

CHAPTER 81.

[Engrossed House Bill No. 140.]

PUBLIC WATERS—MINIMUM FLOW OR LEVEL.

AN ACT relating to water resources; and adding a new section to chapter 8, Laws of 1965 and to chapter 43.21 RCW.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

New section.

Section 1. There is added to chapter 8, Laws of 1965 and to chapter 43.21 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Public waters  
—Minimum  
stream flow.

The director of conservation shall, upon request by and after consultation with the director of fisheries or the director of game, establish by appropriate rules and regulations, minimum water flows or levels for stream areas, lakes or other public waters to protect and enhance, for public benefit, fish and wildlife resources inhabiting or utilizing said public waters. Evidence to substantiate the need for such regulation shall accompany the request by the director of fisheries or the director of game.

The provisions of this section shall in no way affect existing water rights, storage rights, and the use thereof, incident to the operation of any hydroelectric or water storage reservoir plant or related facilities.

Passed the House February 14, 1967.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1967.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1967.