

**PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

**AGENDA TITLE:** Public Hearing on Shoreline Master Program Packet  
**DEPARTMENT:** Planning & Community Development  
**PRESENTED BY:** Rachael Markle, AICP, Director  
Miranda Redinger, Project Manager

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Study Session | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation Only |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion                | <input type="checkbox"/> Update        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other               |

**INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND**

Following direction given at the November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Planning Commission meeting, staff assembled the "Shoreline Master Program (SMP) packet", and scheduled a public hearing for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Due to weather conditions, that hearing was rescheduled for tonight.

The packet consists of:

- Regulations, including definitions and administrative procedures;
- Inventory and Characterization Report;
- Cumulative Impacts Assessment;
- Critical Areas Ordinance;
- Environment Designations map; and
- Map folio

**DISCUSSION**

Based on Planning Commission direction from the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff made several revisions to the regulations that appeared in the previous packet, including:

- Changing marinas from a permitted use in the Point Wells Urban environment designation to prohibited.
- Simplifying Table 20.230.082 to remove bulk requirements that will be determined by underlying zoning.
- Conducting a word search to ensure consistency for "community" vs. "joint-use" dock and "Director" vs. "Shoreline Administrator".
- Adding additional standards to Section 20.230.170 Piers and Docks, and reducing 8 foot width maximum to 6 feet.
- Adding Section 20.230.175 Pier and Dock Repair, Replacement, or Expansion.

Based on comments from the public and feedback from ESA Adolfson regarding changes necessary to enable them to conclude that our SMP can meet the "no net loss" standard required for approval from the Department of Ecology, staff made additional

Approved By:

Project Manager 

Planning Director 

changes to the regulations since the last packet was sent out. These were sent to Plancom on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. A few additional changes were made since then based on conversations with ESA Adolfson, and all are highlighted and explained in Attachment F.

## **NEXT STEPS**

*How will the SMP be implemented?*

Once the City Council has adopted the SMP packet, it will be forwarded to Ecology for final review. If they approve it without amendments extensive enough to trigger additional local review, it will become effective upon Ecology approval.

Some of the policies will be used to update the Shoreline Master Program element of the Comprehensive Plan, and will therefore be reviewed again by the Commission as part of that update process. The regulations will become part of the Development Code, and to maintain consistency, some definitions in Chapter 20.20 will be changed to match those in the SMP. These are included as Attachment C, and the ordinance that will adopt the SMP will include a reference to these definitions, so the Planning Commission recommendation to Council should also include them.

If you have questions or comments prior to the meeting, please contact Miranda Redinger at (206) 801-2513 or by email at [mredinger@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:mredinger@shorelinewa.gov).

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A- Shoreline Master Program packet

Attachment B- Comment letters from Dick Kink, Woody Hertzog, Richmond Beach Preservation Association, and Karen Walter

Attachment C- Chapter 20.20 Development Code Revisions based on SMP- Definitions

Attachment D- SEPA DNS

Attachment E- Public Hearing Notice

Attachment F- Regulations with highlighted changes



## SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM



**Adopted by City Council on \_\_\_\_\_**  
***Submitted for Review and Approval to the***  
***Washington Department of Ecology on \_\_\_\_\_***  
**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TITLE 20 OF THE**  
**CITY OF SHORELINE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE**  
***DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY GRANT #G0800171***

## **Acknowledgements**

### ***Shoreline City Council***

Keith McGlashan, Mayor

Will Hall, Deputy Mayor

Chris Eggen

Doris McConnell

Christopher Roberts

Terry Scott \*

Shari Winstead

*\* Term ended prior to City Council recommendation.*

### ***Shoreline Planning Commission***

Michelle Linders Wagner, Chair

Ben Perkowski, Vice Chair

Janne Kaje

Donna Moss

Cynthia Esselman

John Behrens

Michael Broili



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**20.200 Shoreline Master Plan****20.200.010 Title**

This chapter shall be known as the City’s Shoreline Master Program, hereafter referred to as the Master Program.

**20.200.020 Authority**

The Master Program is adopted in accordance with the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58 RCW) and the state shoreline guidelines (Chapter 173-26 WAC).

Where these regulations require that public access be provided, the requirement shall be construed to be limited to the extent of the lawful and constitutional authority of the City to require public access or to require the easement, fee ownership or interest requested.

**Subchapter 1. Goals and Objectives****20.200.030 Purpose**

The purpose of this Master Program is to:

- Promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community;
- Manage shorelines in a positive, effective, and equitable manner;
- Achieve no net loss to the ecological functions of the City’s shorelines;
- Assume and carry out the responsibilities established by the Shoreline Management Act (SMA);
- Adopt and foster the policies contained in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.58, the State Shoreline Management Act, for shorelines of the State; and
- Assure that proposed regulatory or administrative actions do not unconstitutionally infringe upon private property rights.

**20.200.040 Shoreline Elements**

The following elements have been considered in the preparation of this Master Program for the City of Shoreline. The goals and objectives established for these elements provide the basis for policies and regulations included under the general use requirements of this Master Program.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT**

**Goal** Provide for economically productive uses that are particularly dependent on their shoreline location or use.

**Objective** Plan for economic activity that is water-dependent, water-related, or that provides an opportunity for a substantial number of people to enjoy the shoreline and water.

**PUBLIC ACCESS ELEMENT**

**Goal** Increase public access to publicly-owned areas of the shoreline.

**Objective** Provide for public access to publicly owned shoreline areas, except where deemed inappropriate due to safety hazards, inherent security problems, environmental impacts, or conflicts with adjacent uses.

**RECREATIONAL ELEMENT**

**Goal** Develop public and private recreation opportunities that are compatible with adjacent uses and that protect the shoreline environments.

**Objective** Provide for the preservation and enlargement of public and private recreational opportunities and recreational facilities along the shoreline, including but not limited to, parks and recreational areas, wherever appropriate.

**CIRCULATION ELEMENT**

**Goal** Provide inter-connected, efficient, and safe transportation networks to and around the shoreline to accommodate vehicles, transit, pedestrians, and cyclists.

**Objective** Provide for a safe and adequate circulation system, including existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities within the shoreline jurisdiction that benefit permitted uses without degrading the environment or aesthetic values of the area.

**SHORELINE USE ELEMENT**

**Goal** Regulate land use patterns to locate activity and development in areas of the shoreline that will be compatible with adjacent uses and will be sensitive to existing shoreline environments, habitat, and ecological systems.

**Objective** Include protections for the natural environment and adjacent uses in the Shoreline Development Code, Point Wells Subarea Plan, Saltwater Park master planning efforts, and other regulatory framework for development along the shoreline.

**CONSERVATION ELEMENT**

**Goal** Conserve and protect the natural resources of the shoreline including, but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection.

**Objective** Through the use of best available science, develop and implement siting criteria, design standards, and best management practices that promote the long term enhancement of unique shoreline features, natural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat.

**HISTORICAL/CULTURAL ELEMENT**

**Goal** Identify, preserve, protect, and restore shoreline areas, buildings, and sites having historical, cultural, educational, or scientific values.

**Objective** Educate citizens on historical, cultural, and scientific significance of shoreline structures, amenities, and functions.

**FLOOD HAZARD MANAGEMENT**

**Goal** Protect the City of Shoreline and other property owners from losses and damage created by flooding along the coast and sea-level rise.

**Objective** Seek regional solutions to flooding problems through coordinated planning with state and federal agencies, other appropriate interests, and the public.

**Objective** Develop a plan to mitigate and adapt to potentially altered environmental conditions along the coastline resulting from climate change.

### **RESTORATION ELEMENT**

**Goal** Improve water quality, reduce the impacts of flooding events; and restore natural areas, vegetation, and habitat functions.

**Objective** Seek funding for restoration projects within the shoreline jurisdiction and require development proposals to address habitat restoration and water quality.

**Objective** Engage in discussions with other municipalities that border the Puget Sound and BNSF railroad regarding efforts to benefit fish passage and nutrient transfer.



## Subchapter 2. General Provisions

### 20.200.050 Purpose

This chapter defines requirements for implementation of the Master Program and sets an orderly process for project review and permitting. The development regulations in the Master Program are intended to make shoreline development responsive to specific design needs and opportunities along the City's shorelines, and to protect the public's interest in the shorelines' recreational and aesthetic values.

### 20.200.060 Administrator

The Planning and Community Development Director or designee is the Shoreline Administrator, herein after known as the Director, and is vested with authority to:

- Administer the Master Program;
- Approve, approve with conditions, or deny Shoreline Substantial Development Permits;
- Grant exemptions from Shoreline Substantial Development Permits;
- Determine compliance with RCW43.21C, the State Environmental Policy Act; and
- Adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

The Director's duties and responsibilities include:

- Making administrative decisions and interpretations of the policies and regulations of this program and the Shoreline Management Act;
- Developing and proposing amendments to this Master Program to more effectively and equitably achieve its goals and policies;
- Seeking remedies for violations of this Master Program, the provisions of the Shoreline Management Act, or the conditions of Substantial Development Permits issued by the City; and
- Forwarding shoreline permits to Washington State Department of Ecology for Ecology action.

### 20.200.070 Applicability

- A. The regulations of this Title apply to all shorelines of Statewide Significance and their associated wetlands within the City and to the waters and underlying land of the Puget Sound extending to the middle of Puget Sound adjacent to Kitsap County, between the northern and southern limits of the City and 200 feet landward of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).
- B. These standards provide a preference for permit issuance for measures to protect single family residences occupied prior to January 1, 1992. Nothing in this Master Program shall constitute authority for requiring or ordering the removal of any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed in navigable waters prior to December 4, 1969, and the consent and authorization of the state of Washington to the impairment of public rights of navigation, and corollary rights incidental thereto, caused by the retention and maintenance of said structures, improvements, docks, fills or developments are hereby granted: PROVIDED, That the consent herein given shall not relate to any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed on tidelands, shorelands, or beds underlying said waters which are in trespass or in violation of state statutes.

- C. Regulation of private property to implement Program goals such as public access and protection of ecological functions and processes must be consistent with all relevant constitutional and other legal limitations. These include, but are not limited to civil rights guaranteed by the U.S. and State constitutions, recent federal and state case law, and state statutes, such as RCW 34.05.328, 43.21C.060, and 82.02.
- D. All proposed uses and development, as defined in this chapter, occurring within the shoreline jurisdiction shall comply with this Master Program and RCW 90.58.
- E. Uses and development regulated by this Program are subject to applicable provisions of the SMC, the Comprehensive Plan, the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58), Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70), Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C and WAC 197-11), and other local, state and federal laws. Project proponents are responsible for complying with all applicable laws prior to commencing any use, development, or activity.
- F. The Master Program policies and regulations shall apply in addition to other city regulations. Where the regulations of the Master Program conflict with other regulations, the regulations that provide more shoreland and shoreline protection shall apply.
- G. Non-conforming uses and improvements within the shoreline jurisdiction shall be subject to this Program and SMC 20.220.150.
- H. The City's Critical Areas Ordinance SMC 20.80, which was passed on February 27, 2006 by Ordinance No. 398, is adopted as a part of the Master Program. The provisions of SMC 20.80 shall apply to any use, alteration or development within the shoreline jurisdiction whether or not a shoreline permit or written statement of exemption is required.
- I. Uses and developments within the shoreline jurisdiction that meet the Reasonable Use Exception provisions of SMC 20.30.336 require a Shoreline Variance in accordance with this chapter.
- J. The exemptions and partial exemptions listed in sections SMC 20.80.030 and 20.80.040 shall not apply within the shoreline jurisdiction. Such activities may require a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit unless the Master Program and RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) specifically indicates the activity is exempt from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirements.

#### **20.200.080 Master Program Review and Update**

This Master Program shall be periodically reviewed as necessary to reflect changing local circumstances, new information or improved data, and changes in State statutes and regulations.

#### **20.200.090 Amendments to Master Program**

Any of the provisions of this Master Program may be amended as provided for in RCW 90.58.120 and .200 and Chapter 173.26 WAC. Amendments to the Master Program do not become effective until approved by the Department of Ecology.

Proposals for shoreline environment redesignation, for example amendments to the shoreline maps and descriptions, must demonstrate consistency with the criteria set forth in WAC 173-16-040 (4).

## Subchapter 3. Definitions

**20.210.010 Definitions**

The Master Program shall be implemented according to the definitions contained in SMC chapter 20.20, RCW 90.58, and WAC 173-26-020. Where definitions contained in SMC chapter 20.20 conflict or differ from definitions contained in the Shoreline Management Act the definitions in the RCW and WAC shall prevail.

**Accretion.** May be either natural or artificial. Natural accretion is the buildup of land, solely by the action of the forces of nature, on a beach by deposition of water- or airborne material. Artificial accretion is a similar buildup of land by reason of an act of man, such as the accretion formed by a groin, breakwater, or beach fill deposited by mechanical means.

**Activity.** An occurrence associated with a use; the use of energy toward a specific action or pursuit. Examples of shoreline activities include, but are not limited to, fishing, swimming, boating, dredging, fish spawning, or wildlife nesting.

**Adjacent Lands.** Lands adjacent to the lands within the shoreline jurisdiction. The SMA directs local governments to develop land use controls (i.e., zoning, comprehensive planning) for such lands consistent with the policies of the SMA, related rules and the local shoreline master program (Refer to RCW 90.58.340).

**Agricultural Uses.** (a) "Agricultural activities" means agricultural uses and practices including, but not limited to: Producing, breeding, or increasing agricultural products; rotating and changing agricultural crops; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie fallow in which it is plowed and tilled but left unseeded; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant as a result of adverse agricultural market conditions; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant because the land is enrolled in a local, state, or federal conservation program, or the land is subject to a conservation easement; conducting agricultural operations; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural equipment; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural facilities, provided that the replacement facility is no closer to the shoreline than the original facility; and maintaining agricultural lands under production or cultivation; (b) "**Agricultural products**" includes but is not limited to horticultural, viticultural, floricultural, vegetable, fruit, berry, grain, hops, hay, straw, turf, sod, seed, and apiary products; feed or forage for livestock; Christmas trees; hybrid cottonwood and similar hardwood trees grown as crops and harvested within twenty years of planting; and livestock including both the animals themselves and animal products including but not limited to meat, upland finfish, poultry and poultry products, and dairy products; (c) "**Agricultural equipment**" and "**agricultural facilities**" includes, but is not limited to: (i) The following used in agricultural operations: Equipment; machinery; constructed shelters, buildings, and ponds; fences; upland finfish rearing facilities; water diversion, withdrawal, conveyance, and use equipment and facilities including but not limited to pumps, pipes, tapes, canals, ditches, and drains; (ii) corridors and facilities for transporting personnel, livestock, and equipment to, from, and within agricultural lands; (iii) farm residences and associated equipment, lands, and facilities; and (iv) roadside stands and on-farm markets for marketing fruit or vegetables; and (d) "**Agricultural land**" means those specific land areas on which agriculture activities are conducted as of the date of adoption of a

local master program pursuant to these guidelines as evidenced by aerial photography or other documentation. After the effective date of the master program land converted to agricultural use is subject to compliance with the requirements of the master program.

**Anadromous fish.** Fish born in fresh water, which spend most of their lives in the sea and return to fresh water to spawn. Salmon, smelt, shad, striped bass, and sturgeon are common examples.

**Associated Wetlands.** Those wetlands that are in proximity to and either influence, or are influenced by tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the Shoreline Management Act. Refer to WAC 173-22-030(1).

**Aquaculture.** The farming or culture of food fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants or animals in freshwater or saltwater areas, and may include development such as structures or rafts, as well as use of natural spawning and rearing areas. Aquaculture does not include the harvest of wildstock geoducks on state-owned lands. Wildstock geoduck harvest is a fishery.

**Aquaculture Activity.** Actions directly pertaining to growing, handling, or harvesting of aquaculture produce including, but not limited to propagation, stocking, feeding, disease treatment, waste disposal, water use, development of habitat and structures. Excluded from this definition are related upland commercial or industrial uses such as wholesale and retail sales, sorting, staging, hatcheries, tank farms, and final processing and freezing.

**Backfill.** The placement of earth material or other approved material behind a retaining wall or structure.

**Boat Launch or Ramp.** Graded slopes, slabs, pads, planks, or rails used for launching boats by means of a trailer, hand, or mechanical device.

**Breakwaters.** Structures constructed on coasts as part of coastal defense to protect an anchorage from the effects of weather and longshore drift.

**Building Setback.** The building setback shall be equal to the depth of the required native vegetation conservation area.

**Bulkheads.** A vertical or nearly vertical structure placed parallel to the shoreline at or near the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) for the purposing of armoring the shoreline and protecting structures from the effects of erosion caused by wind or waves. Bulkheads generally consist of concrete, timber, steel, rock, or other material resistant to erosion. Bulkheads are used to protect banks by retaining soil at the toe of the slope, or by protecting the toe of the bank from erosion and undercutting.

**Community Pier or Dock.** Moorage for pleasure craft and/or landing for water sports for use in common by shoreline 4 or more residential units of a certain subdivision or community within shoreline jurisdiction.

**Community Boat Launching Ramp.** An inclined slab, set of pads, rails, planks, or graded slope used for launching boats with trailers or by hand for use in common by shoreline residents of a certain subdivision or community within shoreline jurisdiction.

**Conditional Use, Shoreline.** A use, development, or substantial development that is classified as a conditional use or is not classified within the Master Program. Refer to WAC 173-27-030(4).

**Development, Shoreline.** Development means a use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any state of water level. RCW 90.58-030 3(d).

**Dredging.** The removal or displacement of earth such as gravel, sand, mud, or silt from lands covered by water. Lands covered by water include stream beds and wetlands. Dredging is normally done for specific purposes or uses such as maintaining navigation channels, constructing bridge footings, or laying submarine pipelines or cable.

**Dredge Spoil.** The material removed by dredging.

**Dredge Spoil Disposal.** The depositing of dredged materials on land or into water bodies for the purpose of either creating new or additional lands or for disposing of the material in an acceptable manner.

**Ecological Functions, Shoreline or Shoreline Functions.** The work performed or the role played by the physical, chemical, and biological processes that contribute to the maintenance of the aquatic and terrestrial environments that constitute the shoreline's natural ecosystem. See WAC 173-26-201(c).

**Enhancement.** Alteration of an existing resource to improve or increase its characteristics and processes without degrading other existing functions. Enhancements are to be distinguished from resource creation or restoration projects.

**Exemption.** Certain specific developments as listed in WAC 173-27-040 are exempt from the definition of substantial developments, and are therefore exempt from the Substantial Development Permit process of the SMA.

**Fair Market Value.** The open market bid price for conducting the work, using the equipment and facilities, and purchase of the goods, services and materials necessary to accomplish a development. This would normally equate to the cost of hiring a contractor to undertake the development from start to finish, including the cost of labor, materials, equipment and facility usage, transportation and contractor overhead and profit. The fair market value of the development shall include the fair market value of any donated, contributed or found labor, equipment, or materials.

**Feasible.** An action, such as a development project, mitigation, or preservation requirement, shall meet all of the following conditions: (a) The action can be accomplished with technologies and methods that have been used in the past in similar circumstances, or studies or tests have demonstrated in similar circumstances that such approaches are currently available and likely to achieve the intended results; (b) The action provides a reasonable likelihood of achieving its intended purpose; and (c) The action does not physically preclude achieving the project's primary intended legal use. In cases where these guidelines require certain actions unless they are infeasible, the burden of proving infeasibility is on the applicant. In determining an action's infeasibility, the reviewing agency may weigh the action's relative public costs and public benefits, considered in the short- and long-term time frames.

**Flood Control.** Any undertaking for the conveyance, control, and dispersal of floodwaters caused by abnormally high direct precipitation or stream overflow.

**Gabions.** Cages, cylinders, or boxes filled with soil or sand that are used in civil engineering, road building, and military applications, primarily for erosion control and building dams and retaining walls.

**Geotechnical Report or Analysis.** A scientific study or evaluation conducted by a qualified expert that includes a description of the ground and surface hydrology and geology, the affected land form and its susceptibility to mass wasting, erosion, and other geologic hazards or processes, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions, the adequacy of the site to be developed, the impacts of the proposed development, alternative approaches to the proposed development, and measures to mitigate potential site-specific and cumulative geological and hydrological impacts of the proposed development, including the potential adverse impacts to adjacent and down-current properties. Geotechnical reports shall conform to accepted technical standards and must be prepared by qualified professional engineers or geologists who have professional expertise about the regional and local shoreline geology and processes.

**Groin.** A rigid structure built out from a shore to protect the shore from erosion, to trap sand, or to direct a current for scouring a channel.

**Grading.** The movement or redistribution of the soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, or other material on a site in a manner that alters the natural contour of the land.

**Groundwater recharge.** A hydrologic process where water moves downward from surface water to groundwater. Recharge occurs both naturally (through the water cycle) and anthropologically (i.e., "artificial groundwater recharge"), where rainwater and or reclaimed water is routed to the subsurface.

**Jetty.** Any of a variety of structures used in river, dock, and maritime works that are generally carried out in pairs from river banks, or in continuation of river channels at their outlets into deep water; or out into docks, and outside their entrances; or for forming basins along the sea-coast for ports in tideless seas.

**Hydric Soil.** Soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper soil horizon(s).

**Land Disturbing Activities.** Any activity resulting in a movement of earth, or a change in the existing soil cover, both vegetative and non-vegetative, or the existing topography excluding the addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structure, or other material to an area waterward of the OHWM, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that raises the elevation or creates dry land. Land disturbing activities include, but are not limited to clearing, grading, filling, excavation, or addition of new or the replacement of impervious surface. Compaction, excluding hot asphalt mix, which is associated with stabilization of structures and road construction, shall also be considered a land disturbing activity.

**Landfilling.** The addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structure, or other material to an area waterward of the OHWM, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that creates dry land.

**Native Vegetation.** Vegetation comprised of plant species, other than noxious weeds, that are indigenous to the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur on the site. Examples include trees such as douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big-leaf maple, and vine maple; shrubs such as willow, elderberry, salmonberry, and salal; and herbaceous plants such as sword fern, foam flower, and fireweed.

**Native Vegetation Conservation Area.** Vegetated area between the Native Vegetation Setback Line and the Ordinary High Water Mark.

**Native Vegetation Setback Line.** Unless otherwise indicated within this Master Program, the line that establishes the limits of all buildings, fencing and impervious surfaces along the shoreline.

**Nonconforming Use and Development.** A shoreline use or development that was lawfully constructed or established prior to the effective date of the act or the applicable master program, or amendments thereto, but which does not conform to present regulations or standards of the program.

**Nonwater-oriented Uses.** Those uses that are not water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment.

**Normal Maintenance.** Usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition.

**Normal Protective Bulkhead.** Structural and nonstructural developments installed at or near, and parallel to, the ordinary high water mark for the sole purpose of protecting an existing single-family residence and appurtenant structures from loss or damage by erosion.



**Normal Repair.** To restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction, except where repair causes substantial adverse effects to shoreline resource or environment. Replacement of a structure or development may be authorized as repair where such replacement is the common method of repair for the type of structure or development and the replacement structure or development is comparable to the original structure or development including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and the replacement does not cause substantial adverse effects to shoreline resources or environment.

**Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).** OHWM on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department, provided that in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

**Public Access.** Public access is the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations. Refer to WAC 173-26-221(4).

**Public Pier or Dock.** Moorage for pleasure craft and/or landing for water sports for use by the general public.

**Public Boat Launching Ramp.** An inclined slab, set of pads, rails, planks, or graded slope used for launching boats with trailers or by hand for use by the general public.

**Restoration.** The reestablishment or upgrading of impaired ecological processes or functions. This may be accomplished through measures including but not limited to re-vegetation, removal of intrusive structures, toxic materials, or invasive or non-native plants. Restoration does not imply a requirement for returning the area to pre-European settlement conditions.

**Revetment.** A sloped wall constructed of riprap or other suitable material placed on stream banks or other shorelines to retard bank erosion and minimize lateral stream movement. A revetment typically slopes away from the water and has a rough or jagged face. These features differentiate it from a bulkhead, which is a vertical structure. Revetments are a facing of stone, concrete, etc., built to protect a scarp, embankment, or shore structure against erosion by waves or currents. The principal features of a revetment are: 1) heavy armor layer, 2) filter layer, and 3) toe protection.

**Riparian.** The characteristic of relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (as a river) or sometimes of a lake or a tidewater.

**Sediment.** The fine-grained material deposited by water or wind.

**Shorelands or Shoreland Areas.** Those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet; and all wetlands and deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters that are subject to the provisions of this chapter; the same to be designated as to location by the Department of Ecology.

**Shoreline Jurisdiction.** All "shorelines of the state" and "shorelands" as defined in RCW 90.58.030.

**Shoreline Master Program or Master Program.** The comprehensive plan for the use of a described area, and the regulations for use of the area including maps, diagrams, charts, or other descriptive material and text, a statement of desired goals, and standards developed in accordance with the policies enunciated in RCW 90.58.020. As provided in RCW 36.70A.480, the goals and policies of a shoreline master program for a county or city approved under chapter 90.58 RCW shall be considered an element of the county or city's Comprehensive Plan. All other portions of the Shoreline Master Program for a county or city adopted under chapter 90.58 RCW, including use regulations, shall be considered a part of the county or city's development regulations.

**Shoreline Modifications.** Those actions that modify the physical configuration or qualities of the shoreline area, usually through the construction of a physical element such as a dike, breakwater, pier, weir, dredged basin, fill, bulkhead, or other shoreline structure. They can include other actions, such as clearing, grading, or application of chemicals.

**Shorelines.** All of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated shorelands, together with the lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of statewide significance; and (ii) shorelines on lakes less than twenty acres in size and wetlands associated with such small lakes.

**Shorelines of Statewide Significance.** "Shorelines of the State" that meet the criteria for "Shorelines of Statewide Significance" contained in RCW 90.58.030(f). As it applies to the City of Shoreline, shorelines of statewide significance include those areas of Puget Sound and adjacent salt waters between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme low tide.

**Shorelines of the State.** This term includes both "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance."

**Substantial Development.** Any development with a total cost or fair market value of five-thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars (\$5,718.00) or more that requires a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. The threshold total cost or fair market value of \$5,718.00 is set by the State Office of Financial Management and may be adjusted in the future pursuant to the SMA requirements, as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) as now or hereafter amended.

**Water-dependent Use.** A use or portion of a use which cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water, but is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations.

**Water-enjoyment Use.** A recreational or other use that facilitates public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general characteristic of the use and which through location, design, and operation ensures the public's ability to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. In order to qualify as a water-enjoyment use, the use must be open to the general public and the shoreline-oriented space within the project must be devoted to the specific aspects of the use that fosters shoreline enjoyment.

**Water-oriented Use.** A use that is water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment, or a combination of such uses.

**Water Quality.** The physical characteristics of water within shoreline jurisdiction, including water quantity, hydrological, physical, chemical, aesthetic, recreation-related, and biological characteristics. Where used in this chapter, the term "water quantity" refers only to development and uses regulated under this chapter and affecting water quantity, such as impermeable surfaces and storm water handling practices. Water quantity, for purposes of this chapter, does not mean the withdrawal of ground water or diversion of surface water pursuant to RCW 90.03.250 through RCW 90.03.340.

**Water-related Use.** A use or portion of a use that is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location, but whose economic viability is dependent upon a waterfront location because: (a) The use has a functional requirement for a waterfront location such as the arrival or shipment of materials by water or the need for large quantities of water; or (b) The use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent uses and the proximity of the use to its customers makes its services less expensive and/or more convenient.

**Weir.** A dam in a watercourse, usually a stream or river, to raise the water level or divert its flow.

## 20.220 Administrative Procedures

### Subchapter 1. Permits

#### 20.220.010 Permit Requirements - General

- A. Based on the provisions of this Master Program, the Director shall determine if a Substantial Development Permit, a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit and/or a Shoreline Variance is required.
- B. A permit is required for substantial development as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) within the shoreline jurisdiction.
- C. A Substantial Development Permit is not required for exempt development. An exempt development requires a statement of exemption pursuant to 20.220.030 and may require a Shoreline Variance from Master Program provisions and/or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.
- D. All uses and development shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the SMC and the Master Program regardless of whether a Substantial Development Permit, Statement of Exemption, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is required.
- E. When a development or use is proposed that does not comply with the bulk, dimensional and/or performance standards of this Program, such development or use may only be authorized by approval of a Shoreline Variance, even if the development or use does not require a Substantial Development Permit.
- F. A development or use listed as a Shoreline Conditional Use pursuant to this chapter, or any unlisted use, must obtain a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit even if the development or use does not require a Substantial Development Permit.
- G. Issuance of a Statement of Exemption, Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit does not constitute approval of any other City, state, or federal laws or regulations.
- H. All shoreline permits or statements of exemption issued for development or use within the shoreline jurisdiction shall include written findings prepared by the Director, documenting compliance with bulk and dimensional policies and regulations of the Master Program. The Director may attach conditions to the approval as necessary to assure consistency with the Master Program and RCW 90.58. The conditions may include a requirement to post a performance financial guarantee assuring compliance with permit requirements, terms and conditions.

#### 20.220.020 Substantial Development Permit

- A. Substantial development as defined by RCW 90.58.030 shall not be undertaken by any person on the shorelines of the state without first obtaining a Substantial Development Permit from the Director, unless the use or development is specifically identified as exempt.
- B. A Substantial Development Permit shall only be granted by the Director when the development proposed is consistent with the policies and procedures of RCW.90.58; the provisions of WAC 173-27; and the Master Program.
- C. An exemption from the Substantial Development Permit requirements does not constitute an exemption from the policies and use regulations of the Shoreline Management Act, the provisions of this Master Program or other applicable city, state, or federal requirements. A formal Statement of Shoreline Exemption is required pursuant to 20.220.030.

**20.220.030 Shoreline Exemption**

A. The Director is hereby authorized to approve or deny requests for statements of exemption from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirement for uses and developments within shorelines that are specifically listed in RCW 90.58.030 and WAC 173-27-040. The statement shall be in writing and shall indicate the specific exemption of the Master Program that is being applied to the development, and shall provide a summary of the Director's analysis of the consistency of the project with this Master Program and the Act. WAC 173.27.040 delineates exemptions and is included below.

Exempt developments include:

1. (a) Any development of which the total cost or fair market value, whichever is higher, does not exceed five thousand dollars, if such development does not materially interfere with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state. The dollar threshold established in this subsection must be adjusted for inflation by the office of financial management every five years, beginning July 1, 2007, based upon changes in the consumer price index during that time period. "Consumer price index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, United States Department of Labor. The office of financial management must calculate the new dollar threshold and transmit it to the office of the code reviser for publication in the **Washington State Register** at least one month before the new dollar threshold is to take effect. For purposes of determining whether or not a permit is required, the total cost or fair market value shall be based on the value of development that is occurring on shorelines of the state as defined in RCW 90.58.030 (2)(c). The total cost or fair market value of the development shall include the fair market value of any donated, contributed or found labor, equipment or materials;

(b) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments, including damage by accident, fire or elements. "Normal maintenance" includes those usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition. "Normal repair" means to restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction, except where repair causes substantial adverse effects to shoreline resource or environment. Replacement of a structure or development may be authorized as repair where such replacement is the common method of repair for the type of structure or development and the replacement structure or development is comparable to the original structure or development including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and the replacement does not cause substantial adverse effects to shoreline resources or environment;

(c) Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to single-family residences. A "normal protective" bulkhead includes those structural and nonstructural developments installed at or near, and parallel to, the ordinary high water mark for the sole purpose of protecting an existing single-family residence and appurtenant structures from loss or damage by erosion. A normal protective bulkhead is not exempt if constructed for the purpose of creating dry land. When a vertical or near vertical wall is being constructed or reconstructed, not more than one cubic yard of fill per one foot of wall may be used as

backfill. When an existing bulkhead is being repaired by construction of a vertical wall fronting the existing wall, it shall be constructed no further waterward of the existing bulkhead than is necessary for construction of new footings. When a bulkhead has deteriorated such that an ordinary high water mark has been established by the presence and action of water landward of the bulkhead then the replacement bulkhead must be located at or near the actual ordinary high water mark. Beach nourishment and bioengineered erosion control projects may be considered a normal protective bulkhead when any structural elements are consistent with the above requirements and when the project has been approved by the department of fish and wildlife.

(d) Emergency construction necessary to protect property from damage by the elements. An "emergency" is an unanticipated and imminent threat to public health, safety, or the environment which requires immediate action within a time too short to allow full compliance with this chapter. Emergency construction does not include development of new permanent protective structures where none previously existed. Where new protective structures are deemed by the administrator to be the appropriate means to address the emergency situation, upon abatement of the emergency situation the new structure shall be removed or any permit which would have been required, absent an emergency, pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW, these regulations, or the local master program, obtained. All emergency construction shall be consistent with the policies of chapter 90.58 RCW and the local master program. As a general matter, flooding or other seasonal events that can be anticipated and may occur but that are not imminent are not an emergency;

(e) Construction and practices normal or necessary for farming, irrigation, and ranching activities, including agricultural service roads and utilities on shorelands, construction of a barn or similar agricultural structure, and the construction and maintenance of irrigation structures including but not limited to head gates, pumping facilities, and irrigation channels: Provided, That a feedlot of any size, all processing plants, other activities of a commercial nature, alteration of the contour of the shorelands by leveling or filling other than that which results from normal cultivation, shall not be considered normal or necessary farming or ranching activities. A feedlot shall be an enclosure or facility used or capable of being used for feeding livestock hay, grain, silage, or other livestock feed, but shall not include land for growing crops or vegetation for livestock feeding and/or grazing, nor shall it include normal livestock wintering operations;

(f) Construction or modification of navigational aids such as channel markers and anchor buoys;

(g) Construction on shorelands by an owner, lessee or contract purchaser of a single-family residence for their own use or for the use of their family, which residence does not exceed a height of thirty-five feet above average grade level and which meets all requirements of the state agency or local government having jurisdiction thereof, other than requirements imposed pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW. "Single-family residence" means a detached dwelling designed for and occupied by one family including those structures and developments within a contiguous ownership which are a normal appurtenance. An "appurtenance" is necessarily connected to the use and enjoyment of a single-family

residence and is located landward of the ordinary high water mark and the perimeter of a wetland. On a statewide basis, normal appurtenances include a garage; deck; driveway; utilities; fences; installation of a septic tank and drainfield and grading which does not exceed two hundred fifty cubic yards and which does not involve placement of fill in any wetland or waterward of the ordinary high water mark. Local circumstances may dictate additional interpretations of normal appurtenances which shall be set forth and regulated within the applicable master program. Construction authorized under this exemption shall be located landward of the ordinary high water mark;

(h) Construction of a dock, including a community dock, designed for pleasure craft only, for the private noncommercial use of the owner, lessee, or contract purchaser of single-family and multiple-family residences. A dock is a landing and moorage facility for watercraft and does not include recreational decks, storage facilities or other appurtenances. This exception applies if either:

(i) In salt waters, the fair market value of the dock does not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars; or

(ii) In fresh waters the fair market value of the dock does not exceed ten thousand dollars, but if subsequent construction having a fair market value exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars occurs within five years of completion of the prior construction, the subsequent construction shall be considered a substantial development for the purpose of this chapter.

For purposes of this section salt water shall include the tidally influenced marine and estuarine water areas of the state including the Pacific Ocean, Strait of Juan de Fuca, Strait of Georgia and Puget Sound and all bays and inlets associated with any of the above;

(i) Operation, maintenance, or construction of canals, waterways, drains, reservoirs, or other facilities that now exist or are hereafter created or developed as a part of an irrigation system for the primary purpose of making use of system waters, including return flow and artificially stored groundwater from the irrigation of lands;

(j) The marking of property lines or corners on state-owned lands, when such marking does not significantly interfere with normal public use of the surface of the water;

(k) Operation and maintenance of any system of dikes, ditches, drains, or other facilities existing on September 8, 1975, which were created, developed or utilized primarily as a part of an agricultural drainage or diking system;

(l) Any project with a certification from the governor pursuant to chapter [80.50 RCW](#);

(m) Site exploration and investigation activities that are prerequisite to preparation of an application for development authorization under this chapter, if:

(i) The activity does not interfere with the normal public use of the surface waters;



(ii) The activity will have no significant adverse impact on the environment including but not limited to fish, wildlife, fish or wildlife habitat, water quality, and aesthetic values;

(iii) The activity does not involve the installation of any structure, and upon completion of the activity the vegetation and land configuration of the site are restored to conditions existing before the activity;

(iv) A private entity seeking development authorization under this section first posts a performance bond or provides other evidence of financial responsibility to the local jurisdiction to ensure that the site is restored to preexisting conditions; and

(v) The activity is not subject to the permit requirements of RCW [90.58.550](#);

(n) The process of removing or controlling aquatic noxious weeds, as defined in RCW [17.26.020](#), through the use of an herbicide or other treatment methods applicable to weed control that are recommended by a final environmental impact statement published by the department of agriculture or the department of ecology jointly with other state agencies under chapter [43.21C](#) RCW;

(o) Watershed restoration projects as defined herein. Local government shall review the projects for consistency with the shoreline master program in an expeditious manner and shall issue its decision along with any conditions within forty-five days of receiving all materials necessary to review the request for exemption from the applicant. No fee may be charged for accepting and processing requests for exemption for watershed restoration projects as used in this section.

(i) "Watershed restoration project" means a public or private project authorized by the sponsor of a watershed restoration plan that implements the plan or a part of the plan and consists of one or more of the following activities:

(A) A project that involves less than ten miles of streamreach, in which less than twenty-five cubic yards of sand, gravel, or soil is removed, imported, disturbed or discharged, and in which no existing vegetation is removed except as minimally necessary to facilitate additional plantings;

(B) A project for the restoration of an eroded or unstable stream bank that employs the principles of bioengineering, including limited use of rock as a stabilization only at the toe of the bank, and with primary emphasis on using native vegetation to control the erosive forces of flowing water; or

(C) A project primarily designed to improve fish and wildlife habitat, remove or reduce impediments to migration of fish, or enhance the fishery resource available for use by all of the citizens of the state, provided that any structure, other than a bridge or culvert or instream habitat enhancement structure associated with the project, is less than two hundred square feet in floor area and is located above the ordinary high water mark of the stream.

(ii) "Watershed restoration plan" means a plan, developed or sponsored by the department of fish and wildlife, the department of ecology, the department of natural resources, the department of transportation, a federally recognized Indian tribe acting within and pursuant to its authority, a city, a county, or a conservation district that provides a general program and implementation measures or actions for the preservation, restoration, re-creation, or enhancement of the natural resources, character, and ecology of a stream, stream segment, drainage area, or watershed for which agency and public review has been conducted pursuant to chapter 43.21C RCW, the State Environmental Policy Act;

(p) A public or private project that is designed to improve fish or wildlife habitat or fish passage, when all of the following apply:

(i) The project has been approved in writing by the department of fish and wildlife;

(ii) The project has received hydraulic project approval by the department of fish and wildlife pursuant to chapter 77.55 RCW; and

(iii) The local government has determined that the project is substantially consistent with the local shoreline master program. The local government shall make such determination in a timely manner and provide it by letter to the project proponent.

Fish habitat enhancement projects that conform to the provisions of RCW 77.55.181 are determined to be consistent with local shoreline master programs, as follows:

(A) In order to receive the permit review and approval process created in this section, a fish habitat enhancement project must meet the criteria under (p)(iii)(A)(I) and (II) of this subsection:

(I) A fish habitat enhancement project must be a project to accomplish one or more of the following tasks:

- Elimination of human-made fish passage barriers, including culvert repair and replacement;
- Restoration of an eroded or unstable streambank employing the principle of bioengineering, including limited use of rock as a stabilization only at the toe of the bank, and with primary emphasis on using native vegetation to control the erosive forces of flowing water; or
- Placement of woody debris or other instream structures that benefit naturally reproducing fish stocks.

The department of fish and wildlife shall develop size or scale threshold tests to determine if projects accomplishing any of these tasks should be evaluated under the process created in this section or under other project review and approval processes. A project proposal shall

not be reviewed under the process created in this section if the department determines that the scale of the project raises concerns regarding public health and safety; and

(II) A fish habitat enhancement project must be approved in one of the following ways:

- By the department of fish and wildlife pursuant to chapter [77.95](#) or [77.100](#) RCW;
- By the sponsor of a watershed restoration plan as provided in chapter [89.08](#) RCW;
- By the department as a department of fish and wildlife-sponsored fish habitat enhancement or restoration project;
- Through the review and approval process for the jobs for the environment program;
- Through the review and approval process for conservation district-sponsored projects, where the project complies with design standards established by the conservation commission through interagency agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the natural resource conservation service;
- Through a formal grant program established by the legislature or the department of fish and wildlife for fish habitat enhancement or restoration; and
- Through other formal review and approval processes established by the legislature.

(B) Fish habitat enhancement projects meeting the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection are expected to result in beneficial impacts to the environment. Decisions pertaining to fish habitat enhancement projects meeting the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and being reviewed and approved according to the provisions of this section are not subject to the requirements of RCW [43.21C.030](#) (2)(c).

(C)(I) A hydraulic project approval permit is required for projects that meet the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and are being reviewed and approved under this section. An applicant shall use a joint aquatic resource permit application form developed by the office of regulatory assistance to apply for approval under this chapter. On the same day, the applicant shall provide copies of the completed application form to the department of fish and wildlife and to each appropriate local government. Local governments shall accept the application as notice of the proposed project. The department of fish and wildlife shall provide a fifteen-day comment period during which it will receive comments regarding environmental impacts. Within forty-five days, the department shall either issue a permit, with or without conditions, deny approval, or make a determination that the review and approval process created by this section is not appropriate for the proposed project. The department shall base this determination on identification during the comment period of adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated by the conditioning of a permit. If the department determines that the review and approval process created by this section is not appropriate for the proposed project, the department shall notify the applicant and the appropriate local governments of its determination. The applicant may reapply for approval of the project under other review and

approval processes.

(II) Any person aggrieved by the approval, denial, conditioning, or modification of a permit under this section may formally appeal the decision to the hydraulic appeals board pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(D) No local government may require permits or charge fees for fish habitat enhancement projects that meet the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and that are reviewed and approved according to the provisions of this section.

2. Before issuing a Shoreline Exemption, the Director shall review the Master Program to determine if the proposed development requires a Shoreline Variance and/or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.

#### **20.220.040 Shoreline Variance**

The purpose of a variance is to grant relief to specific bulk or dimensional requirements set forth in the Master Program where there are extraordinary or unique circumstances relating to the property such that the strict implementation of this Program would impose unnecessary hardships on the applicant or diminish the policies set forth in RCW 90.58.020.

- A. The Director is authorized to approve a Shoreline Variance from the performance standards of this Master Program only when all of the criteria enumerated in WAC 173-27-170 are met.
- B. A Shoreline Variance should be granted in circumstances where denial of the permit would thwart the policies enumerated in RCW 90.58.020.
- C. In all instances, the applicant must demonstrate that extraordinary circumstances exist and the public interest will not suffer substantial detrimental effect.
- D. The applicant for a Shoreline Variance must demonstrate that the variance meets the criteria in WAC 173-27-170.
- E. Proposals that require a Critical Area Reasonable Use Permit pursuant to SMC 20.30.336 shall also require a Shoreline Variance.
- F. Prior to approval of any Shoreline Variance, the Director shall consider the cumulative environmental impacts of previous, existing, and possible future requests for like actions in the area. The total effects of approved Shoreline Variances should remain consistent with the policies of RCW 90.58.020 and shall not produce significant adverse effects to the shoreline ecological functions, processes, or other users.
- G. Before making a determination to approve a Shoreline Variance, the Director shall consider issues related to the conservation of valuable natural resources and the protection of views from public lands.
- H. Shoreline Variance requests based on the applicant's/proponent's desire to enhance the view from the subject development may be granted where there are no likely detrimental effects to existing or future users, views from public lands, critical areas, other features or shoreline ecological functions and/or processes, and where reasonable alternatives of equal or greater consistency with this Program are not available.
- I. A Shoreline Variance shall not be granted when it would allow a greater height or lesser shoreline setback than what is typical for the area immediately surrounding the development site.

- J. A variance issued per SMC 20.30.310 shall not be construed to mean approval of a Shoreline Variance from Shoreline Master Program use regulations.
- K. An issued Shoreline Variance does not provide relief from the variance requirements under SMC 20.30.310.

**20.220.050 Shoreline Conditional Use Permit**

The purpose of a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is to allow greater flexibility in the application of the use regulations of the Master Program in a manner consistent with the policies of RCW 90.58.020.

- A. The Director is authorized to issue Shoreline Conditional Use Permits only when all the criteria enumerated in WAC 173-27-160 are met.
- B. Shoreline Conditional Use Permits should be granted in a circumstance where denial of the permit would result in a conflict with the policies enumerated in RCW 90.58.020.
- C. In authorizing a Shoreline Conditional Use, special conditions may be attached to the permit by the Director or by the Department of Ecology to minimize the effects of the proposed use. Uses that are specifically prohibited by the Master Program may not be authorized with the approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.
- D. Proposals that require a Critical Area Reasonable Use Permit pursuant to SMC 20.30.336 shall also require a Shoreline Variance.

## Subchapter 2. SMP Permit Procedures

### 20.220.060 General

- A. Permits required under this chapter shall be processed consistent with the provisions of chapter 20.30 SMC and the criteria in this subchapter.
- B. No permit shall be approved unless the proposed development is consistent with the provisions of this Master Program, the Shoreline Management Act of 1971, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Ecology.
- C. Applications for shoreline permits shall also demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this subchapter.

### 20.220.070 Application Review

- A. Applications for shoreline permits shall comply with the submittal requirements developed pursuant to 20.30.100 and shall provide all information the Director determines necessary for an application to be complete.
- B. Burden of Proof. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide proof that the proposed development is consistent with the permit criteria requirements.
- C. Approval. The Director may approve, approve with conditions, any application that complies with criteria imposed by the Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act.
- D. Conditions. The Director may attach to a permit any suitable and reasonable terms or conditions necessary to ensure the purpose and objectives of this Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act.
- E. Denial. The Director may deny any application that does not comply with criteria imposed by the Master Program or the Shoreline Management Act.
- F. Financial Guarantees. The Director may require a financial guarantee to assure full compliance with the terms and conditions of any Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use. The guarantee shall be in an amount to reasonably assure the City that permitted improvements will be completed within the time stipulated.

### 20.220.080 Permit Process

- A. **Application submittal.** Complete applications for a Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, and a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit are Type B actions. The applications will be processed pursuant to the procedures identified in this subchapter and SMC 20.30.010 through 20.30.270 and Table 20.30.050.
- B. **Decision.** The Director shall provide Notice of Final Decision per SMC 20.30.150. Pursuant to RCW 90.58.140(6) the Director shall send the final decision, including findings and conclusions to the following State agencies:
  - 1. Department of Ecology.
  - 2. Attorney General.
- C. **Department of Ecology Review of permits.**
  - 1. After the Director has approved a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit, the Director shall file the permit with the Department of Ecology for its approval, approval with conditions, or denial.
  - 2. When a Substantial Development Permit, a Shoreline Variance, or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit are required for a development, the local government's ruling on the permit shall be filed simultaneously with Ecology.

3. The Department of Ecology will issue its decision on a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit within thirty (30) days of filing.
4. Upon receipt of the Department of Ecology's decision, the Director shall notify those interested parties having requested notification of such decision.

#### **20.220.090 Local Appeals.**

There are no administrative appeals for shoreline permit decisions made by the Director.

#### **20.220.110 Appeals to State Shoreline Hearings Board**

- A. Appeals of the final decision of the City with regard to shoreline management shall be governed by the provisions of RCW 90.58.180.
- B. Appeals to the Shoreline Hearings Board of a decision on a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit may be filed by the applicant/proponent or any aggrieved party pursuant to RCW 90.58.180.
- C. The effective date of the City's decision shall be the date of filing with the Department of Ecology as defined in RCW 90.58.140.

#### **20.220.120 Initiation of Development**

- A. Development pursuant to a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit shall not be authorized until twenty one (21) days after the "date of filing" of the Director's decision with the Department of Ecology;
- B. Development for which a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use is required shall not begin and shall not be authorized until twenty one (21) days after the "date of filing" of the Department of Ecology's decision with the Director; or
- C. All appeal proceedings before the Washington State Shoreline Hearings Board have terminated.

#### **20.220.130 Expiration of Permits**

The City of Shoreline may specify the length of time a shoreline permit will be effective based on the specific requirements of the development proposal. If a permit does not specify an expiration date, the following requirements apply, consistent with WAC 173-14-060:

- A. **Time Limit for Substantial Progress.** Construction, or substantial progress toward completion, must begin within two (2) years after approval of the permits.
- B. **Extension for Substantial Progress.** The City of Shoreline may at its discretion, with prior notice to parties of record and the Department of Ecology, extend the two-year time period for the substantial progress for a reasonable time up to one year based on factors, including the inability to expeditiously obtain other governmental permits that are required prior to the commencement of construction.
- C. **Five-Year Permit Authorization.** If construction has not been completed within five (5) years of approval by the City of Shoreline, the City will review the permit and, upon showing of good cause, either extend the permit for one year, or terminate the permit.
- D. Prior to the City authorizing any permit extensions, it shall notify any parties of record and the Department of Ecology. Note: Only one extension is permitted.



**20.220.140 Revision to Permits**

- A. A permit revision is required whenever the applicant proposes substantive changes to the design, terms or conditions of a project from that which is approved in the permit. Changes are substantive if they materially alter the project in a manner that relates to its conformance to the terms and conditions of the permit, this Program or the Act. Changes that are not substantive in effect do not require a permit revision.
- B. An application for a revision to a shoreline permit shall be submitted to the Director. The application shall include detailed plans and text describing the proposed changes. The City shall review and process the request in accordance with the requirements of WAC 173-27-100.

**20.220.150 Nonconforming Use and Development****A. Nonconforming Structures**

1. Structures that were legally established and are used for a conforming use, but which are nonconforming with regard to setbacks, buffers or yards, area, bulk, height, or density may be maintained and repaired, and may be enlarged or expanded provided that said enlargement does not increase the extent of nonconformity by further encroaching upon or extending into areas where construction or use would not be allowed for new development or uses. Such normal appurtenances are by definition located landward of the ordinary high water mark.
2. A structure for which a Shoreline Variance has been issued shall be considered a legal nonconforming structure, and the requirements of this section shall apply as they apply to preexisting nonconformities.
3. A structure that is being or has been utilized for a nonconforming use may be used for a different nonconforming use only upon the approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use permit. A Shoreline Conditional Use permit may be approved only upon a finding that:
  - a. No reasonable alternative conforming use is practical;
  - b. The proposed use will be at least as consistent with the policies and provisions of the act and Master Program, and as compatible with the uses in the area as the preexisting use; and
  - c. Conditions may be attached to the permit as are deemed necessary to assure compliance with the above findings, the requirements of the Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act, and to ensure that the use will not become a nuisance or a hazard.
4. Any structure nonconforming as to height or setback standards that becomes damaged may be repaired or reconstructed, provided that:
  - a. The extent of the previously existing nonconformance is not increased; and
  - b. The building permit application for repair or reconstruction is submitted within 12 months of the occurrence of damage or destruction.

**B. Nonconforming Uses**

1. Uses that were legally established and are nonconforming with regard to the use regulations of the Master Program may continue as legal nonconforming uses. Such uses shall not be enlarged or expanded, without an approved conditional use permit, except that nonconforming single-family residences that are located landward of the ordinary high water mark may be enlarged or expanded in conformance with applicable bulk and

dimensional standards by the addition of space to the main structure or by the addition of normal appurtenances as defined in WAC 173-27-040 (2)(g).

2. A use which is listed as a conditional use but existed prior to adoption of the Master Program or any relevant amendment, and for which a conditional use permit has not been obtained, shall be considered a nonconforming use.
3. A use which is listed as a conditional use in table 20.230.081 but existed prior to the applicability of the Master Program to the site, and for which a Shoreline Conditional Use permit has not been obtained, shall be considered a nonconforming use.
4. If a nonconforming use is abandoned for twelve consecutive months, or for twelve months during any two-year period, the nonconforming rights shall expire and any subsequent use shall be made conforming. A use authorized pursuant to subsection 20.220.150(E) shall be considered a conforming use for purposes of this section.

### **C. Nonconforming Lots**

An undeveloped lot, tract, parcel, site, or division of land located landward of the ordinary high water mark which was established in accordance with SMC 20.30, subchapter 7, and state subdivision requirements prior to the effective date of the act or the applicable Master Program that does not conform to the present lot size standards may be developed if permitted by other land use regulations of the local government, as long as such development conforms to all other requirements of the applicable master program and the act.

### **20.220.160 Enforcement**

- A. The Director is authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations promulgated hereunder pursuant to the enforcement and penalty provisions of WAC 173-27.
- B. This Program will be enforced by the means and procedures set forth in SMC 20.30, Subchapter 9.

## **20.230 Shoreline Policies and Regulations**

### **Subchapter 1. General Policies and Regulations**

#### **20.230.010 General**

The General Policies and Regulations apply to all uses and activities that may occur within the City's shoreline jurisdiction regardless of the Shoreline Master Program environment designation. These policies and regulations provide the overall framework for the management of the shoreline. Use these general regulations in conjunction with 20.230, subchapter 2, Specific Use and Modification Policies and Regulations.

#### **20.230.020 Environmental**

The Shoreline Management Act (SMA) is concerned with the environmental impacts that development, use, or activity may have on the fragile shorelines of the state. Development and certain uses or activities within the regulated shoreline may degrade the shoreline and its waters, and may damage or inhibit important species and their habitat.

### **A. General Environmental Policies and Regulations**

#### **Policies**

1. The adverse impacts of shoreline developments and activities on the natural environment, critical areas and habitats for proposed, threatened, and endangered species should be minimized during all phases of development (e.g., design, construction, operation, and management).
2. Shoreline developments that protect and/or contribute to the long-term restoration of habitat for proposed, threatened, and endangered species are consistent with the fundamental goals of this Master Program. Shoreline developments that propose to enhance critical areas, other natural characteristics, resources of the shoreline, and/or provide public access and recreational opportunities to the shoreline are also consistent with the fundamental goals of this Master Program, and should be encouraged.

#### **Regulations**

1. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that mitigates adverse impacts to the environment. The preferred mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, mitigate, compensate) shall follow that listed in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(e). Efforts to avoid and minimize impacts must be documented in a manner acceptable to the Director prior to the approval of mitigation and/or compensation actions.
2. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological function.
3. All shoreline development shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed to protect the functions and values of critical areas consistent with the Shoreline Critical Area Regulations (Appendix A).
4. All shoreline development shall be located and designed to avoid or minimize the need for shoreline stabilization measures and flood protection works, such as bulkheads, revetments, dikes, levees, or substantial site regrading and dredging. Where measures

and works are demonstrated to be necessary, biostabilization techniques shall be the preferred design option unless demonstrated to be infeasible, or when other alternatives will have less impact on the shoreline environment.

5. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, operated, and managed to minimize interference with beneficial natural shoreline processes, such as water circulation, sand and gravel movement, erosion, and accretion to ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological function.
6. In approving shoreline developments, the Director shall ensure that the development will maintain, enhance, or restore desirable shoreline features, as well as ensure no net loss of ecological functions. To this end, the Director may adjust and/or prescribe project dimensions, location of project components on the site, intensity of use, screening, and mitigation as deemed appropriate. Mitigation shall be required of developments that would otherwise result in net loss of ecological functions.
7. In approving shoreline developments, the Director shall consider short and long term adverse environmental impacts. In addition, the Director shall consider the cumulative adverse impacts of the development, particularly the precedence effect of allowing one development, which could generate or attract additional development. Identified significant short term, long term, and cumulative adverse environmental impacts lacking appropriate mitigation shall be sufficient reason for permit denial.
8. As a condition of approval, the Director may require periodic monitoring for up to ten years from the date of completed development to ensure the success of required mitigation.

Mitigation plans shall include at a minimum:

- a. Inventory of the existing shoreline environment including the physical, chemical, and biological elements, and provide an assessment of each element's condition;
- b. A discussion of the project's impacts and their effect on the ecological functions necessary to support existing shoreline resources;
- c. A discussion of any federal, state, or local special management recommendations that have been developed for wetlands, species, or habitats located on the site;
- d. An assessment of habitat recommendations proposed by resource agencies and their applicability to the proposal;
- e. A discussion of measures to preserve existing habitats and opportunities to restore habitats that were degraded prior to the proposed land use activity. Mitigation plans shall include at a minimum: planting and soil specifications (in the case of mitigation planting projects), success standards, and contingency plans;
- f. A discussion of proposed measures that mitigate the impacts of the project and establish success criteria;
- g. An evaluation of the anticipated effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures;
- h. A discussion of proposed management practices that will protect fish and wildlife habitat after the project site has been fully developed, including proposed monitoring and maintenance programs;
- i. A monitoring plan, including scientific procedures to be used to establish success or failure of the project, sampling points, success criteria, and a monitoring schedule;  
and
- j. Any additional information necessary to determine the impacts of a proposal and appropriate mitigation.

9. Shoreline development shall not be permitted if it significantly impacts the natural character of the shoreline, natural resources, or public recreational use of the shoreline. "Significant" is defined in State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) in WAC 197-11-794.
10. Where provisions of this Master Program conflict with each other, or with other laws, ordinances or programs, the most restrictive provisions shall apply.

## **B. Earth**

### **Policies**

1. Beaches are valued for recreation and may provide fish spawning substrate. Development that could disrupt these shoreforms may be allowed:
  - a. When such disruption would not reduce shoreline ecological function;
  - b. Where there is a demonstrated public benefit; and/or
  - c. Where the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines there would be no significant impact to the fisheries resource.

### **Regulations**

1. Developments that alter the shoreline topography may be approved if:
  - a. Flood events will not increase in frequency or severity resulting from the alteration; and/or
  - b. The alteration would not impact natural habitat forming processes and would not reduce ecological functions. Mitigation is required for projects that would reduce ecological functions to ensure no net loss of function
2. The applicant shall incorporate all known, available, and reasonable methods of prevention, control, and treatment measures into stormwater pollution prevention during and post construction.
3. All debris and other waste materials from construction shall be disposed of in such a manner as to prevent their entry into the water body.
4. All disposal sites for soils and materials resulting from the shoreline development shall be identified and approved before permit issuance.

## **C. Water**

### **Policies**

1. Shoreline development and activities shall result in no net loss of ecological functions.
2. Development and regulated activities shall minimize impacts to hydrogeologic processes, surface water drainage, and groundwater recharge.
3. Measures shall be incorporated into the development, use, or activity to protect water bodies and wetlands from all sources of pollution including, but not limited to sediment and silt, petrochemicals, and wastes and dredge spoils.
4. Adequate provisions to prevent water runoff from contaminating surface and groundwater shall be included in development design. The Director may specify the method of surface water control and maintenance programs. Surface water control must comply with the adopted storm-water manual.

5. All measures for the treatment of surface water runoff for the purpose of maintaining and/or enhancing water quality shall be conducted onsite. Off-site treatment facilities may be considered if onsite treatment is not feasible.
6. Point and non-point source pollution should be managed on a basin-wide basis to protect water quality and support the efforts of shoreline property owners to maintain shoreline ecological functions.

### **Regulations**

1. Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers that have been identified by State or Federal agencies as harmful to humans, wildlife, or fish shall not be used on City owned-property within the shoreline jurisdiction or for development or uses approved under a Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Conditional Use Permit or Shoreline Variance, except as allowed by the Director for the following circumstances:
  - a. When use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are consistent with the Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the project or use proposed;
  - b. When the Director determines that an emergency situation exists where there is a serious threat to public safety, health or the environment and that an otherwise prohibited application must be used as a last resort;
 

Where chemical fertilizer, herbicide, or pesticide use is necessary to protect existing natural vegetation or establish new vegetation as part of an erosion control or mitigation plan, the use of time release fertilizer and herbicides shall be preferred over liquid or concentrate application, except as used in targeted hand applications.
2. The release of oil, chemical, or hazardous materials onto or into the water is prohibited. Equipment for the transportation, storage, handling, or application of such materials shall be maintained in a safe and leak-proof condition. If there is evidence of leakage, the further use of such equipment shall be suspended until the deficiency has been satisfactorily corrected. During construction, vehicle refueling and vehicle maintenance shall occur outside of regulated shoreline areas.
3. The bulk storage of oil, fuel, chemical, or hazardous materials, on either a temporary or a permanent basis, is prohibited, except for uses allowed by the zoning classification. For the purpose of this section, heating oil, small boat fuel, yard maintenance, equipment fuel, propane, sewage sumps, and similar items common to single family residential uses are not included in this definition.

### **D. Plants and Animals**

#### **Policies**

1. In general, this Master Program shall strive to protect and restore anadromous fish resources in the Puget Sound and its tributaries within the City of Shoreline.
2. Shoreline development, uses, and activities shall be:
  - a. Located and conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to existing ecological values and natural resources of the area, conserves properly functioning conditions, and ensures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions;
  - b. Scheduled to protect biological productivity and to minimize interference with fish resources including anadromous fish migration, spawning, and rearing activity;

- c. Designed to avoid the removal of trees in shorelines wherever practicable, and to minimize the removal of other woody vegetation. Where riparian vegetation is removed, measures to mitigate the loss of vegetation shall be implemented to ensure no net loss; and
- d. Designed to minimize impacts to the natural character of the shoreline as much as possible.

### Regulations

1. Mitigation shall be required of the applicant for the loss of fish and wildlife resources, and natural systems, including riparian vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive areas. The mitigation required shall be commensurate to the value and type of resource or system impacted by development and activity in the shoreline. On-site compensatory mitigation shall be the preferred mitigation option, except where off-site mitigation can be demonstrated to be more beneficial to fish and wildlife resources, and natural systems, including riparian vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive areas. If on-site compensatory mitigation is not feasible or if off-site mitigation is demonstrated to be more beneficial to the shoreline environment, the applicant shall provide funding for a publicly-sponsored restoration or enhancement program in the City of Shoreline.
2. Enhancement, restoration, and/or creation of coniferous riparian forest or forested riparian wetland shall be the preferred mitigation for impacts to riparian vegetation and wetlands when avoidance is not possible. Preference will be based on site-specific recommendation of qualified professional. Alterations to fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas should be avoided. If they cannot be avoided, mitigation is required, and a Habitat Management Plan shall be prepared as required in SMC 20.80.290-20.80.300.
3. Habitat management plans shall be forwarded by the applicant to the appropriate state and/or federal resource agencies for review and comment. The City will provide the applicant with a list of addressees for this purpose.
4. Based on the habitat management plan, and comments from other agencies, the Director may require mitigating measures to reduce the impacts of the proposal on the wildlife habitat conservation areas. Mitigating measures may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Increased or enhanced buffers;
  - b. Setbacks for permanent and temporary structures;
  - c. Reduced project scope;
  - d. Limitations on construction hours;
  - e. Limitations on hours of operation; and/or
  - f. Relocation of access.
5. Mitigation activities shall be monitored to determine effectiveness of the habitat mitigation plan. Monitoring shall be accomplished by a third party, subject to the approval by the Director, and shall have the concurrence of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and where applicable, the Washington Department of Ecology. Monitoring shall occur for up to ten (10) years following implementation of the plan. Results of the monitoring shall be publicly available and reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. Reports shall contain the following information:
  - a. A list and map of parcels subject to this requirement;

- b. The implementation status of the habitat management plans;
  - c. Status of the improvements (e.g., updates if success standards are being met, what types of remedial actions have been implemented); and
  - d. Recommendations for corrective measures if necessary.
6. If proposed mitigation is found to be inadequate, or if adequate mitigation is determined to be impossible, the application shall be denied.
  7. Timing of in-water construction, development, or activity shall be determined by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
  8. Properties that are located in the Urban Conservancy Shoreline Environment Designation shall retain trees that are 12 inches or more in diameter. Trees determined by a certified arborist to be hazardous or diseased may be removed upon approval by the City. If healthy or non-hazardous trees are removed, each removed tree must be replaced with at least three (3) six-foot tall trees, one (1) 18-foot tall tree, or one (1) 12-foot plus one (1) six-foot tall tree. Trees must be of the same species removed, or equivalent native tree species.

#### **E. Noise**

##### **Policy**

1. Noise levels shall not interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the shoreline.

##### **Regulations**

1. Any noise emanating from a shoreline use or activity shall be muffled so as to not interfere with the designated use of adjoining properties. This determination shall take into consideration ambient noise levels, intermittent beat, frequency, and shrillness.
2. Ambient noise levels shall be a factor in evaluating a shoreline permit application. Shoreline developments that would increase noise levels to the extent that the designated use of the shoreline would be disrupted shall be prohibited. Specific maximum environment noise levels can be found in WAC 173-60-040.

#### **F. Public Health**

##### **Policy**

1. All development within the regulated shoreline shall be located, constructed, and operated so as not to be a hazard to public health and safety.

##### **Regulations**

1. Development shall be designed to conform to the codes and ordinances adopted by the City.

#### **G. Land Use**

##### **Policy**

1. The size of the shoreline development and the intensity of the use shall be compatible with the surrounding environment and uses. The City of Shoreline may prescribe



operation intensity, landscaping, and screening standards to ensure compatibility with the character and features of the surrounding area.

2. Shoreline developments shall minimize land use conflicts to properties adjacent to, upstream, and downstream of the proposed site.

### **Regulations**

1. In reviewing permit applications, the City shall consider current and potential public use of the shoreline, total water surface reduction, and restriction to navigation.
2. Development within the designated shoreline shall comply with the development and uses standards for the underlying zoning.

## **H. Aesthetics**

### **Policy**

1. Development should be designed to minimize the negative aesthetic impact structures have on the shoreline by avoiding placement of service areas, parking lots, and/or view-blocking structures adjacent to the shoreline.

### **Regulations**

1. Development shall be designed to comply with the code standards required in the underlying zone.
2. If the zoning and use require landscaping, or if planting is required for mitigation by the Director, the property owner shall provide a landscape plan that provides suitable screening that does not block public views.
3. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties and adjoining waters.
4. Development on the water shall be constructed of non-reflective materials that are compatible in terms of color and texture with the surrounding area.
5. Lighting shall be properly directed and shielded to avoid impacts to fish and off-site glare.

## **I. Historical/Cultural**

### **Policy**

1. Development should strive to preserve historic or culturally significant resources.

### **Regulations**

1. Developments that propose to alter historic or culturally significant resources identified by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, the King County Historic Preservation Program, or the City of Shoreline Historic Resource Inventory, or resources that could potentially be designated as historically or culturally significant, shall follow the applicable Federal, State, County, or local review process(es).
2. All shoreline permits issued by the City require immediate work stoppage and City notification when any item of archaeological interest is uncovered during excavation.

The applicant or project owner shall notify the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation Office, affected Indian tribes, and the City.

3. Where archaeological or historic sites have been identified, and it is determined that public access to the site will not damage or reduce the cultural value of the site, access may be required consistent with section 20.230.040.

### **20.230.030 Environmentally Sensitive Areas Within the Shoreline**

#### **A. Critical Areas**

##### **General Policy**

1. Preserve and protect unique, rare, and fragile natural and man-made features and wildlife habitats.
2. Enhance the diversity of aquatic life, wildlife, and habitat within the shoreline.
3. Conserve and maintain designated open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational purposes.
4. Recognize that the interest and concern of the public is essential to the improvement of the environment, and sponsor and support public information programs.
5. The level of public access should be appropriate to the degree of uniqueness or fragility of the geological and biological characteristics of the shoreline (e.g., wetlands, spawning areas).
6. Discourage intensive development of shoreline areas that are identified as hazardous or environmentally sensitive.

##### **General Regulations**

1. The City's Critical Areas regulations, SMC 20.80, are hereby incorporated into this Shoreline Master Program by reference and shall regulate critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction, except that SMC 20.80.030 and 20.80.040 shall not apply.
2. The provisions of Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas must be factored into decisions regarding development within the regulated shoreline and associated critical areas.
3. All shoreline uses and activities shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed to protect or at least not adversely affect those natural features which are valuable, fragile, or unique in the region. They should also facilitate the appropriate intensity of human use of such features, including but not limited to:
  - a. Wetlands, including but not limited to marshes, bogs, and swamps;
  - b. Fish and wildlife habitats, including streams and wetlands, nesting areas and migratory routes, spawning areas, and the presence of proposed or listed species;
  - c. Natural or man-made vistas or features;
  - d. Flood hazard areas; and/or
  - e. Geologically hazardous areas, including erosion, landslide, and seismic hazard areas.
4. The standards of the City of Shoreline's Critical Area Regulations shall apply within the shoreline jurisdiction, where critical areas are present. If there are any conflicts or unclear distinctions between the Master Program and the City's Critical Areas Regulations, the most restrictive requirements apply as determined by the City.

**B. Floodplain Management**

The following policies and regulations must be factored into decisions regarding all flood management planning and development within that portion of the 100-year floodplain that falls within Shoreline's shoreline jurisdiction (within 200 feet of OHWM).

Floodplain management involves actions taken with the primary purpose of preventing or mitigating damage due to flooding. Floodplain management can involve planning and zoning to control development, either to reduce risks to human life and property, or to prevent development from contributing to the severity of flooding. Floodplain management can also address the design of developments to reduce flood damage and the construction of flood controls, such as dikes, dams, engineered floodways, and bioengineering.

