

PURPOSE

1

To declare a state policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between humankind and the environment

2

To promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere

3

To stimulate the health and welfare of human beings

4

To enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the state and nation

In order to carry out the policy set forth in this chapter, it is the continuing responsibility of the state of Washington and all agencies of the state to use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of state policy, to improve and coordinate plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the state and its citizens may:

- a** Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- b** Assure for all people of Washington safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- c** Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
- d** Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage;
- e** Maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
- f** Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
- g** Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.