation
  - Ports
- Optional (desired):
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Economic Development
  - Conservation
2022 Bills League supports:

- SB 5042 to fix Loophole in preserving rural & resource lands (vesting currently allowed)
- HB 1099 to mandate climate mitigation plans
- Funding to support HB 1220, 2021 requirement for housing plans
Our Climate Radar
December 2021
A Monthly Newsletter of the Washington LWV Environment Affinity Group: Presentations, Activities and Information

This newsletter is intended for communication within an affinity group and is not an official newsletter of the LWVWA.
Anita Rose, Editor, LWVKitsap ineedarose2@gmail.com
Please contact Martin Gibbins mgibbins@lwwa.org if you would like to subscribe.

Seasons Greetings League Environmentalists!

As you well know, a busy season is suddenly here with holidays, families and friends descending upon us to add to our already bursting schedules. Here are some more terrific activities and webinars for you.

LOOK WHAT IS NEW!
Check out the LWV Kitsap Climate Solutions Blog featuring upcoming online events nationally as well as with the LWV Kitsap unit plus tons of climate reading materials to keep you up to https://lwvkitsapclimate.blogspot.com/
Volunteer Opportunities

• **Survey the legislative session**: search in Leg.WA.gov for bills of significance to environmental concerns and perform a preliminary evaluation for bills of interest.

• **Legislative bill evaluation** – read bill text and related documentation and summarize in terms of LWVWA and LWVUS policy positions; recommend for or against position. Monitor progress through the legislative process. **This is a fast-paced activity.**
  
  – **Solid waste and recycling in WA** – Reducing solid waste is a frequent issue in legislative bills. Research what is effective in recycling and what is not.
  
  – **Water supply and purity** – Climate change is disrupting the historic water cycle in the state (precipitation and snowpack seasons) and putting pressure on agriculture, drinking water, and wildlife.
  
  – **Climate progress analysis** – Track the projections of climate bills to reduce the state’s greenhouse gas releases. Assess the state’s goals against the Paris Agreement and COPP.
  
  – **Regulations** – Follow the regulation creation process for enacted environmental bills.
Volunteer Opportunities

• Issue research
  – Electrical Energy Storage – Clean electrical sources will depend on electrical energy storage.
  – Electric Vehicle use fee – Investigate the proposed options for replacing the gas tax with a use fee to cover electric vehicles, hydrogen vehicles, and plug-in hybrid vehicles.
  – Fact checking – positions of some other organizations can seem extreme and may use dubious facts. Determine what is true and what is false.

• Contribute to the Environment Newsletter
• Monitor your local transit funding and advocate for more.
• What would you like to do?
Discussion

• Questions
• Clarifications
• Discussion
• What do you need from the Lobby Team?
Up Next! 25 Minute Lunch Break, Followed by More Issue Breakout Sessions

12:25 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Pick one of the following breakout sessions to attend. You can find links to each session in your email from this morning and at lwvwa.org/Action-Workshop-2021/

1. Democracy Issues (including Money in Politics)
2. Public Bank
3. Revenue

All breakout sessions will be recorded and posted to the Action Workshop webpage listed above.