**Policy**

1. Flood management planning should be undertaken in a coordinated manner among affected property owners and public agencies and should consider the entire coastal system. This planning should consider off-site impacts such as erosion, accretion, and/or flood damage that might occur if shore protection structures are constructed.
2. Non-structural control solutions are preferred over structural flood control devices, and should be used wherever possible when control devices are needed. Non-structural controls include such actions as prohibiting or limiting development in areas that are historically flooded or limiting increases in peak flow runoff from new upland development. Structural solutions to reduce shoreline damage should be allowed only after it is demonstrated that non-structural solutions would not be able to reduce the damage.
3. Substantial stream channel modification, realignment, and straightening should be discouraged as a means of flood protection.
4. Where possible, public access should be integrated into the design of publicly financed flood management facilities.
5. The City supports the protection and preservation of the aquatic environment and the habitats it provides, and advocates balancing these interests with the City's intention to ensure protection of life and property from damage caused by flooding.
6. Development should avoid potential channel migration impacts.

**Regulations**

1. The City shall require and utilize the following information as appropriate during its review of shoreline flood management projects and programs:
  - a. Stream channel hydraulics and floodway characteristics, up and downstream from the project area;
  - b. Existing shoreline stabilization and flood protection works within the area;
  - c. Physical, geological, and soil characteristics of the area;
  - d. Biological resources and predicted impact to coastal ecology, including fish, vegetation, and animal habitat;
  - e. Predicted impact upon area, shore, and hydraulic processes, adjacent properties, and shoreline and water uses; and/or
  - f. Analysis of alternative flood protection measures, both non-structural and structural.

2. The City shall require engineered design of flood protection works where such projects may cause interference with normal geohydraulic processes, off-site impacts, or adverse effects to shoreline resources and uses. Non-structural methods of flood protection shall be preferred over structural solutions when the relocation of existing shoreline development is not feasible.

### C. Wetlands

The following policies and regulations must be factored into decisions regarding all development within wetlands that fall within the City's shoreline jurisdiction.

#### Policy

1. Wetland ecosystems serve many important ecological and environmental functions, which are beneficial to the public welfare. Such functions include flood storage and conveyance, erosion control, sediment control, fish production, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, water quality protection, water supply, education, and scientific research. Wetland ecosystems should be preserved and protected to prevent their continued loss and degradation.
2. Wetland areas should be identified according to established identification and delineation procedures and provided appropriate protection consistent with the policies and regulations of this Master Program and Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas.
3. The greatest protection should be provided to wetlands of exceptional resource value, which are defined as those wetlands that include rare, sensitive, or irreplaceable systems such as:
  - a. Documented or potential habitat for an endangered, threatened, or sensitive species;
  - b. High quality native wetland systems as determined by the Washington State Natural Heritage Program;
  - c. Significant habitat for fish or aquatic species as determined by the appropriate state resource agency;
  - d. Diverse wetlands exhibiting a high mixture of wetland classes and subclasses as defined in the US Fish and Wildlife Service classification system;
  - e. Mature forested swamp communities; and/or
  - f. Sphagnum bogs or fens.
4. A wetland buffer of adequate width should be maintained between a wetland and the adjacent development to protect the functions and integrity of the wetland.
5. The width of the established buffer zone should be based upon the functions and sensitivity of the wetland, the characteristics of the existing buffer, and the potential impacts associated with the adjacent land use.
6. All activities that could potentially affect wetland ecosystems should be controlled both within the wetland and the buffer zone to prevent adverse impacts to the wetland functions.
7. No wetland alteration should be authorized unless it can be shown that the impact is both unavoidable and necessary, and that resultant impacts are offset through the deliberate restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetlands.
8. Wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement projects should result in no net loss of wetland acreage and functions. Where feasible, wetland quality should be improved.

9. Wetlands that are impacted by activities of a temporary nature should be restored immediately upon project completion.
10. In-kind replacement of functional wetland values is preferred. Where in-kind replacement is not feasible or practical due to the characteristics of the existing wetland, substitute ecological resources of equal or greater value should be provided.
11. On-site replacement of wetlands is preferred. Where on-site replacement of a wetland is not feasible or practical due to characteristics of the existing location, replacement should occur within the same watershed and in as close proximity to the original wetland as possible.
12. Where possible, wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement projects should be completed prior to wetland alteration. In all other cases, replacement should be completed prior to use or occupancy of the activity or development.
13. Applicants should develop comprehensive mitigation plans to ensure long-term success of the wetland restoration, creation, or enhancement project. Such plans should provide for sufficient monitoring and contingencies to ensure wetland persistence.
14. Applicants should demonstrate sufficient scientific expertise, supervisory capability, and financial resources to complete and monitor the mitigation project.
15. Proposals for restoration, creation, or enhancement should be coordinated with appropriate resource agencies to ensure adequate design and consistency with other regulatory requirements.
16. Activities should be prevented in wetland buffer zones except where such activities have no adverse impacts on wetland ecosystem functions.
17. Wetland buffer zones should be retained in their natural condition unless revegetation is necessary to improve or restore the buffer.

### **Regulations**

1. If a wetland of exceptional value is adjacent to a public access trail required under the provisions of this Master Program, then interpretive signage is required. The interpretive signage shall explain why the wetland is considered valuable. The Director shall determine the type and extent of interpretive signage required.
2. Wetland mitigation sequencing shall be done in accordance with Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas.

### **20.230.040 Public Access**

Public access to the shoreline is the physical ability of the general public to reach and touch the water's edge and/or the ability to have a view of the water and the shoreline from upland locations. There are a variety of types of public access, such as picnic areas, pathways and trails, promenades, bridges, street ends, ingress and egress, and parking.

#### **A. Public Access Policies**

1. Public access provisions should be incorporated into all private and public developments. Exceptions may be considered for the following types of uses:
  - a. A single family residence;
  - b. An individual multi-family structure containing more than four (4) dwelling units; and/or
  - c. Where deemed inappropriate by the Director.

2. Development uses and activities on or near the shoreline should not impair or detract from the public's visual or physical access to the water.
3. Public access to the shoreline should be sensitive to the unique characteristics of the shoreline and should preserve the natural character and quality of the environment and adjacent wetlands, public access should assure no net loss of ecological functions.
4. Where appropriate, water-oriented public access should be provided as close as possible to the water's edge without adversely affecting a sensitive environment.
5. Except for access to the water, the preferred location for placement of public access trails is as close to the furthest landward edge of the native vegetation zone as practical. Public access facilities should provide auxiliary facilities, such as parking and sanitation, when appropriate, and shall be designed for accessibility by people with disabilities. Publicly owned shorelines should be limited to water-dependent or public recreation uses, otherwise such shorelines should remain protected open space.
6. Public access afforded by public right of way street ends adjacent to the shoreline should be preserved, maintained, and enhanced.
7. Public access should be designed to provide for public safety and to minimize potential impacts to private property and individual privacy. This may include providing a physical separation to reinforce the distinction between public and private space, providing adequate space, through screening with landscape planting or fences, or other means.
8. Public views from the shoreline upland areas should be enhanced and preserved. Enhancement of views should not be construed to mean excess removal of vegetation that partially impairs views.
9. Public access facilities should be constructed of environmentally friendly materials and support healthy natural processes, whenever financially feasible and possible.
10. Public access facilities should be maintained to provide a clean, safe experience, and to protect the environment.

#### **B. Public Access Regulations**

1. Public access shall be required for all shoreline development and uses, except for a single-family residence or residential projects containing less than four (4) dwelling units.
2. Requirement of public access to shorelines does not confer the right to enter upon or cross private property, except for dedicated and marked public easements.
3. A shoreline development or use that does not provide public access may be authorized provided the applicant demonstrates and the Director determines that one or more of the following provisions apply:
  - a. Unavoidable health or safety hazards to the public exist that cannot be prevented by any feasible means;
  - b. Security requirements cannot be satisfied through the application of alternative design features or other solutions;
  - c. The cost of providing the access, easement, or an alternative amenity is unreasonably disproportionate to the total long-term cost of the proposed development;
  - d. Unacceptable environmental harm, such as damage to fish spawning areas will result from the public access that cannot be mitigated; and/or
  - e. Significant conflict between the proposed access and adjacent uses would occur and cannot be mitigated.

- f. The applicant must also demonstrate that all reasonable means to public access have been exhausted, including but not limited to:
  - i. Regulating access by such means as limiting use to daylight hours;
  - ii. Designing separation of uses and activities with such means as fences, terracing, hedges, or landscaping; and/or
  - iii. Providing access that is physically separated from the proposal, such as a nearby street end, an offsite viewpoint, or a trail system.
4. Public access sites shall be made barrier free for people with disabilities.
5. Public access sites shall be connected directly to the nearest public street.
6. Required public access sites shall be fully developed and available for public use at the time of occupancy or use of the development or activity.
7. Public access easements and permit conditions shall be recorded on the deed where applicable or on the face of a plat or short plat as a condition running with the land. Said recording with the King County Recorder's office shall occur at the time of permit approval (RCW 58.17.110).
8. The standard state approved logo and other approved signs that indicate the public's right of access and hour of access shall be constructed, installed, and maintained by the applicant in conspicuous locations at public access sites. Signs controlling or restricting public access may be approved as a condition of permit approval.
9. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties to the shoreline and adjoining waters.
10. Physical public access shall be designed to prevent significant impacts to natural systems by employing Low Impact Development techniques.

## Subchapter 2. Specific Shoreline Use Policies and Regulations

### 20.230.070 General

Specific shoreline use provisions are more detailed than those listed in General Policies and Regulations. These use policies and regulations apply to the identified use categories and provide a greater level of detail for uses and their impacts. The policies establish the shoreline management principles that apply to each use category and serve as a bridge between the various elements listed in section 20.200.020 of this Master Program and the use regulations that follow.

This subchapter also includes those activities that modify the configuration or qualities of the shoreline area. Shoreline modification activities are, by definition, undertaken in support of or in preparation for a permitted shoreline use. Typically, shoreline modification activities relate to construction of a physical element such as a breakwater, dredged basins, landfilling, etc., but they can include other actions such as clearing, grading, application of chemicals, etc.

Shoreline modification policies and regulations are intended to prevent, reduce, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts of proposed shoreline modifications consistent with the goals of the Shoreline Management Act. A proposed development must meet all of the regulations for both applicable uses and activities as well as the general and environment designation regulations.

The following policies and regulations apply to specific types of development that may be proposed in the shoreline jurisdiction of the City. A proposal can consist of more than one type of development. In addition, all specific shoreline development must be consistent with the following Shoreline Environmental Designations; the goals and objectives of SMC 20.200, subchapter 1; and the general policies and regulations contained in SMC 20.230, subchapter 1.

### 20.230.080 Shoreline Environmental Designations

**Aquatic Environment (A).** The purpose of this designation is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high-water mark. New overwater structures are allowed only for water-dependent uses, public access, or ecological restoration and must be limited to the minimum necessary to support the structure's intended use.

**Urban Conservancy Environment (UC).** The purpose of this designation is to protect and restore relatively undeveloped or unaltered shorelines to maintain open space, floodplains, or habitat, while allowing a variety of compatible uses. This designation shall apply to shorelines that retain important ecological functions, even if partially altered. These shorelines are suitable for low intensity development, uses that are a combination of water related or water-enjoyment uses, or uses that allow substantial numbers of people access to the shoreline. Any undesignated shorelines are automatically assigned an urban conservancy designation.

**Shoreline Residential Environment (SR).** The purpose of this designation is to accommodate residential development and accessory structures that are consistent with this Shoreline Master Program. This designation shall apply to shorelines that do not meet the criteria for Urban



Conservancy and that are characterized by single-family or multifamily residential development or are planned and platted for residential development.

**Waterfront Residential Environment (WR).** The purpose of this designation is to distinguish between residential portions of the coastline where natural and manmade features preclude building within the shoreline jurisdiction and the section along 27th Avenue NW where residential properties directly abut the Puget Sound.

Characteristics of 27th Avenue NW include:

- Only fully established residential property in the City of Shoreline directly abutting the Puget Sound;
- Substantial number of legally existing nonconforming lots and nonconforming structures;
- Exposure to high energy wind and wave action;
- Fully armored shoreline prior to December 4, 1969 and residences occupied prior to January 1, 1992; and
- Failure of an individual bulkhead would cause adverse effect on subject property as well as neighboring properties.

These unique circumstances and considerations warrant different regulations for 27th Avenue NW as compared to existing residential property that is cut off from the shoreline by bluffs and railroad tracks (UC and SR), and potential new residential properties in the Point Wells designations (PW and PWC).

**Point Wells Urban Environment (PW).** The purpose of this designation is to accommodate higher density uses while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions that have been degraded.

**Point Wells Urban Conservancy Environment (PWC).** The purpose of this designation is to distinguish between differing levels of potential and existing ecological function within the Point Wells environment, and regulate uses and public access requirements appropriately.

**Table 20.230.081 Permitted Uses and Modifications Within the Shorelines**

Uses that are allowed in tables 20.40.120 through 20.40.150 are permitted uses in accordance with the underlying zone, this chapter, and the provisions of the Shoreline Master Program.

- P** = Permitted - Permitted uses may require Shoreline Substantial Development Permits and any other permits required by the Shoreline Municipal Code and/or other regulatory agencies.
- C** = Conditional Use - Conditional uses require Shoreline Conditional Use Permit and may require other permits required by the Shoreline Municipal Code and/or other regulatory agencies.
- X** = Prohibited

City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

**Table 20.230.081 Permitted Uses and Modifications Within the Shorelines**

Shoreline Environments						
Shoreline Use	Aquatic	Urban Conservancy	Shoreline Residential	Waterfront Residential	PW Urban Conservancy	PW Urban
Agriculture	X	X	X	X	X	X
Aquaculture	C	X	X	X	X	X
Boating Facilities (boat hoists and launching ramps, )	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Boat launching ramps open to the public	P: Joint-use boat launching ramps	P: Joint-use boat launching ramps	X	P: Boat launching ramps open to the public
Nonresidential Development	X	X	X	X	P	P
Forest Practices	X	X	X	X	X	X
Industrial Development	X	X	X	X	P: Existing	P: Existing C: Expansion
In-stream Structures	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project
Mining	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mooring	P	X	X	X	X	X
Recreation Use (water-related)	C: Water-dependent only	P	P	P	P: Limit to low intensity uses, passive uses	P
Recreation Facilities	C <sup>9</sup>	P	P	P	P: Limit to low intensity uses, passive uses	P
Residential Developments	X	P	P	P	P	P

City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

Signs	X <sup>6</sup>	P	P	P	P	P
Permanent Solid Waste Storage or Transfer Facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X
Transportation Facilities (Roads and Bridges)	X	C	P	P	C	P
Transportation Facilities <sup>3</sup> (Railroads)	P	P	P	P	P	P
Utilities	C	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities
Unclassified Uses	C	C	C	C	C	C

Shoreline Modifications	Aquatic	Urban Conservancy	Shoreline Residential	Waterfront Residential	PW Urban Conservancy	PW Urban
Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins, and Weirs	C <sup>1</sup>	X	X	X	X	C <sup>7</sup>
Dredging	P <sup>4</sup> C: Related to navigation for PWU	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>
Dredging Material Disposal	C	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>
Dune Modification	X	X	X	X	X	X

City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

Piers and Docks	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Public	P: Joint-use	P: Joint-use	X	P: Existing associated w/ industrial use P: Public piers or docks C: Expansion of existing with water-oriented industrial use
Structural Flood Hazard Reduction (Dikes and Levees)	X	X	X	X	X	X
New Shoreline Stabilization Bulkheads and Revetments	X	X	X	X	X	X
Soft-shore Stabilization	P <sup>1</sup>	P	P	P	P: w/Utilities	P
Maintenance of existing	P	P	P	P <sup>8</sup>	P	P
Hard shoreline armoring	X	C	C	C	X	C
Land Disturbing activities	X	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>
Landfilling	C <sup>4</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>	C <sup>1</sup>	C <sup>1</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>
Shoreline Habitat and Natural Systems Enhancement Projects	P	P	P	P	P	P
Marinas	X	X	X	X	X	X

<sup>1</sup> Subject to the use limitations and permit requirements of the abutting upland shoreline environment designation.

<sup>2</sup> The City recognizes the Federal preemption for local permitting per the ICC Termination Act of 1995, 49 U.S.C. § 10501(b); however, for the purposes of Coastal Zone Management consistency the railroad company would be required to comply with the policies of the City of Shoreline's SMP.

<sup>3</sup> For activities associated with shoreline restoration or remediation; or limited if associated with public access improvement and allowed shoreline development.

<sup>4</sup> For activities associated with shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation

<sup>5</sup> For shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement, fish habitat enhancement, or watershed restoration project.

<sup>6</sup> Signs required by regulatory agencies for navigational operation, safety and direction purposes allowed in Aquatic environment per 20.230.230(B)(1).

<sup>7</sup> Limited to water-dependent, public access, or shoreline stabilization activities

<sup>8</sup> This includes replacement

<sup>9</sup> Refer to 20.230.130 for conditions

**Table 20.230.082 Native Conservation Area / Building Setbacks<sup>1</sup>**

Shoreline Environmental Designation	Minimum Native Vegetation Conservation or Setback Area <sup>1</sup>
Urban Conservancy	150 feet or 50 feet from the top of a landslide hazard area, whichever is greater
Shoreline Residential	115 feet
Waterfront Residential	20 feet
Point Wells Urban	50 feet (restoration required as part of development)
Point Wells Urban Conservancy	115

Bulk standards will be regulated by underlying zoning according to SMC Table 20.50.020(1). Zoning designation is R6 for UC, SR, and WR, and yet to be determined for PW and PWC.

<sup>1</sup>The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCAs should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.

### **20.230.090 Boating Facilities**

Boating facilities serving two or more single family dwelling units generally include boat launch ramps (public and private), wet and dry boat storage, and related sales and service for pleasure and commercial watercraft. For the purpose of this section, boat hoists, davits, lifts, and/or dry boat storage of private watercraft consistent with single-family residential properties are not included.

#### **A. Boating Facilities Policies**

1. Boating facilities can have a significant impact on habitat. The impacts of boating facilities should be reviewed thoroughly before boating facilities are permitted in the shoreline jurisdiction.
2. Public and community boating facilities may be allowed. Individual private facilities are prohibited.
3. New nonresidential boating facilities may be allowed as a conditional use within the regulated shoreline. When allowed, such facilities should be designed to accommodate public access and enjoyment of the shoreline location. Depending on the scale of the facility, public access should include walkways, viewpoints, restroom facilities, and other recreational uses.
4. Dry boat storage should not be considered a water-oriented use. Only boat hoists, boat launch ramps, and access routes associated with a dry boat storage facility should be considered a water-oriented use.
5. Health, Safety and Welfare considerations must be addressed in application for development of boating facilities.
6. Navigation rights must be protected in development of boating facilities.

7. Extended moorage on waters of the state without a lease or permission is restricted and mitigation of impacts to navigation and access is required.

#### **B. Boating Facilities Regulations**

1. Boating facilities may be permitted only if:
  - a. It can be demonstrated that the facility will not adversely impact fish or wildlife habitat areas or associated wetlands; and
  - b. Adequate mitigation measures ensure that there is no net loss of the functions or values of the shoreline and habitat as a result of the facility.
2. Boating facilities shall not be permitted within the following marine shoreline habitats because of their scarcity, biological productivity and sensitivity unless no alternative location is feasible, the project would result in a net enhancement of shoreline ecological functions, and the proposal is otherwise consistent with this Program:
  - a. Critical saltwater habitats; and
  - b. Marshes, estuaries and other wetlands.
3. Preferred ramp designs, in order of priority, are:
  - a. Open grid designs with minimum coverage of beach substrate;
  - b. Seasonal ramps that can be removed and stored upland; and
  - c. Structures with segmented pads and flexible connections that leave space for natural beach substrate and can adapt to changes in beach profile.
4. Ramps shall be placed and maintained near flush with the foreshore slope.
5. Boat launches shall be designed and constructed using methods/technology that have been recognized and approved by state and federal resource agencies as the best currently available. Rail and track systems shall be preferred over concrete ramps or similar facilities.
6. Launch access for non-motorized watercraft shall use gravel or other permeable material. Removal of vegetation for launch access should be limited to eight (8) feet in width.
7. Before granting approval of a permit to allow a boat launch ramp, the proponent must satisfactorily demonstrate that:
  - a. Adequate facilities for the efficient handling of sewage and litter will be provided;
  - b. The boating facilities will be designed so that structures are aesthetically compatible with, or enhance shoreline features and uses; and
  - c. The boating facilities will be designed so that existing or potential public access along beaches is not blocked or made unsafe, and so that public use of the surface waters is not unduly impaired.

#### **C. Boat Launch Ramps**

1. Boat launch ramps shall be located on stable shorelines where water depths are adequate to eliminate or minimize the need for channel maintenance activities.
2. Boat launch ramps may be permitted on accretion shoreforms provided any necessary grading is not harmful to affected resources.
3. Where boat ramps are permitted, parking, and shuttle areas shall not be located on accretion shoreforms.
4. Boat launch ramps may be permitted on stable, non-eroding banks where the need for shore stabilization structures is minimized.
5. Ramp structures shall be placed near flush with the foreshore slope to minimize the interruption of geohydraulic processes.
6. Boat launch sites that are open to the public shall have adequate restroom facilities operated and maintained in compliance with King County Health District regulations.



**D. Dry Boat Storage**

1. Dry boat storage shall not be considered a water-oriented use and must comply with the required shoreline environment setback.
2. Only water-dependent aspects of dry-boat storage, such as boat hoists and boat launch ramps may be permitted within shoreline environment setbacks.
3. Boat launch ramps associated with dry boat storage shall be consistent with applicable requirements in this section.

**20.230.095 Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins, and Weirs****A. Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins and Weirs Policies**

1. Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs should be permitted only for water-dependent uses and only where mitigated to provide no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes.

**B. Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins and Weirs Regulations**

1. Groins are prohibited except as a component of a professionally designed public beach management program that encompasses an entire drift sector or reach for which alternatives are infeasible, or where installed to protect or restore shoreline ecological functions or processes.
2. Jetties and breakwaters are prohibited except as an integral component of a professionally designed harbor, or port. Where permitted, floating, portable or submerged breakwater structures, or smaller discontinuous structures are preferred where physical conditions make such alternatives with less impact feasible. Defense works that substantially reduce or block littoral drift and cause erosion of downdrift shores, shall not be allowed unless an adequate long term professionally engineered beach nourishment program is established and maintained.

**20.230.100 Nonresidential Development****A. Nonresidential Development Policies**

1. Priority of any nonresidential development should be given to water-dependent and water-enjoyment uses. Allowed uses include restaurants that provide a view of the sound to customers, motels and hotels that provide walking areas for the public along the shoreline, office buildings, and retail sales buildings that have a waterfront theme with public access to the beach or water views.
2. Over-the-water nonresidential development shall be prohibited.
3. Nonresidential development should be required to provide on-site physical or visual access to the shoreline, or offer other opportunities for the public to enjoy shorelines of statewide significance. If on-site access cannot be provided, offsite access should be required. Off site access could be procured through the purchase of land or an easement at a location appropriate to provide the access deemed necessary. Nonresidential developments should include multiple use concepts such as open space and recreation.
4. Nonresidential development in the shoreline jurisdiction should include landscaping to enhance the shoreline area.

**B. Nonresidential Development Regulations**

1. Over-water construction of nonresidential uses is prohibited, with the exception of boat facilities necessary for the operation of an associated nonresidential use.
2. All nonresidential development within the shoreline area shall provide for visual and/or physical access to the shoreline by the public. Where on-site public access is feasible, nonresidential development shall dedicate, improve, and provide maintenance for a pedestrian easement that provides area sufficient to ensure usable access to and along the shoreline for the general public. Public access easements shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width and shall comply with the public access standards contained in the Public Access section of this Shoreline Master Program and the Shoreline Development Code.
3. All nonresidential loading and service areas shall be located on the upland side of the nonresidential activity or provisions shall screen the loading and service areas from the shoreline.
4. All nonresidential development within shoreline jurisdiction shall assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
5. A shoreline setback is not required to be maintained for water-dependant nonresidential development.
6. Water-dependent, nonresidential development shall maintain a shoreline setback of either 25 feet from the OHWM or 10 feet from the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater. If public access is provided to the shoreline, the setback may be reduced to 10 feet from the OHWM or the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater.
7. Nonwater-dependent nonresidential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.

**20.230.110 In-stream Structures.****A. In-stream Structures Policies**

1. In-stream structures should provide for the protection and preservation, of ecosystem-wide processes, ecological functions, and cultural resources including, but not limited to fish and fish passage, wildlife and water resources, shoreline critical areas, hydrogeological processes, and natural scenic vistas. The location and planning of in-stream structures should give due consideration to the full range of public interests, watershed functions and processes, and environmental concerns, with special emphasis on protecting and restoring priority habitats and species.
2. Non-structural and non-regulatory methods to protect, enhance, and restore shoreline ecological functions and processes and other shoreline resources should be encouraged as an alternative to structural in-stream structures.

**B. In-stream Structures Regulations**

1. Natural instream features such as snags, uprooted trees, or stumps should be left in place unless it can be demonstrated that they are actually causing bank erosion or higher flood stages.
2. Instream structures shall allow for normal ground water movement and surface runoff.
3. In-stream structures shall not impede upstream or downstream migration of anadromous fish.
4. All debris, overburden and other waste materials from construction shall be disposed of in such a manner that prevents their entry into a water body.

**20.230.115 Aquaculture.**

**A. Aquaculture Policies**

1. Aquaculture should not be permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with existing adjacent uses.
2. Aquacultural facilities must be designed and located so as not to spread disease to native aquatic life, establish new nonnative species which cause significant ecological impacts, or significantly impact the aesthetic qualities of the shoreline.

**B. Aquaculture Regulations**

1. Aquaculture shall be limited to geoduck harvesting within Department of Natural Resources' tracts or for recovery of a native aquatic population in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.
2. Aquaculture is not permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with navigation and other water-dependent uses.
3. Aquaculture is prohibited in critical saltwater habitat or within a 10 foot buffer from these areas.
4. No aquatic organism shall be introduced into shoreline areas without the prior written approval of the Director of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife or the appropriate regulatory agency for the specific organism.
5. No aquacultural processing, except for the sorting or culling of the cultured organism and the washing or removal of surface materials or organisms, shall be permitted waterward of the ordinary high water mark unless fully contained within a tending boat or barge.
6. Shellfish seeding and culturing is allowed when conducted for native population recovery in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.

**20.230.120 Parking Areas.****A. Parking Area Policies**

1. Parking in shoreline areas should be minimized.
2. Parking within shoreline areas should directly serve a permitted use on the property.
3. Parking in shoreline areas should be located and designed to minimize adverse impacts including those related to stormwater runoff, water quality, visual qualities, public access, and vegetation and habitat maintenance.
4. Landscaping should consist of native vegetation in order to enhance the habitat opportunities within the shorelines area.

**B. Parking Regulations**

Parking for specific land use activities within the City of Shoreline is subject to the requirements and standards set forth in SMC 20.50 Subchapter 6. Parking, Access, and Circulation. In addition, the following parking requirements shall apply to all developments within shorelands.

1. The location of parking areas in or near shoreland areas shall be located outside of the minimum setbacks listed in Table 20.230.082 for the shoreline designation.
2. Parking in the shorelands must directly serve an approved shoreline use.
3. Parking shall be located on the landward side of the development unless parking is contained within a permitted structure. Where there is no available land area on the landward side of the development, parking shall extend no closer to the shoreline than a permitted structure.
4. Landscape screening is required between the parking area and all adjacent shorelines and properties.

5. The landscape screening for parking areas located within the shoreline areas shall consist of native vegetation, planted prior to final approval of project, which provides effective screening two (2) years after planting. Adequate screening or landscaping for parking lots shall consist of one or more of the following:
  - a. A strip five (5) feet wide landscaped with trees, shrubs, and/or groundcover;
  - b. A building or enclosed structure; and/or
  - c. A strip of land not less than two and a half (2.5) feet in width that is occupied by a continuous wall, fence, plant material, or combination of both; which shall be at least three and a half (3.5) feet high at time of installation. The plant material shall be evergreen and spaced not more than one and a half (1.5) feet on center if pyramidal in shape, or not more than three (3) feet if wider in branching habit. If the plant material is used in conjunction with a wall or fence meeting the minimum height requirements then said material may be of any kind and spacing. More restrictive screening may be required 20.50 SMC, Subchapters 6 and 7. Required parking area screening may be incorporated into general landscaping requirements under SMC Subchapters 6 and 7.
6. The requirement for screening may be waived by the Director, where screening would obstruct a significant view from public property or public roadway.
7. Parking areas shall not be permitted over the water.
8. Parking as a primary use shall be prohibited within all shoreline environments.
9. Parking or storage of recreational vehicles or travel trailers as a primary use shall be prohibited in all shoreline environments.

#### **20.230.130 Recreational Facilities.**

Recreational development provides for low impact activities, such as hiking, photography, kayaking, viewing, and fishing, or more intensive uses such as parks. This section applies to both publicly and privately-owned shoreline facilities.

##### **A. Recreational Facilities Policies**

1. The coordination of local, state, and federal recreation planning should be encouraged so as to mutually satisfy recreational needs. Shoreline recreational developments should be consistent with all adopted parks, recreation, and open space plans.
2. Parks, recreation areas, and public access points, such as hiking paths, bicycle paths, and scenic drives should be linked.
3. Recreational developments should be located and designed to preserve, enhance, or create scenic views and vistas.
4. The use of jet-skis and similar recreational equipment should be restricted to special areas. This type of activity should be allowed only where no conflict exists with other uses and wildlife habitat.
5. All recreational developments should make adequate provisions for:
  - a. Vehicular and pedestrian access, both on-site and off-site;
  - b. Proper water, solid waste, and sewage disposal methods;
  - c. Security and fire protection for the use itself and for any use-related impacts to adjacent private property;
  - d. The prevention of overflow and trespass onto adjacent properties; and
  - e. Buffering of such development from adjacent private property or natural areas.

**B. Recreational Facilities Regulations**

1. Valuable shoreline resources and fragile or unique areas, such as wetlands and accretion shore forms, shall be used only for low impact and nonstructural recreation activities.
2. For recreation developments that require the use of fertilizers, pesticides, or other chemicals, the property owner shall submit plans demonstrating the methods to be used to prevent these chemical applications and resultant leachate from entering adjacent water bodies. The property owner shall be required to maintain a chemical-free swath at least one hundred (100) feet in depth adjacent to water bodies.
3. Recreational facilities shall make adequate provisions, such as screening, buffer strips, fences, and signs, to mitigate nuisance to nearby private properties.
4. No recreational buildings or structures shall be built waterward of the OHWM, except water-dependent and/or water-enjoyment structures such as bridges and viewing platforms. Such uses may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use.
5. Proposals for recreational development shall include adequate facilities for water supply, sewage, and garbage disposal.

**20.230.140 Residential Development.**

1. Residential development does not include hotels, motels, or any other type of overnight or transient housing or camping facilities.
2. A Shoreline Substantial Development Permit is not required for construction of a single family residence by an owner, lessee, or contract purchaser for their own use or the use of their family. Single family residential construction and accessory structures must otherwise conform to this Shoreline Master Program.
3. A Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit may be required for residential development for situations specified in the Shoreline Master Program.
4. Uses and facilities associated with residential development, which are identified as separate use activities in this Shoreline Master Program, such as land disturbing activities, are subject to the regulations established for those uses in this section.

**A. Residential Policies**

1. In accordance with the Public Access requirements in 20.230.060, residential developments of four (4) or more dwelling units should provide dedicated and improved public access to the shoreline.
2. Residential development and accessory uses should be prohibited over the water.
3. New subdivisions should be encouraged to cluster dwelling units in order to preserve natural features, minimize physical impacts, and provide for public access to the shoreline.
4. In all new subdivisions and detached single family development with four (4) or more dwelling units, joint-use shoreline facilities should be encouraged.
5. Accessory uses and structures should be designed and located to blend into the site as much as possible. Accessory uses and structures should be located landward of the principal residence when feasible.

**B. Residential Regulations**

1. Residential development is prohibited waterward of the OHWM and within setbacks defined for each shoreline environment designation.
2. Residential development shall assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
3. Residential development shall not be approved if geotechnical analysis demonstrates that flood control or shoreline protection measures are necessary to create a residential lot or site

area. Residential development shall be located and designed to avoid the need for structural shore defense and flood protection works.

4. If wetlands or other critical areas are located on the development site, clustering of residential units shall be required in order to avoid impacts to these areas.
5. Storm drainage facilities shall include provisions to prevent the direct entry of uncontrolled and untreated surface water runoff into receiving waters as specified in the Stormwater Manual.
6. Subdivisions and planned unit developments of four (4) or more waterfront lots/units shall dedicate, improve, and provide maintenance provisions for a pedestrian easement that provides area sufficient to ensure usable access to and along the shoreline for all residents of the development and the general public. When required, public access easements shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width and shall comply with the Public Access standards in 20.230.060. The design shall conform to the standards in the Engineering Development Manual.
7. Single family residential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.
8. Multifamily residential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.
9. One (1) accessory structure to the residence may be placed within the required shoreline setback provided:
  - a. No accessory structure shall cover more than 200 square feet.

### Subchapter 3. Shoreline Modification Policies and Regulations

#### **20.230.150 General**

Shoreline modification involves developments that provide bank stabilization or flood control. The purpose of the modification is to reduce adverse impacts caused by natural processes, such as current, flood, tides, wind, or wave action. Shoreline modification includes all structural and nonstructural means to reduce flooding and/or erosion of banks.

Nonstructural methods include setbacks of permanent and temporary structures, relocation of the structure to be protected, ground water management, planning, bioengineering or “soft” engineered solutions, and regulatory measures to avoid the need for structural stabilization.

"Hard" structural stabilization measures refer to those with solid, hard surfaces, such as concrete bulkheads, while "soft" structural measures rely on natural materials such as biotechnical vegetation or beach enhancement. Generally, the harder the construction measure, the greater the impact on shoreline processes, including sediment transport, geomorphology, and biological functions. New structural shoreline stabilization also often results in vegetation removal, as well as damage to nearshore habitat and shoreline corridors. There are a range of measures varying from soft to hard that include:

- Vegetation enhancement
- Upland drainage control
- Biotechnical measures
- Beach enhancement
- Anchor trees
- Gravel placement
- Rock revetments
- Gabions
- Concrete groins
- Retaining walls and bluff walls
- Bulkheads

#### **A. Shoreline Modification Policies - General**

1. Biostabilization and other bank stabilization measures should be located, designed, and constructed primarily to prevent damage to the existing primary structure.
2. All new development should be located and designed to prevent or minimize the need for shoreline stabilization measures and flood protection works. New development requiring shoreline stabilization shall be discouraged in areas where no preexisting shoreline stabilization is present.
3. Shoreline modifications are only allowed for mitigation or enhancement purposes, or when and where there is a demonstrated necessity to support or protect an existing primary structure or legally existing shoreline use that is otherwise in danger of loss or substantial damage.
4. Proposals for shoreline modifications should be designed to protect life and property without impacting shoreline resources.
5. Shoreline modifications that are natural in appearance, compatible with ongoing shoreline processes, and provide flexibility for long term management, such as protective berms or

vegetative stabilization, should be encouraged over structural means such as concrete bulkheads or extensive revetments, where feasible.

6. Structural solutions to reduce shoreline damage should be allowed only after it is demonstrated that nonstructural solutions would not be able to withstand the erosive forces of the current and waves.
7. The design of bank stabilization or protection works should provide for the long-term, multiple-use of shoreline resources and public access to public shorelines.
8. In the design of publicly financed or subsidized works, consideration should be given to providing pedestrian access to shorelines for low impact outdoor recreation.
9. All flood protection measures should be placed landward of the natural flood boundary, including wetlands that are directly interrelated and inter-dependent with water bodies.
10. If through construction and/or maintenance of shoreline modification developments, the loss of vegetation and wildlife habitat will occur, mitigation should be required.

#### **B. Shoreline Modification Regulations - General**

1. All new development, uses or activities within the shoreline area shall be located and designed to prevent or minimize the need for bank stabilization and flood protection works.
2. Permitted and Shoreline Conditional Use requirements for bulkheads and revetments are specified in this chapter. All other forms of shoreline modification, except soft shore must be approved as a Shoreline Conditional Use within all shoreline environments.
3. All shoreline stabilization proposals, except soft shore require a geotechnical analysis.
4. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that mitigates impacts to the environment. The preferred mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, mitigate, compensate) shall follow that listed in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(e).
5. New nonwater-dependent development, including single-family residences, that includes structural shoreline stabilization shall not be allowed unless all of the conditions below apply, otherwise new stabilization measures are limited to protecting only existing developments:
  - a. The need to protect the development from destruction due to erosion caused by natural processes, such as currents and waves, is demonstrated through a geotechnical/hydro-geological report prepared by a City-approved qualified professional.
  - b. The erosion is not caused by upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation and/or drainage issues.
  - c. There will be no net loss of shoreline ecological functions or impacts to adjacent or down-current properties.
  - d. Nonstructural measures, such as placing the development further from the shoreline, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage improvements and soft structural solutions such as bioengineering, are not feasible or not sufficient.
  - e. The structure will not cause impacts to the functions and values of critical areas or properly functioning conditions for proposed, threatened, and endangered species.
  - f. Other mitigation/restoration measures are included in the proposal.
6. Upon project completion, all disturbed shoreline areas shall be restored to as near pre-project configuration as possible and replanted with appropriate vegetation. All losses in riparian vegetation or wildlife habitat shall be mitigated at a ratio of 1:1.25 (habitat lost to habitat replaced).
7. Shoreline stabilization and flood protection works are prohibited in wetlands and on point and channel bars. They are also prohibited in fish spawning areas.
8. Developments shall not reduce the volume and storage capacity of streams and adjacent wetlands or flood plains.



9. Use of refuse for the stabilization of shorelines is prohibited.

### **20.230.160 Dredging and Disposal of Dredging Spoils**

#### **A. Dredging and Dredge Spoil Policies**

1. Dredging waterward of the ordinary high water mark for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material is prohibited.
2. Dredging operations should be planned and conducted to minimize interference with navigation; avoid creating adverse impacts on other shoreline uses, properties, and ecological shoreline functions and values; and avoid adverse impacts to habitat areas and fish species.
3. Dredge spoil disposal in water bodies shall be prohibited except for habitat improvement.
4. Dredge spoil disposal on land should occur in areas where environmental impacts will not be significant.

#### **B. Dredging and Dredge Spoil Regulations**

1. Dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall be permitted only where it is demonstrated that the proposed actions will not:
  - a. Result in significant damage to water quality, fish, and other essential biological elements;
  - b. Adversely alter natural drainage and circulation patterns, currents, or reduce floodwater capacities;
  - c. Adversely impact properly functioning conditions for proposed, threatened, or endangered species; or
  - d. Adversely alter functions and values of the shoreline and associated critical areas.
2. Proposals for dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall include all feasible mitigating measures to protect habitats and to minimize adverse impacts such as turbidity; release of nutrients, heavy metals, sulfides, organic materials, or toxic substances; depletion of oxygen; disruption of food chains; loss of benthic productivity; and disturbance of fish runs and/or important localized biological communities.
3. Dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall not occur in wetlands unless for approved maintenance or enhancement associated with a restoration project.
4. Dredging within the shorelines shall be permitted only:
  - a. For navigational purposes; or
  - b. For activities associated with shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation.
5. When dredging is permitted, the dredging shall be the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.
6. Dredging shall utilize techniques that cause minimum dispersal and broadcast of bottom material; hydraulic dredging shall be used wherever feasible in preference to agitation dredging.
7. Dredge material disposal shall be permitted in shoreline jurisdiction only as part of an approved shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement, fish habitat enhancement or watershed restoration project.
8. Dredged spoil material may be disposed at approved upland sites. If these upland sites are dry lands and fall within shoreline jurisdiction, the disposal of dredge spoils shall be considered landfilling and must be consistent with all applicable provisions of the Master Program. Depositing dredge spoils within the Puget Sound shall be allowed only by Shoreline Conditional Use for one of the following reasons:
  - a. For wildlife habitat improvements; or

- b. To correct problems of material distribution that are adversely affecting fish resources.
9. If suitable alternatives for land disposal are not available or are infeasible, water disposal sites may be permitted by appropriate agencies, provided the sites are determined by the Director to be consistent with the following criteria:
  - a. Disposal will not interfere with geohydraulic processes;
  - b. The dredge spoil has been analyzed by a qualified professional and found to be minimally or non-polluting;
  - c. Aquatic life will not be adversely affected; and
  - d. The site and method of disposal meets all requirements of applicable regulatory agencies.
10. Disposal of dredge material shall be done in accordance with the Washington State DNR Dredge Material Management Program. DNR manages disposal sites through a Site Use Authorization (SUA); all other required permits must be provided to DNR prior to the DNR issuing a SUA for dredge disposal.
11. The City may impose reasonable limitations on dredge spoil disposal operating periods and hours, and may require buffer strips at land disposal sites.

#### **20.230.170 Piers and Docks**

Piers and Docks may be allowed in accordance with Table 20.230.081 only when the following conditions are met:

1. The public's need for piers and docks is clearly demonstrated, and the proposal is consistent with protection of the public trust, as embodied in RCW 90.58.020.
2. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible, or would result in unreasonable and disproportionate cost to accomplish the same general purpose.
3. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.
4. The project is consistent with the state's interest in resource protection and species recovery.
5. Private, noncommercial docks for joint or community use may be authorized provided that:
  - a. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible; and
  - b. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.
6. An inventory of the site and adjacent beach sections to assess the presence of critical saltwater habitats and functions is required. The methods and extent of the inventory shall be consistent with accepted research methodology. Proposals will be evaluated using Department of Ecology technical assistance materials for guidance.
7. Community moorage to serve new development shall be limited to the amount of moorage needed to serve lots with water frontage; provided that a limited number of upland lots may also be accommodated. Applications for shared moorage shall demonstrate that mooring buoys are not feasible prior to approval of dock moorage.
8. Piers and docks shall be constructed of materials that will not adversely affect water quality or aquatic plants and animals over the long term. Materials used for submerged portions of a pier or dock, decking, and other components that may come in contact with water shall be approved by applicable state agencies for use in water to avoid discharge of pollutants from wave splash, rain, or runoff. At a minimum, piles, floats, or other structural members in direct contact with the water shall be constructed of concrete or steel in accordance with BMP's published by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and they shall not be treated or coated with herbicides, fungicides, paint, or pentachlorophenol. Use of arsenate compounds or creosote is prohibited.

9. Pilings used in piers or docks shall have a minimum clearance of two feet above extreme high tide and a maximum clearance of five feet above the OHWM. Floats shall not rest on the substrate.
10. To minimize adverse effects on nearshore habitats and species caused by overwater structures that reduce ambient light levels, the following shall apply:
  - a. The width of docks, piers, floats, and lifts shall be the minimum necessary, and shall not be wider than six (6) feet unless authorized by in the permitting documents approved by WDFW and USACE;
  - b. The length of docks and piers shall be the minimum necessary to prevent the grounding of floats and boats on the substrate during low tide;
  - c. Docks floats or floating docks shall include stops that serve to keep the float bottom off tidelands at low tide;
  - d. The length and location of docks, piers, floats, and lifts pilings shall be designed using the BMP's as conditioned in the permitting documents approved by WDFW and USACE; and
  - e. The size of shared docks or piers is limited to 700 square feet for two lots and 1,000 square feet for 4 or more lots.
11. All new piers or docks must be fully grated. Grating to allow light passage or reflective panels to increase light refraction into the water shall be used on piers, docks, floats and gangways in nearshore areas. Decking shall have a minimum open space of 40% and after installation at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure shall be maintained.

#### **20.230.175 Pier and Dock Repair, Replacement, or Expansion**

1. Existing over-water structures may be repaired and/or replaced in the same location as the existing structure.
2. Repair or replacement of 50% or more of an existing over-water deck structure shall include the replacement of the entire decking with grated material to achieve a minimum open space of 40% and shall result in at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure.
3. Repair or replacement of less than 50% of the over-water deck structure shall use grated decking in the area to be replaced. If the cumulative repair in any three year period exceeds 50%, the entire decking shall be replaced to achieve a minimum open space of 40% and shall result in at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure.
4. Repair or replacement of structural members in contact with the water shall be constructed of concrete or steel in accordance with BMP's published by WDFW and USACE and they shall not be treated or coated with herbicides, fungicides, paint, or pentachlorophenol. Use of arsenate compounds or creosote is prohibited.
5. Expansion of existing over-water structures is prohibited.
6. Other repairs not described in this section to existing legally established are considered minor and may be permitted consistent with all applicable regulations.

#### **20.230.180 Bulkheads**

Bulkheads are walls usually constructed parallel to the shore, whose primary purpose is to contain and prevent the loss of soil by erosion, wave, or current action. Bulkheads are typically constructed of poured-in-place concrete; steel or aluminum sheet piling; wood; or wood and structural steel combinations.

The Washington State Shoreline Management Act only exempts the construction of a normal protective bulkhead associated with an existing single family residence from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirement. However, these structures are required to comply with all the policies and development standards of this Shoreline Master Program.

#### A. Bulkhead Policies

1. Bulkheads constructed from natural materials, such as protective berms, beach enhancement, or vegetative stabilization are strongly preferred over structural bulkheads constructed from materials such as steel, wood, or concrete. Proposals for bulkheads should demonstrate that natural methods are unworkable.
2. Bulkheads should be located, designed, and constructed primarily to prevent damage to the existing primary structure. New development that requires bulkheads is not permitted except as specifically provided under this Master Program.
3. Shoreline uses should be located in a manner so that a bulkhead is not likely to become necessary in the future.
4. Bulkheads should not be approved as a solution to geo-physical problems such as mass slope failure, sloughing, or landslides. Bulkheads should only be approved for the purposes of preventing bank erosion by the Puget Sound.

#### B. Bulkhead Regulations

1. New bulkheads may be allowed only when evidence is presented which demonstrates that one of the following conditions exist:
  - a. Serious erosion threatens an established use or existing primary structure on upland property.
  - b. Bulkheads are necessary to the operation and location of water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment activities consistent with this Shoreline Master Program, provided that all other alternative methods of shore protection have proven infeasible; and/or
  - c. A bulkhead is necessary to retain landfilling that has been approved consistent with the provisions of the Master Program.
2. Proposals for bulkheads must first demonstrate through a geotechnical analysis that use of natural materials and processes and non-structural or soft structural solutions to bank stabilization are not feasible.
3. The construction of a bulkhead for the primary purpose of retaining landfilling shall be allowed only in conjunction with:
  - a. A water-dependent use;
  - b. A bridge or navigational structure for which there is a demonstrated public need and where no feasible upland sites, design solutions, or routes exist; and/or
  - c. A wildlife or fish enhancement project.
4. Bulkheads shall not be located on shorelines where valuable geo-hydraulic or biological processes are sensitive to interference. Examples of such areas include wetlands and accretion landforms.
5. Bulkheads are to be permitted only where local physical conditions, such as foundation bearing materials, and surface and subsurface drainage, are suitable for such alterations.
6. If possible, bulkheads shall be located landward of the OHWM and generally parallel to the natural shoreline. In addition:

- a. Where no other bulkheads are adjacent, the construction of a bulkhead shall be as close to the eroding bank as possible and in no case shall it be more than three (3) feet from the toe of the bank;
  - b. A bulkhead for permitted landfilling shall be located at the toe of the fill; and
  - c. Where permitted a bulkhead must tie in flush with existing bulkheads on adjoining properties, except where the adjoining bulkheads extend waterward of the base flood elevation, the requirements set forth in this section shall apply.
7. Replacement bulkheads may be located immediately waterward of the bulkhead to be replaced such that the two (2) bulkheads will share a common surface, except where the existing bulkhead has not been backfilled or has been abandoned and is in serious disrepair. In such cases, the replacement bulkhead shall not encroach waterward of the OHWM or existing structure unless the residence was occupied prior to January 1, 1992 and there are overriding safety or environmental concerns.
  8. All bulkheads proposals require a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional. Bulkheads shall be sited and designed as recommended in approved geotechnical reports. For the Waterfront Residential environment designation, one geotechnical report could be prepared for multiple properties.
  9. When a bulkhead is required at a public access site, provision for safe access to the water shall be incorporated into bulkhead design.
  10. Bulkheads shall be designed for the minimum dimensions necessary to adequately protect the development.
  11. Stairs or other permitted structures may be built into a bulkhead but shall not extend waterward of the bulkhead, unless they are retractable or removable.
  12. Bulkheads shall be designed to permit the passage of surface or groundwater without causing ponding or saturation of retained soil/materials.
  13. Adequate toe protection consisting of proper footings, a fine retention mesh, etc., shall be provided to ensure bulkhead stability without relying on additional riprap.
  14. Materials used in bulkhead construction shall meet the following standards:
    - a. Bulkheads shall utilize stable, non-erodible, homogeneous materials such as concrete, wood, and rock that are consistent with the preservation and protection of the ecological habitat;
    - b. Dredge spoils shall not be used for fill behind bulkheads, except clean dredge spoil from a permitted off-site dredge and fill operation; and
    - c. Backfill and wave returns to stabilize bulkheads are permitted.

### **20.230.190 Revetment**

A revetment is a sloped shoreline structure built to protect an existing eroding shoreline or newly placed fill against currents. Revetments are most commonly built of randomly placed boulders (riprap) but may also be built of sand cement bags, paving or building blocks, gabions (rock filled wire baskets), or other systems and materials. The principal features of a revetment, regardless of type is a heavy armor layer, a filter layer, and toe protection.

#### **A. Revetment Policies**

1. The use of armored structural revetments should be limited to situations where it is determined that nonstructural solutions such as bioengineering, setbacks, buffers or any combination thereof, will not provide sufficient shoreline stabilization.
2. Revetments should be designed, improved, and maintained to provide public access whenever possible.

**B. Revetment Regulation**

1. The proposed revetment shall be designed by a qualified professional engineer.
2. Design of revetments shall include and provide improved access to public shorelines whenever possible.
3. When permitted, the location and design of revetments shall be determined using engineering principles, including guidelines of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
4. Armored revetment design shall meet the following design criteria:
  - a. The size and quantity of the material shall be limited to only that necessary to withstand the estimated energy intensity of the hydraulic system;
  - b. Filter fabric must be used to aid drainage and help prevent settling;
  - c. The toe reinforcement or protection must be adequate to prevent a collapse of the system from scouring or wave action; and
  - d. Fish habitat components, such as large boulders, logs, and stumps shall be considered in the design subject to a Hydraulic Project Approval by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

**20.230.200 Land Disturbing Activities.****A. Land Disturbing Activity Policies**

1. Land disturbing activities should only be allowed in association with a permitted shoreline development.
2. Land disturbing activities should be limited to the minimum necessary to accommodate the shoreline development or a landscape plan developed in conjunction with the shoreline development.
3. Erosion shall be prevented and sediment shall not enter waters of the state.

**B. Land Disturbing Activity Regulations**

1. All land disturbing activities shall only be allowed in association with a permitted shoreline development.
2. All land disturbing activities shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the intended development, including any clearing and grading approved as part of a landscape plan. Clearing invasive, non-native shoreline vegetation listed on the King County Noxious Weed List is permitted in the shoreline area with an approved clearing and grading permit provided best management practices are used as recommended by a qualified professional, and native vegetation is promptly reestablished in the disturbed area.
3. Tree and vegetation removal shall be prohibited in required Native Vegetation Conservation Areas, except as necessary to restore, mitigate or enhance the native vegetation by approved permit as required in these areas.
4. All significant trees in the Native Vegetation Conservation Areas shall be designated as protected trees consistent with SMC 20.50.340 and removal of hazard trees must be consistent with SMC 20.50.310(A)(1).
5. All shoreline development and activities shall use measures identified in the Stormwater Manual. Stabilization of exposed surfaces subject to erosion along shorelines shall, whenever feasible, utilize soil bioengineering techniques.

6. For extensive land disturbing activities that require a permit, a plan addressing species removal, revegetation, irrigation, erosion and sedimentation control, and other methods of shoreline protection should be required.

### **20.230.210 Landfilling**

#### **A. Landfilling Policies**

1. The perimeter of landfilling should be designed to avoid or eliminate erosion and sedimentation impacts, during both initial landfilling activities and over time.
2. Where permitted, landfilling should be the minimum necessary to provide for the proposed use and should be permitted only when conducted in conjunction with a specific development proposal that is permitted by the Shoreline Master Program. Speculative landfilling activity should be prohibited.

#### **B. Landfilling Regulations**

1. Landfilling activities shall only be permitted in conjunction with a specific development. Landfilling may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use for any of the following:
  - a. In conjunction with a water-dependent use permitted under this Shoreline Master Program; and/or
  - b. In conjunction with a bridge, utility, or navigational structure for which there is a demonstrated public need and where no feasible upland sites, design solutions, or routes exist;
2. Pier or pile supports shall be utilized in preference to landfilling. Landfilling for approved road development in floodways or wetlands shall be permitted only if pile or pier supports are proven structurally infeasible.
3. Landfilling shall be permitted only where it is demonstrated that the proposed action will not:
  - a. Result in significant damage to water quality, fish, and/or wildlife habitat; or
  - b. Adversely alter natural drainage and current patterns or significantly reduce floodwater capacities.
4. Where landfilling activities are permitted, the landfilling shall be the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.
5. Landfilling from dredging and dredge material disposal shall be done in a manner that avoids or minimizes significant ecological impacts. Impacts that cannot be avoided shall be mitigated in a manner that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
6. Dredging waterward of the OHWM for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material shall not be allowed, except when the material is necessary for the restoration of shoreline ecological functions. When allowed, the site where the fill is to be placed must be located waterward of the OHWM.
7. Landfilling shall be designed, constructed, and maintained to prevent, minimize, and control all material movement, erosion, and sedimentation from the affected area. Landfilling perimeters shall be designed and constructed with silt curtains, vegetation, retaining walls, or other mechanisms to prevent material movement. In addition, the sides of the landfilling shall be appropriately sloped to prevent erosion and sedimentation, during both the landfilling activities and afterwards.
8. Fill materials shall be clean sand, gravel, soil, rock, or similar material. Use of polluted dredge spoils and sanitary landfilling materials are prohibited. The property owner shall

- provide evidence that the material has been obtained from a clean source prior to fill placement.
9. Landfilling shall be designed to allow surface water penetration into aquifers, if such conditions existed prior to the fill.

### **20.230.230 Signs**

#### **A. Sign Policies**

Signs should be designed and placed so that they are compatible with the natural quality of the shoreline environment and adjacent land and water uses.

#### **B. Sign Regulations**

Signs within the City, including the shoreline area, are subject to the requirements and standards specified in SMC 20.50 Subchapter 8. Signs are based on the underlying zoning. In addition, the following sign requirements shall apply to signs within shoreline areas.

1. Signs shall only be allowed in or over water for navigation purposes; at road or railroad crossings as necessary for operation, safety and direction; or as related and necessary to a water dependent use.
2. Signs are permitted in all shoreline environments upland of the OHWM. These sign standards supplement the provisions of SMC 20.50.530 to 20.50.610. Where there is a conflict, the provisions herein shall apply.

#### **C. Prohibited signs.**

1. All prohibited signs per SMC 20.50.550.
2. Balloons, any inflatable signs, or inflatable objects used to aid in promoting the sale of products, goods, services, events, or to identify a building.
3. Searchlights and beacons.
4. Electronic reader boards or changing message signs.
5. Neon signs.
6. Pole Signs.
7. Backlit awnings used as signs.
8. Internally illuminated signs, except as allowed in 20.230.230(D)(1).
9. Signs that impair visual access from public viewpoints in view corridors are prohibited in all shoreline environments.

#### **D. Illumination of Signs**

1. Illumination of signs is only allowed as permitted by the underlying zoning.
2. Internal illumination of signs is only allowed with light provided by LED or other Energy Star rated luminaries, and is limited to:
  - a. Opaque cabinet signs where light only shines through the letters, not including symbols, images, or background; or
  - b. Shadow lighting, where letters are backlit, but light only shines through the edges of the letters.
3. All externally illuminated signs shall shield nearby properties from direct lighting. Light source must be within a maximum of 6 feet from the sign display, and limited to LED or other Energy Star rated luminaries.



4. No commercial sign shall be illuminated after 11:00 p.m. unless the commercial enterprise is open for business, and then may remain on only as long as the business is open.
5. The light from any illuminated sign shall be shaded, shielded or directed so that the light intensity or brightness shall not adversely affect:
  - a. Surrounding or facing premises;
  - b. Safe vision of operators of vehicles on public or private roads, highways, or parking areas; or
  - c. Safe vision of pedestrians on a public right-of-way.
6. Light from any sign shall not shine on, nor directly reflect into, residential structures, lots, or the water.
7. These provisions shall not apply to:
  - a. Lighting systems owned or controlled by any public agency for the purpose of directing or controlling navigation, traffic, and highway or street illumination;
  - b. Aircraft warning lights;
  - c. Temporary lighting used for repair or construction as required by governmental agencies; or
  - d. Temporary use of lights or decorations relating to religious or patriotic festivities.

#### **20.230.240 Stormwater Management Facilities**

##### **A. Stormwater Management Facilities Policies**

1. Stormwater facilities located in the shoreland area should be maintained only to the degree necessary to ensure the capacity and function of the facility, including the removal of non-native, invasive plant species.
2. The stormwater facility should be planted with native vegetation.

##### **B. Stormwater Management Facility Regulations**

1. New stormwater facilities shall be located so as not to require any shoreline protection works.
2. Stormwater facility development shall include public access to the shoreline, trail systems, and other forms of recreation, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with stormwater facility operations, endanger the public health, safety, and welfare, or create a significant and disproportionate liability for the owner.
3. Construction of stormwater facilities in shoreland areas shall be timed to avoid fish and/or wildlife migratory and spawning periods.

#### **20.230.250 Transportation.**

Transportation facilities are those structures and developments that aid in land and water surface movement of people, goods, and services. They include roads and highways, bridges and causeways, bikeways, trails, railroad facilities, and boat and floatplane terminals.

##### **A. Transportation Policies**

1. New roads within the shoreline area should be minimized.
2. Roads and railroad locations should be planned to fit the topographical characteristics of the shoreline such that alternation of natural conditions is minimized.
3. Pedestrian and bicycle trails should be encouraged.

4. When existing transportation corridors are abandoned they should be reused for water-dependent use or public access.
5. Alternatives to new roads or road expansion in the shoreline area should be considered as a first option.
6. Joint use of transportation corridors within shoreline jurisdiction for roads, utilities, and motorized forms of transportation should be encouraged.
7. New roads should be designed to accommodate bicyclists, pedestrians and transit, where feasible.

#### **B. Transportation Regulations**

1. Transportation facilities and services shall utilize existing transportation corridors wherever possible, provided the shoreline is not adversely impacted and the development is otherwise consistent with this Shoreline Master Program.
2. Transportation and primary utilities shall jointly use rights-of-way.
3. Landfilling activities for transportation facility development are prohibited in wetlands and on accretion beaches, except when all structural and upland alternatives have proven infeasible, and the transportation facilities are necessary to support uses consistent with this Shoreline Master Program.
4. Major new roads and railways shall avoid being located in the shoreline jurisdiction to the extent practical. These roads shall cross shoreline areas by the shortest, most direct route, unless this route would cause more damage to the environment.
5. New transportation facilities shall be located and designed to minimize or prevent the need for shoreline modification.
6. All bridges must be built high enough to allow the passage of debris, and provide 3 feet of clearance above the base flood elevation.
7. Shoreline transportation facilities shall be located and designed to avoid steep or unstable areas and fit the existing topography in order to minimize cuts and fills.
8. Bridge abutments and necessary approach fills shall be located landward of the OHWM, except bridge piers may be permitted in a water body as a Shoreline Conditional Use.

#### **20.230.260 Unclassified Uses and Activities**

In the event that a proposed shoreline use or activity is not identified or classified in this Shoreline Master Program, the following regulation shall apply.

##### **A. Regulations**

1. All uses and activities proposed in the shoreline area that are not classified by provisions in this Shoreline Master Program shall require a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.

#### **20.230.270 Utilities**

Primary utilities include substations, pump stations, treatment plants, sanitary sewer outfalls, electrical transmission lines greater than 55,000 volts, water, sewer or storm drainage mains greater than eight (8) inches in diameter, gas and petroleum transmission lines, and submarine telecommunications cables. Accessory utilities include local public water, electric, natural gas distribution, public sewer collection, cable and telephone service, and appurtenances.

**A. Utility Policies**

1. Utilities should utilize existing transportation and utility sites, rights-of-way, and corridors whenever possible. Joint use of rights-of-way and corridors should be encouraged.
2. Unless no other feasible alternative exists, utilities should be prohibited in the shoreline jurisdiction, wetlands, and other critical areas. There shall be no net loss of ecological functions or significant impacts to other shoreline resources or values.
3. New utility facilities should be located so as not to require extensive shoreline modifications.
4. Whenever possible, utilities should be placed underground or alongside or under bridges.
5. Solid waste disposal activities and facilities should be prohibited in shoreline areas.

**B. Utility Regulations**

1. Utility development shall provide for compatible, multiple-use of sites and rights-of-way when practical.
2. Utility development shall include public access to the shoreline, trail systems, and other forms of recreation, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with utility operations, endanger the public health, safety, and welfare, or create a significant and disproportionate liability for the owner.
3. The following primary utilities, which are not essentially water-dependent, may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use if it can be shown that no reasonable alternative exists:
  - a. Water system treatment plants;
  - b. Sewage system lines, interceptors, pump stations, and treatment plants;
  - c. Electrical energy generating plants, substations, lines, and cables; or
  - d. Petroleum and gas pipelines.
4. New solid waste disposal sites and facilities are prohibited.
5. New utility lines including electricity, communications, and fuel lines shall be located underground, except where the presence of bedrock or other obstructions make such placement infeasible.
6. Transmission and distribution facilities shall cross shoreline areas by the shortest most direct route feasible, unless such route would cause increased environmental damage.
7. Utilities requiring withdrawal of water shall be located only where minimum flows as established by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife can be maintained.
8. Utilities shall be located and designated so as to avoid the use of any structural or artificial shoreline modification.
9. All underwater pipelines are prohibited. If no other alternative exists a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is required.

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# CITY OF SHORELINE

## Shoreline Inventory and Characterization



Prepared for:  
City of Shoreline  
Shoreline, WA 98133

December 2008, Revised November 2009 and April 2010  
17544 Midvale Avenue N.

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## INTRODUCTION

### Background and Purpose

The City of Shoreline (City), Washington is undertaking a comprehensive update to its Shoreline Master Program (SMP) as required by the implementing guidelines in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). To support this effort, the City applied for and received a grant issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) (G0800171). This shoreline inventory and characterization study supports the SMP update process by providing a baseline inventory of existing conditions within the shoreline jurisdiction of the City.

In 2003, the Washington State Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6012, which established timelines for all cities and counties to amend their local shoreline master programs (SMPs) consistent with the Shoreline Management Act (SMA), RCW 90.58 and its updated implementing guidelines, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-26. The City of Shoreline is required to prepare an update to its SMP by the end of 2009. The City prepared the first draft of this shoreline inventory and characterization report in 2004; however, the report was not formally adopted or finalized. The City's first step towards a comprehensive SMP update involves revising the 2004 draft report to update technical information that has changed or been made available since 2004, and to be consistent with the current state shoreline guidelines. This report provides:

- Analysis and characterization of ecosystem-wide processes that affect the City's shoreline;
- Analysis and characterization of shoreline functions; and
- Opportunities for protection, restoration, public access and shoreline use.

The inventory and characterization documents current shoreline conditions and provides a basis for updating the City's SMP goals, policies and regulations. This report will help the City establish a baseline of conditions, evaluate functions and values of resources in its shoreline jurisdiction, and explore opportunities for conservation and restoration of ecological functions.

This inventory and characterization report also includes a map folio, located at the end of the document. All figures referenced in the document are found in the map folio.

### Shoreline Jurisdiction and Study Area Boundary

Under the SMA, the shoreline jurisdiction includes all submerged lands waterward of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of waters that have been designated as "shorelines of statewide significance" or "shorelines of the state," as well as those areas that are 200 feet landward of the OHWM of these same waters. The shoreline jurisdiction criteria were established in 1972, and are described in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-18. Generally, "shorelines of statewide significance" include portions of Puget Sound and other marine water bodies, rivers west of the Cascade Range that have a mean annual flow of 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) or greater, rivers east of the Cascade Range that have a mean annual flow of 200 cfs or greater, and freshwater lakes with a surface area of 1,000

acres or more. “Shorelines of the state” are generally described as all marine shorelines and shorelines of all other streams or rivers having a mean annual flow of 20 cfs or greater and lakes with a surface area greater than 20 acres.

The City’s shoreline jurisdiction includes the Puget Sound shore within both the city limits and its potential annexation area (PAA). The portion of Puget Sound seaward from the line of extreme low tide is considered a “shoreline of statewide significance” per RCW 90.58.030(2)(e). The remainder of the Puget Sound landward of the extreme low tide mark is considered a “shoreline of the state.” The City therefore includes approximately four miles of Puget Sound coastline. There are no rivers, streams or lakes in the City meeting the definition of “shorelines of the state.”

Under the SMA, the shoreline area to be regulated by the City’s Shoreline Master Program must include all shorelines of statewide significance, shorelines of the state, and their adjacent shorelands, which are defined as the upland area within 200 feet of the OHWM, as well as any associated wetlands (RCW 90.58.030) within its municipal jurisdiction. Since the SMP is in part a long-range planning document, this characterization report includes those marine shorelines within the city limits as well as the PAA. One-half mile of the Puget Sound is located in the City’s PAA. The City’s PAA is known as Point Wells, located directly north of the city in unincorporated Snohomish County (Maps 1 and 1-A).

The City’s shoreline jurisdiction extends to the landward edge of associated wetlands. “Associated wetlands” means those wetlands that are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the SMA (WAC 173-22-030 [1]). These are typically identified as wetlands that physically extend into the shoreline jurisdiction, or wetlands that are functionally related to the shoreline jurisdiction through surface water connection and/or other factors. The specific language from the RCW describes the limits of shoreline jurisdiction as follows:

*“those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such floodways; and all associated wetlands and river deltas”* (RCW 90.58.030[2][f]).

Wetlands associated with SMA regulated waters are limited to intertidal wetlands, mapped throughout the city limits along Puget Sound, and smaller wetlands associated with the lower reaches and mouths of Barnacle and Coyote (also known as Innis Arden South) Creeks.

### **Shoreline Planning Segments**

For the purposes of this study, the City’s shoreline jurisdiction was organized into five distinct segments (A through E) based broadly on the physical distinction along the shoreline, the level of ecological functions provided by each segment, as well as existing land uses and zoning designations. Shoreline Planning Segments are described in Table 1 and depicted on Map 1.

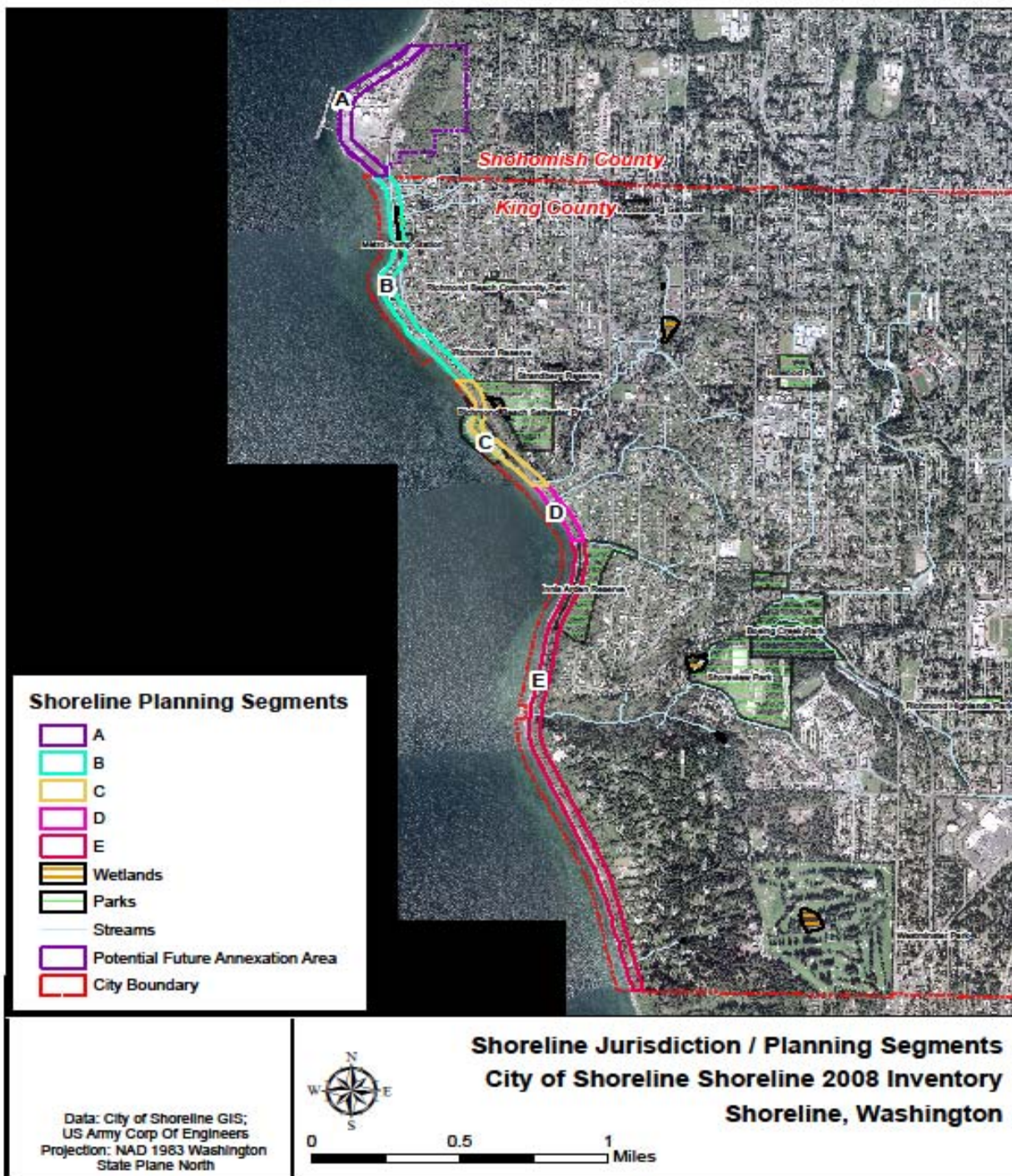
Table 1. Shoreline Planning Segments

<b>Shoreline Segment</b>	<b>Approximate Length (feet)</b>	<b>Approximate Segment Acreage</b>	<b>General Boundaries</b>
<b>A</b>	3,411	15.6	Potential Annexation Area / Point Wells: located directly north of the city limits in unincorporated Snohomish County.
<b>B</b>	4,724	21.7	Richmond Beach residential area: the Snohomish County line south to Richmond Beach Saltwater Park.
<b>C</b>	2,801	11.0	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park south to Storm Creek culvert.
<b>D</b>	1,295	5.7	Innis Arden residential area: south of Richmond Beach Saltwater Park to Innis Arden Reserve Park.
<b>E</b>	9,424	41.6	Innis Arden Reserve / Highlands: Innis Arden Reserve Park south to city limits.

