RCW 90.44.040  Public groundwaters subject to appropriation.
Subject to existing rights, all natural groundwaters of the state as
defined in RCW 90.44.035, also all artificial groundwaters that have
been abandoned or forfeited, are hereby declared to be public
groundwaters and to belong to the public and to be subject to
appropriation for beneficial use under the terms of this chapter and
not otherwise.  [1945 c 263 s 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 s 7400-4.]