Source: City of Shoreline, 2002

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Map 1: Shoreline Planning Segments



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## CURRENT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK SUMMARY<sup>1</sup>

### City of Shoreline Regulations

#### Current Shoreline Management Act Compliance

The Shoreline Management Act is implemented through the development of local Shoreline Master Programs (SMPs). Local SMPs establish a system to classify shoreline areas into specific “environment designations.” The purpose of shoreline environment designations is to provide a uniform basis for applying policies and use regulations within distinctly different shoreline areas. In a regulatory context, shoreline environment designations provide the governing policy and regulations that apply to land within the SMP jurisdiction. Portions of individual parcels that are outside SMP jurisdiction are governed by zoning and other applicable land use regulations. Generally, environment designations should be based on existing and planned development patterns, biological and physical capabilities and limitations of the shoreline, and a community’s vision or objectives for its future development.

When the City of Shoreline incorporated in 1995, it adopted regulations outlined in Title 25 (Shoreline Management Plan) of the King County Code as the interim shoreline management code (Shoreline Municipal Code [SMC] 16.10). Shoreline properties within the City’s PAA are regulated under the Snohomish County SMP, until such properties are annexed and the City’s SMP is amended. During development of the City of Shoreline’s first comprehensive plan in 1998, the City evaluated the natural and built characteristics of its shoreline jurisdiction and developed five preliminary shoreline environment designations:

- Urban Railroad (for developed portions of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe [BNSF] Railway throughout the City’s shoreline jurisdiction),
- Urban - High Intensity,
- Suburban - High Residential,
- Suburban - Low Residential, and
- Conservation.

These preliminary shoreline environment designations have not been approved by Ecology, since they were not part of a comprehensive update to the City’s SMP. Therefore, they are not being implemented as part of Shoreline’s interim shoreline management code.

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<sup>1</sup> The discussion of regulatory requirements included herein is not intended to be a complete list of all permits or approvals necessary for work within the City’s shoreline jurisdiction or other areas within the city or PAA. Other portions of local code and state and federal regulations may apply to development projects within the city. The permits and approvals necessary for construction may vary from parcel to parcel regardless of shoreline jurisdiction and may vary depending on the type and intensity of the work proposed. Prior to any construction within city limits, an applicant should contact the City and the applicable state and federal agencies to determine actual permit requirements. For development of parcels in the PAA outside of the city limits, an applicant should contact Snohomish County and the applicable state and federal agencies to determine actual permit requirements.

### Comprehensive Plan, Zoning and Other City Regulations

- City of Shoreline *Comprehensive Plan* – The City’s existing *Comprehensive Plan* was adopted in 2001. The *Comprehensive Plan* establishes goals and policies that define the community’s vision for the physical, economic, and social development of the City for the next 20 years. The *Comprehensive Plan* land use designations in the Puget Sound shoreline planning area include Mixed Use (Point Wells), Low Density Residential, Public Facilities (e.g., the BNSF Railway right-of-way), Public Open Space, and Private Open Space (City of Shoreline, 2001). City land use designations are relevant to this shoreline inventory and characterization report as they establish the general land use patterns and vision of growth the City has adopted for areas both inside and outside the shoreline jurisdiction. The City’s SMP goals and policies are one element of the *Comprehensive Plan* (included as an appendix). During this update process, the City will update its SMP element goals and policies and integrate them with the GMA comprehensive plan requirements for administrative and regulatory reform.
- City of Shoreline Municipal Code, Chapter 20.40: Zoning – Chapter 20.40 of the SMC (Zoning and Use Provisions) establishes zoning designations. Zoning designations in the Puget Sound shoreline planning area include: Residential 4 units/acre (R-4) and Residential 6 units/acre (R-6) (City of Shoreline, 2006). Point Wells, located in the City’s PAA, is zoned Heavy Industrial (HI) by the Snohomish County Zoning Code (Snohomish County website, 2008).
- City of Shoreline Municipal Code, Chapter 20.80: Critical Areas – Chapter 20.80 of the SMC (Critical Areas) establishes development standards, construction techniques, and permitted uses in critical areas and their buffers (i.e., geologic hazard areas, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, wetlands, flood hazard areas, aquifer recharge areas, and stream areas) to protect these areas from adverse impacts. Designated critical areas are found throughout the City’s shoreline planning area, particularly wetlands and streams, flood hazard areas, and geologic hazard areas (City of Shoreline, 2007a).
- City of Shoreline *Surface Water Master Plan* – The City’s Surface Water Master Plan was adopted in 2005. The plan identifies surface water problems, prioritizes needs, and provides long-term solutions that reflect the community’s priorities and can be funded by the City. The Plan includes an analysis of vegetation and wildlife habitat and water resources in relation to the control and treatment of stormwater (City of Shoreline, 2005b).

### State and Federal Regulations



A number of state and federal agencies may have jurisdiction over land or natural elements in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction. Local development proposals most commonly trigger requirements for state or federal permits when they impact wetlands or streams; potentially affect fish and wildlife listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA); result in over one acre of clearing and grading; or affect the floodplain or floodway. As with local requirements, state and federal regulations may apply throughout the City, but regulated resources are common within the City’s shoreline jurisdiction. The state and federal regulations affecting shoreline-related resources include, but are not limited to:

- **Endangered Species Act:** The federal ESA addresses the protection and recovery of federally listed species. The ESA is jointly administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (formerly referred to as the National Marine Fisheries Service), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- **Clean Water Act (CWA):** The federal CWA requires states to set standards for the protection of water quality for various parameters, and it regulates excavation and dredging in waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Certain activities affecting wetlands in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction or work in the adjacent rivers may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and/or Washington State Department of Ecology under Section 404 and Section 401 of the CWA, respectively.
- **Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA):** The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regulates activities that use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow of the beds or banks of waters of the state and may affect fish habitat. Projects in the shoreline jurisdiction requiring construction below the OHWM of Puget Sound or streams in the city could require an HPA from WDFW. Projects creating new impervious surface that could substantially increase stormwater runoff to waters of the state may also require approval.
- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES):** Ecology regulates activities that result in wastewater discharges to surface water from industrial facilities or municipal wastewater treatment plants. NPDES permits are also required for stormwater discharges from industrial facilities, construction sites of one or more acres, and municipal stormwater systems that serve populations of 100,000 or more.

## **WATERSHED AND DRAINAGE BASINS**

Water flow drives many ecological processes; therefore a useful characterization study area is the watershed. In Washington State, watersheds at a large scale are organized into Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs). The City of Shoreline is located within the Lake Washington/ Cedar/ Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8). The City is located the northwest portion of the watershed and includes two subareas: the Nearshore Subarea, which includes the 4 miles of shoreline in the City of Shoreline and another twenty miles north and south of the City, and the Lake Washington Subarea.

Surface water drainage basins in the City include portions of the McAleer Creek, Lyons Creek, West Lake Washington, Thornton Creek, Seattle Golf Course, Bitter Lake and two Middle Puget Sound drainage basins, and most of the Boeing Creek drainage basin (see Map 2 in Appendix C). McAleer, Lyons, West Lake Washington, and Thornton Creeks drain to Lake Washington. Boeing Creek, Seattle Golf Course, Bitter Lake and the Middle Puget Sound basins drain to Puget Sound (City of Shoreline, 2005b). The features of the basins that drain to Puget Sound are discussed in more detail below:

**Boeing Creek Basin:** Boeing Creek is partially piped from its origin and discharges into Puget Sound, passing through the City's shoreline planning area.

**Seattle Golf Course Basin:** This 138 acre basin is located in the southwest portion of the city, with a small portion located in the City of Seattle. The runoff from the Seattle Golf Course Basin used to be collected in a wetland and infiltrated into the groundwater. The basin now discharges into Highlands Creek which then discharges into Puget Sound.

**Bitter Lake Basin:** Only 54 acres of this basin is located in the city, in its southwest portion. None of the basin's major watercourses are located within the city.

**Middle Puget Sound Basins:** The North and South basins enter Puget Sound through dozens of small creeks and storm drainage systems. The seven major drainage courses include: Highlands Creek, Blue Heron Creek (also known as Innis Arden North Creek), Coyote Creek (also known as Innis Arden South Creek), Storm Creek, Upper Barnacle Creek (also known as Upper Puget Sound North) and Lower Barnacle Creek (also known as South), Barnacle Creek, and Lost Creek. All the creeks originate from wetlands, urban runoff or hillside seeps, except that the headwaters of Upper and Lower Barnacle Creeks and Lost Creek are located to the north in Snohomish County.

Just two drainage basins drain to the shoreline planning area: Boeing Creek Basin and Middle Puget Sound Basin (see Map 4 in Appendix C). There are numerous surface water features conveyed through culverts into Puget Sound in addition to the creeks mentioned above. Drainages and streams are discussed in more detail in Section 5.8 *Streams* and include Lost Creek, Upper and Lower Barnacle Creeks, Barnacle Creek, Storm Creek, Blue Heron Creek, Coyote Creek, Boeing Creek, and Highlands Creek.

## LAND USE PATTERNS

Land use in the City of Shoreline is largely influenced by the city's central geographical location and proximity to Puget Sound. The City is generally bounded by the City of Lake Forest Park to the east, the City of Seattle to the south, the Puget Sound shoreline to the west, and Snohomish County to the north, which includes the Cities of Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace, and the Town of Woodway. The City's shoreline jurisdiction is composed of a variety of natural and man-made characteristics that include natural beaches, wooded slopes, single-family homes, the BNSF Railway, and in the annexation area of Point Wells, an industrial port. Point Wells, a 100-acre industrial site located directly north of the City along Puget Sound, is currently under Snohomish County

jurisdiction and is a potential annexation area for the City of Shoreline (City of Shoreline, 2005a).

### **Historical Land Use**

The first major development along the Puget Sound coastline in the City occurred when the Great Northern Railroad was built along the water in 1891 (HistoryLink.org website, 1999). The railroad line provided a direct transportation link to downtown Seattle. In 1901, the Portland Ship Building Company built a shipyard at what is now the Point Wells site. Another historical landscape alteration that occurred along the coastline was the processing of sand and gravel at the current location of Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (see background of the photograph below, ca 1910). Over time, continued logging and residential development resulted in the landscape as seen today (Shoreline Historical Museum website, 1999).



Source: Shoreline Historical Museum

### **Existing Land Use**

#### **Residential Land Use**

The City of Shoreline is predominately occupied by residential land uses, which support commercial and retail uses, various institutional uses, and a few industrial uses. Residential single-family development occupies approximately 51 percent of the land use in the community. Multi-family residential development occupies 4 percent and is primarily located near commercial areas along State Route 99 (also known as Aurora

Avenue North) and in neighborhood centers (i.e., Richmond Beach, Echo Lake, North City, and Ballinger) (City of Shoreline, 2005a).

Several neighborhoods are located near the Puget Sound shoreline within the City. Neighborhoods include Richmond Beach (a portion of which is located immediately adjacent to the Puget Sound), Innis Arden, and the Highlands (City of Shoreline, 2005a). Residential development in the Puget Sound shoreline planning area is characterized by single-family properties, which occupy approximately 19 percent of the total shoreline planning area. Single-family residential uses which are located immediately adjacent to the Puget Sound about the City's shoreline for a length of 1,886 linear feet. That is approximately 9 percent of the total linear length of the City's Puget Sound shoreline, including the PAA (King County, 2007). With the exception of residential properties in Segment B, the extensive bluff system along Puget Sound (Photo E-3 in Appendix B) precludes extensive development within the City's shoreline jurisdiction.

### **Commercial and Industrial Land Uses**

Commercial and industrial developments occupy approximately 4 percent of the land use within the City (City of Shoreline, 2005a). Point Wells is the only industrial property located along the Puget Sound shoreline and occupies approximately 20 percent of the total shoreline planning area (Photo A-1 in Appendix B). The Point Wells industrial facility abuts the City's Puget Sound shoreline for a length of 3,411 linear feet. That is approximately 16 percent of the total linear length of the City's Puget Sound shoreline (Snohomish County, 2007b). The City's 1998 *Comprehensive Plan*, adopted prior to the current 2005 *Comprehensive Plan*, indicated that the Point Wells property served as a petroleum product (gasoline and diesel fuel) marketing and distribution center for approximately 60 years or more (City of Shoreline, 1998b). The petroleum distribution center discontinued operation in 1994. An asphalt plant was operated at the site on a seasonal basis by the Chevron Corporation (Sound Transit, 1999b). The property was sold to Paramount of Washington in 2005 and is now used for petroleum products storage, processing and distribution. Soil and groundwater contamination are documented at the Point Wells facility (Snohomish County, 2007a).

### **Private and Public Utility Land Uses**

Public facilities, institutions and right-of-way uses occupy approximately 29 percent of the City (City of Shoreline, 2005a). The BNSF Railway right-of-way extends in a north-south direction along the entire length of the city's shoreline planning area. It is the most dominant land use in the shoreline, occupying 48 percent of the total shoreline planning area. The BNSF Railway right-of-way abuts the City's Puget Sound shoreline (including the PAA) for a length of 15,398 linear feet. That is approximately 70 percent of the total linear length of the City's Puget Sound shoreline, including the PAA (King County, 2007).

There are two public facilities in the City's shoreline planning area, both of which are owned by King County. The first is right-of-way property located at the Point Wells site in Segment A. A conveyance system and marine outfall will be constructed on the property to serve the regional King County Brightwater Treatment Plant currently being constructed. The second property is located in Segment B which houses a King County

wastewater pump station, known as the Richmond Beach Pump Station. A recreation easement has been obtained by the City to develop a park on this property, as described in more detail in Section 7.3.2 *Richmond Beach Pump Station Park Project* (City of Shoreline website, 2008).

### **Parks, Open Space and Vacant Land Uses**

Only 1 percent of the City of Shoreline is undeveloped land. Parks, recreation, and open space (including lakes) occupy approximately 10 percent of the City (City of Shoreline, 2005a). Within the Puget Sound shoreline planning area, 8 percent of the land is occupied by parks and open space including the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Segment C and the Innis Arden Reserve in Segment E (Photos C-2 and E-1 in Appendix B; Map 11 in Appendix C). Four percent (960 lineal feet) of the properties that abut the City's Puget Sound shoreline (including the PAA) are occupied by park and reserve. Vacant properties occupy 2 percent of the total shoreline planning area and are located in Segments B and E. (King County, 2007).

### **Comprehensive Plan / Zoning Designations**

#### **Comprehensive Plan**

According to the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan Map (2001), the City's shoreline planning area is largely comprised of properties designated as Low Density Residential and Public Facilities (i.e., the BNSF Railway right-of-way). Public Open Space and Private Open Space designations occupy the remainder of the shoreline planning area. In addition, the annexation area currently occupied by the Paramount of Washington facility in unincorporated Snohomish County is discussed in the *Comprehensive Plan* (2005a) and is currently designated as Mixed Use (see Map 9a in Appendix C) (City of Shoreline, 2001). Snohomish County designates Point Wells as Urban Industrial (Snohomish County website, 2008). The property owner has petitioned the County to change the Comprehensive Plan designation to Urban Center (Snohomish County, 2007a).

General goals and policies established in the 2005 *Comprehensive Plan* related to the protection of natural features encourage the protection and improvement of the natural environment and environmentally critical areas, construction of surface water facilities that promote water quality and enhance and preserve natural habitat, identification and protection of wildlife corridors, and preservation of wetlands, aquatic and riparian habitats and Puget Sound buffers (City of Shoreline, 2005a).

The general goals and policies of the City's 1998 Shoreline Master Program are included in the 2005 *Comprehensive Plan* as an appendix. Water-oriented uses are encouraged but must be balanced with the protection of Puget Sound shoreline's natural resources (City of Shoreline, 2005a).

#### **Zoning Designations**

Zoning designations in the City of Shoreline generally follow land use designations as discussed above. There are only two zones within the City's Puget Sound shoreline planning area; Residential 4 units/acre (R-4) and Residential 6 units/acre (R-6). The

zones encompass the BNSF Railway right-of-way, parks, open space, and public facilities (see Map 8 in Appendix C) (City of Shoreline, 2002). Point Wells is zoned as Heavy Industrial (HI) in the Snohomish County Permit, Planning, and Zoning Map (Snohomish County website, 2008). The property owner has petitioned the County to change the zoning to Planned Community Business (Snohomish County, 2007a).

Table 2 identifies the relative percentage of existing land uses in each planning segment based on 2007 King County and Snohomish County Assessor land use records. Table 2 also includes the *Comprehensive Plan* land use and zoning designations for each segment.

### **Impervious Surface**

Impervious areas in the City were analyzed based on the King County Impervious/Impacted Surface Interpretation dataset (see Map 14 in Appendix C) (King County, 2004). The dataset is based on high-resolution multispectral imagery from 2000. It includes mostly surfaces with high to complete impermeability, such as concrete, asphalt, roofing materials and other sealed surfaces that prevent the natural penetration of water into soil. Examples of impervious surfaces identified in this imagery include: building roof tops regardless of composition or construction; roadways, highways and parking lots constructed of concrete or asphalt; parking areas with a high density of parked vehicles as represented by the imagery; sidewalks, pedestrian walkways and malls constructed of concrete, asphalt or brick; and, other prepared surfaces such as bicycle paths, tennis courts and running paths.

Impervious surfaces reduce the potential for stormwater infiltration and increase stormwater runoff, including the rate of runoff and timing of peak flows. In general, higher percentages of impervious area are an indicator of development density and intensity which is tied to an increase in stormwater runoff. Impervious surfaces may contain pollutants that are harmful to water quality. Pollutants originating in the shoreline planning area likely originate from landscaped areas (e.g., parks and residential yards), BNSF Railway (e.g., creosote railroad ties and railroad cars), industrial facilities (e.g., overwater structures), and, to a lesser extent, vehicles and roadways. The approximate impervious area has been determined based on a qualitative assessment of the 2004 King County dataset and 2002 aerial photography, and from coordination with City staff in 2003. Impervious surface at the Point Wells facility in Segment A was estimated visually based on 2002 aerial photography of the site. Table 2 includes the approximate amount of impervious area within each shoreline planning segment. Overall, approximately 20 percent of the City's shoreline planning area is impervious due to concrete, asphalt, roofing surfaces or other sealed surfaces. The PAA contains the highest impervious area due to historic heavy industrial uses. Segment B contains 25 to 30 percent impervious area due to residential development near the shoreline. Segment E, which comprises nearly half of the shoreline planning area (43.5%) has fairly low impervious surface (approximately 5 to 15 percent). Thus, stormwater runoff and infiltration rates are not as altered in Segment E in comparison to Segments B and D.

Table 2. Percentages of Existing, Allowed and Planned Land Use and Impervious Surfaces by Segment in Puget Sound Shoreline Planning Area

Shoreline Segment	Existing Land Use (Includes approximate percentage within each segment)		Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations	Existing Zoning (Includes approximate percentage of each zoned area within each segment)		Approximate Impervious Area <sup>2</sup>
A	Petroleum Facility King County Right-of-Way (ROW)	95% 5%	Mixed Use (City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan)	Heavy Industrial (Snohomish County Zoning)	100%	60-70% <sup>3</sup>
B	Single Family Residential BNSF Railway ROW Utility Vacant	42% 42% 10% 5%	Public Facilities Low Density Residential Public Open Space	Residential, 6 units/acre (R-6) Residential, 4 units/acres (R-4)	98% 2%	50-60%
C	BNSF Railway ROW Park Single-Family Residential	61% 34% 4%	Public Facilities Public Open Space Low Density Residential	Residential, 4 units/acre (R-4)	100%	5-10%
D	Single-Family Residential BNSF Railway ROW	52% 48%	Low Density Residential Public Facilities	Residential, 4 units/acre (R-4)	100%	15-25%
E	BNSF Railway ROW Single-Family Residential Open Space Vacant	72% 17% 10% 1%	Public Facilities Private Open Space Low Density Residential	Residential, 4 units/acre (R-4)	100%	5-15%

Sources: City of Shoreline, 2002; Snohomish County 2007; King County, 2004 and 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Approximate impervious area is based on King County data (2004), aerial photo interpretation and coordination with City staff in 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Impervious surface at the Point Wells facility in Segment A was estimated in 2003 based on aerial photography of the site showing the presence of a barge dock, rail line, and tanks within the shoreline environment.

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### Existing and Planned Public Access Sites

Public access to the Puget Sound shoreline in the City of Shoreline is restricted to existing parks. Rugged terrain characterized by steep bluffs occurs throughout most of the shoreline planning area, which limit physical access to the water. Further, the BNSF railroad tracks parallel the entire shoreline within city limits. Public access to the railroad right-of-way is prohibited. Waterward public access is restricted in some areas by privately owned tidelands (including BNSF, residential and industrial property owners). Existing parks and open space areas in the City's shoreline planning area include (see Map 11 in Appendix C) (City of Shoreline, 2005c):

**Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (Public)** – This regional 40-acre park located in Segment C provides active and passive uses including picnic areas, shelter buildings, a playground area, observation areas, trails, and Puget Sound shoreline beach access (Photos C-2 and C-3 in Appendix B). Park users occasionally use the shoreline access for swimming in Puget Sound during favorable weather conditions.

**Blue Heron Reserve (Private)** – This private tract is preserved as a natural area and is associated with Blue Heron Creek. It is located in the southern portion of Segment C. No public shoreline access is permitted along the tract.

**Coyote Reserve (Private)** – This private tract is preserved as a natural area and is associated with Coyote Creek. It is located in the northern portion of Segment D. No public shoreline access is permitted along the tract.

**Innis Arden Reserve (Public)** – This 23-acre natural open space area/greenway passive-use park is located in the northern area of Segment E along the bluffs overlooking Puget Sound. Hiking/walking trails represent the main activity of this passive-use reserve. Although trails eventually lead to the shoreline, the public has to cross the BNSF railroad tracks and riprap to reach the Puget Sound shoreline beach (Photo E-1 in Appendix B).

**Boeing Creek Reserve (Private)** – Four acres of natural area associated with Boeing Creek along the Puget Sound shoreline in the center portion of Segment E is preserved as private open space. No public shoreline access is permitted from this reserve along the bluff (Photo E-2 in Appendix B).

Improvements and enhancements to existing park and open space resources along Puget Sound identified in the City's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (2005c) include: Richmond Beach Saltwater Park - As outlined in the Plan, a Community Attitude and Interest Survey was conducted to establish priorities for the future development of parks and recreation facilities, programs and services within the city. The City surveyed 575 residents in the community. Thirty-one percent of the respondents selected upgrading Richmond Beach Saltwater Park as one of the four most important actions the City should take<sup>4</sup>. Largely in response to the survey, the City is currently in the process of adding viewpoints and interpretive signage, and improving trails (see Section 7.3.3 *Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Project* for more details). Additional improvements and enhancements identified by the Plan that would be implemented at a later date include

<sup>4</sup> The other three actions were to upgrade existing neighborhood parks and play grounds (38%), upgrade natural areas and nature trails (30%), and improve shoreline and beach access (29%).

developing an underwater marine park, a pier, and a trail along Puget Sound to connect the park to Innis Arden Reserve.

Innis Arden Reserve - Improving trail system, developing overlook viewpoints and interpretive signage, stabilizing slopes, enhancing vegetation and developing safe access to Puget Sound across the BNSF Railway right-of-way.

As part of King County mitigation for impacts from the Brightwater Treatment Plant project, a new park will be installed at the King County Richmond Beach Pump Station. Improvements to the site will include construction of a small parking area, restroom, interpretive watchtower overlooking the BNSF railroad and Puget Sound, and play areas. No shoreline access west of the BNSF railroad is proposed (see Section 7.3.2 *Richmond Beach Pump Station Park Project* for more details) (City of Shoreline website, 2008).

The City of Shoreline's *Comprehensive Plan* provides a list of funded and unfunded parks, recreation, open space and city facility capital improvements. Opportunities for enhancing public access to the shoreline under consideration include development of a trail system along Puget Sound between Richmond Beach Saltwater Park and Innis Arden Reserve, amenity enhancements and development of overlooks, viewpoints, and interpretive signage, and habitat and native plant restoration at Innis Arden Reserve, construction of a pedestrian crossing from Richmond Beach Pump Station park site to the beach, and providing beach access at the Boeing Creek Reserve (City of Shoreline, 2004; City of Shoreline, 2005a).

### **Roads and Transportation Facilities**

The BNSF railroad runs the length of the Puget Sound shoreline in the city abutting the shoreline for a length of 15,398 linear feet. That is approximately 70 percent of the total linear length of the City's Puget Sound shoreline, including the PAA (King County, 2007). The developed and undeveloped portions of the BNSF Railway right-of-way occupy approximately 48 percent of the City's shoreline planning area (King County, 2007), varying in width from 100 feet to greater than 300 feet. The rail line provides freight movement and intercity passenger rail. The rail line serves as the region's primary rail freight connection to the north, as well as a major connection to the east, and is an important link in the multimodal system supporting the Ports of Everett, Seattle, and Tacoma. An average of 36 freight trains, six Amtrak passenger trains and six Sound Transit Sounder passenger trains use the railway each day (Herrera Environmental Consultants, 2005). Unattached engines also traverse between cities along the rail line. The Sounder is operated by Sound Transit, the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority. It is a commuter rail service located along a 35-mile corridor between Everett and Seattle that uses the existing BNSF Railway right-of-way. Amtrak trains use the existing right-of-way between Vancouver, BC and Portland, Oregon. (Sound Transit, 1999a; Sound Transit website, 2008; Amtrak website, 2008).

BNSF Railway is proposing to install a train traffic signal, utility bungalow, and retaining wall south of Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Segment C. This would involve filling a minimal amount (less than ½ an acre) of freshwater wetland. BNSF Railway is also proposing to install train traffic signals, a utility bungalow, a train-switching mechanism,

retaining wall, and a new access road north of Boeing Creek in Segment E. The improvements will involve filling 0.25 acres of freshwater wetland. BNSF Railway will also be installing improvements in other locations along the BNSF rail line between Everett and Seattle outside of Shoreline city limits. Sound Transit will pay for the improvements in order to meet conditions established in a joint agreement between BNSF and Sound Transit. These conditions are required of Sound Transit in order to run a third daily Sounder commuter train between Everett and Seattle. Mitigation for the wetland fill and impacts from these improvements will occur off-site at the Qwuloolt restoration site in Marysville and Meadowdale Marina in Edmonds. Construction is expected to begin in 2009 (Herrera, 2005).

Due to the topography of the Puget Sound shoreline and the private ownership of the BNSF Railway along the extent of the shoreline, the only major roadway that falls within the City's shoreline planning area is Richmond Beach Drive NW (see Map 10 in Appendix C). Richmond Beach Drive NW is the primary roadway that allows access to thirty-two residences along the shoreline in the northwestern portion of the city. The residences span a total of 1,886 linear feet along the shoreline (King County, 2007). The homes are accessed from Richmond Beach Drive NW via the Richmond Beach Overcrossing Bridge which passes over the BNSF railroad tracks. The Bridge connects to 27th Avenue NW, a local road located behind the residences that runs parallel to the Puget Sound shoreline. 27th Avenue NW is also the only motor vehicle access west of the BNSF Railway right-of-way in the city via the Bridge (see Map 1B in Appendix C). The timber bridge was originally built in 1923 and rebuilt in 1956. The City is planning to replace it with a reinforced concrete bridge. Once the City finalizes negotiations with BNSF Railway on a temporary construction easement, project cost sharing and construction issues, construction will begin (City of Shoreline website, 2008).

#### **Wastewater and Stormwater Utilities**

The Ronald Wastewater District (RWD), formerly known as the Shoreline Wastewater Management District (SWMD), provides wastewater service to a majority of the City of Shoreline and includes the Point Wells property. Highlands Sewer District serves the Highlands Neighborhood in the southwest portion of the City. Wastewater collected from RWD is treated at two facilities under contract arrangements: King County Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD) West Point Treatment Plant in Discovery Park, Seattle, and the City of Edmonds Wastewater Treatment Plant. Wastewater from the Highlands Sewer District is conveyed to RWD facilities (City of Shoreline, 2005b). Two RWD customers currently operate septic systems in the Richmond Beach Neighborhood; however, none of the properties fall within the City's shoreline planning area (Newman, personal communication, 2003).

Four RWD lift stations are located within the Puget Sound shoreline planning area. The King County Richmond Beach Pump Station is located in Segment B (King County, 2007). King County maintains a 30-inch diameter emergency overflow outfall pipe associated with the pump station. The outfall pipe is located in Segment B. King County also maintains an emergency overflow outfall pipe in Segment E. The pipe is associated with the Hidden Lake Pump Station located outside of shoreline planning area near Boeing Creek Shoreline Park (see Map 10 in Appendix C).

Upon the City's incorporation in 1995, the City of Shoreline inherited and assumed jurisdiction over the storm and surface water management system located in the roadways within the city limits. As of 1998, facilities located outside the roadways are under the City of Shoreline jurisdiction as well. Stormwater utilities generally consist of a mix of open ditches and channels, pipes, vaults and open retention/detention facilities.

### **Historical/Cultural Resources**

Historic and cultural resources are documented through a variety of sources. Official registers include the National Register of Historic Places and the Washington State Heritage Register. In 1995, the City of Shoreline adopted Chapter 15.20 of the municipal code (Landmark Preservation) to provide for the designation, preservation, protection, enhancement, and perpetuation of designated historic resources within the boundaries of the City. The Landmark Preservation chapter adopts by reference several sections of the King County Code Chapter 20.62 (Protection and Preservation of Landmarks, Landmark Sites and Districts). None of the properties designated as landmarks in the City of Shoreline are located within the shoreline planning area (see Map 13 in Appendix C).

The Historical/Cultural Element of the 1998 Shoreline Master Program provides general goals and policies to ensure important archaeological, historical, and cultural sites located within the shoreline jurisdiction are identified, protected, preserved, and restored for educational and scientific purposes. It also aims to adopt standards that ensure the protection and preservation of historic and cultural sites (City of Shoreline, 1998b). Historic preservation is also addressed in the Community Design Element of the 2005 Shoreline *Comprehensive Plan*.

In 1996, the King County Historic Preservation Program conducted an inventory of historic resources in the City of Shoreline. It did not include an inventory of archaeological sites, traditional cultural properties, or historic landscapes. However, an analysis of documented research revealed Native American peoples traveled along the Puget Sound shoreline and stream drainages to collect resources such as tobacco at Richmond Beach. No buildings directly associated with railroad development in Richmond Beach, lumber production, agricultural production, or the interurban railroad remain today (Copass, 1996).

In 2001, Larson Anthropological Archaeological Services (LAAS) conducted a study of six potential wastewater treatment plant sites in Snohomish County as part of King County's Brightwater Treatment Plant project. The inventory included the Point Wells site. No archaeological sites or historic structures are recorded within 0.25 miles from the Point Wells industrial site. However, LAAS determined Point Wells has a high probability for hunter-fisher-gatherer archaeological resources based on the existence of a former sandspit and lagoon buried in fill in the western half of Point Wells beneath the steep bluffs along the shoreline. Further archaeological investigation is recommended to determine if archaeological deposits associated with the former sandspit and lagoon exist beneath fill (LAAS, 2001).

Sound Transit performed an inventory of historic, cultural, and archaeological resources along the commuter route between Seattle and Everett in a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Commuter Rail Project (1999). The inventory was based on existing documents, coordination, including contact with Native American tribal organizations, and the National Register of Historic Places. At the time the EIS was written, Sound Transit was considering developing a station near the City of Shoreline. Two station alternatives were considered in the EIS, Point Wells and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. Sound Transit determined that no known historic, cultural, or archaeological resources areas were listed in, or eligible for, the National Register. While construction work at these two areas could affect undiscovered prehistoric or historic archaeological deposits, native soils have been previously disturbed; suggesting questionable integrity of any archaeological remains (Sound Transit, 1999a).

#### **Site Contamination**

According to Department of Ecology's Facility Site database, there is one known contaminated site in the shoreline planning area (Ecology website, 2008). The Point Wells site is listed on the Department of Ecology's Suspected and Confirmed Contaminated Sites List for soil, groundwater and surface water contamination associated with previous petroleum production. In 1999, documentation prepared for the King County Brightwater Treatment Plant examined potential soil and groundwater contamination at several sites under consideration at that time for a treatment facility, including Point Wells. When the Brightwater document was prepared, the long-term soil and groundwater remediation plans by Chevron, the property owner at that time, were unknown (CH2MHill and Associated Firms, 2001). However, as part of the Brightwater Treatment Plant conveyance project, a portion of Point Wells is undergoing a voluntary cleanup program with Ecology for suspected and confirmed soil and groundwater contamination.

## **NEARSHORE PHYSICAL CHARACTERIZATION**

#### **Nearshore Processes**

The Puget Sound nearshore is defined as the area of marine and estuarine shoreline extending from the top of shoreline bluffs to the depth offshore where light penetrates the water thereby supporting plant growth (King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks [KCDNRP], 2001). The nearshore also includes estuaries and tidal rivers to the head of tidal influence. Landforms found in the Puget Sound nearshore environment include bluffs, beaches, mudflats, kelp and eelgrass beds, salt marshes, spits, and estuaries.

The processes occurring within the Puget Sound nearshore area are critical for maintaining habitats and health of the nearshore shoreline environment. Changes in the physical processes within the nearshore can negatively affect habitats by limiting food and nutrient sources for marine life, deteriorating beach sediment movement, accelerating erosion, and altering the flows of surface and groundwater. Nearshore processes are those actions which occur as a result of wind, tidal influence, waves, and surface and groundwater flow that result in sediment movement and affect habitat formation.

The City of Shoreline beaches are typical of Puget Sound and can be characterized by two distinct foreshore components: a high-tide beach and a low-tide terrace (Downing, 1983). The high-tide beach consists of a relatively steep beachface with coarse sediment and an abrupt break in slope at its waterward extent. Low wave energy beaches, such as those along the City's shoreline, have a high-tide beach composed of poorly sorted sediment, with intermittent intertidal vegetation and a relatively narrow backshore. Extending seaward from the break in slope, the low-tide terrace typically consists of a gently sloping accumulation of poorly sorted fine-grained sediment (Komar, 1976; Keuler, 1979). Considerable amounts of sand in a mixed sand and gravel beach are typically winnowed from the high-tide beach by waves and deposited on the low-tide terrace (Chu, 1985). The amount and composition of beach sediment generally follows a seasonal cycle. Under normal seasonal weather patterns, the stronger, wind-driven waves that occur in winter remove material from the beachface, while more gentle, summer wind-driven waves move sediment back onshore (Masselink and Hughes, 2003).

Puget Sound beach morphology and composition is dependent upon three main influences; wave energy, sediment sources, and relative position of the beach within a littoral cell. Wave energy is controlled by fetch; the open water over which winds blow without any interference from land. Wind-generated wave action gradually erodes beaches and the toe of coastal bluffs, leading to landslides. These coastal bluffs are the primary source of sediment for most Puget Sound beaches. In the City, coastal bluffs are separated from the shoreline by the BNSF railroad, thus completely removing bluff sediment sources. Fluvial sources of sediment are typically of only local significance in comparison to bluff sediment sources, which reportedly account for roughly 90% of beach material (Keuler 1988, Downing, 1983). Bluff composition and wave energy influence the composition of beach sediment. Waves sort coarse and fine sediment and large waves can transport cobbles that small waves cannot.

Wind-generated waves typically approach the shore at an angle, creating beach drift and longshore currents and transporting sediment by a process called littoral drift. Net shore-drift refers to the long-term, net result of littoral drift. Net shore-drift cells represent a sediment transport sector from source to deposition along a portion of coast. Each drift cell acts as a system consisting of three components: a sediment source (erosive feature) and origin of a drift cell; a transport zone where materials are moved alongshore by wave action with minimal sediment input; and an area of deposition (accretion area) that acts as the drift cell terminus (Jacobson and Schwartz, 1981). Deposition of sediment occurs where wave energy is no longer sufficient to transport the sediment in the drift cell. Drift cells in the Puget Sound region range in length from 46 feet to just under 19 miles, with the average drift cell just under 1.5 miles long (Schwartz, 1991). The Washington Coastal Atlas (Ecology website, 2008) maps net-shore drift direction, or the prominent drift direction, including divergence zones and areas of "no appreciable drift" (which include highly modified, protected harbor shorelines). Based on the wave regime, extensive fetch, and coastal geomorphology the net drift direction of all the shoreline planning segments is south to north (Schwartz, 1991). Divergence zones are present at the north end of Point Wells and south of the City boundary in the City of Seattle, but the City's shoreline is within a single drift cell.

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) ShoreZone Inventory (2001) documents shoreline sediment stability as stable, erosional, or accretional, and sediment sources as fluvial, alongshore, and backshore (see Table 3). The City's shoreline is homogeneous in terms of the sediment stability and source because of the BNSF railroad. The railroad results in a stable sediment characterization throughout the shoreline, with the exception of the shoreline adjacent to Innis Arden Reserve. Construction of the railroad buried much of upper foreshore beach, thereby locking up coarse sand and gravel in the littoral system. This limits or precludes longshore transport of sediment. Sediment sources in the City are limited and are characterized by the ShoreZone data as alongshore with the exception of some fluvial sediment released from Boeing Creek. As discussed previously, the railroad interrupts historic sediment supply from eroding bluffs.

The width of intertidal beach in the City's shoreline is also relatively constant throughout the shoreline length, averaging 20 to 40 feet wide. The exception is within Segment B where some wider intertidal beaches are present near residential development along the shoreline. Additional details of ShoreZone data are contained in Appendix A. Table A-1 includes more detailed information within each of the planning segments. Map 2 in Appendix A depicts the individual ShoreZone segments

*Table 3. Shoreline Sediment Sources and Mobility*

<b>Shoreline Segment</b>	<b>Approximate Intertidal Width</b>	<b>Estimated Sediment Source</b>	<b>Sediment Stability</b>	<b>Net shore Drift Direction</b>
<b>A</b>	20 - 37 feet	Alongshore (all of segment)	Stable	North
<b>B</b>	30 - 105 feet	Alongshore (all of segment)	Stable	North
<b>C</b>	27 - 36 feet	Alongshore (all of segment)	Stable	North
<b>D</b>	36 feet	Alongshore (all of segment)	Stable	North
<b>E</b>	21 - 46 feet	Alongshore (most of segment); Fluvial in relation to Boeing Creek	Stable (most of segment); Erosional from north end of segment (646.7 feet to south)	North

Source: WDNR, 2001; Schwartz, 1991.

Johannessen et al. (2005) inventoried current and historic shoreline erosion and accretion areas in the City of Shoreline. Drift cell "SN-3" generally corresponds with the shoreline within the City, beginning 1.5 miles south of Boeing Creek and extending north to Point Wells. Historically, this drift cell was comprised of 45% feeder bluff, 18% feeder bluff exceptional, and an additional 4% as potential feeder bluff. The remaining 67% of the shoreline was comprised of four scattered accretion areas. These accretion areas were

characterized by delta lagoons, longshore lagoons and stream mouths. Along the Point Wells shoreline, before it was developed as an industrial site, there was a longshore lagoon that connected to a larger delta lagoon to the north.

The construction of the BNSF railroad separated historic coastal feeder bluffs from the shoreline, resulting in a 100% loss of sediment sources (Johannessen et al., 2005). The City's shoreline now consists of nine separate accretion shoreforms interrupted by railroad and residential modifications (Johannessen et al., 2005). No active feeder bluffs are currently present. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of the shoreline is classified as modified due to the railroad with the remainder (29%) classified as accretion shoreforms. From the north end of the City south to Richmond Beach (Segment B) there is a broad accretion shoreform, which corresponds with the slightly wider intertidal width shown earlier in Table 3. Table 4 is a summary of the information included in Johannessen et al. (2005).

*Table 4. Current and Historic Beach Feeding Sources/Erosion and Accretion Areas in City of Shoreline (Drift Cell SN-3)*

	<b>Feeder Bluff (%)</b>	<b>Feeder Bluff Exceptional (%)</b>	<b>Potential Feeder Bluff (%)</b>	<b>Not Feeder Bluff (%)</b>	<b>Accretion Shore forms (%)</b>	<b>Modified (%)</b>
<b>Historic conditions</b>	45%	18	4	5	18%	11%
<b>Current Conditions</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%
<b>Change</b>	-45%	-18%	-4%	-5%	+11%	+61%

Source: Johannessen et al. 2005

### Geologic Units

Geologic information was collected from two sources: the Tetra Tech/KCM Geology (Geographic Information Systems [GIS]) data used in basin characterization reports (2004a and 2004d) and King County/Booth Surficial Geology Mapping (2005). These two sources characterize the geology of the shoreline planning area as containing till, beach deposits, advance outwash deposits, transitional beds, recessional outwash deposits, possession drift, landslide, and Whidbey formations.

The City is located at the western edge of the Seattle drift plain, an irregular plateau that drops toward Puget Sound (TT/KCM, 2004a and 2004d). The glacial retreat left behind layers of silt/clay, till, and gravel. Steep bluffs are characteristic in shoreline planning Segment E (Highlands/Boeing Creek) and begin to diminish in a northerly direction through shoreline Segments D and C.

### Soils



The Soil Survey for King County (United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service [USDA SCS], 1973) does not include the City of Shoreline. The Soil Survey for Snohomish County (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS], 1983) maps Point Wells (Segment A) as “Urban Land.” Soil information from a 1952 survey by the US SCS was reviewed for soil type by basin (TT/KCM, 2004a and 2004d). The survey indicates that the predominant soil type in the Middle Puget Sound South Basin is Everett gravelly sandy loam (75 percent) with the remainder being Alderwood gravelly sandy loam. The majority of the Boeing Creek Basin is Alderwood gravelly sandy loam. The predominant soil type in the Middle Puget Sound North Basin is split between the two major soil types already mentioned. The rest of the soils represent less than four percent of the total area in the City, including Carbondale muck, coastal beach and Norma fine sandy loam.

The Geotechnical Assessment Report prepared for the Sound Transit Everett to Seattle Commuter Rail Project (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998) describes the typical soils and slope profile found along the waterfront from Everett to Seattle. In general, the area is dominated by Pleistocene aged glacial soils associated with the Vashon Drift and consisting of recessional outwash deposits, glacial till, advance outwash and glacial lacustrine. Recent soil deposits include beach and colluvial deposits, some of which are associated with landslides. Where major landscape modifications have occurred, such as Point Wells, fill soils are typically present (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998).

The waterfront bluffs found along the City’s shoreline (Segments B through E) are typically composed of a cap of very dense gravelly sand with scattered cobbles and boulders in a clay/silt matrix (glacial till), overlaying dense sand and gravel (glacial advance outwash), which overlies hard clay (glacial lacustrine). The thicknesses of these layers can vary substantially. However, the till cap is generally at the top of the bluffs, sometimes overlain by deposits of medium dense sand and gravel (glacial recessional outwash). The hard clays are typically at or near sea level. Streams draining the uplands dissect bluffs and flow into Puget Sound, depositing fine sand and silt in alluvial fans. Littoral drift, which is the accumulation or movement of foreshore sediments along the shore by littoral currents and oblique waves, reworks some of this material and becomes beach deposits (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998).

### **Seismic Hazard Areas**

Seismic hazard areas are defined in Chapter 20.80.220 of the SMC as “lands that, due to a combination of soil and ground water conditions, are subject to severe risk of ground shaking, subsidence or liquefaction of soils during earthquakes. These areas are typically underlain by soft or loose saturated soils (such as alluvium) and have a shallow ground water table.”

There are mapped liquefaction susceptibility areas along Segments A, B, C, D and a portion of E. All are mapped as having high liquefaction susceptibility (City of Shoreline, 2002).

### **Landslide Hazard Areas**

The west-facing slopes along Puget Sound within the City have experienced recent and historical landslide activity. The contact zone between the hard clay layer and the overlying sand layer is the source of many landslides along the coast of Puget Sound, which commonly occur after major storm events. In general, slope stability in the City's shoreline planning area is more stable in the northern portion, though containing some isolated unstable areas, and unstable in the southern portion (Segment E).

Baum et al. (2000) conducted an inventory of recent landslides that included the City of Shoreline. Significant storm events during 1996 and 1997 resulted in several major landslide episodes. The most common types of landslides were shallow earth slides and debris flows, some of which blocked culverts and overtopped the BNSF railroad track (locations are shown on Map 7). These landslides range in volume from 300 cubic yards to 40,000 cubic yards. The largest one occurred in Segment E north of Highlands Creek (Baum et al. 2000).

The seawall and stone revetments of the BNSF railroad protect the base of the bluff from wave erosion and have probably increased the stability of the bluff. Baum et al. (2000) suggests that the bluff retreat during the winters of 1995-96 and 1996-97 might have been greater had the seawall and embankment not been present.

In the City, regulated landslide hazard areas are classified in SMC Chapter 20.80.220. Hazard areas are based on percent slope, soil composition, and the presence of emergent water. Three categories are used and defined as:

Moderate Hazard: Areas with slopes between 15 percent and 40 percent and that are underlain by soils that consist largely of sand, gravel or glacial till.

High Hazard: Areas with slopes between 15 percent and 40 percent that are underlain by soils consisting largely of silt and clay.

Very High Hazard: Areas with slopes steeper than 15 percent with zones of emergent water (e.g., springs or ground water seepage), areas of landslide deposits regardless of slope, and all steep slope hazard areas sloping 40 percent or steeper."

No landslide hazard areas are identified in Segment A (Point Wells). The extreme north and south portions of Segments B and C contain landslide hazard areas in the extreme north and south portions of both segments. Landslide hazard areas exist throughout all of Segments D and E (King County iMAP, 1991). See Map 7 in Appendix C for landslide hazard area locations.

### **Erosion and Sedimentation Hazard Areas**

Erosion hazard areas are defined in Chapter 20.80.220 of the SMC as "lands or areas underlain by soils identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service) as having 'severe' or 'very severe' erosion hazards. This includes, but is not limited to, the following group of soils when they occur on slopes of 15 percent or greater: Alderwood-Kitsap (AkF), Alderwood gravelly sandy loam (AgD), Kitsap silt loam (KpD), Everett (EvD) and Indianola (InD)."

No erosion hazards currently exist within the City's shoreline planning area; however, erosion hazard areas are identified east of Segment E primarily in the upper Boeing Creek Basin (see Map 7 in Appendix C) (City of Shoreline, 2002).

### **Aquifer Recharge Areas**

Within the City of Shoreline, including the Puget Sound shoreline planning area, there are no known critical aquifer recharge areas that supply potable water. Almost all the City's potable water comes from surface sources originating in the Cascade Mountains and is either operated by the Shoreline Water District or the City of Seattle. The City's lakes and wetlands may contribute to aquifer recharge (City of Shoreline, 2005a).

### **Streams**

Streams provide valuable wildlife corridors, a source of fluvial sediments to the marine shoreline (moved along the shoreline by currents), and support a range of fish species. The City of Shoreline is located in Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8, the Cedar-Sammamish Watershed. Information on stream conditions was drawn in particular from the following documents: *City of Shoreline Surface Water Master Plan* (City of Shoreline, 2005b), *Salmonid Habitat Limiting Factors, Water Resource Inventory Area 8 Final Report* (Kerwin, 2001), *Boeing Creek Basin Draft Characterization Report and Middle Puget Sound Basin Characterization Report* (TT/KCM, 2004a, 2004d), and the *City of Shoreline Stream Inventory and Assessment* (TT/KCM, 2004b). Streams are depicted on Map 4 and Map 10 in Appendix C. A total of seven streams have been identified to flow into the Puget Sound within the PAA and the City limits. In general, the western portion of the City ultimately drains to Puget Sound through the following streams: 1) Lost Creek, 2) Barnacle Creek, 3) Storm Creek, 4) Blue Heron Creek, 5) Coyote Creek, 6) Boeing Creek, and 7) Highlands Creek.

Segment A has an unnamed tributary of Barnacle Creek that is located east of the BNSF railroad and south of Point Wells. It travels south where it connects to Barnacle Creek in Segment B. Lost Creek is located north of the city limits in the Town of Woodway. It flows southwest both in piped and open water sections towards Puget Sound. It appears to connect to Barnacle Creek before discharging into Puget Sound in Segment B. Barnacle Creek is formed by the confluence of Upper Barnacle Creek and Lower Barnacle Creek and discharges to Puget Sound in Segment B. The stream includes piped and open water sections along the BNSF railroad and flows through a wetland area downstream of Richmond Beach Drive NW (see Photo B-2 in Appendix B). The creek has three outlets to Puget Sound (including one near Lost Creek) via culverts beneath the BNSF railroad. The lower section of Barnacle Creek is tidally influenced upstream for a distance of about 20 feet (Photo B-6 in Appendix B). A stream evaluation letter was submitted to the City as part of a development permit for a residential property located near the intersection of Richmond Beach Drive NW and NW 196<sup>th</sup> Street. According to the letter, the portion of Barnacle Creek from NW 196<sup>th</sup> Street south to where it discharges to the Puget Sound may not meet the City's definition of a stream per SMC 20.80 (Critical Areas) (The Watershed Company, 2008). However, the findings of the letter were not verified by WDFW. Furthermore, WDFW has indicated to the City that they will defer to the City's stream inventory (see *City of Shoreline Stream Inventory and*

*Assessment*) even when presented with a more recent report which concludes that a stream does not qualify as a stream per the City's regulations (Nammi, 2009).

Storm Creek, which begins upstream of NW 195<sup>th</sup> Street and includes several unnamed tributaries, is located at the very south end of Segment C. South of NW 191<sup>st</sup> Street, Storm Creek continues southwest for 3,000 feet through the privately owned Eagle Reserve in Innis Arden before entering Puget Sound. The stream is confined within a very steep ravine between the mouth and 17<sup>th</sup> Place NW. Severe erosion occurs in the lower sections of Storm Creek through the Eagle Reserve (Photo D-3 in Appendix B). Bank hardening and several weirs have been constructed to protect private property, a pump station, and a sewer line crossing Storm Creek (City of Shoreline, 2005b).

Blue Heron Creek and Coyote Creek discharge to Puget Sound (Photo D-1 in Appendix B) and are located within Segment D and E respectively. Blue Heron Creek begins as two tributaries that join near NW 185<sup>th</sup> Street. Much of the stream flows through the private Blue Heron Reserve. Coyote Creek begins as three or more branches that extend into ravines with relatively steep side slopes. These branches come together on private property near NW 175<sup>th</sup> Street. Below the confluence of these branches, the creek flows another 1,700 feet before entering Puget Sound. The lower portion of the creek flows through a private tract called the Coyote Reserve and through Innis Arden Reserve. In comparison, Blue Heron Creek drains a larger area than Coyote Creek and experiences larger flows.

Boeing Creek and Highlands Creek discharge to Puget Sound and are located within Segment E. There are also several short unnamed tributaries that occur within the Innis Arden Reserve and flow to Puget Sound (see Map 4). Boeing Creek begins as two large tributaries that are mostly contained within pipes and occur in developed commercial areas. From the confluence of the two tributaries, the main stem descends through forested ravines to Hidden Lake, a small, constructed lake that the City regulates as a storm detention facility. Downstream from Hidden Lake, the stream has steep gradients and incised channels with moderate-to severe erosion of the channel beds and banks. A steel-pile dam is present approximately 2,300 feet from the mouth, which acts as a barrier to upstream fish. Many sections below the dam have experienced slope failure, and the substrate is generally embedded having been filled in with sediment, providing poor spawning habitat for salmonids (King County 1994). Boeing Creek enters Puget Sound through a large box culvert under the BNSF railroad. The lower portion of the stream is tidally influenced at high tides.

Highlands Creek is located within the Highlands development near the southern City boundary. The stream flows west through private property and is mostly contained within a piped system. The approximate length of the watercourse is 1,200 feet, of which 850 feet is piped.

None of the streams are currently listed on the state Department of Ecology's 2004 303(d) list, which lists streams that do not meet water quality standards for one or more parameters (Ecology website, 2008). However, many small streams, such as those found

within the City's shoreline planning area, may potentially be at risk for exceeding several water quality parameters.

As stated above, many of the streams discharge directly into Puget Sound through culverts. Culverts that are undersized and/or have a steep slope may increase water velocity, which may cause downstream scouring of nearshore areas during periods of significant water runoff (Parker, 2000).

### **Flood Hazard Areas**

Flood hazard areas are defined in the *Shoreline Comprehensive Plan* as "those areas within the floodplain subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year" (City of Shoreline, 2005a). These areas are typically identified on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood insurance rate maps (FIRM) as the 100-year floodplain. The 100-year floodplain is regulated by two chapters of the SMC: Chapter 16.12, Flood Damage Prevention, and Chapter 20.80.380-410 of the CAO.

Portions of the shoreline in Segment B, C, D, and E are mapped as a 100-year floodplain on the King County FIRM series, Panels 20, 40, 310, and 330 (FEMA, 1995). Flood hazards for Segment A (Point Wells) are mapped on Snohomish County FIRM series and include panels 1294 and 1292 (FEMA, 1999). The stream corridor of Boeing Creek (Segment E) is also mapped as a 100-year floodplain (FEMA, 1995), but the stream is not large enough itself to be a shoreline of the state and only the mouth of the stream is located within the marine shoreline. The King County Sensitive Area Map Folio (King County iMAP, 1991) shows only the Boeing Creek stream corridor within Segment E as being a potential flood hazard area (see Map 4 in Appendix C). Typically, the areas south of stream mouths and the marine shoreline below the OHWM are indicated as flood hazard areas. Following the recommendations made in the Snohomish County FIRM series, Base Flood Elevation for shoreline in all Segments (A, B, C, D, and E) will be 10 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD).

Several existing houses are within the shoreline of Puget Sound along 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE in Segment B (see Map 4 in Appendix C). Most of the homes are protected by bulkheads, with the exception of those on the south end, which, based on a conversation in March 2006 between Juniper Nammi (City of Shoreline Planner) and Chuck Steele (Ecology Floodplain Specialist), were reported to have had flooding in the past (Chuck Steele, personal communication, 2008). The existing lots within the flood hazard areas along 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE are fully developed, therefore flood regulations in the SMC would be applied primarily to remodel and rebuilding on these sites.

Industrial facilities and a large dock associated with Point Wells exist within the shoreline of Puget Sound in Segment A. Portions of these facilities are within the mapped flood hazard area (see Map 4 in Appendix C). Flood regulations in the SMC would be applied to replacement or rebuilding of industrial facilities and to shoreline restoration projects. If the property were to be rezoned in the future, flood regulations in the SMC would be applied to platting, subdivision, and new construction on the site.

### Shoreline Modifications

Three white papers prepared in recent years summarize the current knowledge and technology pertaining to marine and estuarine shoreline modifications in the Puget Sound. These papers are: *Overwater Structures: Marine Issues* (Nightingale and Simenstad, 2001); *Marine and Estuarine Shoreline Modification Issues* (Williams and Thom, in King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks [KCDNRP], 2001); and *Beaches and Bluffs of Puget Sound* (Johannessen and MacLennan, 2007). These documents, along with *Reconnaissance Assessment of the State of the Nearshore Report: Including Vashon and Maury Islands (WRIAs 8 and 9)* (KCDNR, 2001) and the Washington Department of Natural Resources ShoreZone Inventory (2001) were summarized and incorporated into this section. A field visit in September 2003 verified modifications along portions of the shoreline providing public access. Table A-2, Appendix A contains additional information regarding shoreline modifications within the planning segments.

Shoreline modifications refer to structural alterations of the shoreline's natural bank, including levees, dikes, floodwalls, riprap, bulkheads, docks, piers or other in-water structures. Such modifications are typically used to stabilize the shoreline and prevent erosion. Shoreline armoring (i.e. riprap, bulkheads, and other shore parallel structures) is the most common type of shoreline modification. Shoreline armoring impedes sediment supply to nearshore habitats, and this sediment starvation can lead to changes in nearshore substrates from sand or mud to coarse sand, gravel, and finally hardpan. This may, in turn, decrease eelgrass and increase kelp abundance, as well as forage fish spawning habitats. Armoring also alters natural process dynamics by blocking or delaying the erosion of upland areas and bluffs that replenish the spawning substrate. Beach narrowing and lowering and decreased driftwood abundance also result from shoreline armoring (Johannessen and MacLennan, 2007).

Construction of shoreline armoring may cover or destroy eelgrass meadows, and overwater structures may deprive eelgrass of light. Dredging can excavate eelgrass or cause excessive turbidity and permanent filling of eelgrass meadows (KCDNR, 2001).

Bulkheads and piers may also affect fish life by diverting juvenile salmonids away from shallow shorelines into deeper water, thereby increasing their potential for predation (Nightingale and Simenstad, 2001). Piers also alter wave energy and current patterns and obstruct littoral drift and longshore sediment transport (Williams and Thom, 2001). Sewer outfalls introduce nutrients and pollutants to the nearshore area altering current cycles and food web interactions.

### Shoreline Armoring

Approximately 97 percent of the City's shoreline adjacent to Puget Sound is modified with riprap and bulkheads (WDNR, 2001). The majority of this armoring is associated with the BNSF railroad bed (Map 12 in Appendix C). The WDNR ShoreZone Inventory (2001) indicates that approximately 23 percent of Segment A (approximately 796 feet; the southern portion of Point Wells) is unmodified beach. The remaining portion of Point Wells (approximately 2,694 feet) is highly modified with riprap and sheet pile, as well as

a large barge dock. Segment B is entirely modified with riprap. A portion of Segment B (approximately 1,845 feet) is modified with concrete and wooden bulkheads along a residential area adjacent to Puget Sound (Photo B-2 in Appendix B). Approximately 73 percent of Segment C is unmodified, at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park where beach extends waterward of the railroad right-of-way. The north and south ends of Segment C are modified with riprap. All of Segments D and E (along the entire length of the City's shoreline south of Richmond Beach Saltwater Park) are modified with riprap (WDNR, 2001).

#### **Docks, Piers, and Over-Water Structures**

There are no docks, piers, or over-water structures along Puget Sound within the City limits (Segments B through E) (Map 12 in Appendix C). However, within the PAA, Point Wells (Segment A) contains a large industrial dock originally used for loading oil when the site was operated as a bulk fuel terminal (Photo A-1 in Appendix B). The dock is currently used for both import and export of materials to and from the facility.

## **NEARSHORE BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION**

#### **Wetlands**

Wetlands near the Puget Sound shoreline typically include tidal marshes and tidally influenced estuaries. Tidal marshes may contain both salt and freshwater habitats that experience tidal inundation (KCDNR, 2001). Several wetlands have been mapped by various sources in the City's shoreline planning area. According to the 1987 National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), the entire area of the City's shoreline planning area in the City limits and UGA boundary is designated as an "estuarine intertidal aquatic bed/unconsolidated shore" (E2AB/USN) wetland (US Department of the Interior [USDI], 1987a and 1987b). The King County Sensitive Areas Map Folio (King County, 1990) also identifies intertidal wetlands encompassing all segments within the City's shoreline planning area. Although mapped as wetland at a landscape level, many of these areas in the City are unvegetated beach or mudflat and therefore would not meet the state definition of wetland as per City code requirements.

The *Stream and Wetland Inventory and Assessment* conducted by Tetra Tech/KCM in 2004 for the City documented one non-tidal wetland within Segment B within the City's shoreline planning area (Map 4 in Appendix C). This palustrine forested wetland is less than one acre in size and is associated with Barnacle Creek. Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) data indicate that a small (less than one acre) scrub/shrub wetland is located at the northernmost extent of Segment E and is associated with Coyote Creek within the shoreline planning area (WDFW, 2008).

#### **Critical Fish and Wildlife Areas**

Critical fish and wildlife habitat areas are those areas identified as being of critical importance in the maintenance and preservation of fish, wildlife and natural vegetation. Critical fish and wildlife habitat areas are defined in SMC Chapter 20.80.260 as follows: Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas include nesting and breeding grounds for State and Federal threatened, endangered or priority species as identified by the

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, including corridors which connect priority habitat, and those areas which provide habitat for species of local significance which have been or may be identified in the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan.

Critical fish and wildlife habitats in the City's shoreline planning area are characterized in the following sections.

### **Marine Riparian Zones**

Marine riparian vegetation is defined as vegetation overhanging the intertidal zone (KCDNR, 2001). Marine riparian zones function by protecting water quality; providing wildlife habitat; regulating microclimate; providing shade, nutrient and prey; stabilizing banks; and providing large woody debris (Anchor Environmental and People for Puget Sound, 2002).

The existing railroad bed, land clearing, and shoreline armoring have impacted the marine riparian zones of all the City's shoreline segments. Marine riparian zones are not located within any of the shoreline planning segments (WDNR, 2001) (Table A-3 in Appendix A). The only marine riparian vegetation that occurs west of the BNSF railroad is located at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (see Photo C-2 in Appendix B).

### **Banks and Bluffs**

Banks and bluffs are part of the marine riparian zone and can be a source of sediment to adjacent beaches, providing habitat to bluff-dwelling animals, rooting area for riparian vegetation, and a source of groundwater seepage to marine waters (KCDNR, 2001). Shoreline development and armoring, vegetation clearing, and changes in hydrology, among others, can adversely impact the natural functions of bluffs.

The ShoreZone Inventory (WDNR, 2001) maps moderate height, inclined cliffs composed of fines/mud and sand in Segments B and C (Tables A-4 in Appendix A). These are described as erosional features, providing sediments to the beach.

### **Beaches and Backshore**

Beaches are composed of generally loose, unconsolidated sediment that extends landward from the low water line (Johannessen and MacLennan, 2007). Backshore areas are immediately landward of beaches and are zones inundated by storm-driven tides. Beaches and backshores provide habitat for numerous organisms, including cutthroat trout, piscivorous birds (grebes, herons, and mergansers), and shorebirds (Dethier, 1990). A typical profile of an undisturbed shoreline in Central Puget Sound would include an upper backshore or storm berm area that collects logs, algae, and other debris during storms (Photo B-3 in Appendix B). The intertidal portion of the beach is typically relatively steep and composed of a mixture of cobbles and gravel in a sand matrix (KCDNR, 2001).

Sediment abundance throughout the shoreline segments is characterized predominantly as "moderate" (some mobile sediment, but not likely to rapidly move) (Table A-1 in Appendix A). Erosional areas are described in Segment E. Beach sediments in shoreline planning area are characterized in Table A-1 and A-4 in Appendix A.



The WDNR ShoreZone Inventory utilized the British Columbia ShoreZone Mapping System, which classifies the shoreline into homogeneous stretches (or units) based on key physical controlling factors (WDNR, 2001). Table 5 summarizes the general beach or shoreline substrate composition, based on the British Columbia classification, for each shoreline planning segment (WDNR, 2001).

*Table 5. ShoreZone Classification by Segment (WDNR, 2001)*

<b>Shoreline Segment</b>	<b>British Columbia Classification*</b>
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand beach</li> <li>• Sand and gravel flat or fan</li> </ul>
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand beach</li> <li>• Sand flat</li> <li>• Sand and gravel flat or fan</li> </ul>
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand beach</li> <li>• Sand and gravel beach, narrow</li> </ul>
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand beach</li> </ul>
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand and gravel beach, narrow</li> <li>• Sand flat</li> </ul>

\*British Columbia Physical Mapping System (Howes et al., 1994 in WDNR, 2001)

Sobocinski (2003) conducted a comparative survey of beach fauna found on natural and altered beaches (i.e. where shoreline armoring was present) located above the mean high tide level. One of the four survey sites was located at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. The study looked at vegetative wrack and invertebrate assemblages, among several other parameters. Vegetative wrack is comprised of natural organic marine material cast on the shore deposited during an ebbing or receding tide. Not surprisingly, the percent cover of wrack was greater at natural beach stretches than at altered beaches at all sites. Wrack serves as important habitat for many beach-dwelling fauna. Fauna found along altered beaches were dominated by marine organisms, such as crustaceans, and contained less insects, talitrids and collembolans (organisms that are terrestrial-dependent) than the neighboring natural beach. The study suggests that a shift to more marine organisms is the result of lowering the land/sea interface and replacing sandy sediments with hard substrate. In addition, the removal of shoreline vegetation, which often accompanies shoreline armoring, also changes the physical structure of this zone by creating hotter, drier habitats, and removing vegetation-dependent organisms, such as insects and invertebrates which inhabit the intertidal zone (Sobocinski, 2003).

### **Flats**

Flats generally include gently sloping sandy or muddy intertidal or shallow subtidal areas (KCDNR, 2001), and are used by juvenile salmonids, shorebirds, and shellfish, among other species. Flats are generally located at the mouths of streams where sediment

transported downstream is deposited, and in areas of low wave and current energy where longshore waves and currents deposit sediment (Photo B-4 in Appendix B) (KCDNR, 2001). Sand flats are mapped in Segment B and much of Segment E (in the vicinity of the Barnacle and Boeing Creek outlets). Sand and gravel flats are mapped in Segments A and B. No mud flats are present in the City's shoreline.

Shoreline activities that may impact tidal flats (KCDNR, 2001) include:

- Unnatural erosion or deposition of sediment;
- Harvesting of shellfish and other marine life;
- Fecal and chemical contamination;
- Physical disturbances from shoreline armoring, marina construction, and upland development practices;
- Shading from overwater structures; and
- Loss of emergent and riparian vegetation.

### **Eelgrass Meadows**

Eelgrass is a perennial, marine aquatic vascular plant that is rooted in the substrate and can spread horizontally to produce new plants. Eelgrass requires fine-grained substrates and is particularly associated with low to moderate high-energy intertidal and shallow subtidal mud/sand substrates. The plants need sufficient light during summer to support growth and for nutrient storage over winter. Typically, eelgrass beds form between about two meters above mean lower low water (MLLW) to almost nine meters below MLLW depending on water quality. However, other factors such as extreme low or high nutrient levels, substrate composition, presence of other species, and toxic pollutants can affect eelgrass abundance and distribution.

The importance of eelgrass has been described in various sources, including the *Reconnaissance Assessment of the State of the Nearshore Environment* (KCDNR, 2001) and more recently in *Kelp and Eelgrass in Puget Sound* (Mumford, 2007). Eelgrass plants are important primary producers, fixing carbon that enters nearshore food webs and generating nutrients and substrate that form the base of the food chain. Eelgrass meadows provide refuge and foraging habitat for many salmonid species, other fish, invertebrates, birds and aquatic organisms.

Eelgrass beds have been documented in Puget Sound in the City's shoreline planning area including Point Wells (Woodruff et al., 2001 and WDNR, 2001). The occurrence of eelgrass is most dense in Segments D and E, north and south of the mouth of Boeing Creek (Table A-5, Appendix A).

Shoreline activities that may impact eelgrass (KCDNR, 2001) include:

- Clam harvesting and other direct alteration by humans;
- Propeller scour and wash;
- Physical disturbances from shoreline armoring;
- Shading from overwater structures; and
- Physical disturbances from dredging and filling.

### **Kelp Forests**

There are 23 species of kelp in Puget Sound, with only two species of floating kelp and 21 that are considered prostrate, or not-floating. The prostrate species are limited to shallower portions of the nearshore zone and comprise the majority of marine vegetation biomass in some areas (Mumford, 2007). Kelps are held to the substrate by holdfasts, which unlike roots do not penetrate the bottom or carry nutrients. Unlike eelgrass, kelps are not rooted and must obtain nutrients directly from the water and require a hard substrate. They favor areas with high ambient light and low temperatures, which result in nutrient-rich waters, and moderate wave energy to circulate the nutrients.

Kelp provides habitat for many fish species, including rockfish and salmonids, potential spawning substrate for herring, and buffers shorelines from waves and currents, among other functions (KCDNR, 2001). A change in kelp distribution may indicate the coarsening of shallow subtidal sediments (such as that caused by erosion related to a seawall) or an increase in nutrient loading (such as from sewage effluent).

Kelp is found in all shoreline planning segments with the exception of Segment D. Kelp beds are sporadic throughout and limited in their lateral extent (Table A-5 in Appendix A) (Woodruff et al., 2001; KCDNR, 2001).

Shoreline activities that may impact kelp densities (KCDNR, 2001) include:  
Physical disturbances from shoreline armoring, marina construction, and harvesting;  
Shading from overwater structures;  
Beach nourishment; and  
Nutrient loading.

### **Priority Habitats and Species**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) maintain priority habitat and species information for Washington State, including the status of species as threatened or endangered. The City of Shoreline occurs within the WDFW Region 4. Priority habitats within Region 4 include consolidated marine/estuarine shorelines, cliffs, caves, snags, riparian areas, old-growth/mature forests, and urban open spaces. These habitats may contain up to 13 species of invertebrates, 62 species of vertebrates, and 20 species of mammals (City of Shoreline, 1998a). The following sections discuss some of the priority species and species of local importance that occur within the City's shoreline planning area.

#### **Shellfish**

Geoduck clams are documented in subtidal areas adjacent to shoreline Segments A, B, C, and E and Dungeness crabs are also documented in subtidal areas adjacent to Segment E (WDFW, 2008). The King County 1996/1997 Beach Assessment (KCDNR Website, 2003) performed at Point Wells Beach in Segment A and Richmond Beach Park in Segment C documented shellfish use of these beach areas. Assessments of the Point Wells shoreline (Segment A) resulted in the identification of 31 species of invertebrates, including littleneck, butter, horse, and sand clams; purple shore crabs, pygmy rock crabs, red rock crabs, and graceful crabs; California green shrimp, and hairy hermit crabs

(KCDNR, 2003). Littleneck and butter clams dominated the clam populations by number and biomass. Assessments of the Richmond Beach Park shoreline (Segment C) resulted in the identification of 37 species of invertebrates including cockle, softshell, horse, and bay mussels; black-clawed crab, graceful decorator crab, and red rock crab. Horse clams were the dominant species of clams at Richmond Beach Park.

The Washington State Department of Health has closed Richmond Beach in Segment C to recreational shellfish harvesting (Washington State Department of Health Website, 2008) due to the presence of biotoxins. None of the City's shoreline is currently used for commercial shellfish harvesting.

### **Salmonids**

The *Salmonid Habitat Limiting Factors: Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 8 Final Report* (Kerwin, 2001) identifies the known presence of salmon in local streams. Boeing Creek (Segment E) has documented salmonid use including Chinook (listed as threatened under the ESA), coho (Federal species of concern), chum salmon, searun cutthroat trout, and resident cutthroat trout. It is likely that many of the fish are products of the "Fish in the Classroom" program (Daley, 2004). Coho are listed by the WRIA 8 as occurring in Boeing Creek. Highlands Creek contains no salmonids. All other streams are likely to contain resident cutthroat trout in some portions of the stream (TT/KCM 2004b, and Daley, 2003).

The City of Shoreline Stream Inventory (TT/KCM, 2004b) notes that the flume under the BNSF railroad in the lowest reach of Boeing Creek likely prevents fish passage seasonally during low flows. The primary detriment to habitat quality in this reach is the significant amount of sediment from landslides in the ravine. The sediment fills in pools within the stream, clogging gravels with sand and/or silt thus reducing spawning suitability.

Nearshore habitat is an important environment for juvenile salmonids, where the shallow water depth obstructs the presence of larger, predator species (Kerwin, 2001). Juvenile salmon rely on the nearshore and estuarine marine habitats for food, migration corridors, protection from predators, and a transitional environment that supports the physiological changes that occur as they transition from a freshwater to a marine environment (Fresh, 2006). Spawn and migration timing, and the use of different marine habitats vary widely between salmonid species as well as stocks or subpopulations of the same species.

All shoreline segments within the City's shoreline planning area are known or expected to contain juvenile salmonids including bull trout (federally listed), Chinook, chum, coho, cutthroat, pink, sockeye, based on the knowledge of species life histories (KCDNR, 2001).

### **Forage Fish**

Forage fish are key components of the marine food web and have important commercial and recreational value. They are generally characterized as small, schooling fish that prey upon zooplankton and are in turn preyed upon by larger predatory fish, birds and marine mammals (Penttila, 2007). The five forage fish species most likely to occur in the

City's shoreline planning area include surf smelt, sand lance, Pacific herring, longfin smelt, and eulachon (Kerwin, 2001 and King County DNR, 2001). Different species utilize different parts of the intertidal and subtidal zones, with sand lance and surf smelt spawning primarily in the substrate of the upper intertidal zone, and Pacific herring spawning primarily on intertidal or subtidal vegetation (Lemberg et al., 1997; Penttila, 2007). Water quality and other conditions that affect food or predator abundance are important for all species of forage fish.

Four primary sources were referenced in compiling information on potential forage fish spawning areas within the City's shoreline planning area: Marine Resource Species (MRS) data maintained by WDFW (2008), the *Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 8 Final Report* (Kerwin, 2001), the *City of Shoreline, Fish Utilization in the City of Shoreline Streams* (Daley, 2003), and the *Reconnaissance Assessment of the State of the Nearshore Environment* (KCDNR, 2001). Information on the five potential forage fish species within the City's planning area is summarized in Table 6.

*Table 6. Forage Fish Species and Presence by Shoreline Segment*

Species	Documented Presence	Spawning Timing	Preferred Spawning Substrate	Spawning Location
Pacific herring	None (nearest is Quartermaster Harbor on Vashon Island)	Quartermaster Harbor stock spawn February/March	Eelgrass	Upper high tide limits to depths of 40 feet (typically between 0 and -10 tidal elevation)

<b>Sand lance</b>	Segments A and B	November 1 to February 15	Fine sand, mixed sand and gravel, or gravel up to 3cm	From + 5 tidal elevation to higher high water line (from bays and inlets to current-swept beaches)
<b>Eulachon</b>	None	Late winter/early spring	Unknown	Freshwater streams
<b>Longfin smelt</b>	None	Winter	Sand with aquatic vegetation	Freshwater streams
<b>Surf smelt</b>	Segments A and C	South Puget Sound stocks are fall-winter spawners (September to March)	Mix of coarse sand and fine gravel	Upper intertidal

Sources: (Kerwin, 2001; O'Toole, 1995; KCDNR, 2001; Lemberg et al., 1997)

Information on documented spawning activity was available from the WDFW (2008). No Pacific herring, sand lance, surf smelt, spawning areas are currently documented in any of the shoreline inventory segments (WDFW, 2008). However, it is fair to assume that they all utilize the nearshore areas for feeding and migration. Both King County DNR (2001) and Kerwin (2001) document surf smelt spawning areas in Segment C, along Richmond Beach Park (Photo C-2 in Appendix B). A sand lance spawning area is mapped along the shoreline within the City of Shoreline, in the southern portion of Segment A (Photo A-1 in Appendix B) (Kerwin, 2001) and just north of Barnacle Creek in Segment B (KCDNR, 2001). Both sources cite the documented presence of surf smelt in planning Segment A (Point Wells). In addition, the mouth of Boeing Creek (Segment E) has been identified as an important area for the feeding, migration, and spawning and rearing of all the forage fish mentioned above (Daley, 2004).

Nearshore modifications impact potential forage fish habitat in the following ways:  
 Development impacts the shoreline, particularly marinas and boat ramps, which introduce the potential for repeated disturbance and potentially alter nearshore hydrology;  
 Sewer outfalls introduce pollutants and nutrients to the nearshore;  
 Overwater structures shade intertidal vegetation and may alter nearshore hydrology; and  
 Riprap revetments and vertical bulkheads alter nearshore hydrology and may increase wave energy on intertidal areas.

The sand lance's habit of spawning in the upper intertidal zone of protected sand-gravel beaches throughout the increasingly populated Puget Sound basin makes it vulnerable to the cumulative effects of various types of shoreline development. The WAC Hydraulic

Code Rules for the control and permitting of in-water construction activities in Washington State include consideration of sand lance spawning habitat protection.

### **Shorebirds and Upland Birds**

A variety of waterfowl and shorebirds utilize the nearshore environment for wintering and breeding. Waterfowl and seaduck species include Canada goose, mallard, wigeon, shoveler, scaup, goldeneye, long-tailed duck, northern pintail, bufflehead, and mergansers. Diving birds such as loons, grebes, scoter, guilemot and cormorants use intertidal habitats for foraging. Approximately seventy-five species of birds are associated with marine nearshore environments in Washington (O'Neil et al., 2001).

Adjacent to the open waters of Puget Sound, the upland terrestrial environment provides habitat for birds, amphibians, reptiles, and insects. The WDFW PHS maps indicate the presence of purple martin nest structures on pilings at the mouth of Boeing Creek from 2000 to 2004. It is unknown whether martin are currently using the structures. Bald eagles use the shoreline and large trees for perching. No nests are currently documented within the City. Marbled murrelet (federal and state listed as threatened species) has also been documented in the shoreline vicinity, but no seabird colonies or waterfowl concentrations are documented within the City. Adolfson Associates (1999) also documented the use of interior uplands by two priority species including the pileated woodpecker and the band-tailed pigeon.

## **ASSESSMENT OF SHORELINE FUNCTIONS AND OPPORTUNITY AREAS**

This section summarizes key findings concerning how functions of the Puget Sound shoreline have been impaired within the City of Shoreline, both by land use activities and alterations occurring at an ecosystem-wide scale, and by activities within the City, its PAA, and its shoreline planning area. This section also identifies opportunities for the protection or enhancement of areas where shoreline ecological functions are intact, and opportunities for restoration of impaired shoreline functions, at both a programmatic (i.e., City-wide) and site specific level. Opportunities for enhanced or expanded public access to the shoreline are also discussed.

### **Shoreline Ecological Functions**

Shoreline ecological functions of the City of Shoreline planning segments are summarized in Table 7. The table is organized around Ecology's list of processes and functions for shorelines using the landscape analysis methodology. It also provides a qualitative assessment of the function performance provided by each reach as Low, Medium or High. Due to the similarity of shoreline functions provided by Segments D and E, these segments are combined in this analysis.

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Table 7. Summary of Ecological Functions

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
<b>HYDROLOGY</b>				
Transport & stabilize sediment	<p>Low – The burial of the upper foreshore (from industrial development) locked up coarse sand and gravel in the littoral system, preventing longshore transport of sediment.</p> <p>One area of exception on Point Wells is the natural beach within the southern half of Segment A. This natural sand flat and beach area would provide Low to Moderate sediment transport functions.</p>	<p>Low – The burial of the upper foreshore (from railroad construction) locked up coarse sand and gravel in the littoral system, preventing longshore transport of sediment. In addition, small stream mouth estuaries were buried by the railroad. Box culverts and pipes alter sediment dynamics at the mouths. The presence of residential bulkheads, some of which are below the mean high tide level, also interrupts longshore transport of sediment.</p>	<p>Low to Moderate – The area of undisturbed beach west of railroad at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park provides some sediment transport function. It is limited however by its short length (alongshore) and narrow width.</p>	<p>Low (similar to Segment B) Boeing Creek provides a localized fluvial sediment source, but this is limited to a small section of shoreline.</p>
Attenuating wave energy	<p>Low – With the exception of the southern portion, the shoreline is armored with riprap that likely increases wave energy, thus affecting</p>	<p>Low - The rock revetment of railroad and residential</p>	<p>Moderate – The widest area of undisturbed beach west of railroad serves to attenuate</p>	<p>Low (similar to Segment B)</p>

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
	beach sediment composition.	bulkheads may result in increased wave energy along the shoreline, possibly affecting beach sediment composition.	wave energy more than any other portion of the shoreline.	
Removing excessive nutrients and toxic compounds	Low - Loss of wetlands has reduced shoreline potential for the filtering and cycling of pollutants. Sources of pollutants have increased as a result of urban and land uses, and increased impervious surface within the drainage basins.	Low to Moderate - Barnacle Creek and associated forested wetland provide some filtering of pollutants. However, the wetland is narrow and east of the railroad grade.	Low (similar to Segment A)	Low to Moderate – similar to Segment A, the loss of wetland has decreased the shorelines ability to perform water quality improvement functions. However, the intact portions of the Boeing Creek riparian corridor do provide filtering of pollutants generated upstream.
Recruitment of LWD and other organic material	Low – The industrial development of Point Wells removed sources of LWD and areas where driftwood could accumulate. The small area of undisturbed beach at the southern end of the Segment A provides a Low to Moderate function for recruitment of organic material.	Low (similar to Segment A) The presence of the railroad has resulted in beach narrowing and lowering, and thus decreased driftwood abundance on the	Low to Moderate – The undisturbed beach at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park allows for some recruitment of organic material, but LWD is limited due to the railroad. In addition, the beach gradient is too steep to	Low (similar to Segment B)

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
		shore. Railroad maintenance includes physical removal of LWD from upstream sources and stream culverts under the railroad are too small to allow passage of woody debris.	have meaningful interaction between LWD and hydrology.	
<b>VEGETATION</b>				
Temperature regulation	Low – Overhanging vegetation in the nearshore environment is absent from the shoreline due to industrial development.	Low (Similar to Segment A) Overhanging vegetation is separated from the nearshore due to existing development on the beach and to the railroad.	Low (Similar to Segment B) Some vegetation is present at Richmond Beach Park but there are few trees and little to no overhang of vegetation due to the railroad.	Low – The railroad separates steep slopes and historic bluffs from nearshore environment.
Attenuating wave energy	Low – Lack of marine riparian vegetation and large woody debris in the nearshore results in no attenuation of wave energy.	Low (similar to Segment A)	Low – Some vegetation is present at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, but the beach gradient is too steep to allow this function to be performed.	Low (similar to Segment A)
Sediment removal and	Low – Except for the southern portion of Segment A, no large woody debris	Low (similar to Segment	Moderate – Scattered and narrow vegetation	Low (similar to Segment

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
bank stabilization	or vegetation is present to stabilize or reduce erosion.	A)	provides some bank stabilization. Bank stabilization work has been conducted by the City in the southern portion of the segment.	A)

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
Recruitment of LWD and other organic material	Low – Industrial development has removed all sources of organic material.	Low – Maintenance of the railroad results in complete interruption of LWD delivery and input from coastal bluffs. The absence of a back beach also significantly reduces accumulation of large wood on the beach.	Moderate – Driftwood is regularly burned by Park users. A small amount of vegetation west of the railroad is a source of organic material and a small amount of back beach is also present.	Low (similar to Segment B)
<b>HABITAT</b>				
Physical space and conditions for reproduction	Low to Moderate – Industrial development at Point Wells resulted in loss of historic sandspit and lagoon. Existing large pier and dock also reduces intertidal habitat. However, eelgrass is mapped off-shore which provides spawning habitat for forage fish. Shellfish beds are also documented in the southern portion of the segment.	Low to Moderate – Marine nearshore habitat for forage fish remains intact due to lack of overwater structures (piers and docks), but the railroad construction resulted in the loss of intertidal habitat (for beach spawning forage fish), longshore lagoon and small stream mouth estuaries.	Low to Moderate – Marine nearshore habitat for forage fish remains intact due to lack of overwater structures (piers and docks), but the railroad construction resulted in the loss of intertidal habitat (for beach spawning forage fish), longshore lagoon and small stream mouth estuaries. Similar to Segment A, eelgrass and shellfish beds are present. However, a sewer outfall is present that likely introduces	Low to Moderate – The sediment supplied at the mouth of Boeing Creek provides feeding, spawning and rearing habitat for several species of forage fish.

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
			nutrients and pollutants to the nearshore area potentially altering current cycles and food web interactions.	
Resting and Foraging	Low to Moderate – Large pier shades nearshore habitat and limits the growth of vegetation. Industrial uses replace beach habitats. However, area of undisturbed beach provides habitat for shorebirds and has documented forage fish use.	Low – Residential land uses and bulkheads limit the use of nearshore habitat for resting and foraging.	Moderate - The lack of overwater structures (marinas, piers, etc.) allows the growth of nearshore vegetation that provides resting habitat for juvenile salmonids. The absence of a back beach habitat and marine riparian vegetation results in no habitat for piscivorous birds, shorebirds and numerous other organisms.	Moderate - Similar to Segment C with the addition of dense eelgrass present to the north and south of Boeing Creek.
Migration	Low – The large pier at Point Wells may divert juvenile salmonids away from nearshore, resulting in increased predation.	Low – Bulkheads along the shoreline may divert juvenile salmonids away from nearshore, resulting in increased predation.	Moderate to High – No impediments to salmon migration are present.	Moderate to High (similar to Segment C)

Function	Shoreline Planning Segments			
	Segment A	Segment B	Segment C	Segments D & E
Food production and delivery	Low to Moderate – The disconnection of marine riparian vegetation from the nearshore has eliminated any biotic input or food for forage fish and salmon. Eelgrass beds are present off-shore.	Low – Residential land uses and bulkheads may disrupt biotic inputs from marine riparian vegetation. Eelgrass beds are present.	Low to Moderate – The small amount of vegetation at Richmond Beach Saltwater park likely supplies some biotic input, although small because only limited vegetation is present. Eelgrass beds are present off shore.	Low to Moderate – Similar to Segment A with the addition of eelgrass beds that provide important food sources for forage fish and migrating salmonids.

**Programmatic Restoration Opportunities**

Table 8 provides a summary of shoreline ecological functions for the Coastal/Nearshore Environment. Causes of impairment and the relative scale at which impairments are occurring (e.g., watershed, shoreline segment scale, or multiple scales) are identified. General or programmatic restoration opportunities to address impairments are described. Individual residential bulkheads and railroad riprap constitute existing and necessary protection from wave energy and therefore are not included in any Programmatic Restoration Opportunities.



*Table 8. Summary of Shoreline Functions and Programmatic Restoration Opportunities*

<b>Condition and Causes of Impairment</b>	<b>Scale of Alterations and Impairment</b>	<b>Shoreline Ecological Functions Affected</b>	<b>Programmatic Restoration Opportunities</b>
Bulkheads on shoreline deflect wave action and disrupt natural coastal processes. Bulkheads disrupt natural delivery of sediment to the coastal areas, as well as increase beach scouring and wave deflection.	Watershed and Reach scale	Hydrologic Sediment transport and deposition	Potential redevelopment of Point Wells is an opportunity to replace hard armoring with soft-shore.
Alteration to and development on feeder bluffs reduce the potential of these areas to provide sediment delivery to coastal zones, disrupting natural coastal beach accretion.	Watershed scale	Sediment delivery	No active feeder bluffs in City due to BNSF railroad. Removal of bulkheads in Point Wells may reestablish some sediment delivery processes. Culverts conveying surface water flow from streams continue to be an important source of sediment delivery. Replace stream culverts with larger box culverts or other fish-friendly structures.

Condition and Causes of Impairment	Scale of Alterations and Impairment	Shoreline Ecological Functions Affected	Programmatic Restoration Opportunities
<p>Wetlands adjacent to the Puget Sound coast are altered due to development and land use and can no longer provide essential storage, recharge, or water quality functions.</p>	<p>Watershed and Reach scale</p>	<p>Hydrologic Hyporheic Water quality</p>	<p>Target local coastal wetland restoration and mitigation so they provide storage, detention, and water quality functions. Restore and reconnect wetlands adjacent to Puget Sound coast such as Barnacle Creek wetlands. Protect intact wetlands along the Puget Sound coast such as those associated with Coyote Creek.</p>
<p>Riparian habitat along the coast has been impaired through land development and marine riparian vegetation is generally absent due to presence of the BNSF Railroad. Input of large wood from the bluffs is largely eliminated by BNSF railroad maintenance practices. The absence of a back beach significantly reduces accumulation of large wood on the beach.</p>	<p>Watershed and Reach scale</p>	<p>Riparian habitat structure</p>	<p>Protect and restore tributaries to the Puget Sound which provide riparian habitat and deliver woody debris and sediment, such as Boeing Creek.</p>

Condition and Causes of Impairment	Scale of Alterations and Impairment	Shoreline Ecological Functions Affected	Programmatic Restoration Opportunities
<p>Man-made debris and remnant structures in the coastal areas disrupt intertidal habitats and salmonid passage. Water quality in the nearshore environment is impaired due to remaining creosote pilings, runoff from creosote railroad ties, and other toxic debris and sewer outfalls. Sediment transport and accretion processes disrupted.</p>	<p>Watershed and Reach scale</p>	<p>Intertidal habitat Water quality</p>	<p>Target removal of abandoned man-made structures and dilapidated docks in Richmond Beach and Point Wells areas. Remove creosote pilings and debris at Point Wells, which harm intertidal habitats. Encourage BNSF to replace creosote railroad ties with non-toxic materials.</p>

**Site-Specific Restoration Opportunities**

A number of site-specific City and non-City projects that would occur in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction are in various stages of planning, as summarized in Table 9 below. The City could explore working with applicants, resource agencies, and permitting agencies to ensure that components or mitigation measures associated with these projects are consistent with the City’s shoreline management goals. Opportunities and projects identified in the table are described in more detail immediately following the table.

*Table 9. Summary of Site-Specific Opportunities and Projects for Public Access and Restoration*

<b>Segment</b>	<b>Existing Public Access</b>	<b>Public Access Opportunities</b>	<b>Public Access Projects</b>	<b>Site-Specific Restoration Opportunities</b>	<b>Site-Specific Restoration Projects</b>
A	Point Wells Beach (informal and limited access) at the south end of segment	South Point Wells Habitat Restoration	None	Point Wells Complete Site Restoration South Point Wells Habitat Restoration South Point Wells Lagoon Creation Barnacle Creek Wetland Construction	King County Brightwater Treatment Plant project at Point Wells site. Project includes restoration plantings.
B	Point Wells Beach (informal and limited access) at the north end of segment	None identified	Richmond Beach Pump Station Park includes interpretive watchtower	None identified	None proposed
C	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park	None identified	Public access improvements at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park	Restore and protect native marine riparian vegetation at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, west of BNSF railroad tracks.	Master Plan for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. The plan includes native plant restoration and slope stability efforts.
D	None	None identified	None proposed	None identified	None proposed
E	Innis Arden Reserve (limited access)	None identified	None proposed	Boeing Creek Enhancement	Boeing Creek Park and Underground Storage Pipe project

## Segment A

### Point Wells Restoration Opportunities

The *Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan Volume II* (WRIA, 2005) identifies many potential restoration and protection projects as part of their Tier 1 Initial Habitat Project List for nearshore/estuary Reaches 8-12 and Sub-reaches. Three specific projects were identified at Point Wells, which is within Reach 10.

**Point Wells Complete Site Restoration:** Restore the entire Point Wells site by completely removing the sea wall, riprap dike, and fill. Regrade the site and reconnect local freshwater sources to re-create a tidal lagoon system with an opening at the north end of the point, which was probably the original mouth of the tidal lagoon system. Reestablish native riparian and backshore vegetation. Project categorized as “high” for benefits to Chinook and “low” for feasibility.

**South Point Wells Habitat Restoration:** Enhance the south shoreline by removing riprap dike, eliminating invasive plants, and reestablishing native riparian and backshore vegetation. The south shoreline is approximately 800 feet long, has sandy substrate, supports some beach grass and other herbaceous vegetation, and includes a fair amount of large woody debris. The south shoreline, with its proximity to nearby residential areas, has potential value for public access. Project categorized as “high/medium” for benefits to Chinook and “medium/low” for feasibility.

**South Point Wells Lagoon Creation:** Creation of a three acre inter-tidal lagoon at the south end of the Point Wells site that may have historically been a marsh (before it was filled). The south shoreline is approximately 800 feet long, has sandy substrate, supports some beach grass and other herbaceous vegetation, and includes a fair amount of large woody debris. Project categorized as “high/medium” for benefits to Chinook and “medium/low” for feasibility.

### Barnacle Creek Wetland Construction Opportunity

The *Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan Volume II* (WRIA, 2005) also identifies one specific project within the Barnacle Creek drainage. The project involves creation of tidally influenced wetland habitat on the east side of the BNSF railroad tracks at Barnacle Creek. Project categorized as “low” for both benefits to Chinook and feasibility.

### Brightwater Treatment Plant Project at Point Wells

The KCDNRP WTD is currently constructing a regional wastewater treatment plant called Brightwater in unincorporated Snohomish County. A conveyance line from the treatment plant to the Point Wells site is currently being built in order to convey treated wastewater to Puget Sound. A marine outfall will be installed offshore of the Point Wells site, extending approximately one mile along the sea bottom of Puget Sound. Following construction, King County will landscape a portion of the Point Wells site with Puget Sound coastal grasses and enhance the shoreline buffer. Eelgrass removed from the

outfall construction site will be replanted and monitored until 2019 to ensure effective recovery. The project is anticipated to be complete by the year 2010 (KCDNRP, WTD website, 2008).

## **Segment B**

### **Richmond Beach Pump Station Park Project**

A new park site is located in the Richmond Beach neighborhood at Richmond Beach Drive NW and NW 198th Street. The City obtained a 50-year recreation easement on a 2.3-acre parcel of land from King County as mitigation for impacts from the Brightwater Treatment Plant project. In the mitigation agreement between the City of Shoreline and King County, it was agreed that the County would provide \$750,000 of mitigation funding for City of Shoreline community improvements. Most of the mitigation funding has been designated for the creation of a new City park at the pump station site. This park is currently being called Richmond Beach Pump Station Park until it receives a new name following City and County naming policies. A 2005 Master Plan for the park includes a small parking area, restroom, interpretive watchtower overlooking the BNSF railroad and Puget Sound, and play areas. No shoreline access west of the BNSF railroad is proposed (City of Shoreline website, 2008).

## **Segment C**

### **Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Project**

The City's Master Plan for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (City of Shoreline, 2007b) includes improvement of the park entrance and road; pedestrian sidewalks, stairs and trails; bridge access and safety; a new beach wash-down area; a new overlook parking area across from the caretaker's residence; a new mid-level terrace area with parking, picnic area and gathering space; and new entry, way-finding and interpretive educational signage. In addition, the plan includes selective site improvements and a program of restoration ecology to control erosion and eliminate invasive plant species in the Park and nearshore areas. Phase I improvements include slope stability efforts in specific areas that showed evidence of unstable soil conditions or erosion during geotechnical investigation. Improvements include controlling public access away from steep slope areas, improving access across steep slopes by constructing raised stairs and boardwalks in selected locations, and by implementing a community participation program of removing invasive plants and replacing them with native plant species tolerant of dry, sandy and gravelly soils. Future phases of the master plan propose beach and dune restoration.

## **Segment D**

No site-specific projects or opportunities have been identified to provide public access or restore shoreline functions and processes. Opportunities in this segment are limited because properties along the shoreline are privately owned. There are also hazards along the shoreline including unstable slopes and landslide hazards.

## Segment E

### **Boeing Creek Park and Underground Storage Pipe Project**

In October 2007, King County completed construction of a new 500,000-gallon underground storage pipe in Boeing Creek Park to temporarily store wastewater during large storms and help reduce overflows to Puget Sound. The pipe replaced an existing 24-inch sewer in Boeing Creek Park owned by the Ronald Wastewater District. The new sewer is 12 feet in diameter and about 640 feet long. The new underground storage pipe is conveying normal wastewater flows toward the Hidden Lake Pump Station. At the request of the City of Shoreline, King County also graded the existing stormwater facility in Boeing Creek Park. The County grading increased the capacity of the facility and stabilized the area. The City then followed with their own park improvement project in 2008. Improvements to the park include new on street parking, ADA pathway improvements, new picnic areas, benches, stormwater detention pond upgrades including a cascading stone water feature, irrigation, native plant landscaping, and trail improvements including improvements to the lower log crossing. The suspension foot bridge will not be part of these improvements as the December storm caused erosion damage to the creek banks including the proposed site for the bridge (City of Shoreline website, 2008).

### **Boeing Creek Enhancement**

The *City of Shoreline Stream Inventory* (TT/KCM, 2004b) notes that the foremost option for recovery within the City is enhancement of the lowest reach of Boeing Creek. The key habitat enhancement activity is to reduce stormwater runoff from developed areas adjacent to Boeing Creek. By reducing stormwater runoff, landslides will occur at more natural levels and sediment loading in the stream will be reduced.

## **DATA GAPS**

This shoreline inventory and characterization report relies on data described in each technical section. In some cases, data identified as needed for the analysis and characterization were not available for incorporation in this report. The 2003 Ecology Guidelines require that data gaps or missing information be identified during the preparation of the shoreline inventory and analysis. The following are considered data gaps at this time:

Aerial photographs used in this analysis are dated 2002. More recent aerial photographs are not currently available or have not been purchased by the City.

Impervious surface information used in this report has been approximated using aerial photographs. Additional information may exist that needs to be explored.

Data related to impacts to shoreline resources from the operation and maintenance of the BNSF railroad tracks is not available. Coordination with BNSF Railway is desired to achieve cooperation between City activities in the shoreline jurisdiction and BNSF operation and maintenance activities.

Tribal information on fisheries or other marine shoreline resources is currently lacking.

Location of archaeological resources is unknown. Coordination with Native American tribal organizations would help to identify the probability or likelihood that intact archaeological resources may be present in the shoreline planning area.

## SUMMARY

The City's shoreline jurisdiction includes approximately 4 miles of Puget Sound coastline within the city limits and in its PAA. Similar to other cities along the Puget Sound, existing development and infrastructure has affected the shoreline environment within the City of Shoreline. Ecosystem-wide processes and ecological functions that have been altered in the marine shoreline include sediment processes, large woody and organic debris recruitment and transport, water quality, riparian vegetation and habitat conditions.

Shoreline armoring to protect the BNSF railroad has most severely altered sediment processes in the City. Sediment delivery is limited to several streams that deliver sediment via culverts under the railroad right-of-way. Forage fish spawning still occurs at these limited points of sediment input (e.g. Boeing Creek) (Daley, 2004). In the Richmond Beach neighborhood, sediment processes have been altered by armoring to protect residential development in several areas, but still provide important habitat and sediment functions.

Clearing of riparian vegetation along the marine shoreline for the BNSF Railway construction and maintenance, and other shoreline armoring has resulted in a lack of large woody and organic debris available for recruitment to the system. The lack of debris in turn affects the stability of the beaches as the presence of beach logs and debris can reduce erosion by dissipating wave energy and trapping sediment.

Restoration and preservation activities that could improve ecological functions and ecosystem wide processes in the marine shoreline include: reduction of stormwater runoff to landslide-prone areas; revegetation of riparian areas to provide shade to cool water temperatures, filter run-off and to provide a source of large woody debris and organic materials; limiting shoreline armoring to allow for continued sediment delivery and to protect nearshore habitat; and improvements to water quality in adjacent upland areas.

Table 10 below summarizes the shoreline characterization for each planning segment. The segments are shown on Map 1. Overall, the Puget Sound shoreline in the City of Shoreline is uniform in its development pattern and biological diversity. The BNSF railroad extends the length of the shoreline. Segment breaks were primarily associated with changes in land use. Point Wells, located in the city's PAA, is the only industrial facility along the shoreline, contrasting with the residential nature of the city's shoreline. South of Point Wells, land use breaks along segment boundaries are primarily associated with varying densities of residential development, and parks and open space resources such as Richmond Beach Saltwater Park and Innis Arden Reserve. While Richmond Beach Saltwater Park provides recreational facilities and access to the Puget Sound shoreline, access at other open space and park resources are limited. Shoreline modifications associated with the railroad and residential development are found



throughout the majority the city's shoreline planning area, with the largest contiguous unmodified portion occurring at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park.

Biological resources and potential habitat areas along the Puget Sound shoreline are largely uniform throughout the city. Less developed areas along the shoreline such as Innis Arden Reserve and Boeing Creek Reserve offer greater habitat potential for wildlife. Areas regulated as critical areas are found throughout the shoreline planning area, primarily comprised of inter-tidal wetlands, streams discharging to Puget Sound, seismic hazards, flood hazards and landslide hazard areas associated with bluffs. Critical areas are listed in Table 10 under Hazard Areas and Habitat / Habitat Potential. Streams discharging to Puget Sound, many of which pass through culverts under the railroad, are listed under Stormwater Outfalls / Stream Discharges.

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Table 10. Shoreline Segment Summary Matrix, City of Shoreline

Shoreline Segment	Land Use / Transportation	Stormwater Outfalls / Stream Discharges	Public Shoreline Access	Hazard Areas	Habitat / Habitat Potential
A	Petroleum Facility King County Right-of-Way (ROW)	Combined stormwater and groundwater remediation outfall near south end of dock	Point Wells Beach (informal and limited access) at the south end of segment	Soil, Groundwater and Surface Water Contamination Seismic Hazard Areas	Wetlands Fish and Wildlife Areas (Forage Fish, Salmonids, shorebirds and piscivorous birds, shellfish, eelgrass and kelp)
B	Single Family Residential BNSF Railway ROW Utility Vacant	Richmond Beach Wastewater Pump Station emergency overflow outfall; Stream Outfalls: Barnacle Creek	None	Flood Hazard Areas Seismic Hazard Areas Landslide Hazard Areas	Wetlands Fish & Wildlife Areas (Forage Fish, Salmonids, Banks/Bluffs, shorebirds and piscivorous birds, shellfish, eelgrass and kelp)
C	BNSF Railway ROW Park Single-Family Residential	None	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park	Flood Hazard Areas Seismic Hazard Areas Landslide Hazard Areas	Wetlands Fish & Wildlife Areas (Forage Fish, Salmonids, Banks/Bluffs, shorebirds and piscivorous birds, shellfish, eelgrass and kelp)
D	Single-Family Residential BNSF Railway ROW	Stream Outfalls: Storm and Blue Heron Creeks	None	Flood Hazard Areas Seismic Hazard Areas Landslide Hazard Areas	Wetlands Fish & Wildlife Areas (Salmonids, shorebirds and piscivorous birds, shellfish, eelgrass and kelp)
E	BNSF Railway ROW Single-Family Residential Open Space Vacant	Stream Outfalls: Coyote, Boeing, and Highlands Creeks	Innis Arden Reserve (limited access)	Flood Hazard Areas Seismic Hazard Areas Landslide Hazard Areas	Wetlands Fish & Wildlife Areas (Forage Fish: Boeing Creek Mouth, Salmonids, shorebirds and piscivorous birds, shellfish, eelgrass and kelp)

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## APPENDIX B: CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ASSESSMENT



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### memorandum

date February 22, 2012

to Miranda Redinger, City of Shoreline

from Reema Shakra and Teresa Vanderburg, ESA

subject **City of Shoreline, Shoreline Master Program Update –Draft Cumulative Impacts Analysis**

The purpose of this memo is to assess the cumulative impacts of reasonably foreseeable future development in the shoreline that would result from development and activities over time under the proposed City of Shoreline SMP required by WAC 173-26-186(8)(d). This memorandum was first prepared in November 2010 based on the October 2010 Draft SMP. In February 2012, the memorandum was updated to reflect the changes since made to the SMP, and is based upon the February 2012 SMP (received by ESA on February 21, 2012). This memorandum is intended to support the environmental review of the proposed SMP amendments under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

For the City of Shoreline, shorelines of the state in the city limits and potential annexation area (PAA) include approximately 5 miles of the Puget Sound shoreline.

The purpose of evaluating cumulative impacts is to insure that, when implemented over time, the proposed SMP goals, policies and regulations will achieve no net loss of shoreline ecological functions from current “baseline” conditions. Baseline conditions are identified and described in the City of Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report (ESA Adolfson, 2008). The proposed Shoreline SMP provides standards and procedures to evaluate individual uses or developments for their potential to impact shoreline resources on a case-by-case basis through the permitting process. The purpose of this memorandum is to determine if impacts to shoreline ecological functions are likely to result from the aggregate of activities and developments in the shoreline that take place over time under the updated SMP.

The guidelines state that, “to ensure no net loss of ecological functions and protection of other shoreline functions and/or uses, master programs shall contain policies, programs, and regulations that address adverse cumulative impacts and fairly allocate the burden of addressing cumulative impacts among development opportunities. Evaluation of such cumulative impacts should consider:

- Current circumstances affecting the shorelines and relevant natural processes;
- Reasonably foreseeable future development and use of the shoreline; and
- Beneficial effects of any established regulatory programs under other local, state, and federal laws.”<sup>1</sup>

This cumulative impacts assessment uses these three considerations as a framework for evaluating the potential long-term impacts on shoreline ecological functions and processes that may result from development or activities under the proposed SMP over time.

*Current Circumstances*

The City prepared the first draft of the shoreline inventory and characterization report in 2004. As part of the City’s current comprehensive SMP update process, the report and map folio were updated in the fall of 2008. The report was revised in December 2008 to address technical review comments and November 2009 and April 2010 to incorporate public review comments. The Shoreline Inventory and Characterization (ESA Adolfson, 2008) identifies existing conditions and evaluates the ecological functions and processes in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction. The inventory included all shoreline areas within the City and its Potential Annexation Area (PAA) and included a characterization of ecosystem processes functioning at a watershed scale. “Shoreline planning area” is a term used in this tech memo to refer to the approximate area within the City’s shoreline jurisdiction, or areas subject to SMP regulations.

For the purposes of the Inventory and Characterization Report, the Puget Sound shoreline was addressed in five shoreline planning segments, as shown on Map 1, and described below in Table 1. Reach breaks were assigned based upon land uses and existing shoreline conditions as described in the inventory report. The most dominant land use in the shoreline is the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) right-of-way, which extends in a north-south direction along the entire length of the shoreline area within city limits. The remaining portions of the shoreline planning area are occupied by industrial uses, residential uses, and parks and open space.

Approximately 97 percent of the City’s shoreline adjacent to Puget Sound is modified with riprap and bulkheads (WDNR, 2001). The majority of this armoring is associated with the BNSF railroad bed.

*Table 11. Shoreline Planning Segments*

Shoreline Segment	Approximate Length (feet)	Approximate Segment Acreage	General Boundaries
<b>A</b>	3,411	15.6	Potential Annexation Area / Point Wells: located directly north of the city limits in unincorporated Snohomish County.
<b>B</b>	4,724	21.7	Richmond Beach residential area: the Snohomish County line south to Richmond Beach Saltwater Park.
<b>C</b>	2,801	11.0	Richmond Beach Saltwater Park south to Storm Creek culvert.
<b>D</b>	1,295	5.7	Innis Arden residential area: south of Richmond Beach Saltwater Park to Innis Arden Reserve Park.
<b>E</b>	9,424	41.6	Innis Arden Reserve / Highlands: Innis Arden Reserve Park south to city limits.

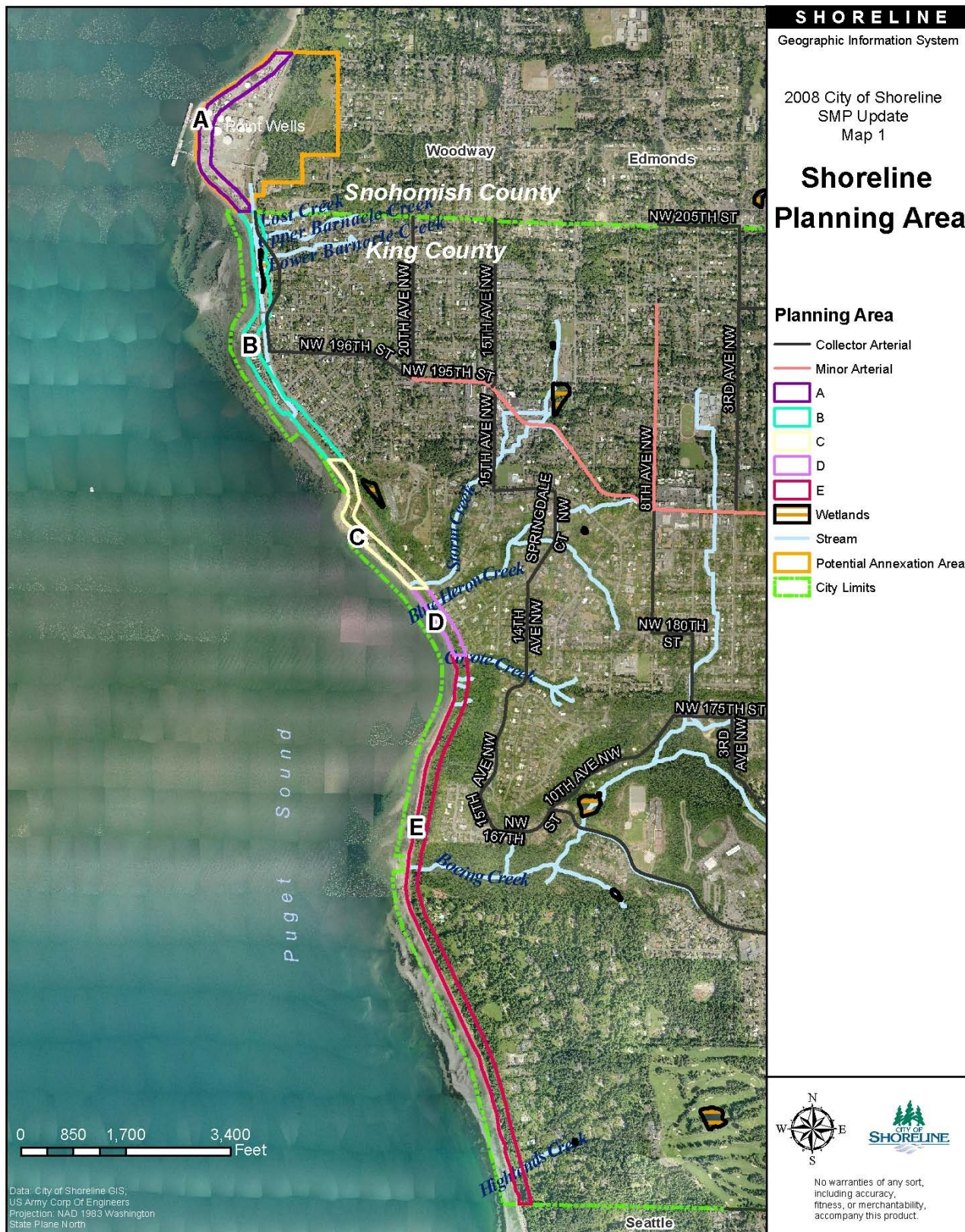
Source: City of Shoreline, 2002

The following sections further summarize baseline conditions, or current circumstances, with regard to the City’s Puget Sound shoreline.

<sup>1</sup> WAC 173-26-286(8)(d)



**Map 1. Shoreline Planning Area**



## ***Physical and Coastal Processes***

Puget Sound beach morphology and composition is dependent upon three main influences: wave energy, sediment sources, and relative position of the beach within a littoral cell. Wave energy is controlled by fetch, the open water over which winds blow without any interference from land. Wind-generated wave action gradually erodes beaches and the toe of coastal bluffs, leading to landslides. These coastal bluffs are the primary source of sediment for most Puget Sound beaches. In the city, coastal bluffs are separated from the shoreline by the BNSF Railway, thus completely removing bluff sediment sources. Although riparian vegetation is located along portions of the shoreline, the shore modifications associated with the BNSF Railway and BNSF maintenance activities prevent recruitment of large woody debris to the shoreline. These shore modifications also preclude net shore-drift along the Puget Sound. A small amount of sediment is delivered by fluvial sources (streams) in the city, although this process is also impaired by culvert systems and the BNSF Railway. Construction of the railroad buried much of upper foreshore beach, thereby locking up coarse sand and gravel in the littoral system. This limits or precludes longshore transport of sediment.

### *Shoreline Modifications*

Approximately 97 percent of the City's shoreline adjacent to Puget Sound is modified with riprap and bulkheads (WDNR, 2001). The majority of this armoring is associated with the BNSF railroad bed. As a result, sediment delivery from upslope sources is limited to several streams that deliver sediment via culverts under the railroad ROW. Forage fish spawning still occurs at these limited points of sediment input.

There are no docks, piers, or over-water structures along Puget Sound within the City limits. However, within the PAA, Point Wells contains a large industrial dock used for both import and export of materials to and from the facility. Construction of the King County Wastewater Treatment Brightwater Conveyance pipeline and marine outfall project is currently underway at the Point Wells site.

Clearing of riparian vegetation along the marine shoreline for the BNSF Railway construction and maintenance, residential uses, bulkheads and other shoreline armoring has resulted in a lack of large woody and organic debris available for recruitment to the marine system. The lack of debris in turn affects the stability of the beaches as the presence of beach logs and debris can reduce erosion by dissipating wave energy and trapping sediment. Large woody debris also provides thermoregulation of sediment for spawning forage fish and detritus recruitment.

### *Habitat and Species*

The Puget Sound nearshore environment is a highly productive zone that provides habitat for a variety of aquatic and terrestrial species. The "nearshore" is generally considered to be an area extending from a point underwater where light penetrates to the bottom (the "littoral zone"), across the intertidal zone and beach, up to the top of marine bluffs. Important documented features of the nearshore that provide habitat include:

- Banks, bluffs, beaches and backshore (sediment sources, substrate, and storm berms);
- Tidal flats (intertidal or shallow subtidal areas used by juvenile salmonids, shorebirds, and shellfish);
- Eelgrass meadows and kelp forests (feeding and rearing habitat for wide variety of marine organisms); and
- Stream mouths and pocket estuaries (fish and wildlife corridors and source of fluvial sediment to nearshore).

Within the City's shoreline planning area, there are seven streams that feed into the Puget Sound. Segment A has an unnamed tributary of Barnacle Creek that is located east of the BNSF railroad and south of Point Wells. It travels south where it connects to Barnacle Creek in Segment B. Lost Creek is located north of the city limits



in the Town of Woodway. It flows southwest both in piped and open water sections towards Puget Sound. It appears to connect to Barnacle Creek before discharging into Puget Sound in Segment B. Barnacle Creek is formed by the confluence of Upper Barnacle Creek and Lower Barnacle Creek and discharges to Puget Sound in Segment B. A palustrine forested wetland, less than one acre in size, is associated with Barnacle Creek. Storm Creek and Blue Heron Creek discharge to Puget Sound in Segment D. Coyote Creek, Boeing Creek, and Highlands Creek discharge to Puget Sound in Segment E. A scrub/shrub wetland is associated with Coyote Creek.

Aquatic and terrestrial species found in or near the City of Shoreline that utilize the nearshore or deep waters of Puget Sound include:

- Shellfish (clams, mussels, and crab);
- Salmonids (including listed species such as Chinook and bull trout);
- Forage fish (surf smelt, sand lance, and Pacific herring); and
- Shorebirds and waterbirds.

*Land Use and Public Access*

The BNSF Railway right-of-way (ROW) extends in a north-south direction along the entire length of the City's shoreline planning area. It is the most dominant land use in the shoreline, occupying 48 percent of the total shoreline planning area. Residential development occupies approximately 19 percent of the total shoreline planning area while Point Wells (in the UGA), the only industrial property located along the Puget Sound shoreline, occupies approximately 20 percent. The remaining land uses are parks and open space (8 percent) and vacant properties (2 percent).

Public access opportunity is provided at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Segment C. It is a regional 40-acre park that provides active and passive uses including picnic areas, shelter buildings, a playground area, observation areas, trails, and Puget Sound shoreline access. Kayu Kayu Ac Park, in Segment B, is a 2-acre city park recently opened near Richmond Beach Pump Station; this provides shoreline views. Innis Arden Reserve is a 23-acre natural open space area/greenway passive-use park located in Segment E along the bluffs overlooking Puget Sound. Hiking/walking trails represent the main activity of this passive-use reserve. Although trails eventually lead to the shoreline, the public has to cross the BNSF railroad tracks and riprap to reach the Puget Sound shoreline. Blue Heron Reserve (Segment C) and Coyote Reserve (Segment D) are privately owned tracts that are associated with Blue Heron Creek and Coyote Creek, respectively. No public shoreline access is permitted along these tracts. Boeing Creek Reserve is a private 4-acre natural area associated with Boeing Creek located along the Puget Sound shoreline in Segment E. It is preserved as private open space. No public shoreline access is permitted from this reserve along the bluff.

*Reasonably Foreseeable Future Development and Use*

Substantial development or redevelopment within the City’s shoreline planning area is unlikely. However, limited development may occur on vacant parcels, residential parcels with potential for redevelopment and residential parcels that can be subdivided. Such parcels occupy 16.5 acres (17 percent) of the City’s shoreline planning area. A majority of these properties is located in Segments B and E and is discussed in more detail below. Houses on existing single-family lots are also expected to grow larger through additions up to the maximum allowed building envelope under the zoning, SMP and CAO regulations.

Point Wells is the only commercial property that may have a major redevelopment. It is unknown if the redevelopment would take place under Snohomish County’s, Woodway’s or Shoreline’s jurisdiction.

There are several factors which will inhibit major new development along the Puget Sound shoreline. One is the BNSF Railway which occupies 48 percent of the city’s shoreline planning area, extending in a north-south direction along the entire length of the shoreline. This limits development potential because vehicular access across the BNSF tracks is limited. The City has received no indication that BNSF would sell their ROW property or provide new road crossings of the tracks. A second factor that contributes to limiting development is steep slopes and landslide hazard areas located throughout portions of Segments B - E.

*Vacant Parcels*

In order to evaluate the potential for shoreline development in the reasonably foreseeable future, King County Assessor records (2007) were examined to identify parcels classified as “vacant” that are located within the shoreline jurisdiction. While the term “vacant” may not always accurately reflect current conditions (such as protected open space, steep slopes, wetlands, or other lands with development restrictions), the classification generally indicates that no structural improvements have been made or assessed for taxes on the property. Depending on the land use and zoning designations, these areas may be subject to new development in the future.

Vacant parcels occupy only 2 percent of the City’s shoreline planning area (including the PAA) and account for a total of 1.5 acres. The vacant properties are located in Segments B and E. This percentage value does not include BNSF property or City-owned right-of-way. Development of vacant lands is therefore not anticipated to cause a significant change in the existing condition of the City’s shorelines.

*Redevelopment Potential*

In addition to the potential for development on vacant parcels, there is potential for underutilized lots along the Puget Sound to redevelop. For the purposes of this Cumulative Impacts Assessment, we based redevelopment potential on the assumption that parcels in a single-family zone (R-4 and R-6) with a land value assessed by King County at 50% or higher than building value are likely to redevelop some time in the future. Based on this assumption, 22 parcels of the City’s shoreline planning area have the potential to redevelop. All 22 parcels are located in Segment B and account for a total of 3 acres or 3 percent of the City’s shoreline planning area.

The only major commercial property that is likely to redevelop is Point Wells. Snohomish County, in response to a petition from the Point Wells property owner, changed the Comprehensive Plan designation and zoning designation of Point Wells from Urban Industrial to Urban Center. Urban Center allows for a mix of high-density residential, office and retail uses. The City of Shoreline has a Comprehensive Plan designation of Mixed Use, which is intended to encourage the development of pedestrian oriented places, with architectural interest, that integrate a wide variety of retail, office and service uses with residential uses. It seems likely that the property would redevelop based on the recent changes to the County’s designations. However, the property

would need to be remediated to address soil and groundwater contamination. Vehicular access to the property is severely limited and poses considerable challenges to developing high-intensity land uses.

#### Subdivision Potential

A third approach to determining potential development along the Puget Sound was to determine whether there are residential parcels that have the potential for subdividing. We based subdivision potential on the assumption that parcels in single-family zone (R-4 and R-6) that are at least 2 times larger than the minimum lot size allowed in the zone are likely to subdivide some time in the future. Fifty-three parcels have the potential to subdivide, 9 of which are located in Segment B, 5 in Segment C, 12 in Segment D, and 27 in Segment E. The total acreage amount within the City's shoreline planning area is 12 acres or 12 percent of the City's shoreline planning area.

#### *Changes to Shoreline Environment Designations*

SMPs establish a system of "shoreline environment designations" that provide a uniform basis for applying policies and use regulations within distinctly different shoreline areas. Shoreline environment designations function like zoning overlays. That is, they do not replace the underlying zoning regulations for density, setbacks, etc., but they may impose additional development standards or regulations for portions of property within the shoreline jurisdiction. Generally, environment designations are based on existing and planned development patterns, biological and physical capabilities and limitations of the shoreline, and a community's vision or objectives for its future development.

When the City of Shoreline incorporated in 1995, it adopted regulations outlined in Title 25 (Shoreline Management Plan) of the King County Code as the interim shoreline management code (Shoreline Municipal Code [SMC] 16.10). Three shoreline environment designations are established in the King County Shoreline Management Master Program and were applied to the City's shorelines:

1. Urban,
2. Rural, and
3. Conservancy

Since the City's Potential Annexation Area is located in Snohomish County, the shoreline environment designation that currently applies to Point Wells is Urban.

The proposed SMP environment designations per the October 2010 Draft SMP include the following:

- "Point Wells Urban" environment to accommodate higher density uses while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions that have been degraded.
- "Point Wells Urban Conservancy" environment to provide a specific designation unique to an industrial use or mix of uses that can be developed.
- "Urban Conservancy" environment to protect and restore relatively undeveloped or unaltered shorelines to maintain open space, floodplains or habitat, while allowing a variety of compatible uses.
- "Waterfront Residential" environment to distinguish between the residential portions of the coastline where natural and manmade features preclude building within the shoreline jurisdiction and the section along 27th Avenue NW where residential structures lie westerly of the BNSF railroad ROW and directly abut the Puget Sound.

- “Shoreline Residential” environment to accommodate residential development and accessory structures that are consistent with the City’s Shoreline Master Program.
- “Aquatic” environment to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high-water mark.

The proposed environment designations are consistent with both the existing land use pattern and Comprehensive Plan future land use designations.

*Changes to Development Standards and Use Regulations*

The proposed SMP offers several changes to the development regulations that encourage shoreline conservation and prohibit activities that would cause adverse impact to shoreline functions and processes. Many of these changes deal with shoreline modification such as bulkheads and riprap revetments along much of the City’s shoreline. These shoreline modifications have significantly altered the natural net-shore drift direction and the availability and local distribution of beach sediment. Other changes related to specific uses in the shoreline are also designed to protect shoreline ecological functions and processes, while continuing to allow legal uses, public access, and appropriate development.

This section describes in general terms how the proposed SMP protects shoreline functions and processes to achieve no net loss. Appendix A cites specific provisions in the proposed SMP (City of Shoreline, 2010) and Draft Restoration Plan (ESA Adolfson, 2009) that serve to protect and enhance shoreline ecological functions. For each proposed shoreline environment designation, Appendix A provides the current conditions, likely future changes, potentially impacted shoreline processes and functions, effects of proposed SMP provisions, existing regulatory controls, and an assessment of expected future performance.

The proposed SMP offers several changes to the development regulations that encourage shoreline conservation and prohibit activities that would cause adverse impact to shoreline functions and processes. One of the most significant changes is the application of a vegetation conservation area on the Puget Sound and accompanying requirements for vegetation enhancement. Most of the City’s Puget Sound shoreline was developed under King County development standards prior to city incorporation. Puget Sound is not considered a critical area under the City’s Critical Areas Ordinance (Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 20.80) and did not have buffer standards or requirements. Current King County standards require a 25-foot setback from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) for single-family development in Urban and Rural environments and a 50-foot setback from the OHWM in the Conservancy environment. The proposed SMP standards and regulations would establish a 20-150 foot vegetation conservation area. Only 9 percent of the total linear length of the City’s Puget Sound shoreline would be regulated with a 20-foot vegetation conservation area. The northern portion of the PAA would be regulated with a 50-foot vegetation conservation area (with accompanying restoration). The remainder of the City’s shoreline will be classified as Shoreline Residential and Urban Conservancy with a 115 to 150 foot vegetation conservation area. Extensive land disturbing activities that require a permit are required to implement a plan that involves revegetation (See 20.230.200.B.4 of Draft SMP).

Regulation of shoreline modifications, such as bulkheads and riprap revetments, will be updated as well. New development and land divisions would be required to be located and designed to avoid the need for shoreline stabilization measures. Further, the conservation of shoreline vegetation has been emphasized in the new shoreline regulations for the City to further stabilize shorelands and increase habitat functions. Updated policies and development standards establish a preference for alternative “soft-shore” erosion control or stabilization designs. In most cases, project applicants would be required to demonstrate why a “soft-shore” design would not

provide adequate protection of existing development. Over time these changes will likely have a net beneficial effect on shoreline ecological processes as properties are redeveloped.

The proposed changes to development standards and use regulations are, in general, more protective than the existing SMP. New development would be required to meet standards contained in the CAO and meet the policy intent and development standards of the SMP. As redevelopment occurs, the policies and regulations in the SMP require that development be located and designed in a manner that avoids impacts to ecological functions and/or enhances functions where they have been degraded. For example, the vegetation conservation measures may require that, as part of a redevelopment proposal, non-native or invasive species be replaced with native vegetation.

#### *Changes to the Treatment of Non-conforming Uses*

Much of the development in the City of Shoreline along the Puget Sound predates incorporation of the City in 1995. Several properties and developments in the City's shoreline do not conform to current zoning or SMP regulations. The proposed SMP includes regulations that are designed to increase protection of shoreline resources over time by prohibiting redevelopment that would result in a greater degree of non-conformity for existing development.

Under the proposed SMP the following standards apply:

- Structures that were legally established and are used for a conforming use, but which now do not conform with regard to setbacks, buffers or yards, area, bulk, height, or density may continue as long as they do not increase the extent of non-conformity by further encroaching upon or extending into areas where construction or use would not be allowed for new development or uses.
- Uses and developments that were legally established and are nonconforming with regard to the use regulations of the SMP may continue as legal nonconforming uses. Such uses cannot be enlarged or expanded, except that nonconforming single-family residences that are located landward of the OHWM may be enlarged or expanded in conformance with applicable bulk and dimensional standards by the addition of space to the main structure or by the addition of normal appurtenances upon approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use permit.
- Structures that are or have been used for non-conforming uses may be used for a different non-conforming use but only upon the approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use permit.
- A non-conforming structure that is moved any distance must be brought into conformity with the proposed SMP.
- If a non-conforming use is discontinued for twelve (12) consecutive months or for twelve months during any two-year period, the non-conforming rights expire and any subsequent use must comply with the SMP.
- If a nonconforming development is damaged to an extent not exceeding seventy-five percent of the replacement cost of the original development, it may be reconstructed to those configurations existing immediately prior to the time the development was damaged, provided that application is made for the permits necessary to restore the development within six months of the date the damage occurred, all permits are obtained and the restoration is completed within two years of permit issuance.

### *Restoration Planning*

The draft SMP Restoration Plan (ESA Adolfson, 2009) represents the shoreline restoration element of the SMP. The plan identifies opportunities for restoration activities or efforts that include programmatic opportunities (e.g., investigate a beach nourishment program; reduce overwater structures; protect remaining riparian marine vegetation), site-specific opportunities (such as replacing Boeing Creek culvert with a larger box culvert), regional plans and policies for Puget Sound restoration, and potential funding and partnership opportunities. The SMP's restoration planning is focused on areas where shoreline functions have been degraded by past development activities. The areas with impaired functions were identified in the City's Shoreline Inventory and Characterization. Recognizing that much impairment to shoreline processes and functions are the result of the railroad tracks along the coast (which is assumed to remain), the implementation of the Restoration Plan will improve shoreline ecological functions incrementally over time.

### *Beneficial Effects of Any Established Regulatory Programs Under Other Local, State, and Federal Laws*

A variety of other regulatory programs, plans, and policies work in concert with the City's SMP to manage shoreline resources and regulate development near the shoreline. The City's Comprehensive Plan establishes the general land use pattern and vision of growth and development the City has adopted for areas both inside and outside the shoreline jurisdiction. Various sections of the Shoreline Municipal Code (SMC) are relevant to shoreline management, such as zoning (SMC Chapter 20.40), stormwater management (SMC Chapter 13.10), and flood damage prevention (SMC 16.12). The City's development standards and use regulations for environmentally critical areas (SMC Chapter 20.80) are particularly relevant to the City's SMP. Designated environmentally critical areas are found throughout the City's shoreline jurisdiction, including geologic hazard areas, wetlands, flood hazard areas, and streams areas. Standards and regulations in the critical areas regulations have been adopted by reference in the proposed SMP.

A number of state and federal agencies may have jurisdiction over land or natural elements in the City's shoreline jurisdiction. Local development proposals most commonly trigger requirements for state or federal permits when they impact wetlands or streams; potentially affect fish and wildlife listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA); result in over one acre of clearing and grading; or affect the floodplain or floodway. As with local requirements, state and federal regulations may apply throughout the city, but regulated resources are common within the City's shoreline jurisdiction. The state and federal regulations affecting shoreline-related resources include, but are not limited to:

*Endangered Species Act (ESA)*: The federal ESA addresses the protection and recovery of federally listed species. The ESA is jointly administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (formerly referred to as the National Marine Fisheries Service), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

*Clean Water Act (CWA)*: The federal CWA requires states to set standards for the protection of water quality for various parameters, and it regulates excavation and dredging in waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Certain activities (i.e., fill or dredge) affecting wetlands in the City's shoreline jurisdiction or work waterward of the ordinary high water mark in the Puget Sound or streams may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and/or Washington State Department of Ecology under Section 404 and Section 401 of the CWA, respectively.

*Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)*: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regulates activities that use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow of the beds or banks of waters of the state and may affect fish habitat. Projects in the shoreline jurisdiction requiring construction below the ordinary high

water mark of Puget Sound or streams in the city could require an HPA from WDFW. Projects creating new impervious surface that could substantially increase stormwater runoff to waters of the state may also require approval.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): Ecology regulates activities that result in wastewater discharges to surface water from industrial facilities or municipal wastewater treatment plants. NPDES permits are also required for stormwater discharges from industrial facilities, construction sites of one or more acres, and municipal stormwater systems that serve census-defined Urbanized Areas, which include any urbanized areas with more than 50,000 people and densities greater than 1,000 people per square mile.

#### *Conclusion*

This draft cumulative impacts analysis is based upon the Draft Shoreline SMP dated February 2012 (received by ESA on February 21, 2012). The City of Shoreline's Puget Sound coastline is largely developed with primarily single family residential uses. There are nearly no major opportunities for new development within the shoreline jurisdiction in the City limits. Therefore, change within the shoreline will primarily be the result of redevelopment activities. The system of shoreline environment designations and use regulations in the proposed SMP is consistent with the established land use pattern, as well as the land use vision planned for in the City's comprehensive plan, zoning, and other long-range planning documents. Based on this consistency, it is unlikely that substantial changes in shoreline land uses will occur within the City limits in the future. However, should the Point Wells site be annexed into the City of Shoreline, substantial changes in shoreline land use could occur on this specific site.

The proposed SMP provides a new system of shoreline environment designations that establishes more uniform management of the City's shoreline. The updated development standards and regulation of shoreline modifications provides more protection for shoreline processes. The updated standards and regulations are more restrictive of activities that would result in adverse impacts to the shoreline environment. The restoration planning effort outlined in the proposed SMP provides the City with opportunities to improve or restore ecological functions that have been impaired as a result of past development activities. In addition, the proposed SMP is meant to compliment several city, state and federal efforts to protect shoreline functions and values.

The cumulative actions taken over time in accordance with the City of Shoreline's proposed SMP are not likely to result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions from existing baseline conditions. This conclusion is based on an assessment of the three factors identified in the Ecology guidelines for evaluating cumulative impacts:

- Current circumstances affecting the shorelines and relevant natural processes;
- Reasonably foreseeable future development and use of the shoreline; and
- Beneficial effects of any established regulatory programs under other local, state, and federal laws.

Changes in subsequent drafts of the SMP may result in a need for revisions to the cumulative impact analysis.

*References*

City of Shoreline. 2002. *City of Shoreline Geographic Information System (GIS) Data*.

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Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). 2001. *Washington State ShoreZone Inventory*. Nearshore Habitat Program, Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Olympia, WA.



**General Cumulative Impact Analysis**

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
<b>Point Wells Urban</b>					
<p>Includes the northern portion of Segment A</p> <p>This area is in the City’s Potential Annexation Area (PAA) and includes the Point Wells industrial port, a petroleum products storage, processing and distribution site.</p>	<p>Snohomish County, in response to a petition from the Point Wells property owner, changed the Comprehensive Plan designation and zoning designation of Point Wells from Urban Industrial to Urban Center. Urban Center allows for a mix of high-density residential, office and retail uses. The City of Shoreline has a Comprehensive Plan designation of Mixed Use, which is intended to encourage the development of pedestrian oriented places, with architectural interest, that integrate a wide variety of retail, office and service uses with residential uses. It seems likely that the property would redevelop based on the recent changes to designations.</p>	<p><b>Segment A:</b> The portion of Segment A located within Point Well Urban is completely developed. All shoreline functions are considered low, except that eelgrass is mapped off-shore which provides spawning habitat for forage fish. The shoreline is modified with overwater structures and hard armoring.</p> <p>Shoreline functions would remain at low performance levels and would continue to be impaired unless redevelopment occurs. Soil and groundwater contamination would be remediated and the nearshore habitat would be restored as mitigation for the redevelopment.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Point Wells Urban” environment is to accommodate higher density uses while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions that have been degraded.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SMP regulations and standards include:</b></p> <p><b>Table 20.230.082:</b> A 50-foot vegetation conservation area with restoration is required for development in the Point Wells Urban environment. The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCA’s should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.</p> <p><b>20.230.020.A:</b> Development must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• apply the mitigation sequence in WAC 173-26-201(2)(e)</li> <li>• ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions by being consistent with SMC 20.80 Critical Areas, avoiding or minimizing the need for shoreline stabilization, substantial land disturbance and dredging, and minimizing interference with natural shorelines processes</li> </ul> <p><b>20.230.020.B:</b> Development that alters topography may be approved if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood events will not increase in frequency or severity</li> <li>• Alteration would not impact natural habitat forming processes and would not reduce ecological functions</li> </ul> <p><b>20.230.020.C:</b> Alternatives to the use of chemical fertilizers, herbicide and pesticides is the preferred BMP.</p> <p>Vehicle refueling and vehicle maintenance must occur outside of regulated shoreline areas.</p> <p>The bulk storage of oil, fuel, chemicals or other hazardous materials is prohibited except for uses allowed by the zoning classification.</p> <p><b>20.230.040.B:</b> Public access on or over the water must be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views.</p> <p>Physical public access must be designed to prevent significant impacts to natural systems employing LID techniques.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Boating facilities including boat launch ramps open to the public are permitted uses. Marinas are prohibited uses. Breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs are conditionally permitted provided they are limited to water-dependent, public access or shoreline stabilization activities. Existing piers and docks associated with industrial use and public piers and docks are permitted. Expansion of existing piers and docks associated with water-oriented industrial use is conditionally permitted.</p> <p><b>20.230.090B:</b> Boating facilities are allowed only if they do not adversely impact fish or wildlife habitat areas and associated wetlands and there is adequate mitigation to ensure no net loss.</p> <p><b>20.230.090C:</b> Boat launch ramps must be located on stable shorelines where water depth is adequate to eliminate/minimize need for channel maintenance activities.</p> <p>Boat launch ramps are allowed on stable non-eroding banks where need for shore stabilization structures is minimized.</p> <p>Ramp structures must be placed near flush with foreshore slope to minimize interruption of geohydraulic processes.</p> <p><b>20.230.090D:</b> Dry boat storage must comply with the required setback except that water-dependent components are allowed within the setback.</p> <p><b>20.230.095:</b> Groins are permitted in conjunction with a professionally designed public beach management program. Jetties and breakwaters are permitted as an integral component of a professionally designed harbor or port. Floating, portable or submerged breakwater structures, or smaller discontinuous structures are preferred where physical conditions make such alternatives with</p>	<p><b>City’s Surface Water Management Program:</b> Shoreline development must be designed in conformance with the current DOE Storm Water Management Manual (urban environments only) and Chapter 20.60, subchapter 3 of the SMC and the City of Shoreline</p> <p>Surface Water Design Code</p> <p><b>Critical Areas Regulations:</b></p> <p>Chapter 20.80 of the Shoreline Municipal Code (Critical Areas) establishes development standards, construction techniques, and permitted uses in critical areas and their buffers (i.e., geologic hazard areas, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, wetlands, flood hazard areas, aquifer recharge areas, and stream areas) to protect these areas from adverse impacts. Designated critical areas are found throughout the City’s shoreline planning area, particularly wetlands and streams, flood hazard areas, and geologic hazard areas</p> <p><b>Clean Water Act (CWA):</b> The federal CWA requires states to set standards for the protection of water quality for various parameters, and it regulates excavation and dredging in waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Certain activities affecting wetlands in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction or work in the Puget Sound waters may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and/or Washington State Department of Ecology under Section 404 and Section 401 of the CWA, respectively.</p> <p><b>Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA):</b> The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regulates activities that use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow of the beds or banks of waters of the state and may affect fish habitat. Projects in the shoreline jurisdiction requiring construction below the ordinary high water mark of Puget Sound or stream mouths in the city could require an HPA from WDFW. Projects creating new impervious surface that could substantially increase stormwater runoff to waters of the state may also require approval.</p> <p><b>Over-water structures:</b> Any in- or over-water (including wetlands) proposals would require review not only by the City, but also by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), and/or the Washington Department of Ecology. Each of these agencies is charged with regulating and/or protecting streams and wetlands, and would impose certain design or mitigation requirements on applicants. A project that includes stream or wetland fill would require Corps review and permitting.</p>	<p><b>No Change</b></p> <p>Native Vegetation Conservation Areas are limited to areas that are not currently armored. Therefore, Building Setback applies to most areas within the city. Given the extent of armoring associated with the railroad, most impacts to existing vegetation are expected to be limited to railroad-related activities. However, such activities must comply with policies in the SMP that conserve vegetation in a manner that ensures no net loss.</p>

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
			<p>less impact feasible.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Nonresidential development is permitted. Existing industrial development is permitted while expansion is conditionally permitted.</p> <p><b>20.230.100:</b> Over-water construction of nonresidential uses is prohibited, with the exception of boat facilities. Water-dependent, nonresidential development must maintain a shoreline setback of either 25 feet from the OHWM or 10 feet from the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater. If public access is provided to the shoreline, the setback may be reduced to 10 feet from the OHWM or the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater. Nonwater-dependent, nonresidential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> In-stream structures are permitted as part of fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project.</p> <p><b>20.230.110 B:</b> Existing natural in-stream features are to remain in place. New structures must allow for normal ground water movement and surface runoff.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Recreational facilities are a permitted use.</p> <p><b>20.230.130:</b> No recreational buildings or structures can be built waterward of the OHWM, except water-dependent and/or water-enjoyment public structures such as bridges and viewing platforms. Such uses may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Residential development is a permitted use.</p> <p><b>20.230.160B:</b> Residential development is prohibited waterward of the OHWM and within setbacks defined for each shoreline environment designation.</p> <p>Residential development must assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.</p> <p>Residential development will not be approved if a geotechnical analysis indicates that flood control or shoreline protection measures are necessary to create a residential lot or site area. Development must be located to avoid the need for structural shore defense and flood protection works.</p> <p>Residential units must be clustered in order to avoid impacts to wetlands or other critical areas.</p> <p>One accessory structure is allowed in the vegetation conservation area provided that structures cover no more than 200 square feet.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Dredging is permitted for activities associated with shoreline/aquatic restoration, remediation, and navigation. , Dredge spoil disposal is permitted for shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement, fish habitat enhancement, and watershed restoration projects.</p> <p><b>20.230.160.B:</b> Dredging/disposal allowed only when actions will not result in significant damage to water quality, biological elements, circulation patterns, floodwater capacity, and properly functioning conditions for threatened / endangered species.</p> <p>Depositing dredge spoil material in the Puget Sound allowed as a CUP for wildlife habitat improvements and correcting problems of material distribution that affect fish resources.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Existing piers and docks associated with industrial use and public piers or docks are permitted. Expansion of existing piers or docks associated with water-oriented industrial use are conditionally permitted.</p> <p><b>20.230.170:</b> Piers and docks must include mitigation to ensure no net loss to critical saltwater habitat.</p> <p>Width of docks, piers, floats and lifts must be no wider than 6 feet unless authorized by WDFW and USACE. The length of docks and piers must be the minimum necessary to prevent grounding of floats and boats on the substrate during low tide. Decking shall have a minimum open space of 40% and after installation at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure shall be maintained.</p> <p><b>20.230.175:</b> Repair or replacement of 50% or more of an existing over-water deck structure must include the replacement of the entire decking with grated material to achieve a minimum open space of 40% and must result in at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure. Repair or replacement of</p>	<p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plans identifies a restoration opportunity in Point Wells that would completely remove the sea wall, riprap dike, and fill, regrade the site and reconnect local freshwater sources to re-create a tidal lagoon system with an opening at the north end of the point, and reestablish native riparian and backshore vegetation. Such actions would improve sediment transport and deposition, nearshore habitat forming processes, beach erosion and accretion of sediments and mineral particulate material, and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
			<p>less than 50% of the over-water deck structure must use grated decking in the area to be replaced.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> New hard shoreline armoring is conditionally permitted. Soft-shore stabilization and maintenance of existing is permitted.</p> <p><b>20.230.180B:</b> New bulkheads allowed when there is serious erosion threatening an established use or existing primary use or when they are necessary for the operation and location of a water-oriented use. A new bulkhead can be constructed to retain landfill in conjunction with a water-dependent use, bridge/navigational structure, or for a wildlife/fish enhancement project.</p> <p>Bulkheads must use stable, nonerodable, homogeneous materials such as concrete, wood, and rock that are consistent with the preservation and protection of ecological habitat.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Land Disturbing activities and landfill are permitted for activities associated with restoration or remediation, public access improvement, and allowed shoreline development. Landfilling waterward of the OHWM is conditionally permitted for activities associated with shoreline/aquatic restoration or remediation.</p> <p><b>20.230.200.B:</b> Land disturbing activities limited to minimum necessary for intended development. Tree and vegetation removal in required Native Vegetation Conservation Areas is prohibited. All significant trees in the Native Vegetation Conservation Areas shall be designated as protected trees consistent with existing development code standards (SMC 20.50.340) and removal of hazard trees is regulated pursuant to SMC 20.50.310(A)(1).</p> <p>Extensive land clearing that requires a permit must revegetate, irrigate, and establish erosion and sedimentation control.</p> <p><b>20.230.210.B:</b> Landfill is allowed as a CUP for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water-dependent use</li> <li>• Bridge/utility/navigational structure</li> </ul> <p>Landfill perimeters must be designed with silt curtains, vegetation retaining walls or other methods to prevent material movement.</p>		
<b>Point Wells Urban Conservancy</b>					
<p>Includes the southern portion of Segment A</p> <p>This area is in the City’s Potential Annexation Area (PAA) and includes the Point Wells industrial port, a petroleum products storage, processing and distribution site.</p>	<p>As described under Point Wells Urban, the Point Wells property owner has indicated interest in redevelopment by petitioning a change to the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations. However, this portion of segment A retains its Urban Industrial designation.</p>	<p>Similar to conditions described under Point Wells Urban, this property has been extensively modified. However, due to the lack of overwater structures, the presence of Lost Creek, and no hard armoring, some shoreline functions are present. The shoreline contains eelgrass meadows and kelp forests, forage fish spawning area, 31 species of shellfish, a sand and gravel flat, and habitat for shorebirds. Lost Creek provides for pocket estuary habitat.</p> <p>No change in shoreline functions is expected unless redevelopment occurs. Soil and groundwater contamination would be remediated and the nearshore habitat would be restored as mitigation for the redevelopment. A change to a higher land-use intensity and increased public access would likely disrupt wildlife and shore bird habitat.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Point Wells Urban Conservancy” environment is to distinguish between differing levels of potential and existing ecological function within the Point Wells environment, and regulate uses and public access requirements appropriately.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SMP regulations and standards include:</b></p> <p><b>Table 20.230.082:</b> A 115-foot vegetation conservation area is required for development in the Point Wells Urban Conservancy environment. The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCAs should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.</p> <p>The same regulations under 20.230.020, 20.230.030, and 20.230.040 for Point Wells Urban apply to Point Wells Urban Conservancy as well.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> In addition to uses and modifications prohibited in Point Wells Urban, boating facilities, breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs, piers and docks, and new hard shoreline armoring, are also prohibited.</p> <p><b>20.230.090-20.230.270:</b></p> <p>The regulations for nonresidential development, in-stream structures, recreational facilities, residential development, dredging, dredge material disposal, land disturbing activities, and landfilling for Point Wells Urban apply to Point Wells Urban Conservancy as well with the exception that recreational facilities are limited to low-intensity uses and passive uses and soft-shore stabilization is limited to those associated with utilities .</p>	<p>Same as items above in Point Wells Urban.</p> <p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plans identifies a restoration opportunity in Point Wells that would enhance the shoreline by removing riprap dike, eliminate invasive plants, reestablish native riparian and backshore vegetation, and create a three acre intertidal lagoon. Similar to the restoration opportunity for Point Wells Urban, such actions would improve sediment transport and deposition, nearshore habitat forming processes, beach erosion and accretion of sediments and mineral particulate material, and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p><b>No Change</b></p> <p>Native Vegetation Conservation Areas are limited to areas that are not currently armored. Therefore, Building Setback applies to most areas within the city. Given the extent of armoring associated with the railroad, most impacts to existing vegetation are expected to be limited to railroad-related activities. However, such activities must comply with policies in the SMP that conserve vegetation in a manner that ensures no net loss.</p>

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
<b>Urban Conservancy</b>					
<p>Includes the northern portion of Segment B, portion of Segment C that is Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, and Segment E.</p> <p>This area is characterized by several parks, public and private greenways, the Highlands residential neighborhood, and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad right-of-way (ROW).</p>	<p>Future development would likely be limited to redevelopment of existing single-family homes, few new residences, and park development. Development is inhibited by the presence of the BNSF ROW, landslide hazard areas, and streams and their associated greenways.</p>	<p>Shoreline functions within this area are low to moderate, with the following functions moderately intact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Northern portion of Segment B has eelgrass meadows and kelp forests, a sand flat, forage fish spawning area, and a forested wetland at Barnacle Creek. The wetland provides some filtering of pollutants; however, it is narrow and east of the railroad grade.</li> <li>▪ Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Segment C provides some sediment transport function, attenuates wave energy although it is limited due to its length (alongshore) and narrow width, has some potential for large woody debris recruitment, and some vegetation, although it does not overhang the intertidal zone. Eelgrass meadows and kelp forests, forage fish spawning area, and 37 species of shellfish are present.</li> <li>▪ Segment E contains eelgrass meadows and kelp forests, a sand flat, and the Boeing Creek outlet which serves as an important area for feeding, migration, spawning, and rearing of forage fish. Although the shoreline is modified by the BNSF railroad tracks, riparian vegetation is prevalent upslope of the tracks throughout the entire length of Segment E. This segment is also characterized by landslide hazard areas and has recently seen numerous slide activities.</li> </ul> <p>Because no significant new development is anticipated, new impacts are anticipated to be limited.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Urban Conservancy” environment is to protect, restore and manage relatively undeveloped or unaltered shorelines to maintain open space, floodplains or habitat, while allowing a variety of compatible uses.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SMP regulations and standards include:</u></b></p> <p><b>Table 20.230.082:</b> A <u>150-foot or 50-foot</u> from the top of a landslide hazard area, whichever is greater, vegetation conservation area is required for development in the Urban Conservancy environment. The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCAs should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.</p> <p>The same regulations under 20.230.020, 20.230.030 and 20.230.040 for Point Wells Urban apply to Urban Conservancy as well.</p> <p>In addition, 20.230.020D requires properties located in the UC designation to retain trees that are 12 inches or more in diameter. Trees determined by a certified arborist to be hazardous or diseased may be removed. When healthy or non-hazardous trees are removed, each removed tree must be replaced with at least three (3) six-foot tall trees, one (1) 18-foot tall tree, or one (1) 12-foot plus one (1) six-foot tall tree. Trees must be of the same species removed, or equivalent native tree species.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b>In addition to uses and modifications prohibited in Point Wells Urban, breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs, nonresidential development, and industrial development are also prohibited.</p> <p><b>20.230.090-20.230.270:</b></p> <p>The regulations for boat launching ramps, in-stream structures, recreational facilities, residential development, dredging, dredge material disposal, piers and docks, bulkheads, land disturbing activities, and landfilling for Point Wells Urban apply to Urban Conservancy as well, with the exception that only public piers and docks are allowed in Urban Conservancy.</p>	<p>Same as items above in Point Wells Urban.</p> <p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plan identifies a restoration opportunity that would replace all stream culverts with larger box culverts or other fish-friendly structures to allow fish access during low flows and allow opportunity for more sediment to reach the nearshore. Such actions would improve nearshore habitat forming processes and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A second restoration opportunity would be to create tidally influenced wetland or restore wetland habitat on the east side of the BNSF railroad tracks NW of the pump station. Such actions would improve nearshore habitat forming processes, intertidal fish and wildlife habitat, and hydrologic, hyporheic and water quality functions.</p> <p>A third restoration opportunity would be to implement the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Vegetation Management Plan to remove non-native invasive plants and reestablish native plant communities within wetlands east of railroad and on beach area west of railroad. Such actions would improve freshwater wetland and intertidal wildlife habitat and stabilize beach substrates.</p> <p>A fourth restoration opportunity would be to protect intact wetlands and their associated uplands adjacent to Puget Sound and develop and implement a vegetation management plan for the Innis Arden Reserve. Such actions would improve nearshore habitat forming processes, hydrologic, hyporheic and water quality functions, riparian habitat structure and function, and fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A fifth restoration opportunity would be to reduce stormwater flow down steep slopes along Boeing Creek to stabilize banks and control sediment loading of the stream and extend recommendations of Vegetation Management Plan for Boeing Creek Park to include entire stream corridor downslope to Puget Sound. Such actions would improve exchange of aquatic organisms, sediment delivery to nearshore from fluvial sources, source of detritus and particulate organic matter, riparian habitat structure and function, freshwater input, and fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A sixth restoration opportunity would be to protect intact uplands and native vegetation communities adjacent to Puget Sound along Boeing Creek Reserve. Such actions would improve source of detritus and particulate organic matter, riparian habitat structure and function, and fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p><b>No Change</b></p> <p>Native Vegetation Conservation Areas are limited to areas that are not currently armored. Therefore, Building Setback applies to most areas within the city. Given the extent of armoring associated with the railroad, most impacts to existing vegetation are expected to be limited to railroad-related activities. However, such activities must comply with policies in the SMP that conserve vegetation in a manner that ensures no net loss.</p>

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
<b>Waterfront Residential</b>					
<p>Includes the southern portion of Segment B, where the Richmond Beach residential neighborhood is located waterward of the BNSF ROW.</p>	<p>Future development would likely be limited to redevelopment of existing single-family homes and one or two new residences. Development is inhibited by shallow lots and limited vehicular access. Bulkheads likely to be maintained and replaced due to severe weather storms.</p>	<p>Shoreline functions are low in this portion of the Segment B. The bulkheads, some of which are below the mean high tide level, interrupt longshore transport of sediment, increase wave energy, and preclude the use of nearshore habitat for resting and foraging. Vegetation is limited to ornamental landscaping, including lawn areas.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Because no significant new development is anticipated, new impacts are anticipated to be limited.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Waterfront Residential” environment is to distinguish between the residential portions of the coastline where natural and manmade features preclude building within the shoreline jurisdiction and the section along 27th Avenue NW where residential properties directly abut the Puget Sound.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SMP regulations and standards include:</b></p> <p><b>Table 20.230.082:</b> A <u>20-foot</u> vegetation conservation area is required for development in the Waterfront Residential environment. The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCAs should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.</p> <p>The same regulations under 20.230.020, 20.230.030 and 20.230.040 for Point Wells Urban apply to Waterfront Residential as well.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> In addition to uses and modifications prohibited in Point Wells Urban, nonresidential development, industrial development, and breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs are prohibited.</p> <p><b>20.230.090-20.230.270:</b></p> <p>The regulations for boat launching ramps, in-stream structures, recreational facilities, residential development, dredging, dredge material disposal, piers and docks, bulkheads, land disturbing activities, and landfilling for Point Wells Urban apply to Waterfront Residential as well, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only joint-use boat launching ramps and joint-use piers and docks are allowed in Waterfront Residential; and</li> <li>• landfill in Waterfront Residential does not have to be limited to activities associated with restoration or remediation or public access improvement, but must still be associated with allowed shoreline development per 20.230.210B.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as items above in Point Wells Urban.</p> <p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plans identifies restoration opportunities that while residences are present, would protect intertidal area by limiting additional traditional bulkheads or overwater structures and reduce impact of shore armoring through replacement of existing traditional bulkheads with soft-shore alternatives, except where they are necessary to protect property from high energy systems. Such actions would improve sediment transport and deposition, nearshore habitat forming processes, beach erosion and accretion of sediments and mineral particulate material, and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p><b>No Change</b></p> <p>Native Vegetation Conservation Areas are limited to areas that are not currently armored. Therefore, Building Setback applies to most areas within the city. Given the extent of armoring associated with the railroad, most impacts to existing vegetation are expected to be limited to railroad-related activities. However, such activities must comply with policies in the SMP that conserve vegetation in a manner that ensures no net loss.</p>
<b>Shoreline Residential</b>					
<p>Includes the southern portion of Segment B, where the Richmond Beach residential neighborhood is located landward of the BNSF ROW.</p>	<p>Future development would likely be limited to redevelopment of existing single-family homes and few new residences. Development is inhibited by the presence of the BNSF ROW.</p>	<p>Shoreline functions are low in this portion of the segment due to the presence of the BNSF ROW and limited upland vegetation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Because no significant new development is anticipated, new impacts are anticipated to be limited.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Shoreline Residential” environment is to accommodate residential development and accessory structures that are consistent with this Shoreline Master Program. SMP regulations and standards include:</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.082:</b> A <u>115-foot</u> vegetation conservation area is required for development in the Shoreline Residential environment. The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCAs should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.</p> <p>The same regulations under 20.230.020, 20.230.030 and 20.230.040 for Point Wells Urban apply to Shoreline Residential as well.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> In addition to uses and modifications prohibited in Point Wells Urban, nonresidential development, industrial development, and breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs are prohibited.</p> <p><b>20.230.090-20.230.270:</b></p> <p>The regulations for boat launching ramps, in-stream structures, recreational facilities, residential development, dredging, dredge material disposal, piers and docks, bulkheads, land disturbing activities, and landfilling for Point Wells Urban apply to Shoreline Residential as well, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only joint-use launching ramps and joint-use piers and docks are allowed in Waterfront Residential; and</li> <li>• landfill in Shoreline Residential does not have to be limited to activities associated with restoration or remediation or but must still be associated with allowed shoreline development</li> </ul>	<p>Same as items above in Point Wells Urban.</p> <p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plan identifies restoration opportunities that would replace all stream culverts with larger box culverts or other fish-friendly structures to allow fish access during low flows and allow opportunity for more sediment to reach the nearshore. Such actions would improve nearshore habitat forming processes and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p><b>No Change</b></p> <p>Native Vegetation Conservation Areas are limited to areas that are not currently armored. Therefore, Building Setback applies to most areas within the city. Given the extent of armoring associated with the railroad, most impacts to existing vegetation are expected to be limited to railroad-related activities. However, such activities must comply with policies in the SMP that conserve vegetation in a manner that ensures no net loss.</p>

Shoreline Segment & Existing Condition	Likely Future Development	Functions or Processes Potentially Impacted	Effects of SMP Provisions	Effect of Other Development and Restoration Activities / Programs	Net Effect
<b>Aquatic</b>					
<p>Includes all lands waterward of the marine ordinary high-water mark in the City of Shoreline.</p> <p>Areas designated Aquatic in the City of Shoreline are all areas within the tidal waters and open waters of the Puget Sound. The only area that has overwater structures is in Segment A, associated with the Point Wells development.</p>	<p>Hard armoring is expected to be maintained for the BNSF railroad ROW and the residential bulkheads located along Richmond Beach. New hard armoring could occur in Segment A although soft-shore stabilization methods would likely be utilized as mitigation for redevelopment.</p> <p>New overwater structures may occur at publicly owned properties, such as Richmond Beach Saltwater Park or in Segment A as part of redevelopment.</p> <p>Dredging may occur in Segment A but only as part of shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation.</p>	<p>Existing functions and processes have been characterized above.</p> <p>Impacts are anticipated to be limited since no new significant development is anticipated. Any impacts would have to be mitigated.</p>	<p><b>20.230.080:</b> The purpose of the “Aquatic” environment is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high-water mark.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SMP regulations and standards include:</u></b></p> <p>The same provisions under 20.230.020, 20.230.030 and 20.230.040 for Point Wells Urban apply to Aquatic as well.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Most allowed uses and modifications in this environment must meet the use and permit limitations of the upland designation. In addition to uses and modifications prohibited in Point Wells Urban, nonresidential development, industrial development, residential development, hard shoreline armoring, and land disturbing activities are prohibited.</p> <p><b>20.230.090-20.230.270:</b></p> <p>The regulations for boating facilities, breakwaters, jetties, groins and weirs, in-stream structures, recreational facilities, dredging, dredge material disposal, piers and docks and landfilling for Point Wells Urban apply to Aquatic as well, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreational facilities are limited to water-dependent and water-enjoyment and are conditionally permitted;</li> <li>• landfilling is limited to activities associated with shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation and is conditionally permitted; and</li> <li>• piers and docks are only limited to the extent of the use and permit requirements of the upland designation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Transportation facilities (railroads) are allowed.</p> <p><b>20.230.250:</b> Bridge abutments and necessary approach fills must be located landward of the OHWM, except bridge piers may be permitted in a water body as a Shoreline Conditional Use. Landfilling activities for transportation facilities are prohibited in wetlands and on accretion beaches, except when all structural and upland alternatives have proven infeasible. Shoreline transportation facilities shall be located and designed to avoid steep or unstable areas and fit the existing topography in order to minimize cuts and fills.</p> <p><b>Table 20.230.081:</b> Aquaculture is a conditionally permitted use.</p> <p><b>20.230.115:</b> Aquaculture is limited to geoduck harvesting within DNR tracts or for recovery of native aquatic population in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.</p>	<p>Same as items above in Point Wells Urban.</p> <p><b>Restoration Plan (2009):</b> The restoration plans identifies a restoration opportunity in Point Wells (Segment A) that would remove creosote pilings and in-water debris. Such actions would improve water and sediment quality and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A second restoration opportunity would be to protect forage fish spawning, rearing, migration, and feeding areas and protect eelgrass beds and kelp beds. Such actions would improve food web support and intertidal fish and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A third restoration opportunity would be to explore the potential to restore the connection between feeder bluffs and nearshore areas. Such actions would improve sediment delivery to the nearshore.</p>	<p><b>No Change or Potential Improvement</b></p> <p>Substantial development is currently limited to Segment A in the aquatic environment. Any future in-water work would likely be associated with the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park and Point Wells. Any of these developments would have to mitigate impacts to ecological functions and achieve project-specific no net loss.</p> <p>Redevelopment would require replacement with improved materials, and compliance with Critical Areas and Stormwater Regulations, HPA, and federal CWA.</p> <p>Improved stormwater management and bulkhead removal / improvement projects would also improve functions overtime.</p>

## **Chapter 20.80 Critical Areas**

### **Sections:**

#### **Subchapter 1. Critical Areas – General Provisions**

- 20.80.010 Purpose.
- 20.80.020 Critical areas maps.
- 20.80.025 Applicability.
- 20.80.030 Exemptions.
- 20.80.040 Partial exemptions.
- 20.80.045 Relationship to other regulations.
- 20.80.050 Notice to title.
- 20.80.060 Permanent field marking.
- 20.80.070 Alteration of critical areas.
- 20.80.080 Alteration or development of critical areas – Standards and criteria.
- 20.80.085 Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on City-owned property.
- 20.80.090 Buffer areas.
- 20.80.100 Classification and rating of critical areas.
- 20.80.110 Critical areas reports required.

#### **Subchapter 2. Geologic Hazard Areas**

- 20.80.210 Designation and purpose.
- 20.80.220 Classification.
- 20.80.230 Required buffer areas.
- 20.80.240 Alteration.
- 20.80.250 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.

#### **Subchapter 3. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas**

- 20.80.260 Designation and purpose.
- 20.80.270 Classification.
- 20.80.280 Required buffer areas.
- 20.80.290 Alteration.
- 20.80.300 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.

#### **Subchapter 4. Wetlands**

- 20.80.310 Designation and purpose.
- 20.80.320 Classification.
- 20.80.330 Required buffer areas.
- 20.80.340 Alteration.
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#### **Subchapter 5. Flood Hazard Areas**

- 20.80.360 Description and purpose.
- 20.80.370 Classification.
- 20.80.380 Flood fringe – Development standards and permitted alterations.
- 20.80.390 Zero-rise floodway – Development standards and permitted alterations.
- 20.80.400 FEMA floodway – Development standards and permitted alterations.
- 20.80.410 Flood hazard areas – Certification by engineer or surveyor.

**Subchapter 6. Aquifer Recharge Areas**

- 20.80.420 Description and purpose.
- 20.80.430 Classification.
- 20.80.440 Alteration.
- 20.80.450 Performance standards and requirements.

**Subchapter 7. Stream Areas**

- 20.80.460 Designation and purpose.
- 20.80.470 Streams.
- 20.80.480 Required buffer areas.
- 20.80.490 Alteration.
- 20.80.500 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.

**20.80.010 Purpose.**

- A. The purpose of this chapter is to establish supplemental standards for the protection of critical areas in compliance with the provisions of the Washington Growth Management Act of 1990 (Chapter 36.70A RCW) and consistent with the goals and policies of the Shoreline Comprehensive Plan in accordance with the procedures of Chapter 20.30 SMC.
- B. By identifying and regulating development and alterations to critical areas and their buffers, it is the intent of this chapter to:
  - 1. Protect the public from injury, loss of life, property damage or financial losses due to flooding, erosion, landslide, seismic events, soils subsidence or steep slope failure;
  - 2. Protect unique, fragile and valuable elements of the environment;
  - 3. Reduce cumulative adverse environmental impacts to water quality, wetlands, streams and other aquatic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, steep slopes and geologically unstable features;
  - 4. Meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program and maintain the City of Shoreline as an eligible community for Federal flood insurance benefits;
  - 5. Ensure the long-term protection of ground and surface water quality;
  - 6. Alert members of the public, including appraisers, assessors, owners, potential buyers, or lessees, to the development limitations of critical areas and their required buffers;
  - 7. Serve as a basis for exercise of the City's substantive authority under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and the City's Environmental Procedures (Chapter 20.30 SMC, Subchapter 8); and comply with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW) and its implementing rules;
  - 8. Establish standards and procedures that are intended to protect environmentally critical areas while accommodating the rights of property owners to use their property in a reasonable manner; and
  - 9. Provide for the management of critical areas to maintain their functions and values and to restore degraded ecosystems. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(A), 2000).

**20.80.020 Critical areas maps.**

- A. The approximate location and extent of identified critical areas within the City's planning area are shown on the critical areas maps adopted as part of this chapter. These maps shall be used for informational purposes only to assist property owners and other interested parties. Boundaries and locations indicated on the maps are generalized. Critical areas and their buffers may occur within the City which have not previously been mapped.



- B. The actual presence or absence, type, extent, boundaries, and classification of critical areas shall be identified in the field by a qualified professional, and determined by the City, according to the procedures, definitions and criteria established by this chapter. In the event of any conflict between the critical area location or designation shown on the City's maps and the criteria or standards of this chapter, the criteria and standards shall prevail.
- C. The critical areas maps shall be periodically updated by the City and shall reflect any permit activity, results of special studies and reports reviewed and approved by the City, amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Environmental Element and Department identified errors and corrections. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(D), 2000. Formerly 20.80.040.).

**20.80.025 Applicability.**

- A. Unless explicitly exempted, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all land uses and within all zoning designations in the City of Shoreline. All persons within the City shall comply with the requirements of this chapter.
- B. The City shall not approve any permit or otherwise issue any authorization to alter the condition of any land, water or vegetation or to construct or alter any structure or improvement without first assuring compliance with the requirements of this chapter.
- C. Approval of a development proposal pursuant to the provisions of this chapter does not discharge the obligation of the applicant to comply with the provisions of this chapter.
- D. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any forest practices over which the City has jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 76.09 RCW and WAC Title 222. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(E), 2000. Formerly 20.80.050.).

**20.80.030 Exemptions.**

The following activities shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter:

- A. Alterations in response to emergencies which threaten the public health, safety and welfare or which pose an imminent risk of damage to private property as long as any alteration undertaken pursuant to this subsection is reported to the City as soon as possible. Only the minimum intervention necessary to reduce the risk to public health, safety, or welfare and/or the imminent risk of damage to private property shall be authorized by this exemption. The City shall confirm that an emergency exists and determine what, if any, additional applications and/or measures shall be required to protect the environment consistent with the provisions of this chapter, and to repair any damage to a preexisting resource;
- B. Public water, electric and natural gas distribution, public sewer collection, cable communications, telephone, utility and related activities undertaken pursuant to City-approved best management practices, and best available science with regard to protection of threatened and endangered species, as follows:
  - 1. Normal and routine maintenance or repair of existing utility structures or rights-of-way;
  - 2. Relocation of electric facilities, lines, equipment or appurtenances, not including substations, with an associated voltage of 55,000 volts or less, only when required by the City of Shoreline, which approves the new location of the facilities;
  - 3. Replacement, operation, repair, modification or installation or construction in an improved City road right-of-way or City-authorized private roadway of all electric facilities, lines, equipment or appurtenances, not including substations, with an associated voltage of 55,000 volts or less;
  - 4. Relocation of public sewer local collection, public water local distribution, natural gas, cable communication or telephone facilities, lines, pipes, mains, equipment or appurtenances, only when required by the City of Shoreline, which approves the new location of the facilities; and

5. Replacement, operation, repair, modification, relocation, installation or construction of public sewer local collection, public water local distribution, natural gas, cable communication or telephone facilities, lines, pipes, mains, equipment or appurtenances when such facilities are located within an improved public right-of-way or City-authorized private roadway;
- C. Maintenance, operation, repair, modification or replacement of publicly improved roadways and associated stormwater drainage systems as long as any such alteration does not involve the expansion of roadways or related improvements into previously unimproved rights-of-way or portions of rights-of-way;
- D. Maintenance, operation or repair of publicly improved recreation areas as long as any such activity does not involve the expansion of uses and/or facilities into a previously unimproved portion of a preexisting area. Maintenance, operation and repair of publicly improved recreation areas within designated fish and wildlife habitat areas shall be permitted if all activities are performed consistent with the development standards of this chapter, best available science or adaptive management plans as recognized by the City;
- E. Activities affecting isolated Type IV wetlands which are individually smaller than 1,000 square feet;
- F. Activities occurring in areas which may be considered small steep slopes (areas of 40 percent slope or greater with a vertical elevation change of up to, but not greater than 20 feet), such as berms, retaining walls, excavations and small natural slopes, and activities on steep slopes created through prior legal grading activity may be exempted based upon City review of a soils report prepared by a qualified geologist or geotechnical engineer which demonstrates that no adverse impact will result from the exemption;
- G. Minor conservation and enhancement of critical areas that does not alter the location, dimensions or size of the critical area or buffer, and results in improvement of the critical area functions;
- H. Removal of hazardous trees in accordance with SMC [20.50.310\(A\)\(1\)](#);
- I. Site investigative work and studies necessary for preparing land use applications, including soils tests, water quality studies, wildlife studies and similar tests and investigations; provided, that any disturbance of the critical area shall be the minimum necessary to carry out the work or studies;
- J. When it can be demonstrated that there will be no undue adverse effect, the following activities may be allowed within critical areas and their buffers: educational activities, scientific research, and outdoor recreational activities, including but not limited to interpretive field trips, bird watching, public beach access including water recreation-related activities, bicycling and hiking, that will not have an undue adverse effect on the critical area;
- K. Normal and routine maintenance and operation of existing landscaping and gardens, provided they comply with all other regulations in this chapter;
- L. Minor activities not mentioned above and determined by the City to have minimal impacts to a critical area;
- M. Notwithstanding the exemptions provided by this section, any otherwise exempt activities occurring in or near a critical area should meet the purpose and intent of SMC 20.80.010 and should consider on-site alternatives that avoid or minimize impacts; and
- N. Mitigation projects related to utilities construction in critical areas or their buffers. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(G), 2000. Formerly 20.80.070.).

**20.80.040 Partial exemptions.**

- A. The following are exempt from the provisions of this chapter except for the notice to title provisions and the flood hazard area provisions, if applicable.
  1. Structural modification of, addition to, or replacement of structures, except single detached residences, in existence before November 27, 1990, which do not meet the building setback or buffer requirements for wetlands, streams or steep slope hazard areas if the modification,

- addition, replacement or related activity does not increase the existing building footprint of the structure lying within the above-described building setback area, sensitive area or buffer;
2. Structural modification of, addition to, or replacement of single detached residences in existence before November 27, 1990, which do not meet the building setback or buffer requirements for wetlands, streams or steep slope hazard areas if the modification, addition, replacement or related activity does not increase the existing footprint of the residence lying within the above-described buffer or building setback area by more than 750 square feet over that existing before November 27, 1990, and no portion of the modification, addition or replacement is located closer to the critical area or, if the existing residence is within the critical area, extend farther into the critical area; and
  3. Maintenance or repair of structures which do not meet the development standards of this chapter for landslide or seismic areas if the maintenance or repair does not increase the footprint of the structure and there is no increased risk to life or property as a result of the proposed maintenance or repair.
- B. A permit or approval sought as part of a development proposal for which multiple permits are required is exempt from the provisions of this chapter, except for the notice to title provisions, as applicable if:
1. The City of Shoreline has previously reviewed all critical areas on the site; and
  2. There is no material change in the development proposal since the prior review; and
  3. There is no new information available which may alter previous critical area review of the site or a particular critical area; and
  4. The permit or approval under which the prior review was conducted has not expired or, if no expiration date, no more than five years have lapsed since the issuance of that permit or approval; and
  5. The prior permit or approval, including any conditions, has been complied with. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(H), 2000. Formerly 20.80.080.)

**20.80.045 Relationship to other regulations.**

- A. These critical area regulations shall apply as an overlay and in addition to zoning, land use and other regulations established by the City of Shoreline. In the event of any conflict between these regulations and any other regulations of the City, the regulations which provide greater protection to the environmentally critical areas shall apply.
- B. Areas characterized by particular critical areas may also be subject to other regulations established by this chapter due to the overlap or multiple functions of some critical areas. Wetlands, for example, may be defined and regulated according to the provisions for fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas contained in this chapter, as well as provisions regulating wetlands. In the event of any conflict between regulations for particular critical areas in this chapter, the regulations which provide greater protection to environmentally critical areas shall apply. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(K), 2000. Formerly 20.80.110.)

**20.80.050 Notice to title.**

- A. To inform subsequent purchasers of real property of the existence of critical areas, when development is permitted in an identified critical area or its associated buffer, a notice to title applicable to the property shall be filed with the King County Department of Records. The notice shall state that critical areas or buffers have been identified on the property and the fact that limitations on actions in or affecting the critical area or buffer may exist. The notice shall run with the land. This notice shall not be required for development by a public agency or public or private utility when:

1. Within a recorded easement or right-of-way; or
  2. On the site of a permanent public facility.
- B. Subdivisions, short subdivisions, development agreements, and binding site plans shall establish a separate tract (a critical areas tract) as a permanent protective measure for wetlands, streams, fish and wildlife habitat, landslide hazard areas and their buffers. The plat or binding site plan for the project shall clearly depict the critical areas tract, and shall include all of the subject critical area and any required buffer, as well as additional lands, as determined by the developer. Restrictions to development within the critical area tract shall be clearly noted on the plat or plan. Restrictions shall be consistent with this chapter for the entire critical area tract, including any additional areas included voluntarily by the developer. Should the critical area tract include several types of critical areas, the developer may wish to establish separate critical areas tracts. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(M), 2000. Formerly 20.80.130.).

**20.80.060 Permanent field marking.**

- A. All critical areas tracts, easements or dedications shall be clearly marked on the site using permanent markings, placed every 300 feet, which include the following text:
- This area has been identified as a <<INSERT TYPE OF CRITICAL AREA>> by the City of Shoreline. Activities, including clearing and grading, removal of vegetation, pruning, cutting of trees or shrubs, planting of nonnative species, and other alterations may be prohibited. Please contact the City of Shoreline Department of Development (206) 546-1811 for further information.
- B. It is the responsibility of the landowner to maintain and replace if necessary all permanent field markings. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 1(N), 2000. Formerly 20.80.140.).

**20.80.070 Alteration of critical areas.**

Alteration of critical areas, including their established buffers, may only be permitted subject to the criteria in this chapter, and compliance with any Federal and/or State permits required. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 2(A), 2000. Formerly 20.80.160.).

**20.80.080 Alteration or development of critical areas – Standards and criteria.**

This section applies to mitigation required with all critical areas reviews, approvals and enforcement pursuant to this chapter. This section is supplemented with specific measures under subchapters for particular critical areas. The proponent for a project involving critical areas shall avoid, minimize and mitigate the impacts to the critical areas through actions that occur in the following sequence:

- A. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of actions;
- B. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;
- C. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
- D. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time through preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action;
- E. Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments; and/or
- F. Monitoring, measuring and reporting the impact to the Planning Director and taking appropriate corrective measures. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 2(B), 2000. Formerly 20.80.170.).

**20.80.085 Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on City-owned property.**

Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers which have been identified by State or Federal agencies as harmful to humans, wildlife, or fish, shall not be used in a City-owned riparian corridor, shoreline habitat or its buffer, wetland or its buffer, except as allowed by the Director for the following circumstances:

- A. When the Director determines that an emergency situation exists where there is a serious threat to public safety, health, or the environment and that an otherwise prohibited application must be used as a last resort.
- B. Compost or fertilizer may be used for native plant revegetation projects in any location. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006)

**20.80.090 Buffer areas.**

The establishment of buffer areas shall be required for all development proposals and activities in or adjacent to critical areas. In all cases the standard buffer (i.e., the maximum buffer required by the City) shall apply unless the Director determines that no net loss of functions and values will occur. The purpose of the buffer shall be to protect the integrity, function, value and resource of the subject critical area, and/or to protect life, property and resources from risks associated with development on unstable or critical lands. Buffers shall consist of an undisturbed area of native vegetation established to achieve the purpose of the buffer. If the buffer area has previously been disturbed, it shall be revegetated pursuant to an approved planting plan. Buffers shall be protected during construction by placement of a temporary barricade if determined necessary by the City, on-site notice for construction crews of the presence of the critical area, and implementation of appropriate erosion and sedimentation controls. Restrictive covenants or conservation easements may be required to preserve and protect buffer areas. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 2(C), 2000. Formerly 20.80.180.).

**20.80.100 Classification and rating of critical areas.**

To promote consistent application of the standards and requirements of this chapter, critical areas within the City of Shoreline shall be rated or classified according to their characteristics, function and value, and/or their sensitivity to disturbance. Classification of critical areas shall be determined by the City using the following tools:

- A. Application of the criteria contained in these regulations;
- B. Consideration of the technical reports submitted by qualified professionals in connection with applications subject to these regulations; and
- C. Review of maps adopted pursuant to this chapter. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 2(E), 2000. Formerly 20.80.200.).

**20.80.110 Critical areas reports required.**

If uses, activities or developments are proposed within critical areas or their buffers, an applicant shall provide site-specific information and analysis as determined by the City. The site-specific information must be obtained by expert investigation and analysis. This provision is not intended to expand or limit an applicant's other obligations under WAC 197-11-100. Such site-specific reviews shall be performed by qualified professionals, as defined by SMC [20.20.042](#), who are approved by the City or under contract to the City. (Ord. 581 § 1 (Exh. 1), 2010; Ord. 515 § 1, 2008; Ord. 406 § 1, 2006; Ord. 398 § 1, 2006).

**20.80.210 Designation and purpose.**

- A. Geologic hazard areas are those lands that are affected by natural processes that make them susceptible to geologic events, such as landslides, seismic activity and severe erosion, especially bluff and ravine areas and steep slopes. Areas susceptible to one or more of the following types of hazards shall be designated as geologically hazardous areas:
  - 1. Erosion hazard;
  - 2. Landslide hazard;
  - 3. Seismic hazard.

- B. The primary purpose of geologic hazard area regulations is to avoid and minimize potential impacts to life and property from geologic hazards, conserve soil resources, and minimize structural damage relating to seismic hazards. This purpose shall be accomplished through appropriate levels of study and analysis, application of sound engineering principles, and regulation or limitation of land uses, including maintenance of existing native vegetation, regulation of clearing and grading activities, and control of stormwater. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 3(A), 2000).

**20.80.220 Classification.**

Geologic hazard areas shall be classified according to the criteria in this section as follows:

- A. Landslide Hazard Areas. Landslide hazard areas are classified as follows:
1. Moderate Hazard: Areas with slopes between 15 percent and 40 percent and that are underlain by soils that consist largely of sand, gravel or glacial till.
  2. High Hazard: Areas with slopes between 15 percent and 40 percent that are underlain by soils consisting largely of silt and clay.
  3. Very High Hazard: Areas with slopes steeper than 15 percent with zones of emergent water (e.g., springs or ground water seepage), areas of landslide deposits regardless of slope, and all steep slope hazard areas sloping 40 percent or steeper.
- B. Seismic Hazard Areas. Seismic hazard areas are lands that, due to a combination of soil and ground water conditions, are subject to severe risk of ground shaking, subsidence or liquefaction of soils during earthquakes. These areas are typically underlain by soft or loose saturated soils (such as alluvium) and have a shallow ground water table.
- C. Erosion and Sedimentation Hazards. Erosion hazard areas are lands or areas underlain by soils identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service) as having “severe” or “very severe” erosion hazards. This includes, but is not limited to, the following group of soils when they occur on slopes of 15 percent or greater: Alderwood-Kitsap (AkF), Alderwood gravelly sandy loam (AgD), Kitsap silt loam (KpD), Everett (EvD) and Indianola (InD). (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 3(B), 2000).

**20.80.230 Required buffer areas.**

- A. Required buffer widths for geologic hazard areas shall reflect the sensitivity of the hazard area and the risks associated with development and, in those circumstances permitted by these regulations, the type and intensity of human activity and site design proposed to be conducted on or near the area.
- B. In determining the appropriate buffer width, the City shall consider the recommendations contained in a geotechnical report required by these regulations and prepared by a qualified consultant.
- C. For landslide hazard areas, the standard buffer shall be 50 feet from all edges of the landslide hazard area. Larger buffers may be required as needed to eliminate or minimize the risk to people and property based on a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional.
- D. Landslide hazard area buffers may be reduced to a minimum of 15 feet when technical studies demonstrate that the reduction will not increase the risk of the hazard to people or property on- or off-site.
- E. Landslide hazard areas and their associated buffers shall be placed either in a separate tract on which development is prohibited, protected by execution of an easement, dedicated to a conservation organization or land trust, or similarly preserved through a permanent protective mechanism acceptable to the City. The location and limitations associated with the critical landslide hazard and its buffer shall be shown on the face of the deed or plat applicable to the property and shall be recorded with the King County Department of Records and Elections. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 3(C), 2000).

**20.80.240 Alteration.**

- A. The City shall approve, condition or deny proposals in a geologic hazard area as appropriate based upon the effective mitigation of risks posed to property, health and safety. The objective of mitigation measures shall be to render a site containing a geologic hazard as safe as one not containing such hazard. Conditions may include limitations of proposed uses, modification of density, alteration of site layout and other appropriate changes to the proposal. Where potential impacts cannot be effectively mitigated to eliminate a significant risk to public health, safety and property, or important natural resources, the proposal shall be denied.
- B. Very High Landslide Hazard Areas. Development shall be prohibited in very high landslide hazards areas or their buffers except as granted by a critical areas special use permit or a critical areas reasonable use permit.
- C. Moderate and High Landslide Hazards. Alterations proposed to moderate and high landslide hazards or their buffers shall be evaluated by a qualified professional through the preparation of the geotechnical report. However, for proposals that include no development, construction, or impervious surfaces, the City, in its sole discretion, may waive the requirement for a geotechnical report. The recommendations contained within the geotechnical report shall be incorporated into the alteration of the landslide hazard area or their buffers.  
The geotechnical engineer and/or geologist preparing the report shall provide assurances that the risk of damage from the proposal, both on-site and off-site, are minimal subject to the conditions set forth in the report, that the proposal will not increase the risk of occurrence of the potential landslide hazard, and that measures to eliminate or reduce risks have been incorporated into the report's recommendations.
- D. Seismic Hazard Areas.
1. For one-story and two-story residential structures, a qualified professional shall conduct an evaluation of site response and liquefaction potential based on the performance of similar structures with similar foundation conditions; or
  2. For all other proposals, the applicant shall conduct an evaluation of site response and liquefaction potential including sufficient subsurface exploration to determine the site coefficient for use in the static lateral force procedure described in the Uniform Building Code.
- E. Erosion Hazard Areas.
1. Up to 1,500 square feet may be cleared on any lot in an erosion hazard area without a permit, unless the site also contains another type of critical area or any other threshold contained in SMC [20.50.320](#) would be exceeded.
  2. All development proposals on sites containing erosion hazard areas shall include a temporary erosion and sediment control plan consistent with the requirements of the adopted surface water design manual and a revegetation plan to ensure permanent stabilization of the site. Specific requirements for revegetation plans shall be determined on a case-by-case basis during permit review and administrative guidelines shall be developed by the Department. Critical area revegetation plans may be combined with required landscape, tree retention, and/or other critical area mitigation plans as appropriate.
  3. All subdivisions, short subdivisions or binding site plans on sites with erosion hazard areas shall comply with the following additional requirements:
    - a. Except as provided in this section, existing vegetation shall be retained on all lots until building permits are approved for development on individual lots;
    - b. If any vegetation on the lots is damaged or removed during construction of the subdivision infrastructure, the applicant shall be required to implement the revegetation plan in those areas that have been impacted prior to final inspection of the site development permit or the issuance of any building permit for the subject property;



- c. Clearing of vegetation on individual lots may be allowed prior to building permit approval if the City of Shoreline determines that:
  - i. Such clearing is a necessary part of a large scale grading plan,
  - ii. It is not feasible to perform such grading on an individual lot basis, and
  - iii. Drainage from the graded area will meet water quality standards to be established by administrative rules.
4. Where the City of Shoreline determines that erosion from a development site poses a significant risk of damage to downstream receiving water, the applicant shall be required to provide regular monitoring of surface water discharge from the site. If the project does not meet water quality standards established by law or administrative rules, the City may suspend further development work on the site until such standards are met.
5. The City may require additional mitigation measures in erosion hazard areas, including, but not limited to, the restriction of major soil-disturbing activities associated with site development between October 15th and April 15th to meet the stated purpose contained in SMC [20.80.010](#) and [20.80.210](#).
6. The use of hazardous substances, pesticides and fertilizers in erosion hazard areas may be prohibited by the City of Shoreline. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 352 § 1, 2004; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 299 § 1, 2002; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 3(D), 2000).

**20.80.250 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.**

The following performance standards shall apply to any mitigations for development proposed within geologic hazard areas located within the City:

- A. Relevant performance standards from SMC [20.80.080](#), [20.80.300](#), [20.80.350](#) and [20.80.500](#) as determined by the City, shall be incorporated into mitigation plans.
- B. The following additional performance standards shall be reflected in proposals within geologic hazard areas:
  1. Geotechnical studies shall be prepared by a qualified consultant to identify and evaluate potential hazards and to formulate mitigation measures.
  2. Construction methods will reduce or not adversely affect geologic hazards.
  3. Site planning should minimize disruption of existing topography and natural vegetation.
  4. Impervious surface coverage should be minimized.
  5. Disturbed areas should be replanted as soon as feasible pursuant to an approved landscape plan.
  6. Clearing and grading regulations as set forth by the City shall be followed.
  7. The use of retaining walls that allow maintenance of existing natural slope areas are preferred over graded slopes.
  8. Temporary erosion and sedimentation controls, pursuant to an approved plan, shall be implemented during construction.
  9. Undevelopable geologic hazard areas larger than one-half acre shall be placed in a separate tract, provided this requirement does not make the lot nonconforming.
  10. A monitoring program shall be prepared for construction activities permitted in geologic hazard areas.
  11. A bond, guarantee or other assurance device approved by the City shall be posted to cover the cost of monitoring, maintenance and any necessary corrective actions.
  12. Development shall not increase instability or create a hazard to the site or adjacent properties, or result in a significant increase in sedimentation or erosion. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 3(E), 2000).

**20.80.260 Designation and purpose.**



- A. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas include nesting and breeding grounds for State and Federal threatened, endangered, critical or priority species listed by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, including corridors which connect priority habitat, and those areas which provide habitat for species of local significance which have been or may be identified in the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan.
- B. The purpose of fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas shall be to provide opportunities for food, cover, nesting, breeding and movement for fish and wildlife within the City; maintain and promote diversity of species and habitat within the City; coordinate habitat protection with elements of the City's established open space corridors wherever possible; help to maintain air and water quality; control erosion; provide areas for recreation, education and scientific study and aesthetic appreciation; and contribute to the established character of the City.
- C. The City of Shoreline has given special consideration to the identification and regulation of fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas that support anadromous fisheries in order to preserve and enhance species which are or may be listed as endangered, threatened or priority species by State and Federal agencies. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 4(A), 2000).

**20.80.270 Classification.**

- A. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas are those areas designated by the City based on review of the best available science; input from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Ecology, and other agencies; and any of the following criteria:
  - 1. The presence of species proposed or listed by the Federal government or the State of Washington as endangered, threatened, critical, or priority; or
  - 2. The presence of heron rookeries or raptor nesting trees; or
  - 3. Streams and wetlands and their associated buffers that provide significant habitat for fish and wildlife.
- B. The City designates the following fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas that meet the above criteria, and this designation does not preclude designation of additional areas as provided in subsection (A) of this section:
  - 1. All regulated streams and wetlands and their associated buffers as determined by a qualified specialist.
  - 2. The waters, bed and shoreline of Puget Sound up to the ordinary high water mark. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 4(B), 2000).

**20.80.280 Required buffer areas.**

- A. Buffer widths for fish and wildlife habitat areas shall be based on consideration of the following factors: species-specific recommendations of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife; recommendations contained in a habitat management plan submitted by a qualified consultant; and the nature and intensity of land uses and activities occurring on the land adjacent to the site.
- B. Low impact uses and activities which are consistent with the purpose and function of the habitat buffer and do not detract from its integrity may be permitted within the buffer depending on the sensitivity of the habitat area. Examples of uses and activities which may be permitted in appropriate cases include trails that are pervious, viewing platforms, stormwater management facilities such as bio-swales, utility easements and other similar uses and activities; provided, that any impacts to the buffer resulting from such permitted facilities shall be fully mitigated.
- C. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and their associated buffers shall be placed either in a separate tract on which development is prohibited, protected by execution of an easement, dedicated to a conservation organization or land trust, or similarly preserved through a permanent protective mechanism acceptable to the City. The location and limitations associated with the critical habitat

and its buffer shall be shown on the face of the deed or plat applicable to the property and shall be recorded with the King County Department of Records and Elections. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 4(C), 2000).

**20.80.290 Alteration.**

- A. Alterations of fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas shall be avoided, subject to the reasonable use provision section (SMC 20.30.336) or special use permit section (SMC 20.30.333).
- B. Any proposed alterations permitted, consistent with special use or reasonable use review, to fish and wildlife habitat conservation area shall require the preparation of a habitat management plan, consistent with the requirements of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitat Program. The habitat management plan shall be prepared by a qualified consultant and reviewed and approved by the City. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 4(D), 2000).

**20.80.300 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.**

- A. Relevant performance standards for other critical areas (such as wetlands and streams) that may be located within the fish and wildlife habitat conservation area, as determined by the City, shall be incorporated into mitigation plans.
- B. The following additional mitigation measures shall be reflected in fish and wildlife habitat conservation area mitigation planning:
  - 1. The maintenance and protection of habitat values shall be considered a priority in site planning and design.
  - 2. Buildings and structures shall be located in a manner that preserves and minimizes adverse impacts to important habitat areas. This may include clustering buildings and locating fences outside of habitat areas.
  - 3. Retained habitat shall be integrated into open space and landscaping.
  - 4. Where possible, habitat and vegetated open space shall be consolidated in contiguous blocks.
  - 5. Habitat shall be located contiguous to other habitat areas, open space or landscaped areas both on- and off-site to contribute to a continuous system or corridor that provides connections to adjacent habitat areas.
  - 6. Native species shall be used in any landscaping of disturbed or undeveloped areas and in any enhancement of habitat or buffers.
  - 7. The heterogeneity and structural diversity of vegetation shall be emphasized in landscaping.
  - 8. Significant trees, preferably in groups, shall be preserved, consistent with the requirements of Chapter [20.50](#) SMC, Subchapter 5, Tree Conservation, Land Clearing and Site Grading, and with the objectives found in these standards. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 4(E), 2000).

**20.80.310 Designation and purpose.**

- A. Wetlands are those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, as defined by the Washington State Wetlands Identification and Delineation Manual (Department of Ecology Publication No. 96-94). Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, bio-swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or

highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.

- B. Wetlands help to maintain water quality; store and convey stormwater and floodwater; recharge ground water; provide important fish and wildlife habitat; and serve as areas for recreation, education, scientific study and aesthetic appreciation.
- C. The City’s overall goal shall be to achieve no net loss of wetlands. This goal shall be implemented through retention of the function, value and acreage of wetlands within the City. Wetland buffers serve to moderate runoff volume and flow rates; reduce sediment, chemical nutrient and toxic pollutants; provide shading to maintain desirable water temperatures; provide habitat for wildlife; protect wetland resources from harmful intrusion; and generally preserve the ecological integrity of the wetland area.
- D. The primary purpose of the wetland regulations is to avoid detrimental wetland impacts and achieve a goal of no net loss of wetland function, value and acreage; and where possible enhance and restore wetlands. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 5(A), 2000).

**20.80.320 Classification.**

Wetlands, as defined by this section, shall be classified according to the following criteria:

- A. “Type I wetlands” are those wetlands which meet any of the following criteria:
  - 1. The presence of species proposed or listed by the Federal government or State of Washington as endangered, threatened, critical or priority, or the presence of critical or outstanding actual or potential habitat for those species; or
  - 2. Wetlands having 40 percent to 60 percent open water in dispersed patches with two or more wetland subclasses of vegetation; or
  - 3. High quality examples of a native wetland listed in the terrestrial and/or aquatic ecosystem elements of the Washington Natural Heritage Plan that are presently identified as such or are determined to be of heritage quality by the Department of Natural Resources; or
  - 4. The presence of plant associations of infrequent occurrence. These include, but are not limited to, plant associations found in bogs and in wetlands with a coniferous forested wetland class or subclass occurring on organic soils.
- B. “Type II wetlands” are those wetlands which are not Type I wetlands and meet any of the following criteria:
  - 1. Wetlands greater than one acre (43,560 sq. ft.) in size;
  - 2. Wetlands equal to or less than one acre (43,560 sq. ft.) but greater than one-half acre (21,780 sq.ft.) in size and have three or more wetland classes; or
  - 3. Wetlands equal to or less than one acre (43,560 sq. ft.) but greater than one-half acre (21,780 sq.ft.) in size, and have a forested wetland class or subclasses.
- C. “Type III wetlands” are those wetlands that are equal to or less than one acre in size and that have one or two wetland classes and are not rated as Type IV wetlands, or wetlands less than one-half acre in size having either three wetlands classes or a forested wetland class or subclass.
- D. “Type IV wetlands” are those wetlands that are equal to or less than 2,500 square feet, hydrologically isolated and have only one, unforested, wetland class. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 5(B), 2000).

**20.80.330 Required buffer areas.**

- A. Required wetland buffer widths shall reflect the sensitivity of the area and resource or the risks associated with development and, in those circumstances permitted by these regulations, the type and intensity of human activity and site design proposed to be conducted on or near the critical area. Wetland buffers shall be measured from the wetland edge as delineated and marked in the field using

the 1997 Washington State Department of Ecology Wetland Delineation Manual or adopted successor.

B. Wetland buffers shall be established as follows:

Table 20.80.330B

Wetland Type	Standard Buffer Width (ft)	Minimum Buffer Width (ft)
Type I	150	115
Type II	115	75
Type III	65	35
Type IV	35	25

- C. The standard buffer width shall be established; provided, that the buffer may be reduced to the minimum buffer listed above if the applicant can demonstrate that a smaller area is adequate to protect the wetland functions and one or both of the following:
1. The proposed use and activities are considered low impact, and may include the following:
    - a. A site layout with no parking, outdoor storage, or use of machinery;
    - b. The proposed use does not involve usage or storage of chemicals; and
    - c. Passive areas are located adjacent to the subject buffer; and
    - d. Both the wetland and its buffer are incorporated into the site design in a manner which eliminates the risk of adverse impact on the subject critical area.
  2. Wetland and buffer enhancement is implemented that will result in equal or greater wetland functions. This includes but is not limited to the following:
    - a. Enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat by incorporating structures that are likely to be used by wildlife, including wood duck houses, bat boxes, nesting platforms, snags, rootwads/stumps, birdhouses, and heron nesting areas.
    - b. Planting native vegetation that would increase value for fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality, or provide aesthetic/recreational value.
- D. When a wetland has salmonid fish use consistent with SMC [20.80.470](#), the corresponding wetland or stream buffer, whichever is greater, shall be established.
- E. The City may extend the width of the buffer on the basis of site-specific analysis when necessary to achieve the goals of this subchapter.
- F. Wetland buffer widths may be modified by averaging buffer widths as set forth herein. Buffer width averaging shall be allowed only where the applicant demonstrates to the City:
1. The ecological structure and function of the buffer after averaging is equivalent to or greater than the structure and function before averaging;
  2. That the total area contained within the buffer after averaging is no less than that contained within the standard buffer prior to averaging;
  3. Buffer averaging will not result in a buffer width being reduced by more than 25 percent of the required buffer as set forth in Table 20.80.330B and in no case may the buffer be less than the stated minimum width.
  4. A habitat survey shall be conducted within the area of concern in order to identify and prioritize highly functional fish and wildlife habitat within the study area.  
The City may require buffer averaging to be designed to protect areas of greater sensitivity and function based on the recommendations of a wetland report prepared by a qualified professional.

- G. Low impact uses and activities which are consistent with the purpose and function of the wetland buffer and do not detract from its integrity may be permitted within the buffer depending on the sensitivity of the wetland. Examples of uses and activities which may be permitted in appropriate cases include trails constructed in a manner to reduce impervious surfaces, viewing platforms, and utility easements; provided, that any impacts to the buffer resulting from such permitted activities are fully mitigated. Uses permitted within the buffer shall be located as far from the wetland as possible.
- H. Stormwater management facilities, such as bio-swales, may not be located within the minimum buffer area as set forth in Table 20.80.330B unless it is determined that the location of the facility will enhance the buffer area, and protect the wetland.
- I. A regulated wetland and its associated buffer shall either be placed in a separate tract on which development is prohibited, protected by execution of an easement, dedicated to a conservation organization or land trust, or similarly preserved through a permanent protective mechanism acceptable to the City. The location and limitations associated with the wetland and its buffer shall be shown on the face of the deed or plat applicable to the property and shall be recorded with the King County Department of Records. (Ord. 469 § 1, 2007; Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 5(C), 2000).

**20.80.340 Alteration.**

- A. Type I Wetlands. Alterations of Type I wetlands shall be prohibited subject to the reasonable use provisions and special use permit provision of this title.
- B. Type II, III and IV Wetlands.
  - 1. Any proposed alteration and mitigation shall comply with the mitigation performance standards and requirements of these regulations; and
  - 2. No net loss of wetland function and value may occur; and
  - 3. Where enhancement or replacement is proposed, ratios shall comply with the requirements of this subchapter. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 5(D), 2000).

**20.80.350 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.**

- A. Appropriate Wetland Mitigation Sequence and Actions. Where impacts cannot be avoided, and the applicant has exhausted feasible design alternatives, the applicant or property owner shall seek to implement other appropriate mitigation actions in compliance with the intent, standards and criteria of this section. In an individual case, these actions may include consideration of alternative site plans and layouts, reductions in the density or scope of the proposal, and/or implementation of the performance standards listed in this subchapter.
- B. Impacts to wetland functions and values shall be mitigated. Mitigation actions shall be implemented in the preferred sequence: Avoidance, minimization, restoration and replacement. Proposals which include less preferred and/or compensatory mitigation shall demonstrate that:
  - 1. All feasible and reasonable measures will be taken to reduce impacts and losses to the critical area, or to avoid impacts where avoidance is required by these regulations; and
  - 2. The restored, created or enhanced critical area or buffer will be as available and persistent as the critical area or buffer area it replaces; and
  - 3. In the case of wetlands and streams, no overall net loss will occur in wetland or stream functions and values.
- C. Location and Timing of Wetland Mitigation.
  - 1. Wetland mitigation shall be provided on-site, unless on-site mitigation is not scientifically feasible due to the physical features of the property. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant to demonstrate that mitigation cannot be provided on-site.

2. When mitigation cannot be provided on-site, mitigation shall be provided in the immediate vicinity of the permitted activity on property owned or controlled by the applicant such as an easement, provided such mitigation is beneficial to the critical area and associated resources. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain title to off-site mitigation areas.
3. In-kind mitigation shall be provided except when the applicant demonstrates and the City concurs that greater functional and habitat value can be achieved through out-of-kind mitigation.
4. Only when it is determined by the City that subsections (C)(1), (2), and (3) of this section are inappropriate and impractical shall off-site, out-of-kind mitigation be considered.
5. When wetland mitigation is permitted by these regulations on-site or off-site, the mitigation project shall occur near an adequate water supply (river, stream, ground water) with a hydrologic connection to the proposed wetland mitigation area to ensure successful development or restoration.
6. Any agreed upon mitigation proposal shall be completed prior to project construction, unless a phased schedule that assures completion concurrent with project construction, has been approved by the City.
7. Wetland acreage replacement ratios shall be as specified in this section.
8. When wetland mitigation is permitted by these regulations, native plant materials salvaged from the original wetland area shall be utilized to the maximum extent possible.

D. Wetland Replacement Ratios.

1. Where wetland alterations are permitted by the City, the applicant shall restore or create areas of wetlands in order to compensate for wetland losses. Equivalent areas shall be determined according to acreage, function, type, location, timing factors and projected success of restoration or creation.
2. When creating or enhancing wetlands, the following acreage replacement ratios shall be used:

Table 20.80.350D

Wetland Type	Wetland Creation Replacement Ratio (Area)	Wetland Enhancement Ratio (Area)
Type I	6:1	16:1
Type II	3:1	12:1
Type III	2:1	8:1
Type IV	1.5:1	6:1

The Department shall have discretion to increase these standards where mitigation is to occur off-site or in other appropriate circumstances based on the recommendations of a wetlands report that includes best available science and is prepared by a qualified professional.

3. Enhanced wetlands shall have higher wetland values and functions than the altered wetland. The values and functions transferred shall be of equal or greater quality to assure no net loss of wetland values and functions.
4. Enhanced and created wetlands shall be appropriately classified and buffered.
5. An enhanced or created wetland and its associated buffer shall be placed either in a separate tract on which development is prohibited, protected by execution of an easement, dedicated to a conservation organization or land trust, or similarly preserved through a permanent protective mechanism acceptable to the City and shall be recorded with the King County Department of Records.

- A. Wetlands Performance Standards. The performance standards in this section shall be incorporated into mitigation plans submitted to the City for impacts to critical areas. In addition, the City may prepare a technical manual which includes guidelines and requirements for report preparation. The following performance standards shall apply to any mitigations proposed within Type I, Type II, Type III and Type IV wetlands and their buffers.
1. Plants indigenous to the region (not introduced or foreign species) shall be used.
  2. Plant selection shall be consistent with the existing or projected hydrologic regime, including base water levels and stormwater event fluctuations.
  3. Plants should be commercially available or available from local sources.
  4. Plant species high in food and cover value for fish and wildlife shall be used.
  5. Mostly perennial species should be planted.
  6. Committing significant areas of the site to species that have questionable potential for successful establishment shall be avoided.
  7. Plant selection must be approved by a qualified consultant.
  8. The following standards shall apply to wetland design and construction:
    - a. Water depth shall not exceed six and one-half feet (two meters).
    - b. The grade or slope that water flows through the wetland shall not exceed six percent.
    - c. Slopes within the wetland basin and the buffer zone shall not be steeper than 3:1 (horizontal to vertical).
    - d. The wetland (excluding the buffer area) should not contain more than 60 percent open water as measured at the seasonal high water mark.
  9. Substrate should consist of a minimum of one foot, in depth, of clean (uncontaminated with chemicals or solid/hazardous wastes) inorganic/organic materials.
  10. Planting densities and placement of plants should be determined by a qualified consultant and shown on the design plans.
  11. The planting plan shall be approved by the City.
  12. Stockpiling should be confined to upland areas and contract specifications should limit stockpiling of earthen materials to durations in accordance with City clearing and grading standards, unless otherwise approved by the City.
  13. Planting instructions shall be submitted which describe proper placement, diversity, and spacing of seeds, tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, sprigs, plugs, and transplanted stock.
  14. Controlled release fertilizer shall be applied (if required) at the time of planting and afterward only as plant conditions warrant (determined during the monitoring process).
  15. An irrigation system shall be installed, if necessary, for the initial establishment period.
  16. All construction specifications and methods shall be approved by a qualified consultant and the City.
  17. Construction management shall be provided by a qualified consultant. Ongoing work on-site shall be inspected by the City.
- F. Approved Wetland Mitigation Projects – Signature. On completion of construction, any approved mitigation project shall be signed off by the applicant’s qualified consultant and approved by the City. Signature of the qualified consultant and approval by the City will indicate that the construction has been completed as planned.
- G. Monitoring Program and Contingency Plan.
1. A monitoring program shall be implemented by the applicant to determine the success of the mitigation project and any necessary corrective actions. This program shall determine if the original goals and objectives are being met.
  2. A contingency plan shall be established for indemnity in the event that the mitigation project is inadequate or fails. A performance and maintenance bond or other acceptable financial

guarantee is required to ensure the applicant's compliance with the terms of the mitigation agreement. The amount of the performance and maintenance bond shall equal 125 percent of the cost of the mitigation project in addition to the cost for monitoring for a minimum of five years. The bond may be reduced in proportion to work successfully completed over the period of the bond. The bonding period shall coincide with the monitoring period.

3. Monitoring programs prepared to comply with this section shall reflect the following guidelines:
  - a. Scientific procedures shall be used to establish the success or failure of the project.
  - b. For vegetation determinations, permanent sampling points shall be established.
  - c. Vegetative success shall, at a minimum, equal 80 percent survival of planted trees and shrubs and 80 percent cover of desirable understory or emergent plant species at the end of the required monitoring period. Additional standards for vegetative success, including (but not limited to) minimum survival standards following the first growing season, may be required after consideration of a report prepared by a qualified consultant.
  - d. Monitoring reports on the current status of the mitigation project shall be submitted to the City. The reports are to be prepared by a qualified consultant and reviewed by the City or a consultant retained by the City and should include monitoring information on wildlife, vegetation, water quality, water flow, stormwater storage and conveyance, and existing or potential degradation, as applicable, and shall be produced on the following schedule: at the time of construction; 30 days after planting; early in the growing season of the first year; at the end of the growing season of the first year; twice during the second year; and annually thereafter.
  - e. Monitoring programs shall be established for a minimum of five years.
  - f. If necessary, failures in the mitigation project shall be corrected.
  - g. Dead or undesirable vegetation shall be replaced with appropriate plantings.
  - h. Damage caused by erosion, settling, or other geomorphological processes shall be repaired.
  - i. The mitigation project shall be redesigned (if necessary) and the new design shall be implemented and monitored, as in subsection (G)(3)(d) of this section.
  - j. Correction procedures shall be approved by a qualified consultant and the City. (Ord. 581 § 1 (Exh. 1), 2010; Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 5(E), 2000).

**20.80.360 Description and purpose.**

- A. A flood hazard area consists of the following components: floodplain; flood fringe; zero-rise floodway; and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodway.
- B. It is the purpose of these regulations to ensure that the City of Shoreline meets the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program and maintains the City as an eligible community for Federal flood insurance benefits.
- C. A tsunami hazard area may be designated as a flood hazard area by the Federal or State government. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(A), 2000).

**20.80.370 Classification.**

Flood hazard areas shall be determined after obtaining, reviewing and utilizing base flood elevations and available floodway data for a flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, often referred to as the "100-year flood." The base flood is determined for existing conditions, and is shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps for King County (FIRM) and incorporated areas, current version; or mapped on the King County Sensitive Areas Folio, unless a more complete basin plan including projected flows under future developed conditions has been completed and adopted by the City of Shoreline, in which case these future flow projections shall be used. In areas where the



flood insurance study for the City includes detailed base flood calculations, those calculations may be used. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(B), 2000).

**20.80.380 Flood fringe – Development standards and permitted alterations.**

- A. Development proposals shall not reduce the effective base flood storage volume of the floodplain. Grading or other activity which would reduce the effective storage volume shall be mitigated by creating compensatory storage on the site or off the site if legal arrangements can be made to assure that the effective compensatory storage volume will be preserved over time.
- B. No structure shall be allowed which would be at risk due to stream bank destabilization including, but not limited to, that associated with channel relocation or meandering.
- C. All elevated construction shall be designed and certified by a professional structural engineer licensed by the State of Washington and the design shall be approved by the City prior to construction.
- D. Subdivisions, short subdivisions, lot line adjustments and binding site plans shall meet the following requirements:
  - 1. New building lots shall contain no less than 5,000 square feet of buildable land outside the zero-rise floodway, and building setback areas shall be shown on the face of the plat to restrict permanent structures to this buildable area;
  - 2. All utilities and facilities such as stormwater facilities, sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed consistent with the standards and requirements of this section;
  - 3. Base flood data and flood hazard notes shall be shown on the face of the recorded subdivision, short subdivision, lot line adjustment or binding site plan including, but not limited to, the base flood elevation, required flood protection elevations and the boundaries of the floodplain and the zero-rise floodway, if determined; and
  - 4. The following notice shall also be shown on the face of the recorded subdivision, short subdivision, lot line adjustment or binding site plan for all affected lots:

**NOTICE**

**Lots and structures located within Flood Hazard Areas may be inaccessible by emergency vehicles during flood events. Residents and property owners should take appropriate advance precautions.**

- E. New residential structures and improvements that include the creation of new impervious surfaces associated with existing residential structures shall meet the following requirements:
  - 1. The lowest floor shall be elevated to the flood protection elevation;
  - 2. Portions of a structure which are below the lowest floor area shall not be fully enclosed. The areas and rooms below the lowest floor shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic and hydrodynamic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for satisfying this requirement shall meet or exceed the following requirements:
    - a. A minimum of two openings on opposite walls having a total open area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided;
    - b. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade; and
    - c. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers or other coverings or devices if they permit the unrestricted entry and exit of floodwaters;
  - 3. Materials and methods which are resistant to and minimize flood damage shall be used; and
  - 4. All electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment and other utility and service facilities shall be floodproofed to or elevated above the flood protection elevation.
- F. New nonresidential structures and substantial improvements of existing nonresidential structures shall meet the following requirements:

1. Elevation.
  - a. Requirements for residential structures contained in subsection (E)(1) of this section shall be met; or
  - b. The structure shall be floodproofed to the flood protection elevation and shall meet the following requirements:
    - i. The applicant shall provide certification by a professional civil or structural engineer licensed by the State of Washington that the floodproofing methods are adequate to withstand the flood depths, pressures, velocities, impacts, uplift forces and other factors associated with the base flood. After construction, the engineer shall certify that the permitted work conforms with the approved plans and specifications; and
    - ii. Approved building permits for floodproofed nonresidential structures shall contain a statement notifying applicants that flood insurance premiums shall be based upon rates for structures which are one foot below the floodproofed level;
  2. Materials and methods which are resistant to and minimize flood damage shall be used; and
  3. All electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment and other utility and service facilities shall be floodproofed to or elevated above the flood protection elevation.
- G. All new construction shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure.
- H. Utilities shall meet the following requirements:
  1. New and replacement utilities including, but not limited to, sewage treatment facilities shall be floodproofed to or elevated above the flood protection elevation;
  2. Aboveground utility transmission lines, other than electric transmission lines, shall only be allowed for the transport of nonhazardous substances; and
  3. Buried utility transmission lines transporting hazardous substances shall be installed at a minimum depth of four feet below the maximum depth of scour for the base flood, as predicted by a professional civil engineer licensed by the State of Washington, and shall achieve sufficient negative buoyancy so that any potential for flotation or upward migration is eliminated.
- I. Critical facilities may be allowed within the flood fringe of the floodplain, but only when no feasible alternative site is available. Critical facilities shall be evaluated through the conditional or special use permit process. Critical facilities constructed within the flood fringe shall have the lowest floor elevated to three or more feet above the base flood elevation. Floodproofing and sealing measures shall be taken to ensure that hazardous substances will not be displaced by or released into floodwaters. Access routes elevated to or above the base flood elevation shall be provided to all critical facilities from the nearest maintained public street or roadway.
- J. Prior to approving any permit for alterations in the flood fringe, the City shall determine that all permits required by State or Federal law have been obtained. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(C), 2000).

**20.80.390 Zero-rise floodway – Development standards and permitted alterations.**

- A. The requirements which apply to the flood fringe shall also apply to the zero-rise floodway. The more restrictive requirements shall apply where there is a conflict.
- B. A development proposal including, but not limited to, new or reconstructed structures shall not cause any increase in the base flood elevation unless the following requirements are met:
  1. Amendments to the flood insurance rate map are adopted by FEMA, in accordance with 44 CFR 70, to incorporate the increase in the base flood elevation; and
  2. Appropriate legal documents are prepared in which all property owners affected by the increased flood elevations consent to the impacts on their property. These documents shall be filed with the title of record for the affected properties.

- C. The following are presumed to produce no increase in base flood elevation and shall not require a special study to establish this fact:
  - 1. New residential structures outside the FEMA floodway on lots in existence before November 27, 1990, which contain less than 5,000 square feet of buildable land outside the zero-rise floodway and which have a total building footprint of all proposed structures on the lot of less than 2,000 square feet;
  - 2. Substantial improvements of existing residential structures in the zero-rise floodway, but outside the FEMA floodway, where the footprint is not increased; or
  - 3. Substantial improvements of existing residential structures meeting the requirements for new residential structures in this title.
- D. Post or piling construction techniques which permit water flow beneath a structure shall be used.
- E. All temporary structures or substances hazardous to public health, safety and welfare, except for hazardous household substances or consumer products containing hazardous substances, shall be removed from the zero-rise floodway during the flood season from September 30th to May 1st.
- F. New residential structures or any structure accessory to a residential use shall meet the following requirements:
  - 1. The structures shall be outside the FEMA floodway; or
  - 2. The structures shall be on lots in existence before November 27, 1990, which contain less than 5,000 square feet of buildable land outside the zero-rise floodway. Structures shall be designed and situated to minimize encroachment into the zero-rise floodway.
- G. Utilities may be allowed within the zero-rise floodway if the City determines that no feasible alternative site is available, subject to the requirements of this section. Construction of sewage treatment facilities shall be prohibited.
- H. Critical facilities shall not be allowed within the zero-rise floodway except as provided in subsection (I) of this section.
- I. Structures and installations which are dependent upon the floodway may be located in the floodway if the development proposal is approved by all agencies with jurisdiction. Such structures include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Dams or diversions for water supply, flood control, or fisheries enhancement;
  - 2. Flood damage reduction facilities, such as levees and pumping stations;
  - 3. Stream bank stabilization structures where no feasible alternative exists for protecting public or private property;
  - 4. Stormwater conveyance facilities subject to the development standards for streams and wetlands and the surface water design manual;
  - 5. Boat launches and related recreation structures;
  - 6. Bridge piers and abutments; and
  - 7. Other fisheries enhancement or stream restoration projects. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(D), 2000).

**20.80.400 FEMA floodway – Development standards and permitted alterations.**

- A. The requirements which apply to the zero-rise floodway shall also apply to the FEMA floodway. The more restrictive requirements shall apply where there is a conflict.
- B. A development proposal including, but not limited to, new or reconstructed structures shall not cause any increase in the base flood elevation.
- C. New residential or nonresidential structures shall be prohibited within the FEMA floodway.
- D. Substantial improvements of existing residential structures in the FEMA floodway, meeting the requirements of WAC 173-158-070, as amended, are presumed to produce no increase in base flood

elevation and shall not require a special study to establish this fact. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(E), 2000).

**20.80.410 Flood hazard areas – Certification by engineer or surveyor.**

- A. For all new structures or substantial improvements in a flood hazard area, the applicant shall provide certification by a professional civil engineer or land surveyor licensed by the State of Washington of:
  - 1. The actual as-built elevation of the lowest floor, including basement; and
  - 2. The actual as-built elevation to which the structure is floodproofed, if applicable.
- B. The engineer or surveyor shall indicate if the structure has a basement.
- C. The City shall maintain the certifications required by this section for public inspection. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 6(F), 2000).

**20.80.420 Description and purpose.**

- A. Aquifer recharge areas provide a source of potable water and contribute to stream discharge during periods of low flow. Urban-type pollutants may enter watercourse supplies through potential infiltration of pollutants through the soil to ground water aquifers.
- B. The primary purpose of aquifer recharge area regulations is to protect aquifer recharge areas by providing for regulation of land use activities that pose a risk of potential aquifer contamination and to minimize impacts through the application of strict performance standards. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 7(A), 2000).

**20.80.430 Classification.**

Aquifer recharge areas shall be classified based on the soil and ground water conditions and risks to surface water during periods of low hydrology. Classification depends on the combined effects of hydrogeological susceptibility to contamination and contaminant loading potential, and includes upland areas underlain by soils consisting largely of silt, clay or glacial till, upland areas underlain by soils consisting largely of sand and gravel, and wellhead protection areas and areas underlain by soils consisting largely of sand and gravel in which there is a predominantly downward or lateral component to ground water flow. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 7(B), 2000).

**20.80.440 Alteration.**

The following land uses and activities shall require implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) as established by the Department of Ecology:

- A. Land uses and activities that involve the use, storage, transport or disposal of significant quantities of chemicals, substances or materials that are toxic, dangerous or hazardous, as those terms are defined by State and Federal regulations.
- B. On-site community sewage disposal systems.
- C. Underground storage of chemicals.
- D. Petroleum pipelines.
- E. Solid waste landfills. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 7(C), 2000).

**20.80.450 Performance standards and requirements.**

Any uses or activities located in an aquifer recharge area, as defined within this subchapter, that involve the use, storage, transport or disposal of significant quantities of chemicals, substances, or materials that are toxic, dangerous or hazardous, as those terms are defined by State and Federal regulations, shall comply with the following additional standards:

- A. Underground storage of chemicals, substances or materials that are toxic, hazardous or dangerous is discouraged.

- B. Any chemicals, substances or materials that are toxic, hazardous or dangerous shall be segregated and stored in receptacles or containers that meet State and Federal standards.
- C. Storage containers shall be located in a designated, secured area that is paved and able to contain leaks and spills, and shall be surrounded by a containment dike.
- D. Secondary containment devices shall be constructed around storage areas to retard the spread of any spills and a monitoring system should be implemented.
- E. A written operations plan shall be developed, including procedures for loading/unloading liquids and for training of employees in proper materials handling.
- F. An emergency response/spill clean-up plan shall be prepared and employees properly trained to react to accidental spills.
- G. Any aboveground storage tanks shall be located within a diked containment area on an impervious surface. The tanks shall include overfill protection systems and positive controls on outlets to prevent uncontrolled discharges.
- H. Development should be clustered and impervious surfaces limited where possible.
- I. No waste liquids or chemicals of any kind shall be discharged to storm sewers.
- J. All development shall implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) for water quality, as approved by the City, including the standards contained within the City of Shoreline Stormwater Design Manual, such as biofiltration swales and use of oil-water separators, and BMPs appropriate to the particular use proposed. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 7(D), 2000).

**20.80.460 Designation and purpose.**

- A. Streams are those areas where surface waters produce a defined channel or bed, not including irrigation ditches, canals, storm or surface water runoff devices or other entirely artificial watercourses, unless they are used by salmonids or are used to convey streams naturally occurring prior to construction. A channel or bed need not contain water year-round; provided, that there is evidence of at least intermittent flow during years of normal rainfall.
- B. Stream areas and their associated buffers provide important fish and wildlife habitat and corridors; help to maintain water quality; store and convey stormwater and floodwater; recharge groundwater; and serve as areas for recreation, education and scientific study and aesthetic appreciation.
- C. The primary purpose of the stream area regulations is to avoid impacts to streams and associated riparian corridors and where possible, provide for stream enhancement and rehabilitation. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 8(A), 2000).

**20.80.470 Streams.**

- A. “Type I streams” are those streams identified as “Shorelines of the State” under the City Shoreline Master Program.
- B. “Type II streams” are those streams that are not Type I streams and are either perennial or intermittent and have one of the following characteristics:
  - 1. Salmonid fish use; or
  - 2. Demonstrated salmonid habitat value as determined by a qualified professional.
- C. “Type III streams” are those streams which are not Type I or Type II streams with perennial (year-round) or intermittent flow with channel width of two feet or more taken at the ordinary high water mark and are not used by salmonid fish.
- D. “Type IV streams,” which are not Type I, Type II, or Type III, are those streams with perennial or intermittent flow with channel width less than two feet taken at the ordinary high water mark that are not used by salmonid fish.
- E. “Piped stream segments” are those segments of streams, regardless of their type, that are fully enclosed in an underground pipe or culvert.

- F. For the purposes of this section, “salmonid fish use” and “used by salmonid fish” is presumed for:
1. Streams where naturally recurring use by salmonid populations has been documented by a government agency;
  2. Streams that are fish passable or have the potential to be fish passable by salmonid populations, including those from Lake Washington or Puget Sound, as determined by a qualified professional based on review of stream flow, gradient and barriers and criteria for fish passability established by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; and
  3. Streams that are:
    - a. Planned for restoration in a six-year capital improvement plan adopted by a government agency that will result in a fish passable connection to Lake Washington or Puget Sound.
    - b. Planned removal of the private dams that will result in a fish passable connection to Lake Washington and Puget Sound. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 8(B), 2000).

**20.80.480 Required buffer areas.**

- A. Required buffer widths shall reflect the sensitivity of the stream type, the risks associated with development and, in those circumstances permitted by these regulations, the type and intensity of human activity and site design proposed to be conducted on or near the stream area. Stream buffers shall be measured from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) or the top of the bank, if the OHWM can not be determined.
- B. The following buffers are established for streams:

Table 20.80.480B

Stream Type	Standard Buffer Width (ft)	Minimum Buffer Width (ft)
Type I	150	115
Type II	115	75
Type III	65	35
Type IV	35	25
Piped Stream Segments	10	10

- C. The standard buffer width shall be established; provided, that the buffer may be reduced to the minimum buffer listed above if the applicant can demonstrate that a smaller buffer is adequate to protect the stream functions and implements one or more enhancement measures to result in a net improvement to the stream and buffer. The measures determined most applicable and/or appropriate will be considered in reducing buffer requirements. These include but are not limited to:
1. Removal of fish barriers to restore accessibility to anadromous fish.
  2. Enhancement of fish habitat using log structures incorporated as part of a fish habitat enhancement plan.
  3. Enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat structures that are likely to be used by wildlife, including wood duck houses, bat boxes, nesting platforms, snags, rootwads/stumps, birdhouses, and heron nesting areas.
  4. Additional enhancement measures may include:

- a. Planting native vegetation within the buffer area, especially vegetation that would increase value for fish and wildlife, increase stream bank or slope stability, improve water quality, or provide aesthetic/recreational value; or
  - b. Creation of a surface channel where a stream was previously underground, in a culvert or pipe. Surface channels which are “daylighted” shall be located within a buffer area and shall be designed with energy dissipating functions such as meanders to reduce future erosion;
  - c. Removal or modification of existing stream culverts (such as at road crossings) to improve fish passage and flow capabilities; or
  - d. Upgrading of retention/detention facilities or other drainage facilities beyond required levels.
- D. No structures or improvements shall be permitted within the stream buffer area, including buildings, decks, docks, except as otherwise permitted or required under the City’s adopted Shoreline Master Program, or under one of the following circumstances:
1. When the improvements are part of an approved rehabilitation or mitigation plan; or
  2. For the construction of new roads and utilities, and accessory structures, when no feasible alternative location exists; or
  3. The construction of trails over and in the buffer of piped stream segments, and the construction of trails near other stream segments consistent with the following criteria:
    - a. Trails should be constructed of permeable materials;
    - b. Trails shall be designed in a manner that minimizes impact on the stream system;
    - c. Trails shall have a maximum trail corridor width of 10 feet; and
    - d. Trails should be located within the outer half of the buffer, i.e., that portion of the buffer that is farther away from the stream; or
  4. The construction of footbridges; or
  5. The construction and placement of informational signs or educational demonstration facilities limited to no more than one square yard surface area and four feet high, provided there is no permanent infringement on stream flow; or
  6. The establishment of stormwater management facilities, such as bio-swales, over and in the buffer of piped stream segments and when located outside of the minimum buffer area for other stream segments as set forth in the Table 20.80.480B.
- E. The City may extend the width of the buffer on the basis of site-specific analysis when necessary to comply with an adopted basin plan in accordance with City, County, State or Federal plans to preserve endangered or threatened species.
- F. Stream buffer widths may be modified by averaging buffer widths as set forth herein. Buffer width averaging shall be allowed only where the applicant demonstrates to the City:
1. The ecological structure and function of the buffer after averaging is equivalent to or greater than the structure and function before averaging;
  2. That the total area contained within the buffer after averaging is no less than that contained within the standard buffer prior to averaging;
  3. Buffer averaging shall not result in the buffer width being reduced by more than 25 percent of the required buffer as set forth in the table in subsection (B) of this section and in no case may the buffer be less than the stated minimum width.
  4. A habitat survey shall be conducted within the area of concern in order to identify and prioritize highly functional fish and wildlife habitats within the study area.  
The City may require buffer averaging to be designed to protect areas of greater sensitivity and function based on the recommendations of a stream report prepared by a qualified professional.
- G. Relocation of a Type I, II, or III shall be allowed only when the proposed relocation is part of an approved mitigation or rehabilitation plan, will result in equal or better habitat and water quality, and will not diminish the flow capacity of the stream. Relocation of a Type IV stream shall be allowed

only when the proposed relocation will result in equal or better habitat and water quality and will not diminish the flow capacity of the stream.

H. Restoring Piped Watercourses.

1. The City allows the voluntary opening of previously channelized/culverted streams and the rehabilitation and restoration of streams, especially on public property or when a property owner is a proponent in conjunction with new development.
2. When piped watercourse sections are restored, a protective buffer shall be required of the stream section. The buffer distance shall be based on an approved restoration plan, regardless of stream classification, and shall be a minimum of 10 to 25 feet, at the discretion of the Director, to allow for restoration and maintenance. The stream and buffer area shall include habitat improvements and measures to prevent erosion, landslide and water quality impacts. Opened channels shall be designed to support fish access, unless determine to be unfeasible by the City.
3. Removal of pipes conveying streams shall only occur when the City determines that the proposal will result in a new improvement of water quality and ecological functions and will not significantly increase the threat of erosion, flooding, slope stability or other hazards.
4. Where the buffer of the restored stream would extend beyond a required setback on an adjacent property, the applicant shall obtain a written agreement from the affected neighboring property owner. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 299 § 1, 2002; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 8(C), 2000).

**20.80.490 Alteration.**

- A. Bridges shall be used to cross Type I streams. Culverted crossings and other obstructive means of crossing Type I streams shall be prohibited.
- B. Culverts are allowable only under the following circumstances:
  1. Crossing of Type II, III, and IV streams;
  2. When fish passage will not be impaired;
  3. When the following design criteria are met:
    - a. Oversized culverts will be installed;
    - b. Culverts will include gradient controls and creation of pools within the culvert for Type II streams where appropriate; and
    - c. Gravel substrate will be placed in the bottom of the culvert to a minimum depth of one foot for Type II streams;
  4. The applicant or successors shall, at all times, keep any culvert free of debris and sediment to allow free passage of water and, if applicable, fish.
- C. The City may require that a culvert be removed from a stream as a condition of approval, unless it is demonstrated conclusively that the culvert is not detrimental to fish habitat or water quality, or removal would be detrimental to fish or wildlife habitat or water quality. (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 8(D), 2000).

**20.80.500 Mitigation performance standards and requirements.**

- A. Appropriate Stream Mitigation Sequence and Actions. Where impacts cannot be avoided, and the applicant has exhausted feasible design alternatives, the applicant or property owner shall seek to implement other appropriate mitigation actions in compliance with the intent, standards and criteria of this section. In an individual case, these actions may include consideration of alternative site plans and layouts, reductions in the density or scope of the proposal, and/or implementation of the performance standards listed in this section.
- B. Significant adverse impacts to stream area functions and values shall be mitigated. Mitigation actions shall be implemented in the preferred sequence: Avoidance, minimization, restoration and



replacement. Proposals which include less preferred and/or compensatory mitigation shall demonstrate that:

1. All feasible and reasonable measures will be taken to reduce impacts and losses to the stream, or to avoid impacts where avoidance is required by these regulations; and
2. The restored, created or enhanced stream area or buffer will be available and persistent as the stream or buffer area it replaces; and
3. No overall net loss will occur in stream functions and values.

C. Location and Timing of Stream Mitigation.

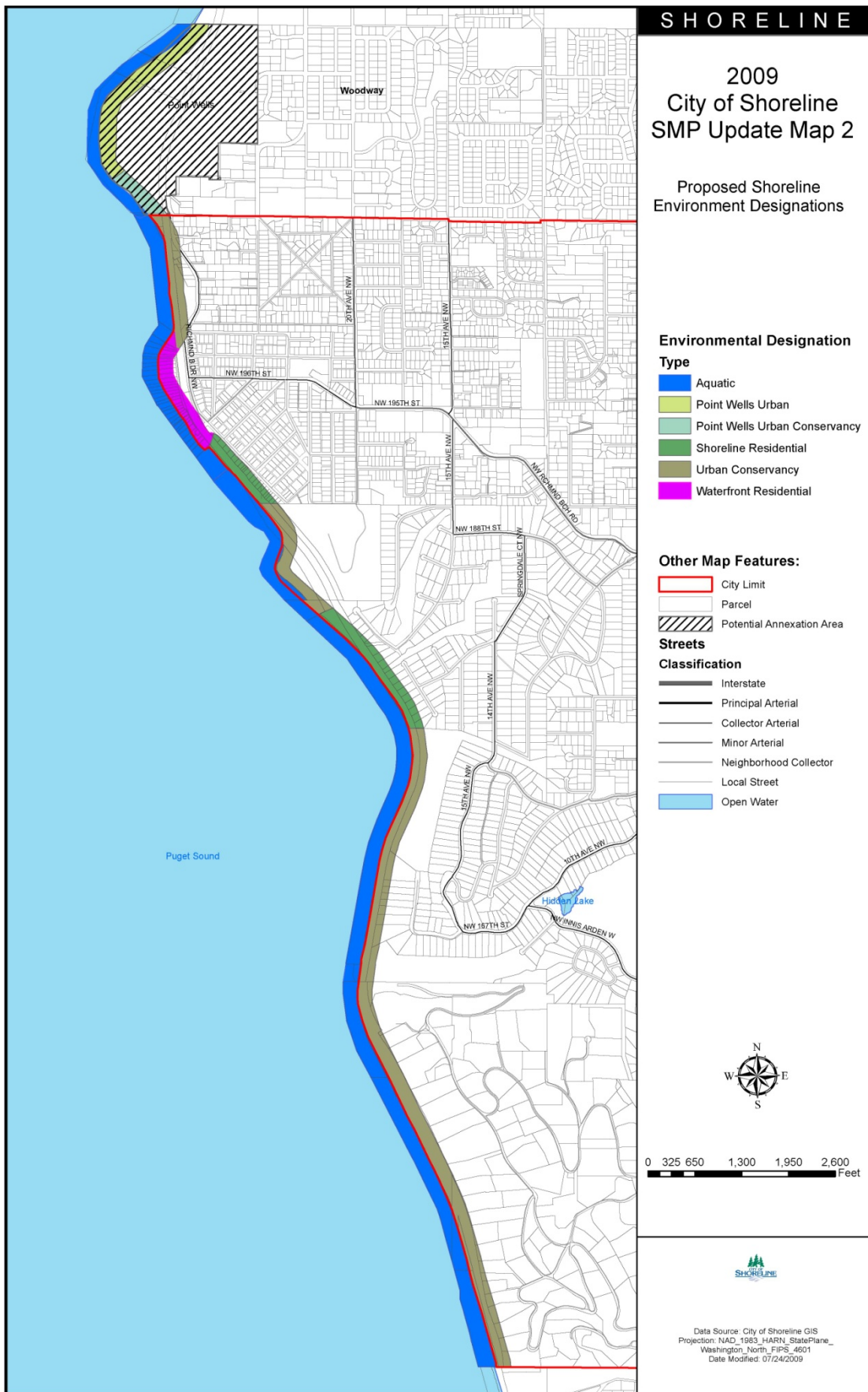
1. Mitigation shall be provided on-site, unless on-site mitigation is not scientifically feasible due to the physical features of the property. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant to demonstrate that mitigation cannot be provided on-site.
2. When mitigation cannot be provided on-site, mitigation shall be provided in the immediate vicinity of the permitted activity on property owned or controlled by the applicant such as an easement, provided such mitigation is beneficial to the critical area and associated resources. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain title to off-site mitigation areas.
3. In-kind mitigation shall be provided except when the applicant demonstrates and the City concurs that greater functional and habitat value can be achieved through out-of-kind mitigation.
4. Only when it is determined by the City that subsections (B)(1), (2), and (3) of this section are inappropriate and impractical shall off-site, out-of-kind mitigation be considered.
5. When stream mitigation is permitted by these regulations on-site or off-site, the mitigation project shall occur near an adequate water supply (river, stream, groundwater) with a hydrologic connection to the mitigation area to ensure successful development or restoration.
6. Any agreed upon mitigation proposal shall be completed prior to project construction, unless a phased schedule, that assures completion concurrent with project construction, has been approved by the City.
7. Restored or created streams, where permitted by these regulations, shall be an equivalent or higher stream value or function than the altered stream.

D. The performance standards in this section and the relevant performance standards located within the wetland standards of SMC [20.80.350\(E\)\(1\)](#) through (17) shall be incorporated into mitigation plans submitted to the City for impacts to critical areas. In addition, the City may prepare a technical manual which includes guidelines and requirements for report preparation. The performance standards shall apply to any mitigations proposed within Type I, Type II or Type III streams within the City.

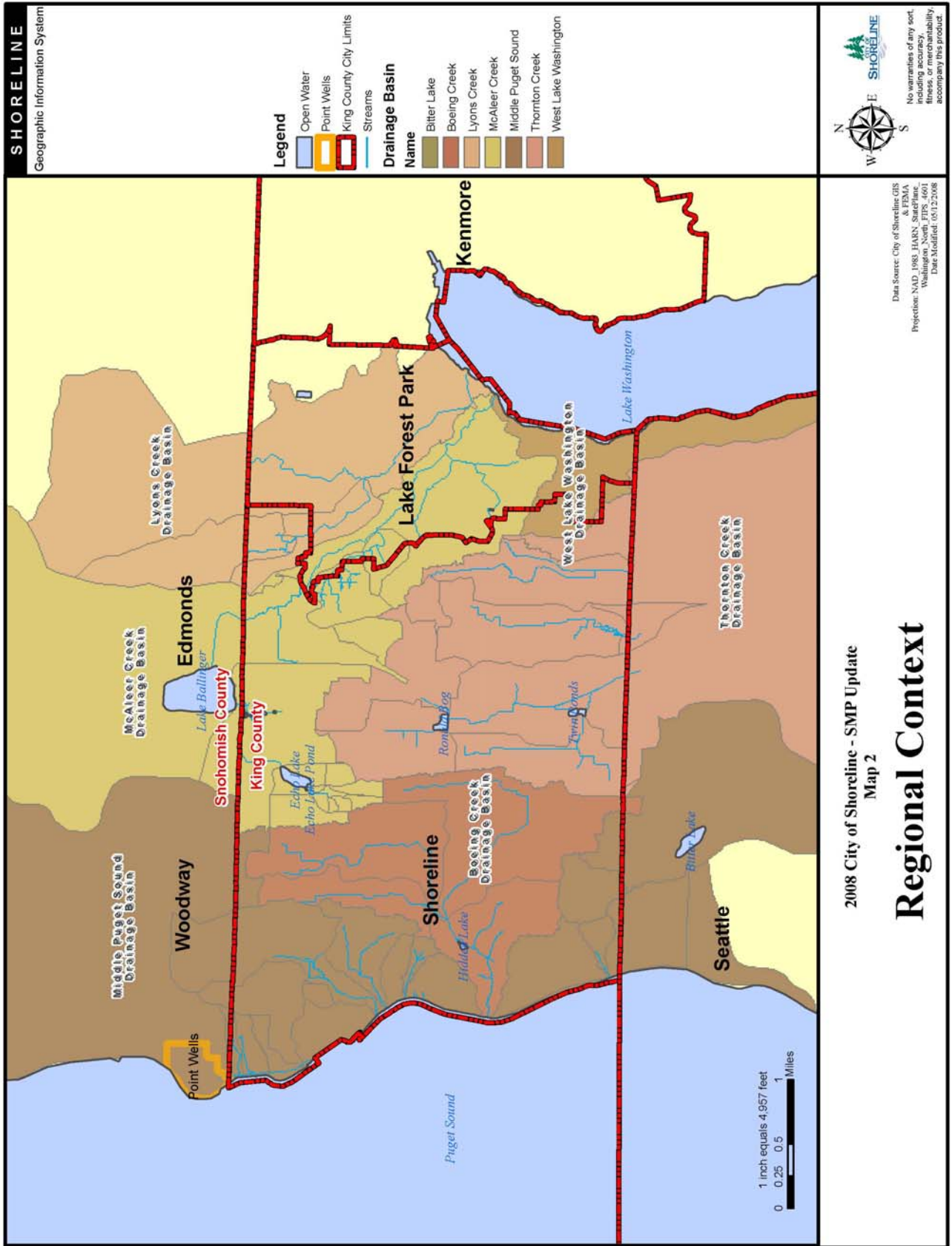
E. On completion of construction, any approved mitigation project must be signed off by the applicant's qualified consultant and approved by the City. Signature of the qualified consultant and approval by the City will indicate that the construction has been completed as planned.

F. Monitoring Program and Contingency Plan. A monitoring program shall be implemented by the applicant to determine the success of the mitigation project and any necessary corrective actions. This program shall determine if the original goals and objectives are being met. The monitoring program will be established consistent with the guidelines contained in SMC [20.80.350\(G\)](#). (Ord. 398 § 1, 2006; Ord. 238 Ch. VIII § 8(E), 2000).

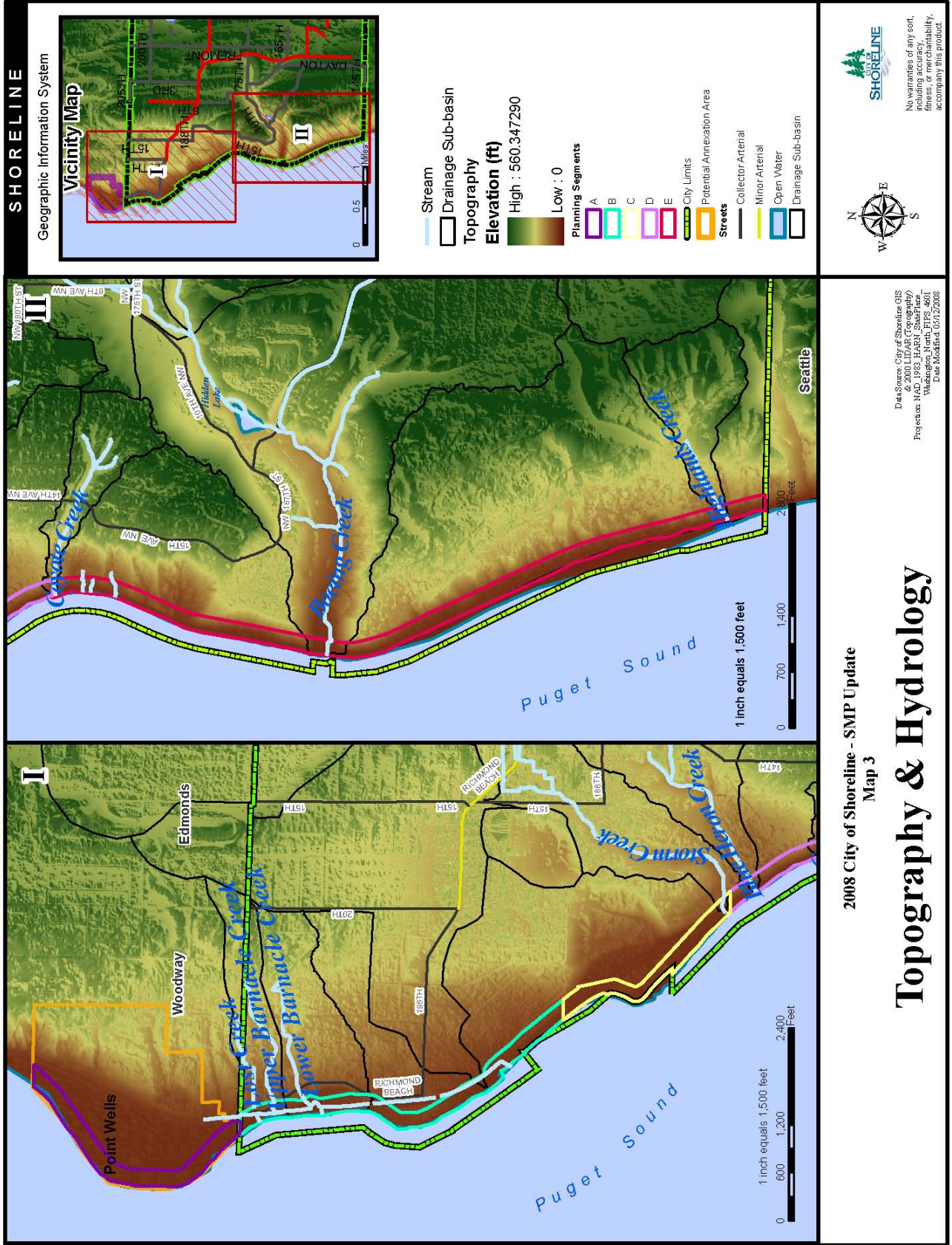




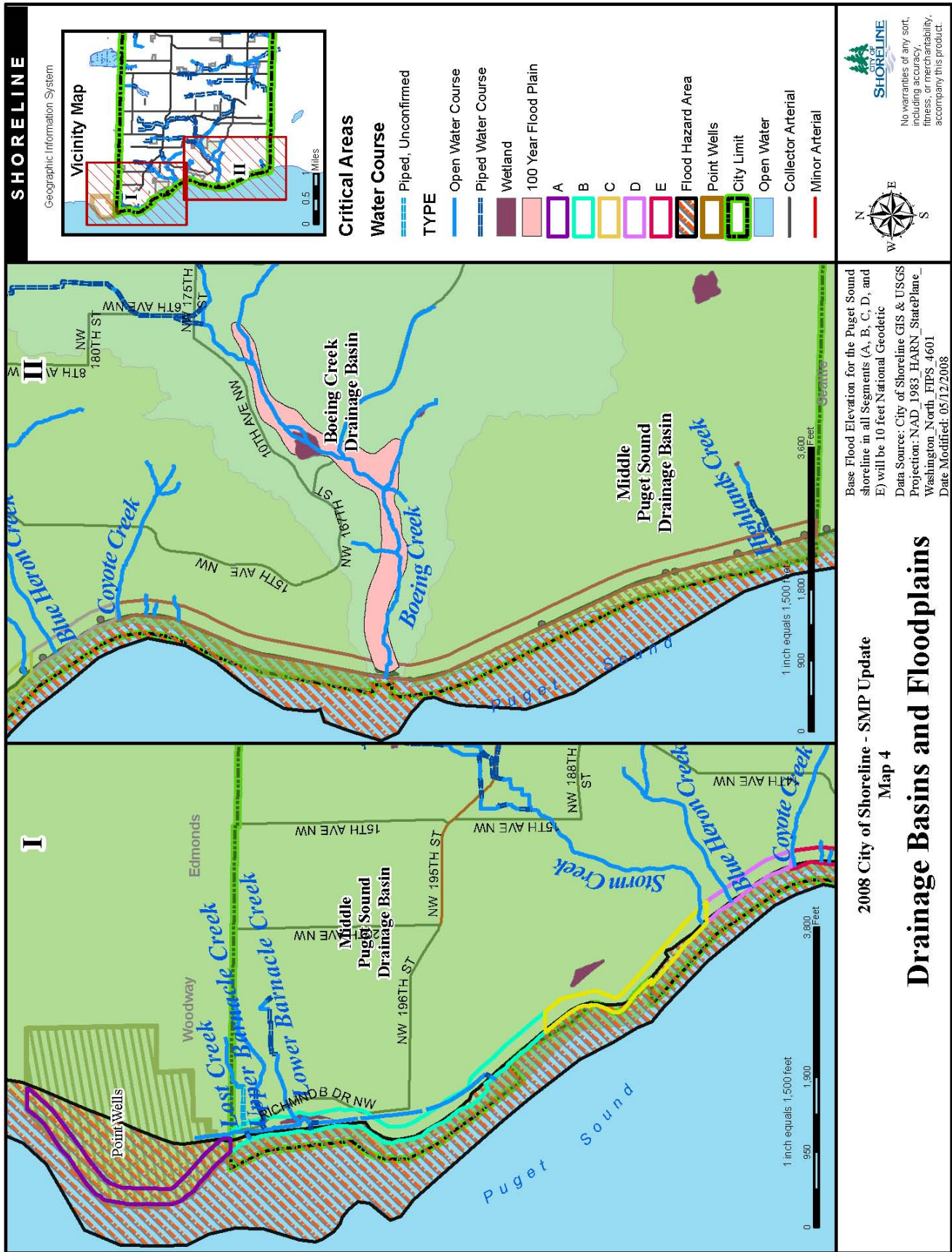




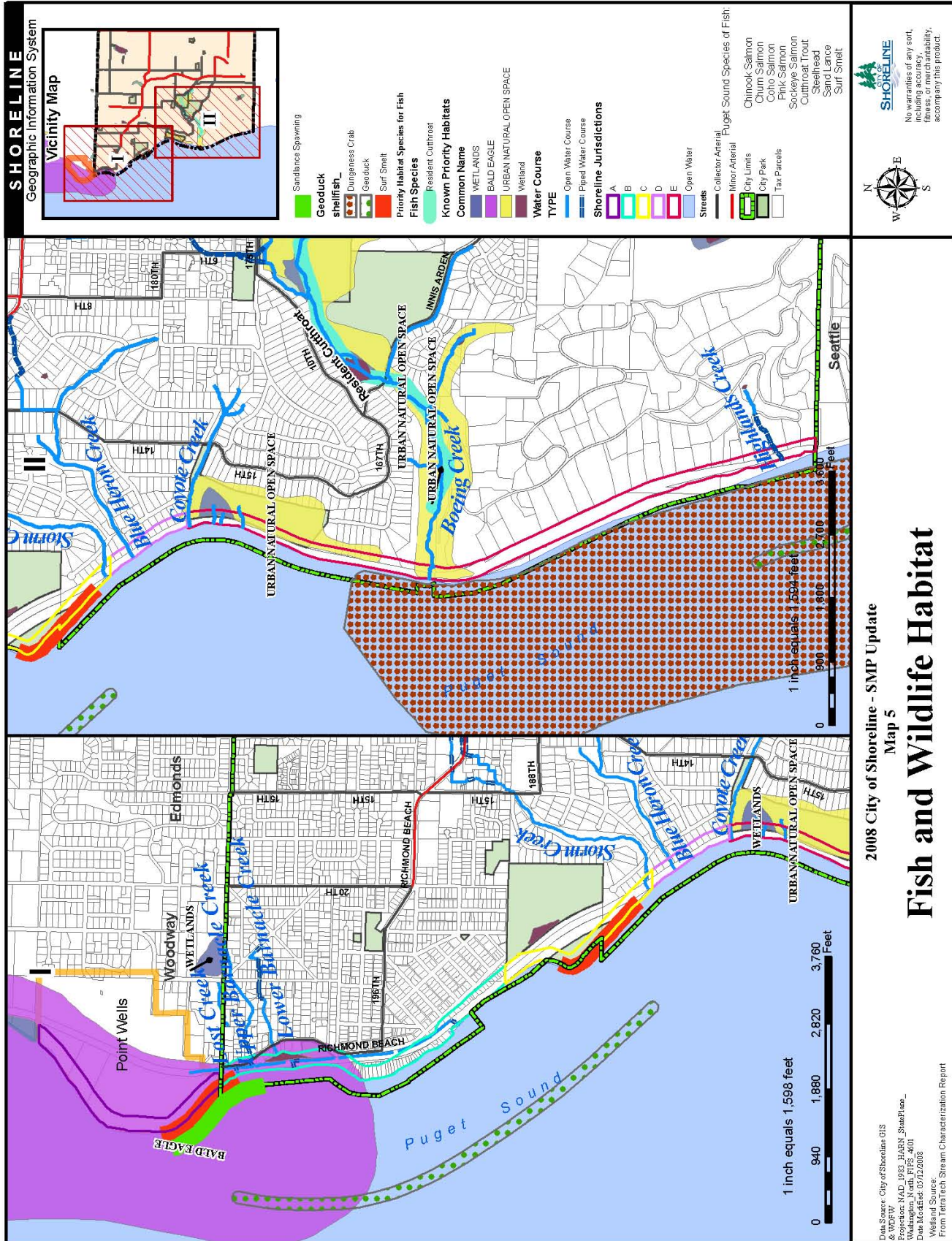




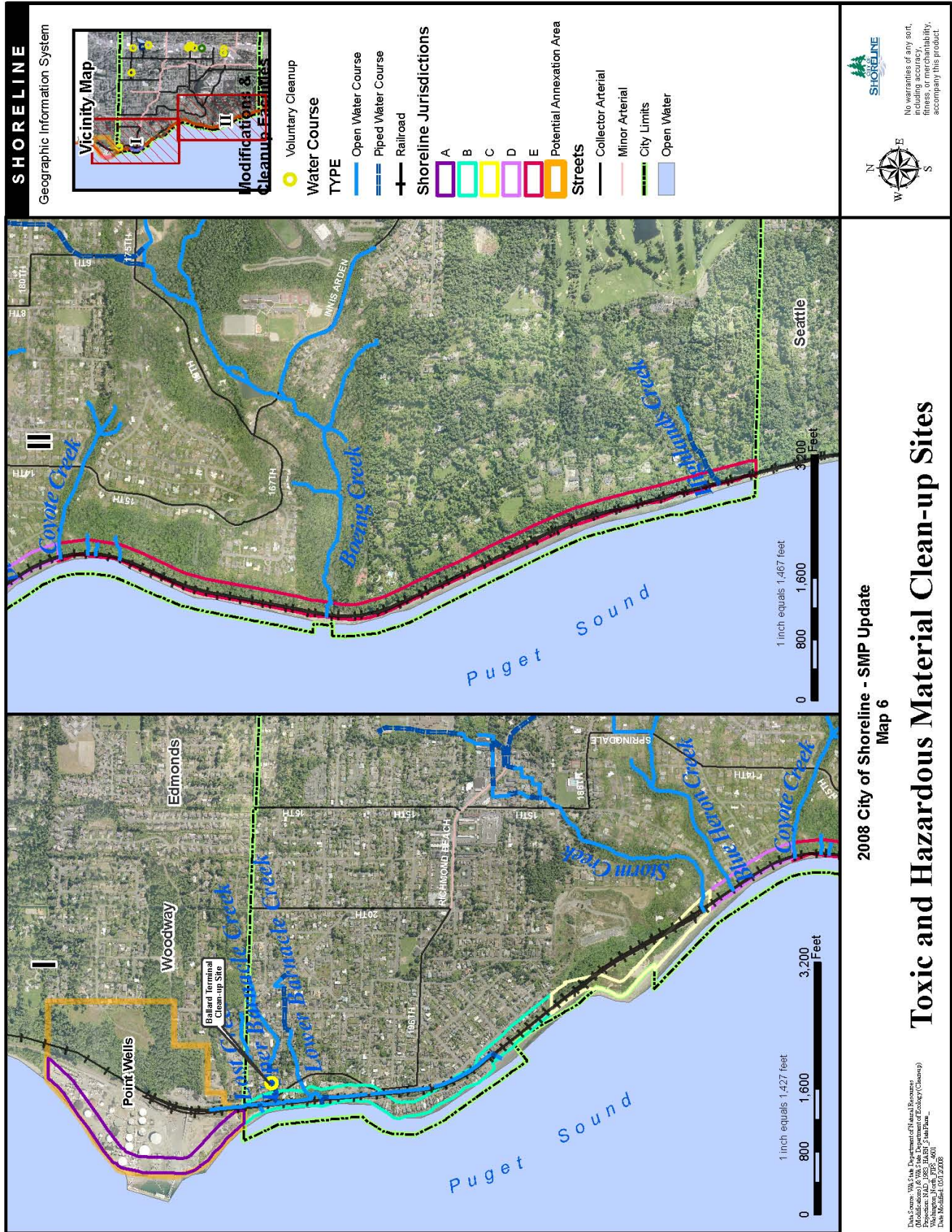




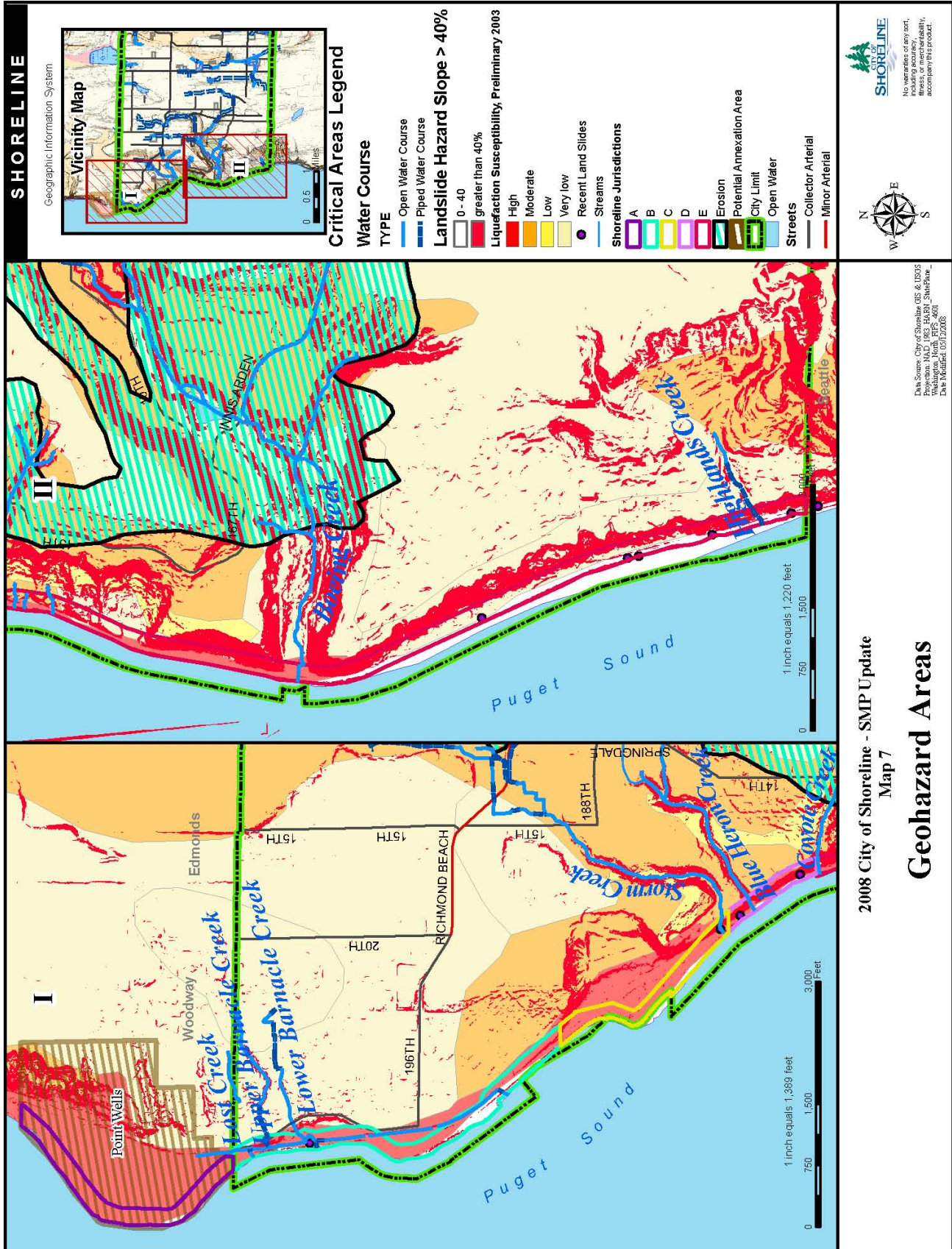




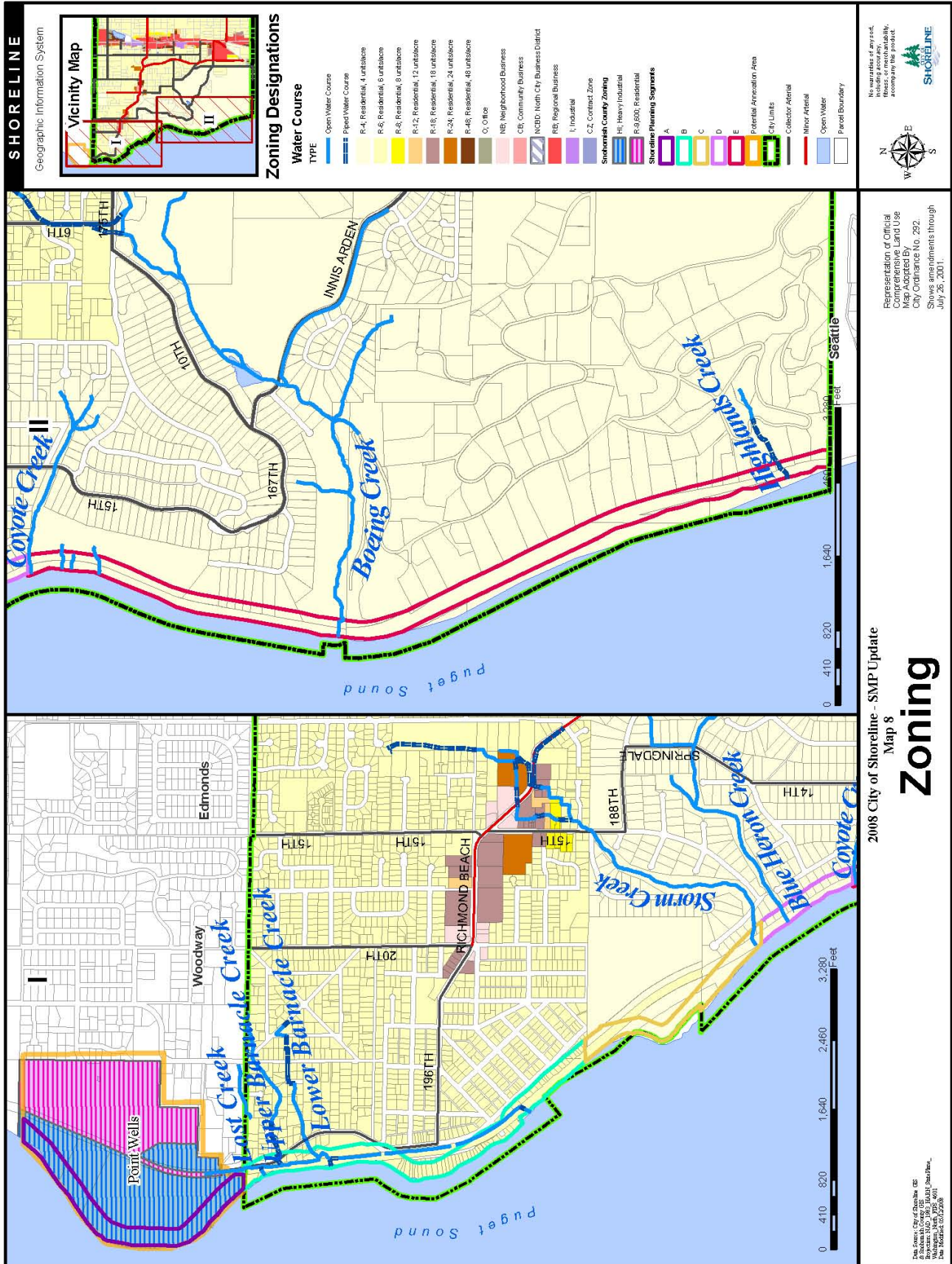




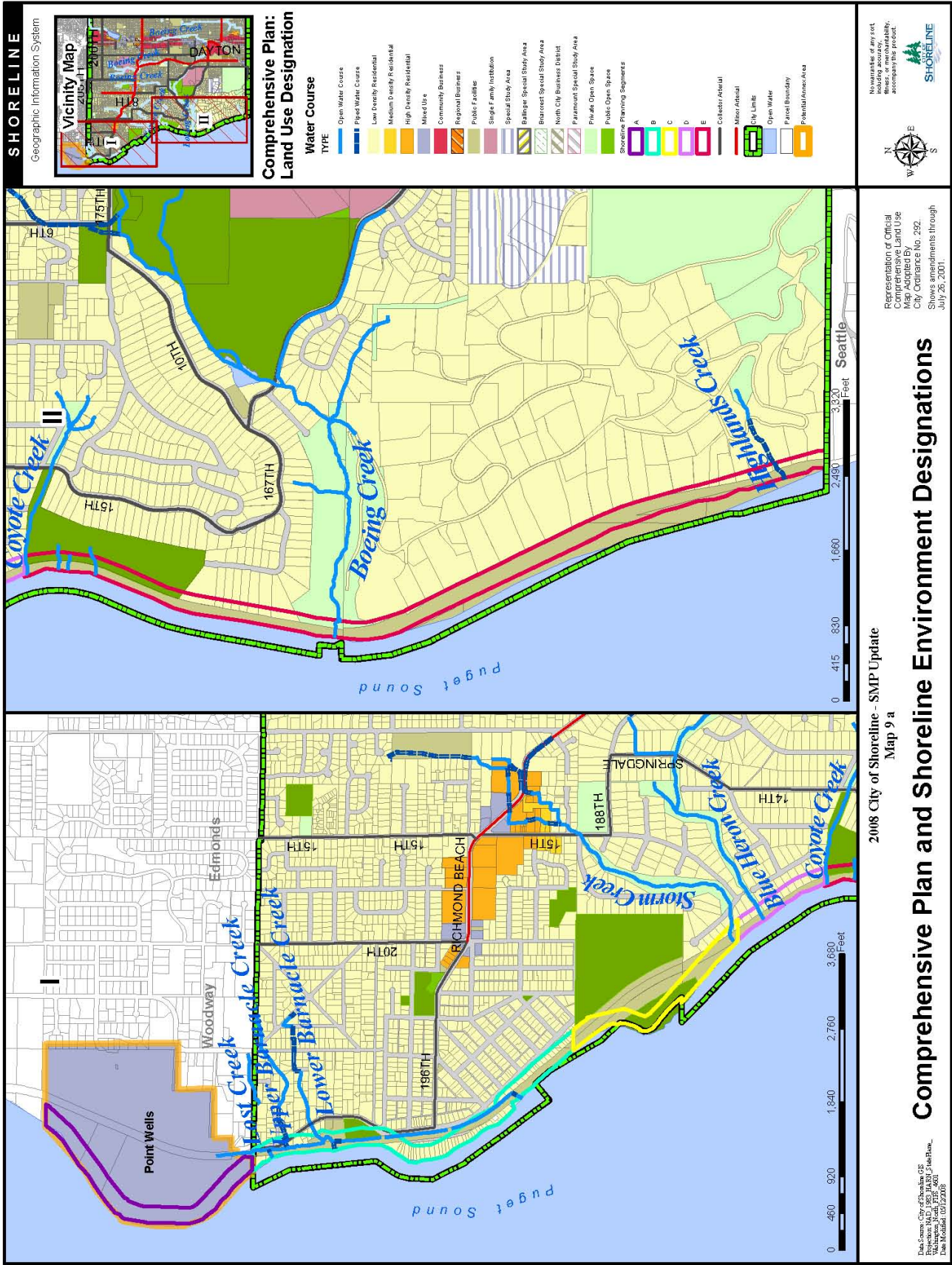








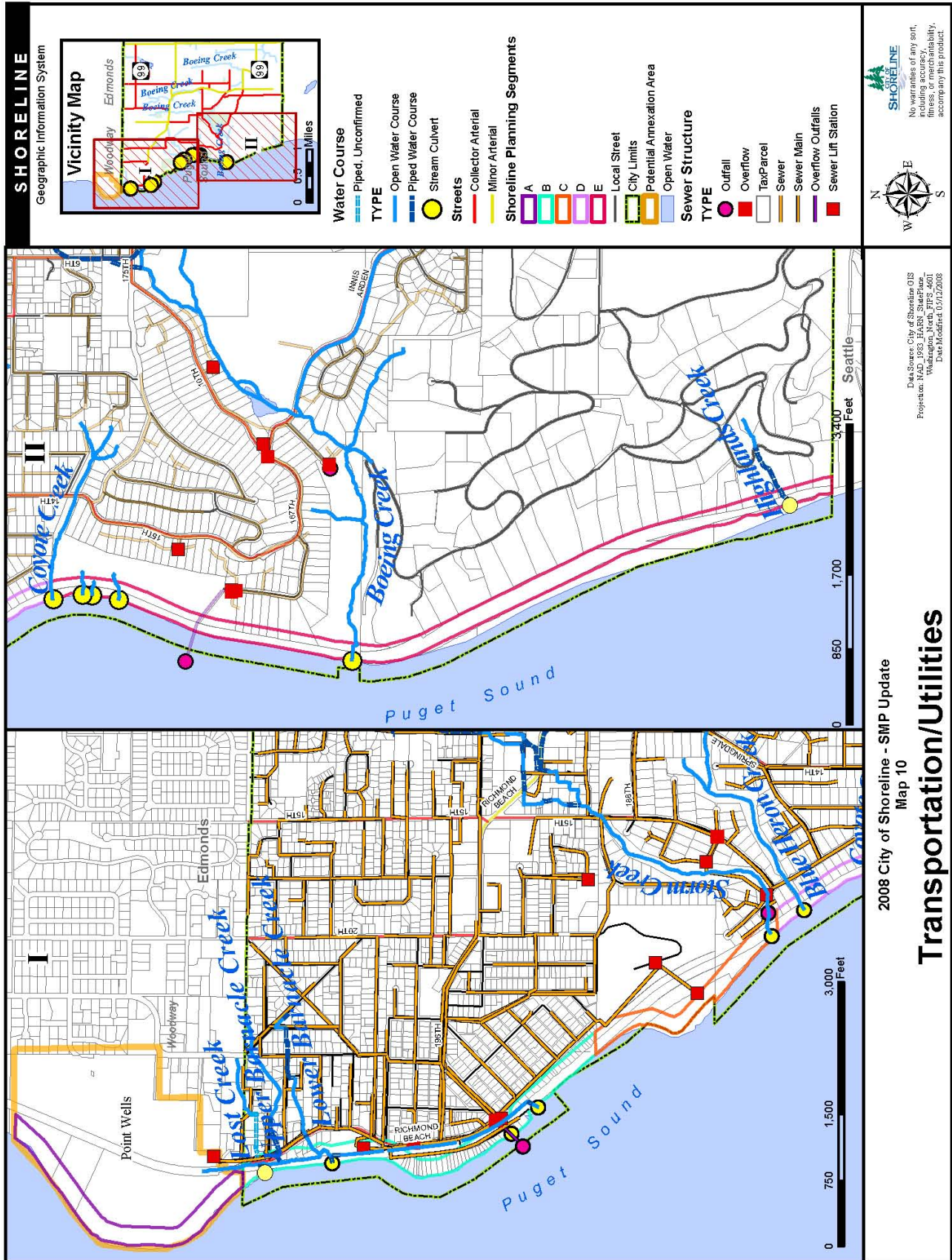




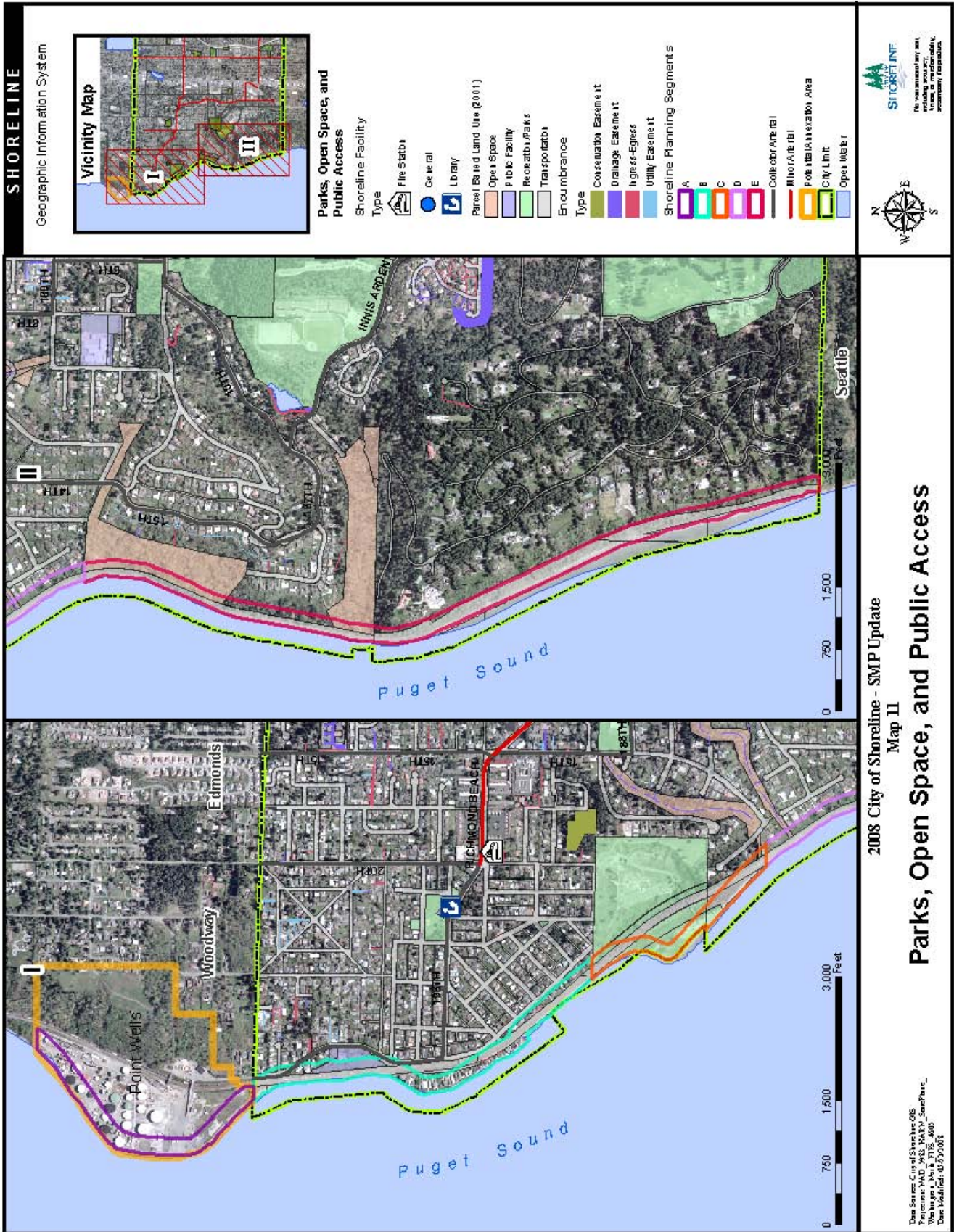




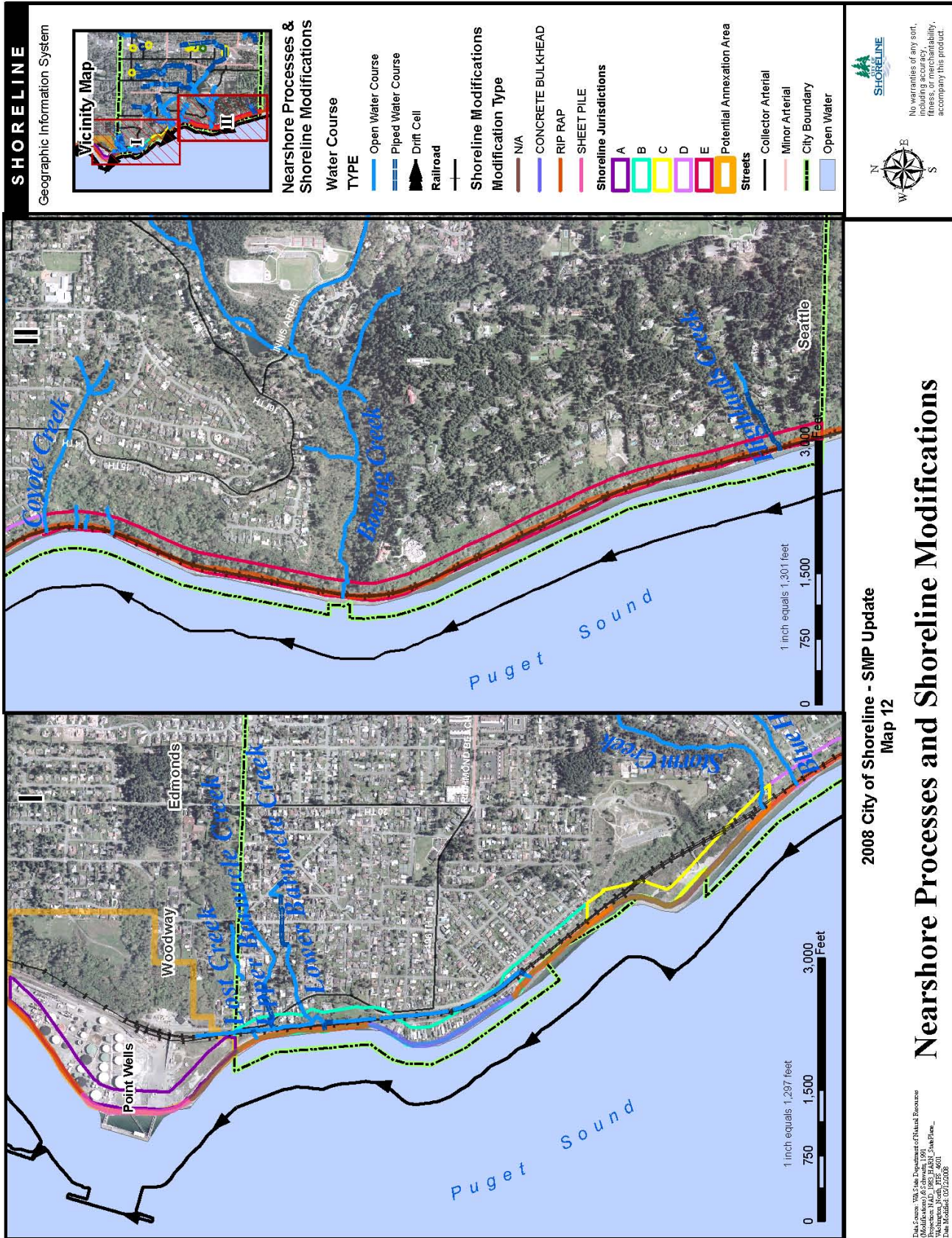




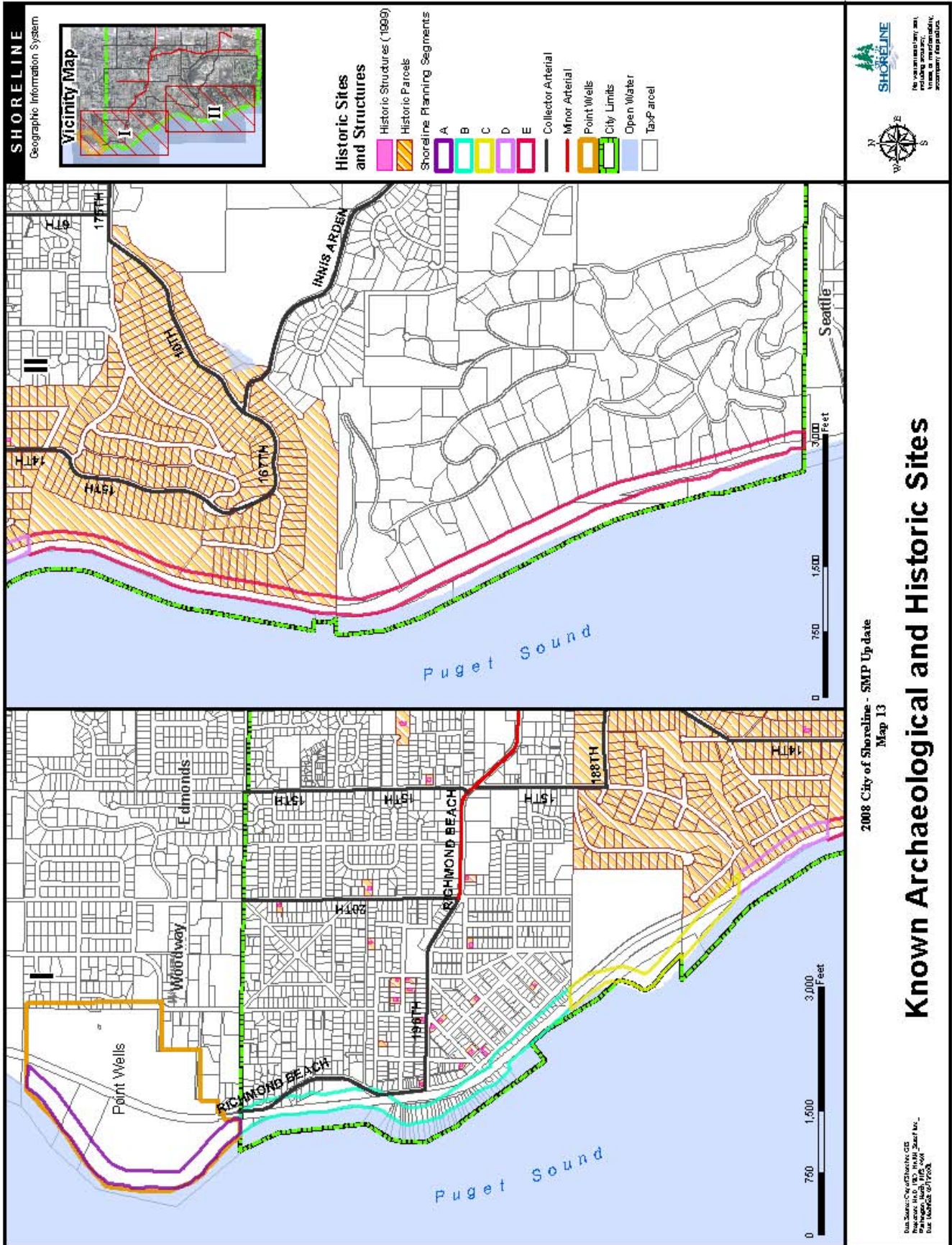




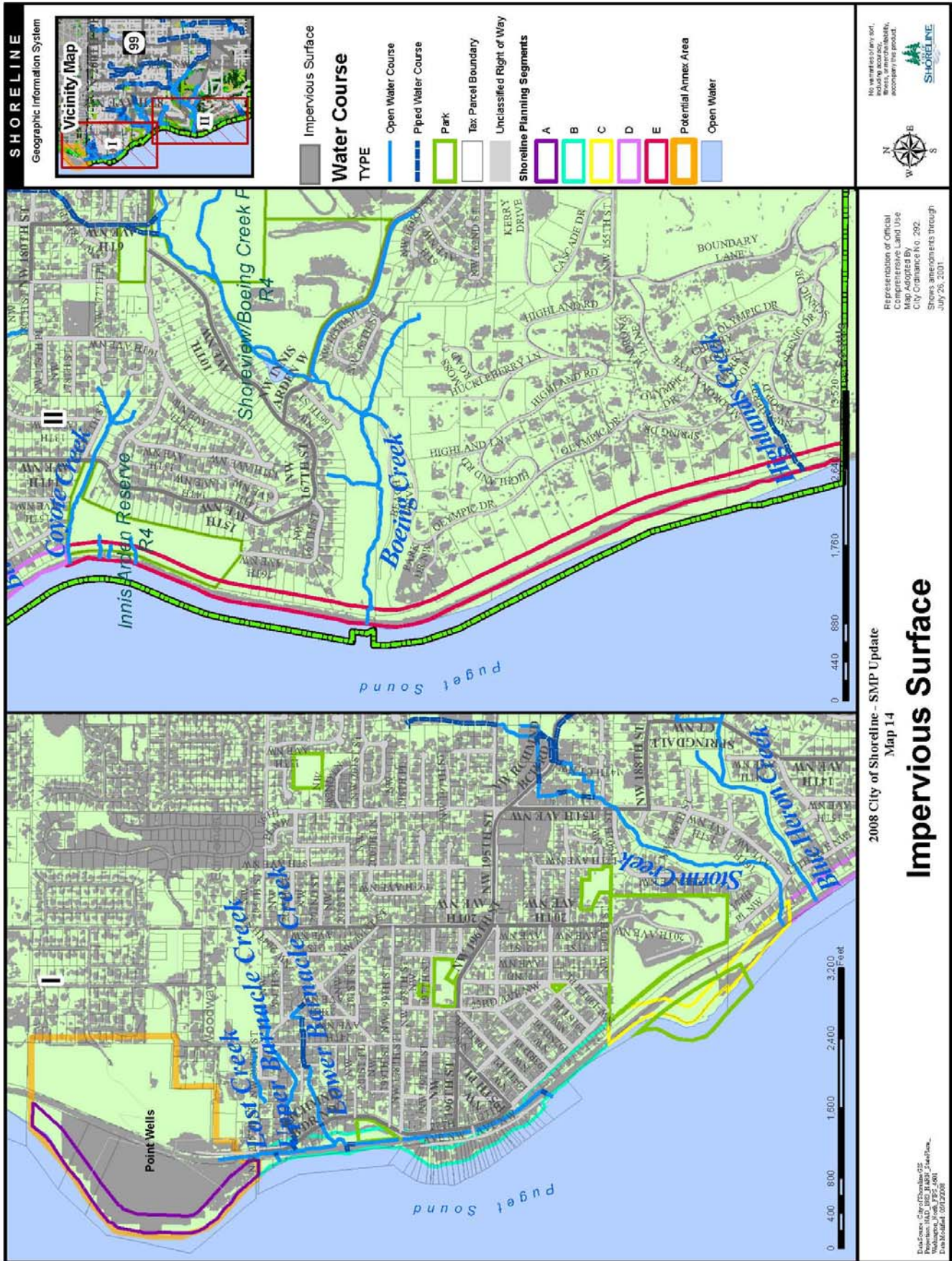












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**From:** Miranda Redinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2012 2:00 PM  
**To:** Jeff Forry; Jessica Simulcik Smith  
**Subject:** FW: City of Shorelines, Shoreline Master Program, Determination of Non-Significance

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Karen Walter [mailto:KWalter@muckleshoot.nsn.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2012 1:56 PM  
**To:** Miranda Redinger  
**Cc:** Joe Burcar (jobu461@ecy.wa.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: City of Shorelines, Shoreline Master Program, Determination of Non-Significance

Miranda,

We have reviewed the threshold determination (DNS), environmental checklist and the draft Shoreline Master Program Materials (except the cumulative impacts analysis which is currently unavailable) and offer the following comments:

1. Aquaculture-

This is a priority use under the State's Shoreline Management Act and should be allowed under all shoreline designations. Even a small structure such as salmon egg box is considered to be an aquaculture activity. There is no distinction between aquaculture types; they are all prohibited in the draft SMP. Aquaculture may be needed to restore fish and shellfish populations; the scale, type, and species issues could be addressed through a conditional use permit.

2. Notice to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division We request the opportunity for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division (MITFD) review of all shoreline applications proposed within the City of Shoreline when deemed complete by the City regardless if they are exemptions, variances, conditional use or substantial development permits. The MITFD needs notification of shoreline projects that could affect the Tribe's treaty protected fisheries resources regardless of shoreline permit type and activity prior to permit approval.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this proposal and look forward to the City's responses. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Karen Walter  
Watersheds and Land Use Team Leader

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division  
39015 172nd Ave SE  
Auburn, WA 98092  
253-876-3116

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**From:** Miranda Redinger [mredinger@shorelinewa.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 27, 2011 4:12 PM  
**To:** rstime1@aol.com; dlrbjg@aol.com; WoodyH@SpectraLux.com; Backyard Habitat Group; Ballinger Neighborhood Assn.; Briarcrest Neighborhood Assn.; Brock Howell; Burlington Northern - Director, Govt. Affairs ; Burlington Northern WA; Carin Chase; City of Seattle - DPD Planner (Works with Shoreline Master Plan); Dean Patterson; Dick Deal; Echo Lake Neighborhood Assn.; Ed Somers; Future Wise (Snohomish Office); Highland Terrace Neighborhood Assn.; Highlands,

The; Hillwood Neighborhood Assn.; Homewaters Project; Homewaters Project - Executive Director; Hugo Flores; DNR; Innis Arden Club - President; Innis Arden Club, Inc.; Karen Walter; King County - Shoreline Master Planner; Lincoln Loehr; Mark Beard; Mark[BeardM@LanePowell.com]; Nora Smith; NOAA Fisheries; Kirk Peterson; Peggy Scott; People for Puget Sound; PCD; Rachael Markle; Paul Cohen; Joe Tovar; Steve Cohn; Jessica Simulcik Smith; PKS; Lynn Cheeney; Puget Soundkeeper Alliance; Richmond Beach Community Association; Richmond Beach Community Association - President; Ridgecrest Neighborhood Assn.; Rob Garwood; Seattle Audubon Society; Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club; Shoreline Community College - Public Affairs; Shoreline Solar Project; Shoreline Solar Project - Director; Sierra Club (Cascade Chapter); Sierra Club HQ; Snohomish County - Shoreline Master Program Planner; Sound Waters; Steve Skorney; Sustainable Shoreline; Sustainable Shoreline; Terry Bryant (Town of Woodway Director of Public Works); Theresa Nation; DFW; Thornton Creek Alliance; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Coastal Program; University of Washington Kayak Club; Washington Kayak Club ; Washington Sea Grant; Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation - State Archaeology Assistant; Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Director; Washington State Department of Natural Resources - South Puget Sound; Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8; Westminster Triangle Network; WSU - King County Extension - Director

Subject: Shoreline Master Program Public Hearing on January 19, 2012

Hello all,

This email is to let you know that a public hearing on the full Shoreline Master Program packet will be held before the City of Shoreline Planning Commission on January 19, 2012 in the Council chambers at 17500 Midvale Ave. N. The SEPA checklist and DNS as well as the full packet will be posted to the following link on Thursday, December 29..<http://cityofshoreline.com/index.aspx?page=410> .

The packet includes regulations, the background Inventory & Characterization Report, the City's Critical Areas Ordinance, and a map folio, so it is a very large file. A hard copy will be available at the Planning and Community Development office. Other than a placeholder for the Cumulative Impacts Assessment, which is currently being updated and will be posted ASAP, the packet is complete, if still in draft form. Following the public hearing, the Commission will make a recommendation to City Council. Council will schedule one or more study sessions in the new year and when they are satisfied, will adopt the SMP, which will then be sent to Ecology for final review. It will become effective once approved by Ecology, assuming they do not make changes substantial enough to warrant additional local review.

If you have any questions about this process or the document itself, please email or call me, but be aware that I will be out of the office beginning tomorrow, Thursday, December 28, and returning Tuesday, January 3rd.

Thank you and Happy 2012!  
 Miranda Redinger  
 206-801-2513

## City of Shoreline Planning Commission, January 19, 2012

Per the Present SMP,

**20.200.030 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SMP, we highlight the following:**

**Purpose – Bullet #6:**

*- Assure that proposed regulatory or administrative actions do not unconstitutionally infringe upon private property rights.*

**Purpose – Bullet #3:**

*- Achieve no net loss to the ecological functions of the City's shoreline.*

**Purpose – Bullet #2:**

*- Manage shorelines in a positive, effective and equitable manner.*

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**Six Recommended Changes:**

**1. Up front in this SMP, we feel there needs to be a "Background" of what is included in Shoreline's shoreline.** Possible placement / wording: **"20.200.035 Background..."**  
(See proposed description on the following page below)

**2. Under "Waterfront Residential" (WR) on page 41, Table 20.230.280, for the section called "Hard shoreline armoring"...change the "C" to a "P".** (All properties within "WR" have existing armoring. In the "Maintenance of Existing" section, a "P9" says that this includes repair and replacement of "Hard shoreline armoring". These two are conflicting rules; both need this "P9" code.)

**4.a. On page 41, under "WR" (Landfill), the "C1" needs to be changed to a "P" also.** Future plans for a couple of homeowners have them adding landfill to provide for parking and/or yard improvements between the road and their homes. A "P" would still require City permits, and adding some landfill here will in no way effect the water's environment.

**4.b. Related to this there likewise needs to be a change to section 20.230.210 Landfill (page 58). #B.1. It should read, "Landfilling activities shall only be permitted in conjunction with a specific development. Landfilling may be permitted under Waterfront Residential and as a Shoreline Conditional Use elsewhere for any of the following:..."**

**5. Section 20.230.150 General, #B.2. (page 51) - the last sentence needs to be edited by adding the following words: "All other forms of shoreline modification must be approved as a Shoreline Conditional Use within all shoreline environments, with the exception of the Waterfront Residential designation which is Permitted."**

**6. 20.230.230 Signs, #B.1. (page 59) – at the end of this paragraph, add: "and enforcement of governmental regulations."** This is to discourage present illegal activities on the beaches.

**7. Other Thoughts:** Whatcom County's approved SMP includes the following which would fit on page 5 "**Applicability 20.200.070**"... again emphasizes the City's commitment to protect private property rights.

**J.** Decisions on shoreline permits and/or approvals shall recognize all relevant constitutional and other legal limitations on the regulation of private property. Findings shall assure that conditions imposed relate to the governmental authority and responsibility to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, are consistent with the purposes of the Act, and are roughly proportional to the expected impact.

**K.** This Program does not alter existing law on access to or trespass on private property and does not give the general public any right to enter private property without the owner's permission.



## SMP Recommended Changes (Continued)

**#1. Possible wording:  
"20.200.035 Background**

The City of Shoreline has a 3.45 mile long shoreline along Puget Sound which forms the City's west boundary. Historically, the shoreline has been influenced by industry and transportation. With the building of the railroad, the vast majority of the shoreline was taken by the railroad right-of-way which effectively cut off the uplands from the near shore environment and included armoring the shoreline. The exceptions are the areas now known as Saltwater Park, 27th Ave NW, and Point Wells. Saltwater Park was originally developed as a commercial gravel pit where the sand and gravel was sluiced from the uplands over the railroad right-of-way and on to the beach where the materials were loaded on barges. Additionally, old wooden ships were beached and burned so that the scrap metal could be salvaged. The area of 27th Avenue NW was a mix of beach cottages, boat rental shops, and other commercial establishments. Point Wells had a variety of industrial businesses which included boat building, cooerage, and bulk petroleum storage and distribution.

Currently, starting at the south City limits, the 100 foot wide railroad right of way runs for 2.03 miles to the south boundary of Saltwater Park. Saltwater Park runs for 2,801 feet along the shoreline. Much of this area was created as a result of the sluicing operations and is the primary natural beach environment within the City. Saltwater Park is the only current public access to the beach and adjacent tidelands within the City of Shoreline. From the north boundary of Saltwater Park, the railroad right-of-way runs along the shoreline for 1,166 feet to the south end of 27th Avenue NW. 27th Avenue NW runs for 1,845 feet directly along the shoreline. There are 32 single family residential lots and the entire shoreline along 27th Avenue NW has been fully armored for over 50 years. As such, RCW 90.58.100 is applicable to 27th Avenue NW, "The standards shall provide a preference for permit issuance for measures to protect single family residences occupied prior to January 1, 1992..." Additionally, RCW 90.58.270 would be applicable to 27th Ave NW and the railroad right of way, "Nothing in this statute shall constitute authority for requiring or ordering the removal of any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed in navigable waters prior to December 4, 1969..." From the north boundary of 27th Avenue NW the railroad right of way again runs along the shoreline for 1,542 feet to the current City limits at the south boundary of Point Wells. Point Wells, which runs for 3,411 feet is in the City plan for potential annexation and as such is included herein.

If annexed, Point Wells would provide the City the opportunity for increased public access to the shoreline. In addition to the railroad right-of-way, the railroad also owns the adjacent tidelands. The exceptions are; the public tideland adjacent to Saltwater Park, the tidelands adjacent to 27th Ave NW, owned by the individual property owners, and the tidelands adjacent to Point Wells owned by the property owner.

**NOTE:** *On behalf of the residents of 27<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, we are grateful for the attention the City's Planning Staff has given to protect and maintain our property rights and way of living within the jurisdiction known as "Waterfront Residential" (WR), while at the same time looking out to maintain and improve our valued shoreline. We also thank the Commission for the time it has allowed for discussions vital to us.* **Richmond Beach Preservation Association**

**From:** dlrbjg@aol.com [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2012 4:24 PM  
**To:** Miranda Redinger; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; [barbara.nightingale@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:barbara.nightingale@ecy.wa.gov)  
**Subject:** SMP draft - Hard Armoring

Miranda,

Following up on my December 27th email, a further review of the draft SMP has raised an additional concern regarding potential regulatory confusion in the future.

In particular, Table 20.230.081 shows "Hard Shoreline Armoring" as a Conditional Use in the Waterfront Residential designation. While "Maintenance of Existing" is "Permitted" and includes a footnote "9" - "This includes replacement", there is a conflict between the two categories. As with the "landfilling" issue, this could lead to regulatory confusion at some point in the future.

The entire shoreline within the Waterfront Residential designation is fully armored and has been for over a half century. Providing for a "Permitted" classification for Hard Shoreline Armoring within the Waterfront Residential designation provides clarification and acknowledges that, as we have discussed, the entire designation is hard armored. Likewise, any repair or replacement of an existing bulkhead will be a "hard armored" structure.

Moreover, changing "Hard Shoreline Armoring" to "Permitted" will not mean "pre-approved." All permit approval processes still will be required.

To additionally clarify this change, section 20.230.150 "Shoreline Modification", (B) Shoreline Modifications Regulations - General (2), the last sentence needs to be edited by adding the following words; "All other forms of shoreline modification must be approved as a Shoreline Conditional Use within all shoreline environments, with the exception of the Waterfront Residential designation which is Permitted."

Therefore, I request the "Shoreline Hard Armoring" be changed to "Permitted" within the Waterfront Residential designation to more accurately reflect the state of the shoreline.

Please let me know if you have any questions.  
Thank you,  
Dick Kink

**Jessica Simulcik Smith**

---

**From:** Woody Hertzog [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** Plancom  
**Subject:** Comments for Planning Commissioners Regarding the SMP

For your review before the next Planning Commissioners meeting.

Thanks you,

Elwood Hertzog

**From:** Woody Hertzog  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 10:26 PM  
**To:** Miranda Redinger  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Comments for submittal to Planning commissioners regarding SMP

Miranda,

I support the positions set forth in Richmond Beach Preservation Association submittal of January 18, 2012.

I am in favor of the inclusion of the verbiage used in the approved Whatcom County SMP acknowledging private property rights within the SMP. The Revised Code of Washington and the Washington Administrative Code do not extend private property rights, however neither do they suggest, imply, or require any surrender of private property rights.

Additionally, I support the reclassification of the "Land filling" and "Shoreline Hard Armoring" in the Waterfront Residential designation from "Conditional Use" to "Permitted." As has been previously noted by others, the re-classification clarifies the intent of the regulations and helps to avoid future regulatory confusion. The SMP clearly states; "Where provisions of this Master Program conflict with each other, or with other laws, ordinances or programs, the most restrictive provisions shall apply."



Likewise, a "Permitted" classification is not a "pre-approval." All regular permitting and review process are still required. A "Permitted" classification does avoid unnecessary and unwarranted levels of review that increase expenses while doing nothing to enhance or improve the near-shore habitat.

I also support the inclusion of a Common Line Setback within the Waterfront Residential designation. Similar verbiage is included in the approved Jefferson County SMP and has been part of the City of Seattle's existing SMP as well. The addition of a common line setback will help to preserve the character of the neighborhood.

Thank you for all of your time and work on this project and I look forward to a workable SMP for all.

Regards,

Elwood Hertzog



Shoreline, Washington 98177

Elwood Hertzog

Spectralux Corporation

12335 134th Ave. NE

Redmond, Washington 98052

Phone: 425.285.3091

Fax: 425.285.4291

Cell: 206.399.0748

[WWW.SPECTRALUX.COM](http://WWW.SPECTRALUX.COM)

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**Chapter 20.20 Development Code Revisions based on Shoreline Master Program-  
Attachment C- Definitions:**

***Existing:***

**Enhancement.** An action which increases the functions and values of a stream, wetland or other sensitive area or buffer.

***Proposed:***

**Enhancement.** Alteration of an existing resource to improve or increase its characteristics and processes without degrading other existing functions. Enhancements are to be distinguished from resource creation or restoration projects.

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***Existing:***

**Native Vegetation.** A tree, shrub or groundcover plant of a species that is native to western Washington.

***Proposed:***

**Native Vegetation.** Vegetation comprised of plant species, other than noxious weeds, that are indigenous to the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur on the site. Examples include trees such as Douglas Fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big-leaf maple, and vine maple; shrubs such as willow, elderberry, salmonberry, and salal; and herbaceous plants such as sword fern, foam flower, and fireweed.

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***Existing:***

**Ordinary High Water Mark.** The mark found by examining the bed and banks of a stream, lake, or tidal water and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and long maintained in ordinary years as to mark upon the soil a vegetative character distinct from that of the abutting upland. In any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the line of mean high water shall substitute. In any area where neither can be found, the top of the channel bank shall substitute. In braided channels and alluvial fans, the ordinary high water mark or line of mean.

***Proposed:***

**Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).** OHWM on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department: provided, that in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

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***Existing:***

**Restoration.** Returning a stream, wetland, other sensitive area or any associated buffer to a state in which its stability and functions approach its unaltered state as closely as possible.

***Proposed:***

**Restoration.** The reestablishment or upgrading of impaired ecological processes or functions. This may be accomplished through measures including but not limited to re-vegetation, removal of intrusive structures and removal or treatment of toxic materials. Restoration does not imply a requirement for returning the area to pre-European settlement conditions.

---

***Existing:***

**Substantial Development.** Any extension, repair, reconstruction, or other improvement of a property, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the fair market value of a property either before the improvement is started or, if the property has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

***Proposed:***

**Substantial Development.** Any development with a total cost or fair market value of five-thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars (\$5,718.00) or more that requires a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. The threshold total cost or fair market value of \$5,718.00 is set by the State Office of Financial Management and may be adjusted in the future pursuant to the SMA requirements, as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) as now or hereafter amended.

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***Existing:***

**Water-dependent Use.** A land use which can only exist when the interface between wet meadows, grazed land and water provides the biological or physical conditions necessary for the use.

***Proposed:***

**Water-dependent Use.** A use or portion of a use which cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water, but is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations.



## *Planning and Community Development*

17500 Midvale Avenue N.  
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905  
(206) 801-2500 ♦ Fax (206) 546-8761

### SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

### Shoreline Master Program Update

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

The City of Shoreline is proposing an Update to its Shoreline Master Program (SMP). The update is intended to conform to the Washington State Shoreline Management Act.

#### Proposed Project Description:

The adoption of the SMP is a citywide non-project action that would affect activities, uses, and developments along the "shorelines of the State" within the city limits. The SMP also includes proposed policies and regulations that would affect .6 miles of shoreline at the Point Wells area in unincorporated Snohomish County as part of the City's Municipal Future Service and Annexation Area if it annexes to the City.

The SMP would affect approximately 3.5 miles of the shoreline within the City adjacent to Puget Sound.

<b>Project Number:</b>	Not Applicable (Non Project Action)
<b>Date of Issuance:</b>	December 5, 2011
<b>Applicant:</b>	City of Shoreline
<b>Location:</b>	City of Shoreline
<b>Tentative Public Hearing Date:</b>	January 19, 2012

The City of Shoreline has determined that the proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. The DNS is issued in accordance with WAC 197-11-340(2). The City will not act on this proposal for at least 14 days from the date of issuance. This decision was made after review of the environmental checklist, draft Master Program and other information on file with the City. The information is available to the public upon request at no charge. The Environmental Checklist, Draft SMP, and background documents can be reviewed on the city's website at:


<http://shorelinewa.gov/index.aspx?page=410>

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND APPEAL INFORMATION**

Written comments on the environmental impacts of the proposal are being accepted. Written comments must be received at the address listed below before 5:00 p.m. January 19, 2012. Please mail, fax (206) 801-2788 or deliver comments to the City of Shoreline, Attn: Miranda Redinger, 17500 Midvale Avenue North, Shoreline, WA 98133 or emailed to [mredinger@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:mredinger@shorelinewa.gov). Interested persons are encouraged to provide oral and/or written comments regarding the above proposal at an open record public hearing. The hearing is scheduled for January 19, 2012 at 7 pm in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline, WA.

**APPEAL INFORMATION**

There is no administrative appeal available for this decision. The SEPA Threshold Determination may be appealed to superior court. If there is not a statutory time limit in filing a judicial appeal, the appeal must be filed within 21 calendar days following the issuance of the decision on the underlying action in accordance with State law the project file is available for review at the City Hall 17500 Midvale Avenue N. For specific project questions, contact Miranda Redinger, City of Shoreline Planning and Community Development at 206-801-2513.

	<p>12/5/11</p>
<p>Joseph W. Tovar – FAICP Responsible Official</p>	<p>Date</p>



Planning and Development Services

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT  
(SEPA)  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

***Purpose of Checklist:***

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

***Instructions for Applicants:***

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply". Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

*Public notice is required for all projects reviewed under SEPA. Please submit current Assessor's Maps/Mailing Labels showing:*

- Subject property outlined in red.
- Adjoining properties under the same ownership outlined in yellow.
- All properties within 500' of the subject property, with mailing labels for each owner.

**NOTE:** King County no longer provides mailing label services. Planning and Development Services can provide this for a fee or provide you instructions on how to obtain this information and create a mail merge document to produce two sets of mailing labels for your application.

***Use of Checklist for nonproject proposals:***

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply". IN ADDITION complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "propose," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

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BY APPLICANT****A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:  
Shoreline Master Program (SMP) and related Comprehensive Plan Policies and Development Code Amendments
2. Name of applicant:  
City of Shoreline
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:  
Contact:  
Miranda Redinger  
17500 Midvale Ave N  
Shoreline, WA 98133  
(206) 801-2513
4. Date checklist prepared:  
November 29, 2011
5. Agency requesting checklist:  
City of Shoreline
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
Planning Commission review 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2011  
City Council action 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2012
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.  
City is required to update the SMP on a periodic basis.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.  
SMP Cumulative Impacts Analysis  
Draft Shoreline Restoration Plan  
Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report  
SMP Gap Analysis and Consistency Review

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9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.  
No.
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.  
The SMP will require the following approvals  
- SEPA review and threshold determination for non-project actions  
-City Council adoption  
-Approval by the Washington State Dept. of Ecology
11. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description).  
The SMP is a citywide non-project action that would affect activities, uses, and developments along the "shorelines of the State" within the city limits. The Shoreline SMP also includes proposed policies and regulations that would affect the Point Wells area (in unincorporated Snohomish County as part of the Cities Future Service and Annexation Area) if it annexes to the City. The SMP would affect approximately 3.5 miles of the shoreline within the city adjacent to Puget Sound and .6 miles of shoreline at Point Wells, if annexed.  
  
The SMP includes background information, policies and regulations.
12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.  
The SMP would affect activities, uses, and developments within Shoreline's city limits along the shores of Puget Sound and on the adjacent shorelands or uplands within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark including associated wetlands. The SMP area is along the western edge of the City and runs from the Seattle city limits to the Snohomish County border. It also covers the Point Wells area, currently in unincorporated Snohomish County.

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## B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

## 1. Earth:

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other: Shoreline's shoreline is characterized by steep bluffs, a coastal beach, stream mouths, and one area that has houses along the water (Appletree Lane). In Snohomish County, the Point Wells area is developed for and is currently used for industrial purposes.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent of slope).  
NA
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.  
The Geotechnical Assessment Report prepared for the Sound Transit Everett to Seattle Commuter Rail Project (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998) describes the typical soils and slope profile found along the waterfront from Everett to Seattle. In general, the area is dominated by Pleistocene aged glacial soils associated with the Vashon Drift and consisting of recessional outwash deposits, glacial till, advance outwash and glacial lacustrine. Recent soil deposits include beach and colluvial deposits, some of which are associated with landslides. Where major landscape modifications have occurred, such as Point Wells, fill soils are typically present (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998). The waterfront bluffs found along the City's shoreline (Segments B through E) are typically composed of a cap of very dense gravelly sand with scattered cobbles and boulders in a clay/silt matrix (glacial till), overlaying dense sand and gravel (glacial advance outwash), which overlies hard clay (glacial lacustrine). The thicknesses of these layers can vary substantially. However, the till cap is generally at the top of the bluffs, sometimes overlain by deposits of medium dense sand and gravel (glacial recessional outwash). The hard clays are typically at or near sea level. Streams draining the uplands dissect bluffs and flow into Puget Sound, depositing fine sand and silt in alluvial fans. Littoral drift, which is the accumulation or movement of foreshore sediments along the shore by littoral currents and oblique waves, reworks some of this material and becomes beach deposits (HWA GeoSciences, Inc., 1998).
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so describe.  
The west-facing slopes along Puget Sound within the City have experienced recent and historical landslide activity. The contact zone between the hard clay layer and the overlying sand layer is the source of many landslides along the coast of Puget Sound, which commonly occur after major storm events. In general, slope stability in the City's shoreline planning area is more stable in the northern portion, though containing some isolated unstable areas, and unstable in the southern portion (Segment E).

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Baum et al. (2000) conducted an inventory of recent landslides that included the City of Shoreline. Significant storm events during 1996 and 1997 resulted in several major landslide episodes. The most common types of landslides were shallow earth slides and debris flows, some of which blocked culverts and overtopped the BNSF railroad track (locations are shown on Map 7). These landslides range in volume from 300 cubic yards to 40,000 cubic yards. The largest one occurred in Segment E north of Highlands Creek (Baum et al. 2000). The seawall and stone revetments of the BNSF railroad protect the base of the bluff from wave erosion and have probably increased the stability of the bluff. Baum et al. (2000) suggests that the bluff retreat during the winters of 1995-96 and 1996-97 might have been greater had the seawall and embankment not been present.

- e. Describe the purpose, type and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.  
No specific filling or grading is proposed.
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing construction or use? If so generally describe.  
Erosion control would be addressed on a project level basis.
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with hardscape after project construction (for example asphalt or buildings)?  
NA
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion , or other impacts to the earth, if any:  
The proposed SMP and other adopted regulation provide specific criteria to mitigate these impacts at the project level.

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## 2. Air:

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e. dust, automobile, odors, industrial, wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

None.

- b. Are there any off site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air if any:

None.

## 3. Water:

## a. Surface:

1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

In addition to the Puget Sound shoreline, the following streams discharge into Puget Sound in the shoreline jurisdiction: Boeing Creek is partially piped from its origin and discharges into Puget Sound, passing through the City's shoreline planning area. Other creeks include: Highlands Creek, Blue Heron Creek (also known as Innis Arden North Creek), Coyote Creek (also known as Innis Arden South Creek), Storm Creek, Upper Barnacle Creek (also known as Upper Puget Sound North) and Lower Barnacle Creek (also known as South), Barnacle Creek, and Lost Creek. All the creeks originate from wetlands, urban runoff or hillside seeps, except that the headwaters of Upper and Lower Barnacle Creeks and Lost Creek are located to the north in Snohomish County. There are no freshwater lakes in the shoreline jurisdiction.

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200') of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No. New development in the shoreline jurisdiction would be subject to the provisions of the SMP.

3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

No filling or dredging is proposed.

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4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.  
No.
5. Does the proposal lie within a 100 year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.  
The Shorelands adjacent to the Puget Sound based on the specific elevation may lie within a designated flood plain. The actual location of the flood plain is shown on the FEMA FIRM maps.
6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.  
No.
- b. Ground:**
1. Will ground water be withdrawn or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose and approximate quantities if known.  
No.
2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals ...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.  
Not applicable. Existing and proposed developments in the shoreline are required to be connected to the sanitary sewer system.

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1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Not applicable. The proposed SMP does not impact existing Citywide policies addressing the preservation and improvement of water quality. New development in the shoreline will be required to comply with the provisions of the SMP, the Development Code, and the City's Surface Water Management Plan.

2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface ground and runoff water impacts, if any:

No specific measures are proposed.

**4. Plants:**

- a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other  
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other  
 shrubs  
 grass  
 pasture  
 crop or grain  
 wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other  
 water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other  
 other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None. The SMP would not remove or alter vegetation, but policies in the SMP would regulate maintenance and restoration of native vegetation where feasible.

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. See 5a, b, and c below.

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- d. Proposed landscaping use of native plants or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site if any:  
Generally, the SMP encourages new development to conserve native shoreline vegetation.

## 5. Animals:

- a. Mark all boxes of any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

The Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 8 report identifies the known presence of salmon in local streams. Boeing Creeek has documented salmonid use including Chinook (listed as threatened under ESA) and coho.

The Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife PHS maps indicate the presence of purple martin next to structures on pilings at the mouth of Boeing Creek from 2000 to 2004. It is unknown whether martin are currently using the structures. Bald eagles use the shoreline and large trees for perching. No nests are currently documented in this area. Marbled murrelet (federal and state listed as threatened species) have also been documented in the shoreline vicinity, but no seabird colonies or waterfowl concentrations are documented within the City.

Adolfson Associates (1999) documented the use of interior uplands by two priority species including the pileated woodpecker and the band-tailed pigeon.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so explain.  
Shoreline is located within the Pacific Flyway, which is a flight corridor for migrating waterfowl and other avian fauna. The Pacific Flyway extends south from Alaska to Mexico and South America.
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife if any:  
The SMP provides mitigation and regulations to minimize the impact of development on the shoreline environment.

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources:

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc  
Not applicable.
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.  
No.

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- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts if any:  
Not applicable.

**7. Environmental Health:**

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur a result of this proposal? If so describe.  
No.

1. Describe special emergency services that might be required.  
Not applicable.

2. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:  
Not applicable.

**b. Noise:**

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?  
Not applicable.

2. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.  
Not applicable.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:  
Not applicable.



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- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?  
Most of the land along the shoreline is used only for a railroad line. For the properties within the City the extensive bluff system along Puget Sound precludes extensive development. If the Future Service and Annexation Area (Point Wells) is included about 9% of the total length of the city's Puget Sound shoreline is used for single family residential uses.

Point Wells is located immediately north of the city limits. It is currently used mainly for petroleum products storage and distribution, and might be redeveloped someday into a mixed use project that is mostly residential in nature. Snohomish County and the Town of Woodway include this area in their Draft SMPs. Other uses along the shoreline include the outfall to King County's Brightwater treatment plan, a King County wastewater pump station, as well as Richmond Beach Saltwater Park and the Innis Arden Reserve.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe  
No.
- c. Describe any structures on the site.  
Current structures include the railroad tracks, single family residential homes, and the industrial facilities on the Pt. Wells site.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?  
No.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?  
In Shoreline, the properties are zoned low-density residential (R4 and R6). In Snohomish County, the Point Wells site is zoned as Urban Center.
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?  
The Plan designation within Shoreline's jurisdiction is Low Density Residential (for the residential areas) and Public Open Space (for the Parks properties).
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?  
Three shoreline environment designations are established in the King County Shoreline Management Master Program  
1. Urban,  
2. Rural, and  
3. Conservancy  
These designations were established as part of the City's interim plan during incorporation in 1995.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, please specify.

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Critical areas have been identified in the shoreline area, including steep slopes, landslide, and erosion hazard areas. Wildlife habitat areas associated with wetlands and streams exist, as well as the marine habitat.

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?  
The only area where people live adjacent to the shorelands is Appletree Lane. This area consists of approximately 30 homes.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?  
None.

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- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:  
Not applicable.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:  
The proposal includes measures to ensure that it is compatible.
- 9. Housing:**
- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low income housing.  
None. The proposed update would not provide housing or change the underlying Comprehensive Plan Land use designations.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low income housing.  
None.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts if any:  
Not applicable.
- 10. Aesthetics:**
- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?  
The maximum permitted height based on the zoning designation and the SMP is 35 feet.
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?  
Redevelopment permitted by the SMP would have the potential to alter views that currently may exist.

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- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:  
SMP provides for the protection of public views.

**11. Light and Glare:**

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?  
Not applicable.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?  
Not applicable.
- c. What existing off site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?  
Not applicable.
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts if any:  
Not applicable.

**12. Recreation:**

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?  
Kayu Kayu Ac Park and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park are public recreational areas in the vicinity of areas covered by the SMP. Innis Arden Reserve is a private recreational area that is also in the vicinity of areas covered by the SMP.
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, please describe.  
No.

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- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant if any:  
Recreation facilities and activities are permitted in several shoreline environments.
- 13. Historic and Cultural Preservation:**
- a. Are there any places or objects listed on or proposed for national, state or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.  
None.
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.  
None known.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:  
Not applicable.
- 14. Transportation:**
- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any:  
With the exception of the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, and the Innis Arden Reserves, there are no public streets that would allow access close to the areas covered by the SMP.
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?  
No.
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?  
Not applicable.

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- d. Will the proposal require any new roads, streets or improvements to existing roads or streets not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).  
No.
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.  
An existing railroad line is adjacent to areas covered by the SMP.
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.  
Not applicable.
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts if any:  
Not applicable.
- 15. Public Services:**
- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.  
No.
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.  
Not applicable.
- 16. Utilities:**
- a. Mark all boxes of utilities currently available at the site:  
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service,  
telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other: \_\_\_\_\_

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- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity that might be needed.  
Not applicable.

**c. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Printed Name: Jeffrey E. Forry

Address 17500 Midvale Avenue N., Shoreline, WA. 98133-4905

Telephone Number: (206)801-2521 Date Submitted November 30, 2011

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(DO NOT USE THIS SHEET FOR PROJECT ACTIONS)**

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent of the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water/emissions to air/production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?  
The proposal would not directly increase discharges to water, emissions to air, production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances, or production of noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:  
The SMP includes policies and regulations for the protection of shorelines, addressing impacts of specific uses and shoreline modifications. Generally, the proposed SMP provides a new system of shoreline environmental designations that establish more uniform management of the City's shoreline. Updated development standards and regulation of shoreline uses and modifications provide more protection for shoreline ecological processes and functions. The updated standards and regulations limit activities that could result in adverse impacts to the shoreline environment.

All development and redevelopment in the shoreline jurisdiction would be subject to applicable local, state, and federal regulatory requirements, including building code, fire code, and surface water design standards, in addition to the provisions of the proposed SMP.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?  
The SMP was developed, in part, to meet the goal of "no net loss" of shoreline ecological functions. If development occurs in accordance with the SMA, degradation of the natural environment and shoreline ecological functions will be avoided, minimized, or mitigated.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

-changes to Shoreline Environmental Designations  
-changes to development standards and land use regulations  
-restoration planning

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3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?  
The SMP would not result in depletion of energy or natural resources. Extractive or resource based industries, such as mining or forestry are prohibited in all shoreline environments in the proposed SMP.
- Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:  
No specific measures are proposed.
4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?  
Generally, the SMP establishes policies and regulations protecting and conserving environmentally critical areas and public access recreational sites. The restoration planning effort outlined in the SMP would provide the city and its residents opportunities to improve or restore ecological functions that have been impaired as a result of past development activities. In addition, the SMP would complement the existing city, state, and federal efforts to protect shoreline functions and values.
- Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:  
Measures include buffering and enhancement of ecosystems.
5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?  
Shoreline has an established land use pattern in the shoreline area that predates current codes and regulations. The pattern includes railroad ROW, parks and some single family homes in Shoreline and the Point Wells industrial area in Snohomish County. There is almost no vacant land in the shoreline area.

1/2011

17500 Midvale Avenue North, Shoreline, Washington 98133-4905

Telephone (206) 801-2500 Fax (206) 801-2788 [pds@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:pds@shorelinewa.gov)The Development Code (Title 20) is located at [mrsc.org](http://mrsc.org)

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**Part Eleven - 197-11-960**

**SEPA Rules**

**EVALUATION FOR  
AGENCY USE ONLY**

**TO BE COMPLETED  
BY APPLICANT**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

Redevelopment that will occur over time will be subject to the SMP and other city regulations.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?  
Proposal will not impact demand on transportation, public services, or utilities because it does not alter the redevelopment potential of any sites.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demands(s) are:  
None.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.  
The SMP will not conflict with other laws. It is meant to be consistent with and to complement existing City, State, and Federal programs to protect the functions and values of shoreline resources and protect the health and safety of City residents.

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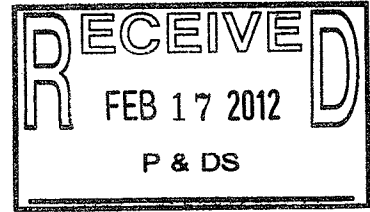
# The Seattle Times



**seattletimes.com**

PO Box 70, Seattle, WA 98111

CITY OF SHORELINE  
KIM SULLIVAN/PLANNING DEPT  
17500 MIDVALE AVE N  
SHORELINE, WA 981334905



Re: Advertiser Account #6391000  
Ad #: 802507300

## Affidavit of Publication

4156711 / 2

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
Counties of King and Snohomish

The undersigned, on oath states that he/she is an authorized representative of The Seattle Times Company, publisher of The Seattle Times of general circulation published daily in King and Snohomish Counties, State of Washington. The Seattle Times has been approved as a legal newspaper by orders of the Superior Court of King and Snohomish Counties.

The notice, in the exact form annexed, was published in the regular and entire issue of said paper or papers and distributed to its subscribers during all of the said period.

Newspaper	Publication Date
The Seattle Times	02/15/12



MAUREEN E DUGGAN Signature Maureen E Duggan

Subscribed and sworn to before me on February 15, 2012  
(DATE)

Christina C. McKenna  
(SIGNATURE) Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, residing at Seattle

**Christina C. McKenna**

# The Seattle Times



seattletimes.com

Re Advertiser Account #6391000

Ad # 802507300

**Ad TEXT:** The City of Shoreline  
Notice of Public Hearing of  
the Planning Commission

Description of Proposal: Public  
Hearing on adoption of the  
Shore  
line Master Program (SMP)

The City issued a SEPA Deter-  
mination of Non-significance  
(DNS) on December 5, 2011.

This may be your only opportu-  
nity to submit written com-  
ments. Written comments must  
be received at the address  
listed  
below before 5:00 p.m. March 1,  
2012. Please mail, fax (206) 801-  
2788 or deliver comments to the

City of Shoreline, Attn: Miranda  
Redinger, 17500 Midvale  
Avenue  
North, Shoreline, WA 98133 or  
email to mreding-  
er@shorelinewa.gov. Upon re-  
quest, a copy of the subsequent

final threshold determination for

this proposal may be obtained  
together with the City Council  
decision on the proposal.

Interested persons are encour-  
aged to provide oral and/or  
written comments regarding  
the above project at an open  
record public hearing. The  
hearing is scheduled for Thurs-  
day, March 1, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
in the Council Chamber at City  
Hall, 17500 Midvale Avenue N,  
Shoreline, WA.

Copies of the proposal, SEPA  
Checklist and applicable codes  
are available for review at the  
City Hall, 17500 Midvale Ave-  
nue North.

Questions or More Information:  
Please contact Miranda Re-  
dinger, Planning & Community  
Development at (206) 801-2513.

Any person

requiring a disabili-  
ty accommodation should con-  
tact the City Clerk at (206) 801-  
2230 in advance for more infor-  
mation. For TTY telephone ser-  
vice call (206) 546-0457. Each re-  
quest will be considered indi-  
vidually according to the type  
of request, the availability of  
resources, and the financial  
ability of the City to provide the  
requested services or equip-  
ment.



## SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM



**Adopted by City Council on \_\_\_\_\_**  
***Submitted for Review and Approval to the***  
***Washington Department of Ecology on \_\_\_\_\_***  
**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TITLE 20 OF THE**  
**CITY OF SHORELINE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE**  
***DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY GRANT #G0800171***

## **Acknowledgements**

### ***Shoreline City Council***

Keith McGlashan, Mayor

Will Hall, Deputy Mayor

Chris Eggen

Doris McConnell

Christopher Roberts

Terry Scott \*

Shari Winstead

*\* Term ended prior to City Council recommendation.*

### ***Shoreline Planning Commission***

Michelle Linders Wagner, Chair

Ben Perkowski, Vice Chair

Janne Kaje

Donna Moss

Cynthia Esselman

John Behrens

Michael Broili



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**20.200 Shoreline Master Plan****20.200.010 Title**

This chapter shall be known as the City’s Shoreline Master Program, hereafter referred to as the Master Program.

**20.200.020 Authority**

The Master Program is adopted in accordance with the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58 RCW) and the state shoreline guidelines (Chapter 173-26 WAC).

Where these regulations require that public access be provided, the requirement shall be construed to be limited to the extent of the lawful and constitutional authority of the City to require public access or to require the easement, fee ownership or interest requested.

**Subchapter 1. Goals and Objectives****20.200.030 Purpose**

The purpose of this Master Program is to:

- Promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community;
- Manage shorelines in a positive, effective, and equitable manner;
- Achieve no net loss to the ecological functions of the City’s shorelines;
- Assume and carry out the responsibilities established by the Shoreline Management Act (SMA);
- Adopt and foster the policies contained in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.58, the State Shoreline Management Act, for shorelines of the State; and
- Assure that proposed regulatory or administrative actions do not unconstitutionally infringe upon private property rights.

**20.200.040 Shoreline Elements**

The following elements have been considered in the preparation of this Master Program for the City of Shoreline. The goals and objectives established for these elements provide the basis for policies and regulations included under the general use requirements of this Master Program.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT**

**Goal** Provide for economically productive uses that are particularly dependent on their shoreline location or use.

**Objective** Plan for economic activity that is water-dependent, water-related, or that provides an opportunity for a substantial number of people to enjoy the shoreline and water.

**PUBLIC ACCESS ELEMENT**

**Goal** Increase public access to publicly-owned areas of the shoreline.

**Objective** Provide for public access to publicly owned shoreline areas, except where deemed inappropriate due to safety hazards, inherent security problems, environmental impacts, or conflicts with adjacent uses.

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 City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations
 

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**RECREATIONAL ELEMENT**

- Goal** Develop public and private recreation opportunities that are compatible with adjacent uses and that protect the shoreline environments.
- Objective** Provide for the preservation and enlargement of public and private recreational opportunities and recreational facilities along the shoreline, including but not limited to, parks and recreational areas, wherever appropriate.

**CIRCULATION ELEMENT**

- Goal** Provide inter-connected, efficient, and safe transportation networks to and around the shoreline to accommodate vehicles, transit, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- Objective** Provide for a safe and adequate circulation system, including existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities within the shoreline jurisdiction that benefit permitted uses without degrading the environment or aesthetic values of the area.

**SHORELINE USE ELEMENT**

- Goal** Regulate land use patterns to locate activity and development in areas of the shoreline that will be compatible with adjacent uses and will be sensitive to existing shoreline environments, habitat, and ecological systems.
- Objective** Include protections for the natural environment and adjacent uses in the Shoreline Development Code, Point Wells Subarea Plan, Saltwater Park master planning efforts, and other regulatory framework for development along the shoreline.

**CONSERVATION ELEMENT**

- Goal** Conserve and protect the natural resources of the shoreline including, but not limited to scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fisheries and wildlife protection.
- Objective** Through the use of best available science, develop and implement siting criteria, design standards, and best management practices that promote the long term enhancement of unique shoreline features, natural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat.

**HISTORICAL/CULTURAL ELEMENT**

- Goal** Identify, preserve, protect, and restore shoreline areas, buildings, and sites having historical, cultural, educational, or scientific values.
- Objective** Educate citizens on historical, cultural, and scientific significance of shoreline structures, amenities, and functions.

**FLOOD HAZARD MANAGEMENT**

- Goal** Protect the City of Shoreline and other property owners from losses and damage created by flooding along the coast and sea-level rise.

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City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

**Objective** Seek regional solutions to flooding problems through coordinated planning with state and federal agencies, other appropriate interests, and the public.

**Objective** Develop a plan to mitigate and adapt to potentially altered environmental conditions along the coastline resulting from climate change.

**RESTORATION ELEMENT**

**Goal** Improve water quality, reduce the impacts of flooding events; and restore natural areas, vegetation, and habitat functions.

**Objective** Seek funding for restoration projects within the shoreline jurisdiction and require development proposals to address habitat restoration and water quality.

**Objective** Engage in discussions with other municipalities that border the Puget Sound and BNSF railroad regarding efforts to benefit fish passage and nutrient transfer.

**Subchapter 2. General Provisions****20.200.050 Purpose**

This chapter defines requirements for implementation of the Master Program and sets an orderly process for project review and permitting. The development regulations in the Master Program are intended to make shoreline development responsive to specific design needs and opportunities along the City's shorelines, and to protect the public's interest in the shorelines' recreational and aesthetic values.

**20.200.060 Administrator**

The Planning and Community Development Director or designee is the Shoreline Administrator, herein after known as the Director, and is vested with authority to:

- Administer the Master Program;
- Approve, approve with conditions, or deny Shoreline Substantial Development Permits;
- Grant exemptions from Shoreline Substantial Development Permits;
- Determine compliance with RCW43.21C, the State Environmental Policy Act; and
- Adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

The Director's duties and responsibilities include:

- Making administrative decisions and interpretations of the policies and regulations of this program and the Shoreline Management Act;
- Developing and proposing amendments to this Master Program to more effectively and equitably achieve its goals and policies;
- Seeking remedies for violations of this Master Program, the provisions of the Shoreline Management Act, or the conditions of Substantial Development Permits issued by the City; and
- Forwarding shoreline permits to Washington State Department of Ecology for Ecology action.

**20.200.070 Applicability**

- A. The regulations of this Title apply to all shorelines of Statewide Significance and their associated wetlands within the City and to the waters and underlying land of the Puget Sound extending to the middle of Puget Sound adjacent to Kitsap County, between the northern and southern limits of the City and 200 feet landward of such waters the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).
- B. These standards provide a preference for permit issuance for measures to protect single family residences occupied prior to January 1, 1992. Nothing in this Master Program shall constitute authority for requiring or ordering the removal of any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed in navigable waters prior to December 4, 1969, and the consent and authorization of the state of Washington to the impairment of public rights of navigation, and corollary rights incidental thereto, caused by the retention and maintenance of said structures, improvements, docks, fills or developments are hereby granted; PROVIDED, That the consent herein given shall not relate to any structures, improvements, docks, fills, or developments placed on tidelands, shorelands, or beds underlying said waters which are in trespass or in violation of state statutes.

Comment [m2]: Clarity and consistency

Comment [m3]: Including the full RCW citation.



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City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

- C. All proposed uses and development, as defined in this chapter, occurring within the shoreline jurisdiction shall comply with this Master Program and RCW 90.58.
- D. Uses and development regulated by this Program are subject to applicable provisions of the SMC, the Comprehensive Plan, the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58), Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70), Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C and WAC 197-11), and other local, state and federal laws. Project proponents are responsible for complying with all applicable laws prior to commencing any use, development, or activity.
- E. Regulation of private property to implement Program goals such as public access and protection of ecological functions and processes must be consistent with all relevant constitutional and other legal limitations. These include, but are not limited to civil rights guaranteed by the U.S. and State constitutions, recent federal and state case law, and state statutes, such as RCW 34.05.328, 43.21C.060, and 82.02.
- F. The Master Program policies and regulations shall apply in addition to other city regulations. Where the regulations of the Master Program conflict with other regulations, the regulations that provide more shoreland and shoreline protection shall apply.
- G. Non-conforming uses and improvements within the shoreline jurisdiction shall be subject to this Program and SMC 20.220.150.
- H. The City's Critical Areas Ordinance SMC 20.80, which was passed on February 27, 2006 by Ordinance No. 398, is adopted as a part of the Master Program. The provisions of SMC 20.80 shall apply to any use, alteration or development within the shoreline jurisdiction whether or not a shoreline permit or written statement of exemption is required.
- I. Uses and developments within the shoreline jurisdiction that meet the Reasonable Use Exception provisions of SMC 20.30.336 require a Shoreline Variance in accordance with this chapter.
- J. The exemptions and partial exemptions listed in sections SMC 20.80.030 and 20.80.040 shall not apply within the shoreline jurisdiction. Such activities may require a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit unless the Master Program and RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) specifically indicates the activity is exempt from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirements.

Comment [m4]: Additional clarity.

Comment [m5]: Including reference

#### 20.200.080 Master Program Review and Update

This Master Program shall be periodically reviewed as necessary to reflect changing local circumstances, new information or improved data, and changes in State statutes and regulations.

#### 20.200.090 Amendments to Master Program

Any of the provisions of this Master Program may be amended as provided for in RCW 90.58.120 and .200 and Chapter 173.26 WAC. Amendments to the Master Program do not become effective until approved by the Department of Ecology.

Proposals for shoreline environment redesignation, for example amendments to the shoreline maps and descriptions, must demonstrate consistency with the criteria set forth in WAC 173-16-040 (4).

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 City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations
 

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## Subchapter 3. Definitions

**20.210.010 Definitions**

The Master Program shall be implemented according to the definitions contained in SMC chapter 20.20, RCW 90.58, and WAC 173-26-020. Where definitions contained in SMC chapter 20.20 conflict or differ from definitions contained in the Shoreline Management Act the definitions in the RCW 90.58, and WAC 173-26-020 shall prevail.

**Comment [m6]:** There are also pertinent definitions in other sections of the RCW and WAC, so didn't want to limit to the sections listed.

**Accretion.** May be either natural or artificial. Natural accretion is the buildup of land, solely by the action of the forces of nature, on a beach by deposition of water- or airborne material. Artificial accretion is a similar buildup of land by reason of an act of man, such as the accretion formed by a groin, breakwater, or beach fill deposited by mechanical means.

**Activity.** An occurrence associated with a use; the use of energy toward a specific action or pursuit. Examples of shoreline activities include, but are not limited to, fishing, swimming, boating, dredging, fish spawning, or wildlife nesting.

**Adjacent Lands.** Lands adjacent to the lands within the shoreline jurisdiction. The SMA directs local governments to develop land use controls (i.e., zoning, comprehensive planning) for such lands consistent with the policies of the SMA, related rules and the local shoreline master program (Refer to RCW 90.58.340).

**Agricultural Uses.** (a) "Agricultural activities" means agricultural uses and practices including, but not limited to: Producing, breeding, or increasing agricultural products; rotating and changing agricultural crops; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie fallow in which it is plowed and tilled but left unseeded; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant as a result of adverse agricultural market conditions; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant because the land is enrolled in a local, state, or federal conservation program, or the land is subject to a conservation easement; conducting agricultural operations; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural equipment; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural facilities, provided that the replacement facility is no closer to the shoreline than the original facility; and maintaining agricultural lands under production or cultivation; (b) "**Agricultural products**" includes but is not limited to horticultural, viticultural, floricultural, vegetable, fruit, berry, grain, hops, hay, straw, turf, sod, seed, and apiary products; feed or forage for livestock; Christmas trees; hybrid cottonwood and similar hardwood trees grown as crops and harvested within twenty years of planting; and livestock including both the animals themselves and animal products including but not limited to meat, upland finfish, poultry and poultry products, and dairy products; (c) "**Agricultural equipment**" and "**agricultural facilities**" includes, but is not limited to: (i) The following used in agricultural operations: Equipment; machinery; constructed shelters, buildings, and ponds; fences; upland finfish rearing facilities; water diversion, withdrawal, conveyance, and use equipment and facilities including but not limited to pumps, pipes, tapes, canals, ditches, and drains; (ii) corridors and facilities for transporting personnel, livestock, and equipment to, from, and within agricultural lands; (iii) farm residences and associated equipment, lands, and facilities; and (iv) roadside stands and on-farm markets for marketing fruit or vegetables; and (d) "**Agricultural land**" means those specific land areas on which agriculture activities are conducted as of the date of adoption of a

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City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

local master program pursuant to these guidelines as evidenced by aerial photography or other documentation. After the effective date of the master program land converted to agricultural use is subject to compliance with the requirements of the master program.

**Anadromous fish.** Fish born in fresh water, which spend most of their lives in the sea and return to fresh water to spawn. Salmon, smelt, shad, striped bass, and sturgeon are common examples.

**Associated Wetlands.** Those wetlands that are in proximity to and either influence, or are influenced by tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the Shoreline Management Act. Refer to WAC 173-22-030(1).

**Aquaculture.** The farming or culture of food fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants or animals in freshwater or saltwater areas, and may include development such as structures or rafts, as well as use of natural spawning and rearing areas. Aquaculture does not include the harvest of wildstock geoducks on state-owned lands. Wildstock geoduck harvest is a fishery.

**Aquaculture Activity.** Actions directly pertaining to growing, handling, or harvesting of aquaculture produce including, but not limited to propagation, stocking, feeding, disease treatment, waste disposal, water use, development of habitat and structures. Excluded from this definition are related upland commercial or industrial uses such as wholesale and retail sales, sorting, staging, hatcheries, tank farms, and final processing and freezing.

**Backfill.** The placement of earth material or other approved material behind a retaining wall or structure.

**Boat Launch or Ramp.** Graded slopes, slabs, pads, planks, or rails used for launching boats by means of a trailer, hand, or mechanical device.

**Breakwaters.** Structures constructed on coasts as part of coastal defense to protect an anchorage from the effects of weather and longshore drift.

**Building Setback.** The building setback shall be equal to the depth of the required native vegetation conservation area.

**Bulkheads.** A vertical or nearly vertical structure placed parallel to the shoreline at or near the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) for the purpose of armoring the shoreline and protecting structures from the effects of erosion caused by wind or waves. Bulkheads generally consist of concrete, timber, steel, rock, or other material resistant to erosion. Bulkheads are used to protect banks by retaining soil at the toe of the slope, or by protecting the toe of the bank from erosion and undercutting.

**Community Pier or Dock.** Moorage for pleasure craft and/or landing for water sports for use in common by shoreline 4 or more residential units of a certain subdivision or community within shoreline jurisdiction.

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City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

**Community Boat Launching Ramp.** An inclined slab, set of pads, rails, planks, or graded slope used for launching boats with trailers or by hand for use in common by shoreline residents of a certain subdivision or community within shoreline jurisdiction.

**Conditional Use, Shoreline.** A use, development, or substantial development that is classified as a conditional use or is not classified within the Master Program. Refer to WAC 173-27-030(4).

**Development, Shoreline.** Development means a use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any state of water level. RCW 90.58-030 3(d).

**Dredging.** The removal or displacement of earth such as gravel, sand, mud, or silt from lands covered by water. Lands covered by water include stream beds and wetlands. Dredging is normally done for specific purposes or uses such as maintaining navigation channels, constructing bridge footings, or laying submarine pipelines or cable.

**Dredge Spoil.** The material removed by dredging.

**Dredge Spoil Disposal.** The depositing of dredged materials on land or into water bodies for the purpose of either creating new or additional lands or for disposing of the material in an acceptable manner.

**Ecological Functions, Shoreline or Shoreline Functions.** The work performed or the role played by the physical, chemical, and biological processes that contribute to the maintenance of the aquatic and terrestrial environments that constitute the shoreline's natural ecosystem. See WAC 173-26-201(c).

**Enhancement.** Alteration of an existing resource to improve or increase its characteristics and processes without degrading other existing functions. Enhancements are to be distinguished from resource creation or restoration projects.

**Exemption.** Certain specific developments as listed in WAC 173-27-040 are exempt from the definition of substantial developments, and are therefore exempt from the Substantial Development Permit process of the SMA.

**Fair Market Value.** The open market bid price for conducting the work, using the equipment and facilities, and purchase of the goods, services and materials necessary to accomplish a development. This would normally equate to the cost of hiring a contractor to undertake the development from start to finish, including the cost of labor, materials, equipment and facility usage, transportation and contractor overhead and profit. The fair market value of the development shall include the fair market value of any donated, contributed or found labor, equipment, or materials.

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City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations

**Feasible.** An action, such as a development project, mitigation, or preservation requirement, shall meet all of the following conditions: (a) The action can be accomplished with technologies and methods that have been used in the past in similar circumstances, or studies or tests have demonstrated in similar circumstances that such approaches are currently available and likely to achieve the intended results; (b) The action provides a reasonable likelihood of achieving its intended purpose; and (c) The action does not physically preclude achieving the project's primary intended legal use. In cases where these guidelines require certain actions unless they are infeasible, the burden of proving infeasibility is on the applicant. In determining an action's infeasibility, the reviewing agency may weigh the action's relative public costs and public benefits, considered in the short- and long-term time frames.

**Flood Control.** Any undertaking for the conveyance, control, and dispersal of floodwaters caused by abnormally high direct precipitation or stream overflow.

**Gabions.** Cages, cylinders, or boxes filled with soil or sand that are used in civil engineering, road building, and military applications, primarily for erosion control and building dams and retaining walls.

**Geotechnical Report or Analysis.** A scientific study or evaluation conducted by a qualified expert that includes a description of the ground and surface hydrology and geology, the affected land form and its susceptibility to mass wasting, erosion, and other geologic hazards or processes, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions, the adequacy of the site to be developed, the impacts of the proposed development, alternative approaches to the proposed development, and measures to mitigate potential site-specific and cumulative geological and hydrological impacts of the proposed development, including the potential adverse impacts to adjacent and down-current properties. Geotechnical reports shall conform to accepted technical standards and must be prepared by qualified professional engineers or geologists who have professional expertise about the regional and local shoreline geology and processes.

**Groin.** A rigid structure built out from a shore to protect the shore from erosion, to trap sand, or to direct a current for scouring a channel.

**Grading.** The movement or redistribution of the soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, or other material on a site in a manner that alters the natural contour of the land.

**Groundwater recharge.** A hydrologic process where water moves downward from surface water to groundwater. Recharge occurs both naturally (through the water cycle) and anthropologically (i.e., "artificial groundwater recharge"), where rainwater and or reclaimed water is routed to the subsurface.

**Jetty.** Any of a variety of structures used in river, dock, and maritime works that are generally carried out in pairs from river banks, or in continuation of river channels at their outlets into deep water; or out into docks, and outside their entrances; or for forming basins along the sea-coast for ports in tideless seas.

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 City of Shoreline – Shoreline Master Program Development Code Regulations
 

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**Hydric Soil.** Soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper soil horizon(s).

**Land Disturbing Activities.** Any activity resulting in a movement of earth, or a change in the existing soil cover, both vegetative and non-vegetative, or the existing topography excluding the addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structure, or other material to an area waterward of the OHWM, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that raises the elevation or creates dry land. Land disturbing activities include, but are not limited to clearing, grading, filling, excavation, or addition of new or the replacement of impervious surface. Compaction, excluding hot asphalt mix, which is associated with stabilization of structures and road construction, shall also be considered a land disturbing activity.

**Landfilling.** ~~The placement of soil, rock, existing sediment or other approved material (excluding solid waste) to create new land, tideland or bottom land area along the shoreline below the OHWM, or on wetland or upland areas in order to raise the elevation.~~ The addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structure, or other material to an area waterward of the OHWM, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that creates dry land.

**Comment [m7]:** This clarifies that “Landfilling” only applies to fill material placed waterward of the Ordinary High Water Mark, and is intended to create new, dry land. This will remain a Conditional Use for all environment designations. “Land Disturbing Activities” has replaced “Clearing and Grading” in Table 20.230.081, and is a permitted activity in all environment designations except Aquatic.

**Native Vegetation.** Vegetation comprised of plant species, other than noxious weeds, that are indigenous to the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur on the site. Examples include trees such as douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big-leaf maple, and vine maple; shrubs such as willow, elderberry, salmonberry, and salal; and herbaceous plants such as sword fern, foam flower, and fireweed.

**Native Vegetation Conservation Area.** Vegetated area between the Native Vegetation Setback Line and the Ordinary High Water Mark.

**Native Vegetation Setback Line.** Unless otherwise indicated within this Master Program, the line that establishes the limits of all buildings, fencing and impervious surfaces along the shoreline.

**Nonconforming Use and Development.** A shoreline use or development that was lawfully constructed or established prior to the effective date of the act or the applicable master program, or amendments thereto, but which does not conform to present regulations or standards of the program.

**Nonwater-oriented Uses.** Those uses that are not water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment.

**Normal Maintenance.** ~~Normal maintenance includes interior and exterior repairs and incidental alterations. Normal maintenance and repair may include, but is not limited to, painting, roof repair and replacement, plumbing, wiring and electrical systems, mechanical equipment replacement and weatherization. Incidental alterations may include construction of non-load-bearing walls or partitions.~~

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In regard to bulkheads, and particularly the exemption described in 20.220.030(2), repairs also include increasing the overall height of an existing wall for the purpose of preventing wave over topping and undermining of the existing structure, provided that the added height does not extend waterward of the existing footing and a qualified professional has issued a determination that a deflector is necessary and of the minimal size to be effective.

Usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition.

**Normal Protective Bulkhead.** ~~A bulkhead constructed on a building site zoned to permit one single family residence and containing one single family residence.~~ Structural and nonstructural developments installed at or near, and parallel to, the ordinary high water mark for the sole purpose of protecting an existing single-family residence and appurtenant structures from loss or damage by erosion.

**Normal Repair.** To restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction, except where repair causes substantial adverse effects to shoreline resource or environment. Replacement of a structure or development may be authorized as repair where such replacement is the common method of repair for the type of structure or development and the replacement structure or development is comparable to the original structure or development including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and the replacement does not cause substantial adverse effects to shoreline resources or environment.

Comment [m8]: Consistency w/ WAC

**Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).** OHWM on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department, provided that in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

**Public Access.** Public access is the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations. Refer to WAC 173-26-221(4).

**Public Pier or Dock.** Moorage for pleasure craft and/or landing for water sports for use by the general public.

**Public Boat Launching Ramp.** An inclined slab, set of pads, rails, planks, or graded slope used for launching boats with trailers or by hand for use by the general public.

**Restoration.** The reestablishment or upgrading of impaired ecological processes or functions. This may be accomplished through measures including but not limited to re-vegetation, removal

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of intrusive structures, toxic materials, or invasive or non-native plants. Restoration does not imply a requirement for returning the area to pre-European settlement conditions.

**Revetment.** A sloped wall constructed of riprap or other suitable material placed on stream banks or other shorelines to retard bank erosion and minimize lateral stream movement. A revetment typically slopes away from the water and has a rough or jagged face. These features differentiate it from a bulkhead, which is a vertical structure. Revetments are a facing of stone, concrete, etc., built to protect a scarp, embankment, or shore structure against erosion by waves or currents. The principal features of a revetment are: 1) heavy armor layer, 2) filter layer, and 3) toe protection.

**Riparian.** The characteristic of relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (as a river) or sometimes of a lake or a tidewater.

**Sediment.** The fine-grained material deposited by water or wind.

**Shorelands or Shoreland Areas.** Those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet; and all wetlands and deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters that are subject to the provisions of this chapter; the same to be designated as to location by the Department of Ecology.

**Shoreline Jurisdiction.** All "shorelines of the state" and "shorelands" as defined in RCW 90.58.030.

**Shoreline Master Program or Master Program.** The comprehensive plan for the use of a described area, and the regulations for use of the area including maps, diagrams, charts, or other descriptive material and text, a statement of desired goals, and standards developed in accordance with the policies enunciated in RCW 90.58.020. As provided in RCW 36.70A.480, the goals and policies of a shoreline master program for a county or city approved under chapter 90.58 RCW shall be considered an element of the county or city's Comprehensive Plan. All other portions of the Shoreline Master Program for a county or city adopted under chapter 90.58 RCW, including use regulations, shall be considered a part of the county or city's development regulations.

**Shoreline Modifications.** Those actions that modify the physical configuration or qualities of the shoreline area, usually through the construction of a physical element such as a dike, breakwater, pier, weir, dredged basin, fill, bulkhead, or other shoreline structure. They can include other actions, such as clearing, grading, or application of chemicals.

**Shorelines.** All of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated shorelands, together with the lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of statewide significance; and (ii) shorelines on lakes less than twenty acres in size and wetlands associated with such small lakes.



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**Shorelines of Statewide Significance.** “Shorelines of the State” that meet the criteria for “Shorelines of Statewide Significance” contained in RCW 90.58.030(f). As it applies to the City of Shoreline, shorelines of statewide significance include those areas of Puget Sound and adjacent salt waters between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme low tide.

**Shorelines of the State.** This term includes both “shorelines” and “shorelines of statewide significance.”

**Substantial Development.** Any development with a total cost or fair market value of five-thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars (\$5,718.00) or more that requires a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. The threshold total cost or fair market value of \$5,718.00 is set by the State Office of Financial Management and may be adjusted in the future pursuant to the SMA requirements, as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) as now or hereafter amended.

**Water-dependent Use.** A use or portion of a use which cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water, but is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations.

**Water-enjoyment Use.** A recreational or other use that facilitates public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general characteristic of the use and which through location, design, and operation ensures the public's ability to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. In order to qualify as a water-enjoyment use, the use must be open to the general public and the shoreline-oriented space within the project must be devoted to the specific aspects of the use that fosters shoreline enjoyment.

**Water-oriented Use.** A use that is water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment, or a combination of such uses.

**Water Quality.** The physical characteristics of water within shoreline jurisdiction, including water quantity, hydrological, physical, chemical, aesthetic, recreation-related, and biological characteristics. Where used in this chapter, the term "water quantity" refers only to development and uses regulated under this chapter and affecting water quantity, such as impermeable surfaces and storm water handling practices. Water quantity, for purposes of this chapter, does not mean the withdrawal of ground water or diversion of surface water pursuant to RCW 90.03.250 through RCW 90.03.340.

**Water-related Use.** A use or portion of a use that is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location, but whose economic viability is dependent upon a waterfront location because: (a) The use has a functional requirement for a waterfront location such as the arrival or shipment of materials by water or the need for large quantities of water; or (b) The use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent uses and the proximity of the use to its customers makes its services less expensive and/or more convenient.

**Weir.** A dam in a watercourse, usually a stream or river, to raise the water level or divert its flow.

**20.220 Administrative Procedures****Subchapter 1. Permits****20.220.010 Permit Requirements - General**

- A. Based on the provisions of this Master Program, the Director shall determine if a Substantial Development Permit, a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit and/or a Shoreline Variance is required.
- B. A permit is required for substantial development as defined in RCW 90.58.030(3)(e) within the shoreline jurisdiction.
- C. A Substantial Development Permit is not required for exempt development. An exempt development requires a statement of exemption pursuant to 20.220.030 and may require a Shoreline Variance from Master Program provisions and/or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.
- D. All uses and development shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the SMC and the Master Program regardless of whether a Substantial Development Permit, Statement of Exemption, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is required.
- E. When a development or use is proposed that does not comply with the bulk, dimensional and/or performance standards of this Program, such development or use may only be authorized by approval of a Shoreline Variance, even if the development or use does not require a Substantial Development Permit.
- F. A development or use listed as a Shoreline Conditional Use pursuant to this chapter, or any unlisted use, must obtain a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit even if the development or use does not require a Substantial Development Permit.
- G. Issuance of a Statement of Exemption, Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit does not constitute approval of any other City, state, or federal laws or regulations.
- H. All shoreline permits or statements of exemption issued for development or use within the shoreline jurisdiction shall include written findings prepared by the Director, documenting compliance with bulk and dimensional policies and regulations of the Master Program. The Director may attach conditions to the approval as necessary to assure consistency with the Master Program and RCW 90.58. The conditions may include a requirement to post a performance financial guarantee assuring compliance with permit requirements, terms and conditions.

**20.220.020 Substantial Development Permit**

- A. Substantial development as defined by RCW 90.58.030 shall not be undertaken by any person on the shorelines of the state without first obtaining a Substantial Development Permit from the Director, unless the use or development is specifically identified as exempt.
- B. A Substantial Development Permit shall only be granted by the Director when the development proposed is consistent with the policies and procedures of RCW.90.58; the provisions of WAC 173-27; and the Master Program.
- C. An exemption from the Substantial Development Permit requirements does not constitute an exemption from the policies and use regulations of the Shoreline Management Act, the provisions of this Master Program or other applicable city, state, or federal requirements. A formal Statement of Shoreline Exemption is required pursuant to 20.220.030.

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**20.220.030 Shoreline Exemption**

- A. The Director is hereby authorized to approve or deny requests for statements of exemption from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirement for uses and developments within shorelines that are specifically listed in RCW 90.58.030 and WAC 173-27-040. The statement shall be in writing and shall indicate the specific exemption of the Master Program that is being applied to the development, and shall provide a summary of the Director's analysis of the consistency of the project with this Master Program and the Act. A complete list of exemptions is provided in WAC 173-27-040. WAC 173.27.040 delineates exemptions and is included below.

Comment [m9]: Consistency w/ WAC

Exempt developments include:

1. (a) Any development of which the total cost or fair market value, whichever is higher, does not exceed five thousand dollars, if such development does not materially interfere with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state. The dollar threshold established in this subsection must be adjusted for inflation by the office of financial management every five years, beginning July 1, 2007, based upon changes in the consumer price index during that time period. "Consumer price index" means, for any calendar year, that year's annual average consumer price index, Seattle, Washington area, for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items, compiled by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, United States Department of Labor. The office of financial management must calculate the new dollar threshold and transmit it to the office of the code reviser for publication in the **Washington State Register** at least one month before the new dollar threshold is to take effect. For purposes of determining whether or not a permit is required, the total cost or fair market value shall be based on the value of development that is occurring on shorelines of the state as defined in RCW 90.58.030 (2)(c). The total cost or fair market value of the development shall include the fair market value of any donated, contributed or found labor, equipment or materials;
- (b) Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments, including damage by accident, fire or elements. "Normal maintenance" includes those usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition. "Normal repair" means to restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction, except where repair causes substantial adverse effects to shoreline resource or environment. Replacement of a structure or development may be authorized as repair where such replacement is the common method of repair for the type of structure or development and the replacement structure or development is comparable to the original structure or development including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and the replacement does not cause substantial adverse effects to shoreline resources or environment;
- (c) Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to single-family residences. A "normal protective" bulkhead includes those structural and nonstructural developments installed at or near, and parallel to, the ordinary high water mark for the sole purpose of protecting an existing single-family residence and appurtenant structures from loss or damage by erosion. A normal protective bulkhead is not exempt if constructed for the purpose of creating dry land. When a vertical or near vertical wall is being constructed or

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reconstructed, not more than one cubic yard of fill per one foot of wall may be used as backfill. When an existing bulkhead is being repaired by construction of a vertical wall fronting the existing wall, it shall be constructed no further waterward of the existing bulkhead than is necessary for construction of new footings. When a bulkhead has deteriorated such that an ordinary high water mark has been established by the presence and action of water landward of the bulkhead then the replacement bulkhead must be located at or near the actual ordinary high water mark. Beach nourishment and bioengineered erosion control projects may be considered a normal protective bulkhead when any structural elements are consistent with the above requirements and when the project has been approved by the department of fish and wildlife.

(d) Emergency construction necessary to protect property from damage by the elements. An "emergency" is an unanticipated and imminent threat to public health, safety, or the environment which requires immediate action within a time too short to allow full compliance with this chapter. Emergency construction does not include development of new permanent protective structures where none previously existed. Where new protective structures are deemed by the administrator to be the appropriate means to address the emergency situation, upon abatement of the emergency situation the new structure shall be removed or any permit which would have been required, absent an emergency, pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW, these regulations, or the local master program, obtained. All emergency construction shall be consistent with the policies of chapter 90.58 RCW and the local master program. As a general matter, flooding or other seasonal events that can be anticipated and may occur but that are not imminent are not an emergency;

(e) Construction and practices normal or necessary for farming, irrigation, and ranching activities, including agricultural service roads and utilities on shorelands, construction of a barn or similar agricultural structure, and the construction and maintenance of irrigation structures including but not limited to head gates, pumping facilities, and irrigation channels; Provided, That a feedlot of any size, all processing plants, other activities of a commercial nature, alteration of the contour of the shorelands by leveling or filling other than that which results from normal cultivation, shall not be considered normal or necessary farming or ranching activities. A feedlot shall be an enclosure or facility used or capable of being used for feeding livestock hay, grain, silage, or other livestock feed, but shall not include land for growing crops or vegetation for livestock feeding and/or grazing, nor shall it include normal livestock wintering operations;

(f) Construction or modification of navigational aids such as channel markers and anchor buoys;

(g) Construction on shorelands by an owner, lessee or contract purchaser of a single-family residence for their own use or for the use of their family, which residence does not exceed a height of thirty-five feet above average grade level and which meets all requirements of the state agency or local government having jurisdiction thereof, other than requirements imposed pursuant to chapter 90.58 RCW. "Single-family residence" means a detached dwelling designed for and occupied by one family including those structures and developments within a contiguous ownership which are a normal appurtenance. An

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"appurtenance" is necessarily connected to the use and enjoyment of a single-family residence and is located landward of the ordinary high water mark and the perimeter of a wetland. On a statewide basis, normal appurtenances include a garage; deck; driveway; utilities; fences; installation of a septic tank and drainfield and grading which does not exceed two hundred fifty cubic yards and which does not involve placement of fill in any wetland or waterward of the ordinary high water mark. Local circumstances may dictate additional interpretations of normal appurtenances which shall be set forth and regulated within the applicable master program. Construction authorized under this exemption shall be located landward of the ordinary high water mark;

(h) Construction of a dock, including a community dock, designed for pleasure craft only, for the private noncommercial use of the owner, lessee, or contract purchaser of single-family and multiple-family residences. A dock is a landing and moorage facility for watercraft and does not include recreational decks, storage facilities or other appurtenances. This exception applies if either:

(i) In salt waters, the fair market value of the dock does not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars; or

(ii) In fresh waters the fair market value of the dock does not exceed ten thousand dollars, but if subsequent construction having a fair market value exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars occurs within five years of completion of the prior construction, the subsequent construction shall be considered a substantial development for the purpose of this chapter.

For purposes of this section salt water shall include the tidally influenced marine and estuarine water areas of the state including the Pacific Ocean, Strait of Juan de Fuca, Strait of Georgia and Puget Sound and all bays and inlets associated with any of the above;

(i) Operation, maintenance, or construction of canals, waterways, drains, reservoirs, or other facilities that now exist or are hereafter created or developed as a part of an irrigation system for the primary purpose of making use of system waters, including return flow and artificially stored groundwater from the irrigation of lands;

(j) The marking of property lines or corners on state-owned lands, when such marking does not significantly interfere with normal public use of the surface of the water;

(k) Operation and maintenance of any system of dikes, ditches, drains, or other facilities existing on September 8, 1975, which were created, developed or utilized primarily as a part of an agricultural drainage or diking system;

(l) Any project with a certification from the governor pursuant to chapter 80.50 RCW;

(m) Site exploration and investigation activities that are prerequisite to preparation of an application for development authorization under this chapter, if:

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- (i) The activity does not interfere with the normal public use of the surface waters;
- (ii) The activity will have no significant adverse impact on the environment including but not limited to fish, wildlife, fish or wildlife habitat, water quality, and aesthetic values;
- (iii) The activity does not involve the installation of any structure, and upon completion of the activity the vegetation and land configuration of the site are restored to conditions existing before the activity;
- (iv) A private entity seeking development authorization under this section first posts a performance bond or provides other evidence of financial responsibility to the local jurisdiction to ensure that the site is restored to preexisting conditions; and
- (v) The activity is not subject to the permit requirements of RCW 90.58.550;
- (n) The process of removing or controlling aquatic noxious weeds, as defined in RCW 17.26.020, through the use of an herbicide or other treatment methods applicable to weed control that are recommended by a final environmental impact statement published by the department of agriculture or the department of ecology jointly with other state agencies under chapter 43.21C RCW;
- (o) Watershed restoration projects as defined herein. Local government shall review the projects for consistency with the shoreline master program in an expeditious manner and shall issue its decision along with any conditions within forty-five days of receiving all materials necessary to review the request for exemption from the applicant. No fee may be charged for accepting and processing requests for exemption for watershed restoration projects as used in this section.
- (i) "Watershed restoration project" means a public or private project authorized by the sponsor of a watershed restoration plan that implements the plan or a part of the plan and consists of one or more of the following activities:
- (A) A project that involves less than ten miles of streamreach, in which less than twenty-five cubic yards of sand, gravel, or soil is removed, imported, disturbed or discharged, and in which no existing vegetation is removed except as minimally necessary to facilitate additional plantings;
- (B) A project for the restoration of an eroded or unstable stream bank that employs the principles of bioengineering, including limited use of rock as a stabilization only at the toe of the bank, and with primary emphasis on using native vegetation to control the erosive forces of flowing water; or
- (C) A project primarily designed to improve fish and wildlife habitat, remove or reduce impediments to migration of fish, or enhance the fishery resource available for use by all of the citizens of the state, provided that any structure, other than a bridge or culvert or instream habitat enhancement structure associated with the project, is less than two hundred square

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feet in floor area and is located above the ordinary high water mark of the stream.

(ii) "Watershed restoration plan" means a plan, developed or sponsored by the department of fish and wildlife, the department of ecology, the department of natural resources, the department of transportation, a federally recognized Indian tribe acting within and pursuant to its authority, a city, a county, or a conservation district that provides a general program and implementation measures or actions for the preservation, restoration, re-creation, or enhancement of the natural resources, character, and ecology of a stream, stream segment, drainage area, or watershed for which agency and public review has been conducted pursuant to chapter 43.21C RCW, the State Environmental Policy Act;

(p) A public or private project that is designed to improve fish or wildlife habitat or fish passage, when all of the following apply:

(i) The project has been approved in writing by the department of fish and wildlife;

(ii) The project has received hydraulic project approval by the department of fish and wildlife pursuant to chapter 77.55 RCW; and

(iii) The local government has determined that the project is substantially consistent with the local shoreline master program. The local government shall make such determination in a timely manner and provide it by letter to the project proponent.

Fish habitat enhancement projects that conform to the provisions of RCW 77.55.181 are determined to be consistent with local shoreline master programs, as follows:

(A) In order to receive the permit review and approval process created in this section, a fish habitat enhancement project must meet the criteria under (p)(iii)(A)(I) and (II) of this subsection:

(I) A fish habitat enhancement project must be a project to accomplish one or more of the following tasks:

- Elimination of human-made fish passage barriers, including culvert repair and replacement;

- Restoration of an eroded or unstable streambank employing the principle of bioengineering, including limited use of rock as a stabilization only at the toe of the bank, and with primary emphasis on using native vegetation to control the erosive forces of flowing water; or

- Placement of woody debris or other instream structures that benefit naturally reproducing fish stocks.

The department of fish and wildlife shall develop size or scale threshold tests to determine if projects accomplishing any of these tasks should be evaluated under the process created in

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this section or under other project review and approval processes. A project proposal shall not be reviewed under the process created in this section if the department determines that the scale of the project raises concerns regarding public health and safety; and

(II) A fish habitat enhancement project must be approved in one of the following ways:

- By the department of fish and wildlife pursuant to chapter 77.95 or 77.100 RCW;

- By the sponsor of a watershed restoration plan as provided in chapter 89.08 RCW;

- By the department as a department of fish and wildlife-sponsored fish habitat enhancement or restoration project;

- Through the review and approval process for the jobs for the environment program;

- Through the review and approval process for conservation district-sponsored projects, where the project complies with design standards established by the conservation commission through interagency agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the natural resource conservation service;

- Through a formal grant program established by the legislature or the department of fish and wildlife for fish habitat enhancement or restoration; and

- Through other formal review and approval processes established by the legislature.

(B) Fish habitat enhancement projects meeting the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection are expected to result in beneficial impacts to the environment. Decisions pertaining to fish habitat enhancement projects meeting the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and being reviewed and approved according to the provisions of this section are not subject to the requirements of RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c).

(C)(I) A hydraulic project approval permit is required for projects that meet the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and are being reviewed and approved under this section. An applicant shall use a joint aquatic resource permit application form developed by the office of regulatory assistance to apply for approval under this chapter. On the same day, the applicant shall provide copies of the completed application form to the department of fish and wildlife and to each appropriate local government. Local governments shall accept the application as notice of the proposed project. The department of fish and wildlife shall provide a fifteen-day comment period during which it will receive comments regarding environmental impacts. Within forty-five days, the department shall either issue a permit, with or without conditions, deny approval, or make a determination that the review and approval process created by this section is not appropriate for the proposed project. The department shall base this determination on identification during the comment period of adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated by the conditioning of a permit. If the department determines that the review and approval process created by this section is not appropriate for the proposed project, the department shall notify the applicant and the appropriate local governments of its



determination. The applicant may reapply for approval of the project under other review and approval processes.

(II) Any person aggrieved by the approval, denial, conditioning, or modification of a permit under this section may formally appeal the decision to the hydraulic appeals board pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(D) No local government may require permits or charge fees for fish habitat enhancement projects that meet the criteria of (p)(iii)(A) of this subsection and that are reviewed and approved according to the provisions of this section.

2. Before issuing a Shoreline Exemption, the Director shall review the Master Program to determine if the proposed development requires a Shoreline Variance and/or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.

#### **20.220.040 Shoreline Variance**

The purpose of a variance is to grant relief to specific bulk or dimensional requirements set forth in the Master Program where there are extraordinary or unique circumstances relating to the property such that the strict implementation of this Program would impose unnecessary hardships on the applicant or diminish the policies set forth in RCW 90.58.020.

- A. The Director is authorized to approve a Shoreline Variance from the performance standards of this Master Program only when all of the criteria enumerated in WAC 173-27-170 are met.
- B. A Shoreline Variance should be granted in circumstances where denial of the permit would thwart the policies enumerated in RCW 90.58.020.
- C. In all instances, the applicant must demonstrate that extraordinary circumstances exist and the public interest will not suffer substantial detrimental effect.
- D. The applicant for a Shoreline Variance must demonstrate that the variance meets the criteria in WAC 173-27-170.
- E. Proposals that require a Critical Area Reasonable Use Permit pursuant to SMC 20.30.336 shall also require a Shoreline Variance.
- F. Prior to approval of any Shoreline Variance, the Director shall consider the cumulative environmental impacts of previous, existing, and possible future requests for like actions in the area. The total effects of approved Shoreline Variances should remain consistent with the policies of RCW 90.58.020 and shall not produce significant adverse effects to the shoreline ecological functions, processes, or other users.
- G. Before making a determination to approve a Shoreline Variance, the Director shall consider issues related to the conservation of valuable natural resources and the protection of views from public lands.
- H. Shoreline Variance requests based on the applicant's/proponent's desire to enhance the view from the subject development may be granted where there are no likely detrimental effects to existing or future users, views from public lands, critical areas, other features or shoreline ecological functions and/or processes, and where reasonable alternatives of equal or greater consistency with this Program are not available.

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- I. A Shoreline Variance shall not be granted when it would allow a greater height or lesser shoreline setback than what is typical for the area immediately surrounding the development site.
- J. A variance issued per SMC 20.30.310 shall not be construed to mean approval of a Shoreline Variance from Shoreline Master Program use regulations.
- K. An issued Shoreline Variance does not provide relief from the variance requirements under SMC 20.30.310.

**20.220.050 Shoreline Conditional Use Permit**

The purpose of a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is to allow greater flexibility in the application of the use regulations of the Master Program in a manner consistent with the policies of RCW 90.58.020.

- A. The Director is authorized to issue Shoreline Conditional Use Permits only when all the criteria enumerated in WAC 173-27-160 are met.
- B. Shoreline Conditional Use Permits should be granted in a circumstance where denial of the permit would result in a conflict with the policies enumerated in RCW 90.58.020.
- C. In authorizing a Shoreline Conditional Use, special conditions may be attached to the permit by the Director or by the Department of Ecology to minimize the effects of the proposed use. Uses that are specifically prohibited by the Master Program may not be authorized with the approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.
- D. Proposals that require a Critical Area Reasonable Use Permit pursuant to SMC 20.30.336 shall also require a Shoreline Variance.

**Subchapter 2. SMP Permit Procedures****20.220.060 General**

- A. Permits required under this chapter shall be processed consistent with the provisions of chapter 20.30 SMC and the criteria in this subchapter.
- B. No permit shall be approved unless the proposed development is consistent with the provisions of this Master Program, the Shoreline Management Act of 1971, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Ecology.
- C. Applications for shoreline permits shall also demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this subchapter.

**20.220.070 Application Review**

- A. Applications for shoreline permits shall comply with the submittal requirements developed pursuant to 20.30.100 and shall provide all information the Director determines necessary for an application to be complete.
- B. Burden of Proof. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide proof that the proposed development is consistent with the permit criteria requirements.
- C. Approval. The Director may approve, approve with conditions, any application that complies with criteria imposed by the Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act.
- D. Conditions. The Director may attach to a permit any suitable and reasonable terms or conditions necessary to ensure the purpose and objectives of this Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act.
- E. Denial. The Director may deny any application that does not comply with criteria imposed by the Master Program or the Shoreline Management Act.
- F. Financial Guarantees. The Director may require a financial guarantee to assure full compliance with the terms and conditions of any Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use. The guarantee shall be in an amount to reasonably assure the City that permitted improvements will be completed within the time stipulated.

**20.220.080 Permit Process**

- A. **Application submittal.** Complete applications for a Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance, and a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit are Type B actions. The applications will be processed pursuant to the procedures identified in this subchapter and SMC 20.30.010 through 20.30.270 and Table 20.30.050.
- B. **Decision.** The Director shall provide Notice of Final Decision per SMC 20.30.150. Pursuant to RCW 90.58.140(6) the Director shall send the final decision, including findings and conclusions to the following State agencies:
  - 1. Department of Ecology.
  - 2. Attorney General.
- C. **Department of Ecology Review of permits.**
  - 1. After the Director has approved a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit, the Director shall file the permit with the Department of Ecology for its approval, approval with conditions, or denial.
  - 2. When a Substantial Development Permit, a Shoreline Variance, or a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit are required for a development, the local government's ruling on the permit shall be filed simultaneously with Ecology.

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3. The Department of Ecology will issue its decision on a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit within thirty (30) days of filing.
4. Upon receipt of the Department of Ecology's decision, the Director shall notify those interested parties having requested notification of such decision.

**20.220.090 Local Appeals.**

There are no administrative appeals for shoreline permit decisions made by the Director.

**20.220.110 Appeals to State Shoreline Hearings Board**

- A. Appeals of the final decision of the City with regard to shoreline management shall be governed by the provisions of RCW 90.58.180.
- B. Appeals to the Shoreline Hearings Board of a decision on a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit may be filed by the applicant/proponent or any aggrieved party pursuant to RCW 90.58.180.
- C. The effective date of the City's decision shall be the date of filing with the Department of Ecology as defined in RCW 90.58.140.

**20.220.120 Initiation of Development**

- A. Development pursuant to a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit shall not be authorized until twenty one (21) days after the "date of filing" of the Director's decision with the Department of Ecology;
- B. Development for which a Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use is required shall not begin and shall not be authorized until twenty one (21) days after the "date of filing" of the Department of Ecology's decision with the Director; or
- C. All appeal proceedings before the Washington State Shoreline Hearings Board have terminated.

**20.220.130 Expiration of Permits**

The City of Shoreline may specify the length of time a shoreline permit will be effective based on the specific requirements of the development proposal. If a permit does not specify an expiration date, the following requirements apply, consistent with WAC 173-14-060:

- A. **Time Limit for Substantial Progress.** Construction, or substantial progress toward completion, must begin within two (2) years after approval of the permits.
- B. **Extension for Substantial Progress.** The City of Shoreline may at its discretion, with prior notice to parties of record and the Department of Ecology, extend the two-year time period for the substantial progress for a reasonable time up to one year based on factors, including the inability to expeditiously obtain other governmental permits that are required prior to the commencement of construction.
- C. **Five-Year Permit Authorization.** If construction has not been completed within five (5) years of approval by the City of Shoreline, the City will review the permit and, upon showing of good cause, either extend the permit for one year, or terminate the permit.
- D. Prior to the City authorizing any permit extensions, it shall notify any parties of record and the Department of Ecology. Note: Only one extension is permitted.

**20.220.140 Revision to Permits**

- A. A permit revision is required whenever the applicant proposes substantive changes to the design, terms or conditions of a project from that which is approved in the permit. Changes are substantive if they materially alter the project in a manner that relates to its conformance to the terms and conditions of the permit, this Program or the Act. Changes that are not substantive in effect do not require a permit revision.
- B. An application for a revision to a shoreline permit shall be submitted to the Director. The application shall include detailed plans and text describing the proposed changes. The City shall review and process the request in accordance with the requirements of WAC 173-27-100.

**20.220.150 Nonconforming Use and Development****A. Nonconforming Structures**

- 1. Structures that were legally established and are used for a conforming use, but which are nonconforming with regard to setbacks, buffers or yards, area, bulk, height, or density may be maintained and repaired, and may be enlarged or expanded provided that said enlargement does not increase the extent of nonconformity by further encroaching upon or extending into areas where construction or use would not be allowed for new development or uses. Such normal appurtenances are by definition located landward of the ordinary high water mark.
- 2. A structure for which a Shoreline Variance has been issued shall be considered a legal nonconforming structure, and the requirements of this section shall apply as they apply to preexisting nonconformities.
- 3. A structure that is being or has been utilized for a nonconforming use may be used for a different nonconforming use only upon the approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use permit. A Shoreline Conditional Use permit may be approved only upon a finding that:
  - a. No reasonable alternative conforming use is practical;
  - b. The proposed use will be at least as consistent with the policies and provisions of the act and Master Program, and as compatible with the uses in the area as the preexisting use; and
  - c. Conditions may be attached to the permit as are deemed necessary to assure compliance with the above findings, the requirements of the Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act, and to ensure that the use will not become a nuisance or a hazard.
- 4. Any structure nonconforming as to height or setback standards that becomes damaged may be repaired or reconstructed, provided that:
  - a. The extent of the previously existing nonconformance is not increased; and
  - b. The building permit application for repair or reconstruction is submitted within 12 months of the occurrence of damage or destruction.

**B. Nonconforming Uses**

- 1. Uses that were legally established and are nonconforming with regard to the use regulations of the Master Program may continue as legal nonconforming uses. Such uses shall not be enlarged or expanded, **without an approved conditional use permit**, except that nonconforming single-family residences that are located landward of the ordinary high water mark may be enlarged or expanded in conformance with applicable bulk and

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dimensional standards by the addition of space to the main structure or by the addition of normal appurtenances as defined in WAC 173-27-040 (2)(g) upon approval of a Shoreline Conditional Use permit.

2. A use which is listed as a conditional use but existed prior to adoption of the Master Program or any relevant amendment, and for which a conditional use permit has not been obtained, shall be considered a nonconforming use.
3. A use which is listed as a conditional use in table 20.230.081 but existed prior to the applicability of the Master Program to the site, and for which a Shoreline Conditional Use permit has not been obtained, shall be considered a nonconforming use.
4. If a nonconforming use is abandoned for twelve consecutive months, or for twelve months during any two-year period, the nonconforming rights shall expire and any subsequent use shall be made conforming. A use authorized pursuant to subsection 20.220.150(E) shall be considered a conforming use for purposes of this section.

#### C. Nonconforming Lots

An undeveloped lot, tract, parcel, site, or division of land located landward of the ordinary high water mark which was established in accordance with SMC 20.30, subchapter 7, and state subdivision requirements prior to the effective date of the act or the applicable Master Program that does not conform to the present lot size standards may be developed if permitted by other land use regulations of the local government, as long as such development conforms to all other requirements of the applicable master program and the act.

#### 20.220.160 Enforcement

- A. The Director is authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations promulgated hereunder pursuant to the enforcement and penalty provisions of WAC 173-27.
- B. This Program will be enforced by the means and procedures set forth in SMC 20.30, Subchapter 9.

**Comment [m10]:** According to SMC 20.30.280D, a nonconforming use can't be expanded without a Conditional Use Permit.

**20.230 Shoreline Policies and Regulations****Subchapter 1. General Policies and Regulations****20.230.010 General**

The General Policies and Regulations apply to all uses and activities that may occur within the City's shoreline jurisdiction regardless of the Shoreline Master Program environment designation. These policies and regulations provide the overall framework for the management of the shoreline. Use these general regulations in conjunction with 20.230, subchapter 2, Specific Use and Modification Policies and Regulations.

**20.230.020 Environmental**

The Shoreline Management Act (SMA) is concerned with the environmental impacts that development, use, or activity may have on the fragile shorelines of the state. Development and certain uses or activities within the regulated shoreline may degrade the shoreline and its waters, and may damage or inhibit important species and their habitat.

**A. General Environmental Policies and Regulations****Policies**

1. The adverse impacts of shoreline developments and activities on the natural environment, critical areas and habitats for proposed, threatened, and endangered species should be minimized during all phases of development (e.g., design, construction, operation, and management).
2. Shoreline developments that protect and/or contribute to the long-term restoration of habitat for proposed, threatened, and endangered species are consistent with the fundamental goals of this Master Program. Shoreline developments that propose to enhance critical areas, other natural characteristics, resources of the shoreline, and/or provide public access and recreational opportunities to the shoreline are also consistent with the fundamental goals of this Master Program, and should be encouraged.

**Regulations**

1. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that mitigates adverse impacts to the environment. The preferred mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, mitigate, compensate) shall follow that listed in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(e). Efforts to avoid and minimize impacts must be documented in a manner acceptable to the Director prior to the approval of mitigation and/or compensation actions.
2. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological function.
3. All shoreline development shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed to protect the functions and values of critical areas consistent with the Shoreline Critical Area Regulations (Appendix A).
4. All shoreline development shall be located and designed to avoid or minimize the need for shoreline stabilization measures and flood protection works, such as bulkheads, revetments, dikes, levees, or substantial site regrading and dredging. Where measures

Comment [m11]: Clarity

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and works are demonstrated to be necessary, biostabilization techniques shall be the preferred design option unless demonstrated to be infeasible, or when other alternatives will have less impact on the shoreline environment.

5. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, operated, and managed to minimize interference with beneficial natural shoreline processes, such as water circulation, sand and gravel movement, erosion, and accretion to ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological function.
6. In approving shoreline developments, the Director shall ensure that the development will maintain, enhance, or restore desirable shoreline features, as well as ensure no net loss of ecological functions. To this end, the Director may adjust and/or prescribe project dimensions, location of project components on the site, intensity of use, screening, and mitigation as deemed appropriate. Mitigation shall be required of developments that would otherwise result in net loss of ecological functions.
7. In approving shoreline developments, the Director shall consider short and long term adverse environmental impacts. In addition, the Director shall consider the cumulative adverse impacts of the development, particularly the precedence effect of allowing one development, which could generate or attract additional development. Identified significant short term, long term, and cumulative adverse environmental impacts lacking appropriate mitigation shall be sufficient reason for permit denial.
8. As a condition of approval, the Director may require periodic monitoring for up to ten years from the date of completed development to ensure the success of required mitigation. Mitigation plans shall include at a minimum:
  - a. Inventory of the existing shoreline environment including the physical, chemical, and biological elements, and provide an assessment of each element's condition;
  - b. A discussion of the project's impacts and their effect on the ecological functions necessary to support existing shoreline resources;
  - c. A discussion of any federal, state, or local special management recommendations that have been developed for wetlands, species, or habitats located on the site;
  - d. An assessment of habitat recommendations proposed by resource agencies and their applicability to the proposal;
  - e. A discussion of measures to preserve existing habitats and opportunities to restore habitats that were degraded prior to the proposed land use activity. Mitigation plans shall include at a minimum: planting and soil specifications (in the case of mitigation planting projects), success standards, and contingency plans;
  - f. A discussion of proposed measures that mitigate the impacts of the project and establish success criteria;
  - g. An evaluation of the anticipated effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures;
  - h. A discussion of proposed management practices that will protect fish and wildlife habitat after the project site has been fully developed, including proposed monitoring and maintenance programs;
  - i. A monitoring plan, including scientific procedures to be used to establish success or failure of the project, sampling points, success criteria, and a monitoring schedule; and
  - j. Any additional information necessary to determine the impacts of a proposal and appropriate mitigation.



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9. Shoreline development shall not be permitted if it significantly impacts the natural character of the shoreline, natural resources, or public recreational use of the shoreline. "Significant" is defined in State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) in WAC 197-11-794.
10. Where provisions of this Master Program conflict with each other, or with other laws, ordinances or programs, the most restrictive provisions shall apply.

## B. Earth

### Policies

1. Accretion shoreforms ~~Beaches~~ are valued for recreation and may provide fish spawning substrate. Development that could disrupt these shoreforms may be allowed:
  - a. ~~When the accreted shoreform is private property;~~
  - b. When such disruption would not reduce shoreline ecological function;
  - c. Where there is a demonstrated public benefit; and/or
  - d. Where the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines there would be no significant impact to the fisheries resource.

Comment [m12]: Clarity

Comment [m13]: This applies to public as well as private. Will fix formatting during clean-up.

### Regulations

1. Developments that alter the shoreline topography may be approved if:
  - a. Flood events will not increase in frequency or severity resulting from the alteration; and/or
  - b. The alteration would not impact natural habitat forming processes and would not reduce ecological functions. Mitigation is required for projects that would reduce ecological functions to ensure no net loss of function
2. The applicant shall incorporate all known, available, and reasonable methods of prevention, control, and treatment measures into stormwater pollution prevention during and post construction.
3. All debris and other waste materials from construction shall be disposed of in such a manner as to prevent their entry into the water body.
4. All disposal sites for soils and materials resulting from the shoreline development shall be identified and approved before permit issuance.

## C. Water

### Policies

1. Shoreline development and activities shall result in no net loss of ecological functions.
2. Development and regulated activities shall minimize impacts to hydrogeologic processes, surface water drainage, and groundwater recharge.
3. Measures shall be incorporated into the development, use, or activity to protect water bodies and wetlands from all sources of pollution including, but not limited to sediment and silt, petrochemicals, and wastes and dredge spoils.
4. Adequate provisions to prevent water runoff from contaminating surface and groundwater shall be included in development design. The Director may specify the method of surface water control and maintenance programs. Surface water control must comply with the adopted storm-water manual.

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5. All measures for the treatment of surface water runoff for the purpose of maintaining and/or enhancing water quality shall be conducted onsite. Off-site treatment facilities may be considered if onsite treatment is not feasible.
6. Point and non-point source pollution should be managed on a basin-wide basis to protect water quality and support the efforts of shoreline property owners to maintain shoreline ecological functions.

### Regulations

1. Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers that have been identified by State or Federal agencies as harmful to humans, wildlife, or fish shall not be used on City owned-property within the shoreline jurisdiction or for development or uses approved under a Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Conditional Use Permit or Shoreline Variance, except as allowed by the Director for the following circumstances:
  - a. When use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are consistent with the Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the project or use proposed;
  - b. When the Director determines that an emergency situation exists where there is a serious threat to public safety, health or the environment and that an otherwise prohibited application must be used as a last resort;  
Where chemical fertilizer, herbicide, or pesticide use is necessary to protect existing natural vegetation or establish new vegetation as part of an erosion control or mitigation plan, the use of time release fertilizer and herbicides shall be preferred over liquid or concentrate application, except as used in targeted hand applications.
2. The release of oil, chemical, or hazardous materials onto or into the water is prohibited. Equipment for the transportation, storage, handling, or application of such materials shall be maintained in a safe and leak-proof condition. If there is evidence of leakage, the further use of such equipment shall be suspended until the deficiency has been satisfactorily corrected. During construction, vehicle refueling and vehicle maintenance shall occur outside of regulated shoreline areas.
3. The bulk storage of oil, fuel, chemical, or hazardous materials, on either a temporary or a permanent basis, is prohibited, except for uses allowed by the zoning classification. For the purpose of this section, heating oil, small boat fuel, yard maintenance, equipment fuel, propane, sewage sumps, and similar items common to single family residential uses are not included in this definition.

### D. Plants and Animals

#### Policies

1. In general, this Master Program shall strive to protect and restore anadromous fish resources in the Puget Sound and its tributaries within the City of Shoreline.
2. Shoreline development, uses, and activities shall be:
  - a. Located and conducted in a manner that minimizes impacts to existing ecological values and natural resources of the area, conserves properly functioning conditions, and ensures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions;
  - b. Scheduled to protect biological productivity and to minimize interference with fish resources including anadromous fish migration, spawning, and rearing activity;
  - c. Designed to avoid the removal of trees in shorelines wherever practicable, and to minimize the removal of other woody vegetation. Where riparian vegetation is

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removed, measures to mitigate the loss of vegetation shall be implemented to ensure no net loss; and

- d. Designed to minimize impacts to the natural character of the shoreline as much as possible.

### Regulations

1. Mitigation shall be required of the applicant for the loss of fish and wildlife resources, and natural systems, including riparian vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive areas. The mitigation required shall be commensurate to the value and type of resource or system impacted by development and activity in the shoreline. On-site compensatory mitigation shall be the preferred mitigation option, except where off-site mitigation can be demonstrated to be more beneficial to fish and wildlife resources, and natural systems, including riparian vegetation, wetlands, and sensitive areas. If on-site compensatory mitigation is not feasible or if off-site mitigation is demonstrated to be more beneficial to the shoreline environment, the applicant shall provide funding for a publicly-sponsored restoration or enhancement program in the City of Shoreline.
2. Enhancement, restoration, and/or creation of coniferous riparian forest or forested riparian wetland shall be the preferred mitigation for impacts to riparian vegetation and wetlands when avoidance is not possible. Preference will be based on site-specific recommendation of qualified professional. Alterations to fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas should be avoided. If they cannot be avoided, mitigation is required, and a Habitat Management Plan shall be prepared as required in SMC 20.80.290-20.80.300.
3. Habitat management plans shall be forwarded by the applicant to the appropriate state and/or federal resource agencies for review and comment. The City will provide the applicant with a list of addressees for this purpose.
4. Based on the habitat management plan, and comments from other agencies, the Director may require mitigating measures to reduce the impacts of the proposal on the wildlife habitat conservation areas. Mitigating measures may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Increased or enhanced buffers;
  - b. Setbacks for permanent and temporary structures;
  - c. Reduced project scope;
  - d. Limitations on construction hours;
  - e. Limitations on hours of operation; and/or
  - f. Relocation of access.
5. Mitigation activities shall be monitored to determine effectiveness of the habitat mitigation plan. Monitoring shall be accomplished by a third party, subject to the approval by the Director, and shall have the concurrence of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and where applicable, the Washington Department of Ecology. Monitoring shall occur for up to ten (10) years following implementation of the plan. Results of the monitoring shall be publicly available and reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. Reports shall contain the following information:
  - a. A list and map of parcels subject to this requirement;
  - b. The implementation status of the habitat management plans;

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- c. Status of the improvements (e.g., updates if success standards are being met, what types of remedial actions have been implemented); and
- d. Recommendations for corrective measures if necessary.
- 6. If proposed mitigation is found to be inadequate, or if adequate mitigation is determined to be impossible, the application shall be denied.
- 7. Timing of in-water construction, development, or activity shall be determined by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- 8. Properties that are located in the Urban Conservancy Shoreline Environment Designation shall retain trees that are 12 inches or more in diameter. Trees determined by a certified arborist to be hazardous or diseased may be removed upon approval by the City. If healthy or non-hazardous trees are removed, each removed tree must be replaced with at least three (3) six-foot tall trees, one (1) 18-foot tall tree, or one (1) 12-foot plus one (1) six-foot tall tree. Trees must be of the same species removed, or equivalent native tree species. Ten percent of the replaced trees must be located within the required Native Vegetation Conservation Area.

**Comment [m14]:** “Native Conservation Area” doesn’t really apply in Urban Conservancy Environment Designation, but “Building Setback” isn’t really the appropriate term either, so suggest striking requirement.

#### E. Noise

##### Policy

1. Noise levels shall not interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the shoreline.

##### Regulations

1. Any noise emanating from a shoreline use or activity shall be muffled so as to not interfere with the designated use of adjoining properties. This determination shall take into consideration ambient noise levels, intermittent beat, frequency, and shrillness.
2. Ambient noise levels shall be a factor in evaluating a shoreline permit application. Shoreline developments that would increase noise levels to the extent that the designated use of the shoreline would be disrupted shall be prohibited. Specific maximum environment noise levels can be found in WAC 173-60-040.

#### F. Public Health

##### Policy

1. All development within the regulated shoreline shall be located, constructed, and operated so as not to be a hazard to public health and safety.

##### Regulations

1. Development shall be designed to conform to the codes and ordinances adopted by the City.

#### G. Land Use

##### Policy

1. The size of the shoreline development and the intensity of the use shall be compatible with the surrounding environment and uses. The City of Shoreline may prescribe

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operation intensity, landscaping, and screening standards to ensure compatibility with the character and features of the surrounding area.

2. Shoreline developments shall minimize land use conflicts to properties adjacent to, upstream, and downstream of the proposed site.

#### **Regulations**

1. In reviewing permit applications, the City shall consider current and potential public use of the shoreline, total water surface reduction, and restriction to navigation.
2. Development within the designated shoreline shall comply with the development and uses standards for the underlying zoning.

#### **H. Aesthetics**

##### **Policy**

1. Development should be designed to minimize the negative aesthetic impact structures have on the shoreline by avoiding placement of service areas, parking lots, and/or view-blocking structures adjacent to the shoreline.

##### **Regulations**

1. Development shall be designed to comply with the code standards required in the underlying zone.
2. If the zoning and use require landscaping, or if planting is required for mitigation by the Director, the property owner shall provide a landscape plan that provides suitable screening that does not block public views.
3. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties and adjoining waters.
4. Development on the water shall be constructed of non-reflective materials that are compatible in terms of color and texture with the surrounding area.
5. Lighting shall be properly directed and shielded to avoid impacts to fish and off-site glare.

#### **I. Historical/Cultural**

##### **Policy**

1. Development should strive to preserve historic or culturally significant resources.

##### **Regulations**

1. Developments that propose to alter historic or culturally significant resources identified by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, the King County Historic Preservation Program, or the City of Shoreline Historic Resource Inventory, or resources that could potentially be designated as historically or culturally significant, shall follow the applicable Federal, State, County, or local review process(es).
2. All shoreline permits issued by the City require immediate work stoppage and City notification when any item of archaeological interest is uncovered during excavation.

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The applicant or project owner shall notify the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation Office, affected Indian tribes, and the City.

3. Where archaeological or historic sites have been identified, and it is determined that public access to the site will not damage or reduce the cultural value of the site, access may be required consistent with section 20.230.040.

### 20.230.030 Environmentally Sensitive Areas Within the Shoreline

#### A. Critical Areas

##### General Policy

1. Preserve and protect unique, rare, and fragile natural and man-made features and wildlife habitats.
2. Enhance the diversity of aquatic life, wildlife, and habitat within the shoreline.
3. Conserve and maintain designated open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational purposes.
4. Recognize that the interest and concern of the public is essential to the improvement of the environment, and sponsor and support public information programs.
5. The level of public access should be appropriate to the degree of uniqueness or fragility of the geological and biological characteristics of the shoreline (e.g., wetlands, spawning areas).
6. Discourage intensive development of shoreline areas that are identified as hazardous or environmentally sensitive.

##### General Regulations

1. The City's Critical Areas regulations, SMC 20.80, are hereby incorporated into this Shoreline Master Program by reference and shall regulate critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction, **except that SMC 20.80.030 and 20.80.040 shall not apply.**
2. The provisions of Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas must be factored into decisions regarding development within the regulated shoreline and associated critical areas.
3. All shoreline uses and activities shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed to protect or at least not adversely affect those natural features which are valuable, fragile, or unique in the region. They should also facilitate the appropriate intensity of human use of such features, including but not limited to:
  - a. Wetlands, including but not limited to marshes, bogs, and swamps;
  - b. Fish and wildlife habitats, including streams and wetlands, nesting areas and migratory routes, spawning areas, and the presence of proposed or listed species;
  - c. Natural or man-made vistas or features;
  - d. Flood hazard areas; and/or
  - e. Geologically hazardous areas, including erosion, landslide, and seismic hazard areas.
4. The standards of the City of Shoreline's Critical Area Regulations shall apply within areas **landward of the ordinary high water mark and** within the shoreline jurisdiction, where critical areas are present. If there are any conflicts or unclear distinctions between the Master Program and the City's Critical Areas Regulations, the most restrictive requirements apply as determined by the City.

**Comment [m15]:** Critical Area exemptions and partial exemptions don't apply under shoreline jurisdiction.

**Comment [m16]:** The way this was phrased made it appear that the regulation did not apply to areas waterward of the OHWM, which is not the case.

**B. Floodplain Management**

The following policies and regulations must be factored into decisions regarding all flood management planning and development within that portion of the 100-year floodplain that falls within Shoreline's shoreline jurisdiction (within 200 feet of OHWM).

Floodplain management involves actions taken with the primary purpose of preventing or mitigating damage due to flooding. Floodplain management can involve planning and zoning to control development, either to reduce risks to human life and property, or to prevent development from contributing to the severity of flooding. Floodplain management can also address the design of developments to reduce flood damage and the construction of flood controls, such as dikes, dams, engineered floodways, and bioengineering.

**Policy**

1. Flood management planning should be undertaken in a coordinated manner among affected property owners and public agencies and should consider the entire coastal system. This planning should consider off-site impacts such as erosion, accretion, and/or flood damage that might occur if shore protection structures are constructed.
2. Non-structural control solutions are preferred over structural flood control devices, and should be used wherever possible when control devices are needed. Non-structural controls include such actions as prohibiting or limiting development in areas that are historically flooded or limiting increases in peak flow runoff from new upland development. Structural solutions to reduce shoreline damage should be allowed only after it is demonstrated that non-structural solutions would not be able to reduce the damage.
3. Substantial stream channel modification, realignment, and straightening should be discouraged as a means of flood protection.
4. Where possible, public access should be integrated into the design of publicly financed flood management facilities.
5. The City supports the protection and preservation of the aquatic environment and the habitats it provides, and advocates balancing these interests with the City's intention to ensure protection of life and property from damage caused by flooding.
6. Development should avoid potential channel migration impacts.

**Regulations**

1. The City shall require and utilize the following information as appropriate during its review of shoreline flood management projects and programs:
  - a. Stream channel hydraulics and floodway characteristics, up and downstream from the project area;
  - b. Existing shoreline stabilization and flood protection works within the area;
  - c. Physical, geological, and soil characteristics of the area;
  - d. Biological resources and predicted impact to coastal ecology, including fish, vegetation, and animal habitat;
  - e. Predicted impact upon area, shore, and hydraulic processes, adjacent properties, and shoreline and water uses; and/or
  - f. Analysis of alternative flood protection measures, both non-structural and structural.

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2. The City shall require engineered design of flood protection works where such projects may cause interference with normal geohydraulic processes, off-site impacts, or adverse effects to shoreline resources and uses. Non-structural methods of flood protection shall be preferred over structural solutions when the relocation of existing shoreline development is not feasible.

### C. Wetlands

The following policies and regulations must be factored into decisions regarding all development within wetlands that fall within the City's shoreline jurisdiction.

#### Policy

1. Wetland ecosystems serve many important ecological and environmental functions, which are beneficial to the public welfare. Such functions include flood storage and conveyance, erosion control, sediment control, fish production, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, water quality protection, water supply, education, and scientific research. Wetland ecosystems should be preserved and protected to prevent their continued loss and degradation.
2. Wetland areas should be identified according to established identification and delineation procedures and provided appropriate protection consistent with the policies and regulations of this Master Program and Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas.
3. The greatest protection should be provided to wetlands of exceptional resource value, which are defined as those wetlands that include rare, sensitive, or irreplaceable systems such as:
  - a. Documented or potential habitat for an endangered, threatened, or sensitive species;
  - b. High quality native wetland systems as determined by the Washington State Natural Heritage Program;
  - c. Significant habitat for fish or aquatic species as determined by the appropriate state resource agency;
  - d. Diverse wetlands exhibiting a high mixture of wetland classes and subclasses as defined in the US Fish and Wildlife Service classification system;
  - e. Mature forested swamp communities; and/or
  - f. Sphagnum bogs or fens.
4. A wetland buffer of adequate width should be maintained between a wetland and the adjacent development to protect the functions and integrity of the wetland.
5. The width of the established buffer zone should be based upon the functions and sensitivity of the wetland, the characteristics of the existing buffer, and the potential impacts associated with the adjacent land use.
6. All activities that could potentially affect wetland ecosystems should be controlled both within the wetland and the buffer zone to prevent adverse impacts to the wetland functions.
7. No wetland alteration should be authorized unless it can be shown that the impact is both unavoidable and necessary, and that resultant impacts are offset through the deliberate restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetlands.
8. Wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement projects should result in no net loss of wetland acreage and functions. Where feasible, wetland quality should be improved.



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9. Wetlands that are impacted by activities of a temporary nature should be restored immediately upon project completion.
10. In-kind replacement of functional wetland values is preferred. Where in-kind replacement is not feasible or practical due to the characteristics of the existing wetland, substitute ecological resources of equal or greater value should be provided.
11. On-site replacement of wetlands is preferred. Where on-site replacement of a wetland is not feasible or practical due to characteristics of the existing location, replacement should occur within the same watershed and in as close proximity to the original wetland as possible.
12. Where possible, wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement projects should be completed prior to wetland alteration. In all other cases, replacement should be completed prior to use or occupancy of the activity or development.
13. Applicants should develop comprehensive mitigation plans to ensure long-term success of the wetland restoration, creation, or enhancement project. Such plans should provide for sufficient monitoring and contingencies to ensure wetland persistence.
14. Applicants should demonstrate sufficient scientific expertise, supervisory capability, and financial resources to complete and monitor the mitigation project.
15. Proposals for restoration, creation, or enhancement should be coordinated with appropriate resource agencies to ensure adequate design and consistency with other regulatory requirements.
16. Activities should be prevented in wetland buffer zones except where such activities have no adverse impacts on wetland ecosystem functions.
17. Wetland buffer zones should be retained in their natural condition unless revegetation is necessary to improve or restore the buffer.

#### **Regulations**

1. If a wetland of exceptional value is adjacent to a public access trail required under the provisions of this Master Program, then interpretive signage is required. The interpretive signage shall explain why the wetland is considered valuable. The Director shall determine the type and extent of interpretive signage required.
2. Wetland mitigation sequencing shall be done in accordance with Chapter 20.80, Critical Areas.

#### **20.230.040 Public Access**

Public access to the shoreline is the physical ability of the general public to reach and touch the water's edge and/or the ability to have a view of the water and the shoreline from upland locations. There are a variety of types of public access, such as picnic areas, pathways and trails, promenades, bridges, street ends, ingress and egress, and parking.

#### **A. Public Access Policies**

1. Public access provisions should be incorporated into all private and public developments. Exceptions may be considered for the following types of uses:
  - a. A single family residence;
  - b. An individual multi-family structure containing more than four (4) dwelling units; and/or
  - c. Where deemed inappropriate by the Director.

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2. Development uses and activities on or near the shoreline should not impair or detract from the public's visual or physical access to the water.
3. Public access to the shoreline should be sensitive to the unique characteristics of the shoreline and should preserve the natural character and quality of the environment and adjacent wetlands, public access should assure no net loss of ecological functions.
4. Where appropriate, water-oriented public access should be provided as close as possible to the water's edge without adversely affecting a sensitive environment.
5. Except for access to the water, the preferred location for placement of public access trails is as close to the furthest landward edge of the native vegetation zone as practical. Public access facilities should provide auxiliary facilities, such as parking and sanitation, when appropriate, and shall be designed for accessibility by people with disabilities. Publicly owned shorelines should be limited to water-dependent or public recreation uses, otherwise such shorelines should remain protected open space.
6. Public access afforded by public right of way street ends adjacent to the shoreline should be preserved, maintained, and enhanced.
7. Public access should be designed to provide for public safety and to minimize potential impacts to private property and individual privacy. This may include providing a physical separation to reinforce the distinction between public and private space, providing adequate space, through screening with landscape planting or fences, or other means.
8. Public views from the shoreline upland areas should be enhanced and preserved. Enhancement of views should not be construed to mean excess removal of vegetation that partially impairs views.
9. Public access facilities should be constructed of environmentally friendly materials and support healthy natural processes, whenever financially feasible and possible.
10. Public access facilities should be maintained to provide a clean, safe experience, and to protect the environment.

**B. Public Access Regulations**

1. Public access shall be required for all shoreline development and uses, except for a single-family residence or residential projects containing less than four (4) dwelling units.
2. Requirement of public access to shorelines does not confer the right to enter upon or cross private property, except for dedicated and marked public easements.
3. A shoreline development or use that does not provide public access may be authorized provided the applicant demonstrates and the Director determines that one or more of the following provisions apply:
  - a. Unavoidable health or safety hazards to the public exist that cannot be prevented by any feasible means;
  - b. Security requirements cannot be satisfied through the application of alternative design features or other solutions;
  - c. The cost of providing the access, easement, or an alternative amenity is unreasonably disproportionate to the total long-term cost of the proposed development;
  - d. Unacceptable environmental harm, such as damage to fish spawning areas will result from the public access that cannot be mitigated; and/or
  - e. Significant conflict between the proposed access and adjacent uses would occur and cannot be mitigated.

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- f. The applicant must also demonstrate that all reasonable means to public access have been exhausted, including but not limited to:
  - i. Regulating access by such means as limiting use to daylight hours;
  - ii. Designing separation of uses and activities with such means as fences, terracing, hedges, or landscaping; and/or
  - iii. Providing access that is physically separated from the proposal, such as a nearby street end, an offsite viewpoint, or a trail system.
4. Public access sites shall be made barrier free for people with disabilities.
5. Public access sites shall be connected directly to the nearest public street.
6. Required public access sites shall be fully developed and available for public use at the time of occupancy or use of the development or activity.
7. Public access easements and permit conditions shall be recorded on the deed where applicable or on the face of a plat or short plat as a condition running with the land. Said recording with the King County Recorder's office shall occur at the time of permit approval (RCW 58.17.110).
8. The standard state approved logo and other approved signs that indicate the public's right of access and hour of access shall be constructed, installed, and maintained by the applicant in conspicuous locations at public access sites. Signs controlling or restricting public access may be approved as a condition of permit approval.
9. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties to the shoreline and adjoining waters.
10. Physical public access shall be designed to prevent significant impacts to natural systems by employing Low Impact Development techniques.

## Subchapter 2. Specific Shoreline Use Policies and Regulations

### 20.230.070 General

Specific shoreline use provisions are more detailed than those listed in General Policies and Regulations. These use policies and regulations apply to the identified use categories and provide a greater level of detail for uses and their impacts. The policies establish the shoreline management principles that apply to each use category and serve as a bridge between the various elements listed in section 20.200.020 of this Master Program and the use regulations that follow.

This subchapter also includes those activities that modify the configuration or qualities of the shoreline area. Shoreline modification activities are, by definition, undertaken in support of or in preparation for a permitted shoreline use. Typically, shoreline modification activities relate to construction of a physical element such as a breakwater, dredged basins, landfilling, etc., but they can include other actions such as clearing, grading, application of chemicals, etc.

Shoreline modification policies and regulations are intended to prevent, reduce, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts of proposed shoreline modifications consistent with the goals of the Shoreline Management Act. A proposed development must meet all of the regulations for both applicable uses and activities as well as the general and environment designation regulations.

The following policies and regulations apply to specific types of development that may be proposed in the shoreline jurisdiction of the City. A proposal can consist of more than one type of development. In addition, all specific shoreline development must be consistent with the following Shoreline Environmental Designations; the goals and objectives of SMC 20.200, subchapter 1; and the general policies and regulations contained in SMC 20.230, subchapter 1.

### 20.230.080 Shoreline Environmental Designations

**Aquatic Environment (A).** The purpose of this designation is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high-water mark. New overwater structures are allowed only for water-dependent uses, public access, or ecological restoration and must be limited to the minimum necessary to support the structure's intended use.

**Urban Conservancy Environment (UC).** The purpose of this designation is to protect and restore relatively undeveloped or unaltered shorelines to maintain open space, floodplains, or habitat, while allowing a variety of compatible uses. This designation shall apply to shorelines that retain important ecological functions, even if partially altered. These shorelines are suitable for low intensity development, uses that are a combination of water related or water-enjoyment uses, or uses that allow substantial numbers of people access to the shoreline. Any undesignated shorelines are automatically assigned an urban conservancy designation.

**Shoreline Residential Environment (SR).** The purpose of this designation is to accommodate residential development and accessory structures that are consistent with this Shoreline Master Program. This designation shall apply to shorelines that do not meet the criteria for Urban

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Conservancy and that are characterized by single-family or multifamily residential development or are planned and platted for residential development.

**Waterfront Residential Environment (WR).** The purpose of this designation is to distinguish between residential portions of the coastline where natural and manmade features preclude building within the shoreline jurisdiction and the section along 27th Avenue NW where residential properties directly abut the Puget Sound.

Characteristics of 27th Avenue NW include:

- Only fully established residential property in the City of Shoreline directly abutting the Puget Sound;
- Substantial number of legally existing nonconforming lots and nonconforming structures;
- Exposure to high energy wind and wave action;
- Fully armored shoreline prior to December 4, 1969 and residences occupied prior to January 1, 1992; and
- Failure of an individual bulkhead would cause adverse effect on subject property as well as neighboring properties.

These unique circumstances and considerations warrant different regulations for 27th Avenue NW as compared to existing residential property that is cut off from the shoreline by bluffs and railroad tracks (UC and SR), and potential new residential properties in the Point Wells designations (PW and PWC).

**Point Wells Urban Environment (PW).** The purpose of this designation is to accommodate higher density uses while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions that have been degraded.

**Point Wells Urban Conservancy Environment (PWC).** The purpose of this designation is to distinguish between differing levels of potential and existing ecological function within the Point Wells environment, and regulate uses and public access requirements appropriately.

**Table 20.230.081 Permitted Uses and Modifications Within the Shorelines**

Uses that are allowed in tables 20.40.120 through 20.40.150 are permitted uses in accordance with the underlying zone, this chapter, and the provisions of the Shoreline Master Program.

- P** = Permitted - Permitted uses may require Shoreline Substantial Development Permits and any other permits required by the Shoreline Municipal Code and/or other regulatory agencies.
- C** = Conditional Use - Conditional uses require Shoreline Conditional Use Permit and may require other permits required by the Shoreline Municipal Code and/or other regulatory agencies.
- X** = Prohibited

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Table 20.230.081 Permitted Uses and Modifications Within the Shorelines						
Shoreline Use	Shoreline Environments					
	Aquatic	Urban Conservancy	Shoreline Residential	Waterfront Residential	PW Urban Conservancy	PW Urban
Agriculture	X	X	X	X	X	X
Aquaculture	C	X	X	X	X	X
Boating Facilities (boat hoists and launching ramps, )	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Boat launching ramps open to the public	P: Joint-use boat launching ramps	P: Joint-use boat launching ramps	X	P: Boat launching ramps open to the public
Nonresidential Development	X	X	X	X	P	P
Forest Practices	X	X	X	X	X	X
Industrial Development	X	X	X	X	P: Existing	P: Existing C: Expansion
In-stream Structures	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project	P: Part of a fish habitat enhancement or a watershed restoration project
Mining	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mooring	P	X	X	X	X	X
Recreation Use (water-related)	C: Water-dependent only <sup>1</sup>	P	P	P	P: Limit to low intensity uses, passive uses	P
Recreation Facilities	C <sup>1,9</sup>	P	P	P	P: Limit to low intensity uses, passive uses	P
Residential Developments	X	P	P	P	P	P
Signs	X <sup>7</sup>	P	P	P	P	P
Permanent Solid Waste Storage or Transfer Facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X
Transportation Facilities (Roads and Bridges)	X	C	P	P	C	P

Comment [m17]: This was changed in response to comment from Muckleshoot tribe.

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Transportation Facilities <sup>3</sup> (Railroads)	P	P	P	P	P	P
Utilities	C	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities	P: Underground facilities C: Aboveground facilities
Unclassified Uses	C	C	C	C	C	C

Shoreline Modifications	Aquatic	Urban Conservancy	Shoreline Residential	Waterfront Residential	PW Urban Conservancy	PW Urban
Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins, and Weirs	C <sup>1</sup>	X	X	X	X	C <sup>7</sup>
Dredging	P <sup>4</sup> C: Related to navigation for PWU	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>	P <sup>4</sup>
Dredging Material Disposal	<del>C</del>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	P <sup>5</sup>	
Dune Modification	X	X	X	X	X	X
Piers and Docks	P <sup>1</sup>	P: Public	P: Joint-use	P: Joint-use	X	P: Existing associated w/ industrial use P: Public piers or docks C: Expansion of existing with water-oriented industrial use
Structural Flood Hazard Reduction (Dikes and Levees)	X	X	X	X	X	X
New Shoreline Stabilization Bulkheads and Revetments	X	X	X	X	X	X

Comment [Jef18]: Changed from P to conform to regs.

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Soft-shore Stabilization	P <sup>1</sup>	P	P	P	P: w/Utilities	P
Maintenance of existing	P	P	P	P <sup>7</sup>	P	P
New hard shoreline armoring	X	C	C	C	X	C
Clearing and Grading Land Disturbing activities	X	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>	P <sup>3</sup>
Landfilling	C <sup>4</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>	C <sup>1</sup>	C <sup>1</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>	C <sup>3</sup>
Shoreline Habitat and Natural Systems Enhancement Projects	P	P	P	P	P	P
Marinas	X	X	X	X	X	X

Comment [m19]: Clarity

<sup>1</sup> Subject to the use limitations and permit requirements of the abutting upland shoreline environment designation.

<sup>2</sup> The City recognizes the Federal preemption for local permitting per the ICC Termination Act of 1995, 49 U.S.C. § 10501(b); however, for the purposes of Coastal Zone Management consistency the railroad company would be required to comply with the policies of the City of Shoreline’s SMP.

<sup>3</sup>For activities associated with shoreline restoration or remediation; or limited if associated with public access improvement and allowed shoreline development.

<sup>4</sup>For activities associated with shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation

<sup>5</sup>For shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement, fish habitat enhancement, or watershed restoration project.

<sup>6</sup>Signs required by regulatory agencies for navigational operation, safety and direction purposes allowed in Aquatic environment per 20.230.230(B)(1).

<sup>7</sup>Limited to water-dependent, public access, or shoreline stabilization activities

<sup>8</sup>This includes replacement

<sup>9</sup>Refer to 20.230.130 for conditions

**Table 20.230.082 Native Vegetation Conservation Area / Building Setbacks<sup>1</sup>**

Shoreline Environmental Designation	Minimum Native Vegetation Conservation or Setback Area
Urban Conservancy	150 feet or 50 feet from the top of a landslide hazard area, whichever is greater
Shoreline Residential	115 feet
Waterfront Residential	20 feet
Point Wells Urban	50 feet (restoration required as part of development)
Point Wells Urban Conservancy	115

Bulk standards will be regulated by underlying zoning according to SMC Table 20.50.020(1). Zoning designation is R6 for UC, SR, and WR, and yet to be determined for PW and PWC.

<sup>1</sup>The term “Native Conservation Area” (NVCA) applies to areas where the shoreline is not armored, such as the PWUC environment designation, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. NVCA’s should be maintained in a predominantly natural, undisturbed, undeveloped, and vegetated condition, except where necessary to accommodate appurtenances to a permitted water-dependent use. The term “Building Setback” applies in areas where the railroad or bulkheads prohibit natural sediment transfer. In those areas, it is necessary to maintain hard-armored conditions, but further encroachment or vegetative clearing are not permitted.

Comment [m20]: New addition

Comment [m21]: Clarity

### 20.230.090 Boating Facilities

Boating facilities serving two or more single family dwelling units generally include boat launch ramps (public and private), wet and dry boat storage, and related sales and service for pleasure and commercial watercraft. For the purpose of this section, boat hoists, davits, lifts, and/or dry boat storage of private watercraft consistent with single-family residential properties are not included.

#### A. Boating Facilities Policies

1. Boating facilities can have a significant impact on habitat. The impacts of boating facilities should be reviewed thoroughly before boating facilities are permitted in the shoreline jurisdiction.
2. Public and community boating facilities may be allowed. Individual private facilities are prohibited.
3. New nonresidential boating facilities may be allowed as a conditional use within the regulated shoreline. When allowed, such facilities should be designed to accommodate public access and enjoyment of the shoreline location. Depending on the scale of the facility, public access should include walkways, viewpoints, restroom facilities, and other recreational uses.
4. Dry boat storage should not be considered a water-oriented use. Only boat hoists, boat launch ramps, and access routes associated with a dry boat storage facility should be considered a water-oriented use.
5. Health, Safety and Welfare considerations must be addressed in application for development of boating facilities.
6. Navigation rights must be protected in development of boating facilities.
7. Extended moorage on waters of the state without a lease or permission is restricted and mitigation of impacts to navigation and access is required.

#### B. Boating Facilities Regulations

1. Boating facilities may be permitted only if:
  - a. It can be demonstrated that the facility will not adversely impact fish or wildlife habitat areas or associated wetlands; and
  - b. Adequate mitigation measures ensure that there is no net loss of the functions or values of the shoreline and habitat as a result of the facility.
2. Boating facilities shall not be permitted within the following marine shoreline habitats because of their scarcity, biological productivity and sensitivity unless no alternative location is feasible, the project would result in a net enhancement of shoreline ecological functions, and the proposal is otherwise consistent with this Program:
  - a. Critical saltwater habitats; and
  - b. Marshes, estuaries and other wetlands.
3. Preferred ramp designs, in order of priority, are:

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- a. Open grid designs with minimum coverage of beach substrate;
  - b. Seasonal ramps that can be removed and stored upland; and
  - c. Structures with segmented pads and flexible connections that leave space for natural beach substrate and can adapt to changes in beach profile.
4. Ramps shall be placed and maintained near flush with the foreshore slope.
  5. Boat launches shall be designed and constructed using methods/technology that have been recognized and approved by state and federal resource agencies as the best currently available. Rail and track systems shall be preferred over concrete ramps or similar facilities.
  6. Launch access for non-motorized watercraft shall use gravel or other permeable material. Removal of vegetation for launch access should be limited to eight (8) feet in width.
  7. Before granting approval of a permit to allow a boat launch ramp, the proponent must satisfactorily demonstrate that:
    - a. Adequate facilities for the efficient handling of sewage and litter will be provided;
    - b. The boating facilities will be designed so that structures are aesthetically compatible with, or enhance shoreline features and uses; and
    - c. The boating facilities will be designed so that existing or potential public access along beaches is not blocked or made unsafe, and so that public use of the surface waters is not unduly impaired.

**C. Boat Launch Ramps**

1. Boat launch ramps shall be located on stable shorelines where water depths are adequate to eliminate or minimize the need for channel maintenance activities.
2. Boat launch ramps may be permitted on accretion shoreforms provided any necessary grading is not harmful to affected resources.
3. Where boat ramps are permitted, parking, and shuttle areas shall not be located on accretion shoreforms.
4. Boat launch ramps may be permitted on stable, non-eroding banks where the need for shore stabilization structures is minimized.
5. Ramp structures shall be placed near flush with the foreshore slope to minimize the interruption of geohydraulic processes.
6. Boat launch sites that are open to the public shall have adequate restroom facilities operated and maintained in compliance with King County Health District regulations.

**D. Dry Boat Storage**

1. Dry boat storage shall not be considered a water-oriented use and must comply with the required shoreline environment setback.
2. Only water-dependent aspects of dry-boat storage, such as boat hoists and boat launch ramps may be permitted within shoreline environment setbacks.
3. Boat launch ramps associated with dry boat storage shall be consistent with applicable requirements in this section.

**20.230.095 Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins, and Weirs**

**A. Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins and Weirs Policies**

1. Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs should be permitted only for water-dependent uses and only where mitigated to provide no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes.

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**B. Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins and Weirs Regulations**

1. Groins are prohibited except as a component of a professionally designed public beach management program that encompasses an entire drift sector or reach for which alternatives are infeasible, or where installed to protect or restore shoreline ecological functions or processes.
2. Jetties and breakwaters are prohibited except as an integral component of a professionally designed harbor, marina, or port. Where permitted, floating, portable or submerged breakwater structures, or smaller discontinuous structures are preferred where physical conditions make such alternatives with less impact feasible. Defense works that substantially reduce or block littoral drift and cause erosion of downdrift shores, shall not be allowed unless an adequate long term professionally engineered beach nourishment program is established and maintained.

Comment [m22]: Prohibited per use table

**20.230.100 Nonresidential Development****A. Nonresidential Development Policies**

1. Priority of any nonresidential development should be given to water-dependent and water-enjoyment uses. Allowed uses include restaurants that provide a view of the sound to customers, motels and hotels that provide walking areas for the public along the shoreline, office buildings, and retail sales buildings that have a waterfront theme with public access to the beach or water views.
2. Over-the-water nonresidential development shall be prohibited.
3. Nonresidential development should be required to provide on-site physical or visual access to the shoreline, or offer other opportunities for the public to enjoy shorelines of statewide significance. If on-site access cannot be provided, offsite access should be required. Off site access could be procured through the purchase of land or an easement at a location appropriate to provide the access deemed necessary. Nonresidential developments should include multiple use concepts such as open space and recreation.
4. Nonresidential development in the shoreline jurisdiction should include landscaping to enhance the shoreline area.

**B. Nonresidential Development Regulations**

1. Over-water construction of nonresidential uses is prohibited, with the exception of boat facilities necessary for the operation of an associated nonresidential use.
2. All nonresidential development within the shoreline area shall provide for visual and/or physical access to the shoreline by the public. Where on-site public access is feasible, nonresidential development shall dedicate, improve, and provide maintenance for a pedestrian easement that provides area sufficient to ensure usable access to and along the shoreline for the general public. Public access easements shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width and shall comply with the public access standards contained in the Public Access section of this Shoreline Master Program and the Shoreline Development Code.
3. All nonresidential loading and service areas shall be located on the upland side of the nonresidential activity or provisions shall screen the loading and service areas from the shoreline.
4. All nonresidential development within shoreline jurisdiction shall assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
5. A shoreline setback is not required to be maintained for water-dependant nonresidential development.

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6. Water-related dependent nonresidential development shall maintain a shoreline setback of either 25 feet from the OHWM or 10 feet from the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater. If public access is provided to the shoreline, the setback may be reduced to 10 feet from the OHWM or the edge of the base flood elevation, whichever is greater.
7. Nonwater-related dependent nonresidential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.

**Comment [m23]:** Consistency w/ WAC, same below.

**20.230.110 In-stream Structures.****A. In-stream Structures Policies**

1. In-stream structures should provide for the protection and preservation, of ecosystem-wide processes, ecological functions, and cultural resources including, but not limited to fish and fish passage, wildlife and water resources, shoreline critical areas, hydrogeological processes, and natural scenic vistas. The location and planning of in-stream structures should give due consideration to the full range of public interests, watershed functions and processes, and environmental concerns, with special emphasis on protecting and restoring priority habitats and species.
2. Non-structural and non-regulatory methods to protect, enhance, and restore shoreline ecological functions and processes and other shoreline resources should be encouraged as an alternative to structural in-stream structures.

**B. In-stream Structures Regulations**

1. Natural in-stream features such as snags, uprooted trees, or stumps should be left in place unless it can be demonstrated that they are actually causing bank erosion or higher flood stages.
2. In-stream structures shall allow for normal ground water movement and surface runoff.
3. In-stream structures shall not impede upstream or downstream migration of anadromous fish.
4. All debris, overburden and other waste materials from construction shall be disposed of in such a manner that prevents their entry into a water body.

**20.230.115 Aquaculture.**

**Comment [m24]:** Policies and Regulations added b/c Aquaculture was changed to conditional in Aquatic designation in use table based on comments from Muckleshoot tribe.

**A. Aquaculture Policies**

1. Aquaculture should not be permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with existing adjacent uses.
2. Aquacultural facilities must be designed and located so as not to spread disease to native aquatic life, establish new nonnative species which cause significant ecological impacts, or significantly impact the aesthetic qualities of the shoreline.

**B. Aquaculture Regulations**

1. Aquaculture shall be limited to geoduck harvesting within Department of Natural Resources' tracts or for recovery of a native aquatic population in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.
2. Aquaculture is not permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with navigation and other water-dependent uses.
3. Aquaculture is prohibited in critical saltwater habitat or within a 10 foot buffer from these areas.

4. No aquatic organism shall be introduced into shoreline areas without the prior written approval of the Director of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife or the appropriate regulatory agency for the specific organism.
5. No aquacultural processing, except for the sorting or culling of the cultured organism and the washing or removal of surface materials or organisms, shall be permitted waterward of the ordinary high water mark unless fully contained within a tending boat or barge.
6. Shellfish seeding and culturing is allowed when conducted for native population recovery in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.

#### 20.230.120 Parking Areas.

##### A. Parking Area Policies

1. Parking in shoreline areas should be minimized.
2. Parking within shoreline areas should directly serve a permitted use on the property.
3. Parking in shoreline areas should be located and designed to minimize adverse impacts including those related to stormwater runoff, water quality, visual qualities, public access, and vegetation and habitat maintenance.
4. Landscaping should consist of native vegetation in order to enhance the habitat opportunities within the shorelines area.

##### B. Parking Regulations

Parking for specific land use activities within the City of Shoreline is subject to the requirements and standards set forth in SMC 20.50 Subchapter 6. Parking, Access, and Circulation. In addition, the following parking requirements shall apply to all developments within shorelands.

1. The location of parking areas in or near shoreland areas shall be located outside of the minimum setbacks listed in Table 20.230.082 for the shoreline designation.
2. Parking in the shorelands must directly serve an approved shoreline use.
3. Parking shall be located on the landward side of the development unless parking is contained within a permitted structure. Where there is no available land area on the landward side of the development, parking shall extend no closer to the shoreline than a permitted structure.
4. Landscape screening is required between the parking area and all adjacent shorelines and properties.
5. The landscape screening for parking areas located within the shoreline areas shall consist of native vegetation, planted prior to final approval of project, which provides effective screening two (2) years after planting. Adequate screening or landscaping for parking lots shall consist of one or more of the following:
  - a. A strip five (5) feet wide landscaped with trees, shrubs, and/or groundcover;
  - b. A building or enclosed structure; and/or
  - c. A strip of land not less than two and a half (2.5) feet in width that is occupied by a continuous wall, fence, plant material, or combination of both; which shall be at least three and a half (3.5) feet high at time of installation. The plant material shall be evergreen and spaced not more than one and a half (1.5) feet on center if pyramidal in shape, or not more than three (3) feet if wider in branching habit. If the plant material is used in conjunction with a wall or fence meeting the minimum height requirements then said material may be of any kind and spacing. More restrictive screening may be required 20.50 SMC, Subchapters 6 and 7. Required parking area screening may be incorporated into general landscaping requirements under SMC Subchapters 6 and 7.
6. The requirement for screening may be waived by the Director, where screening would obstruct a significant view from public property or public roadway.



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7. Parking areas shall not be permitted over the water.
8. Parking as a primary use shall be prohibited within all shoreline environments.
9. Parking or storage of recreational vehicles or travel trailers as a primary use shall be prohibited in all shoreline environments.

#### **20.230.130 Recreational Facilities.**

Recreational development provides for low impact activities, such as hiking, photography, kayaking, viewing, and fishing, or more intensive uses such as parks. This section applies to both publicly and privately-owned shoreline facilities.

##### **A. Recreational Facilities Policies**

1. The coordination of local, state, and federal recreation planning should be encouraged so as to mutually satisfy recreational needs. Shoreline recreational developments should be consistent with all adopted parks, recreation, and open space plans.
2. Parks, recreation areas, and public access points, such as hiking paths, bicycle paths, and scenic drives should be linked.
3. Recreational developments should be located and designed to preserve, enhance, or create scenic views and vistas.
4. The use of jet-skis and similar recreational equipment should be restricted to special areas. This type of activity should be allowed only where no conflict exists with other uses and wildlife habitat.
5. All recreational developments should make adequate provisions for:
  - a. Vehicular and pedestrian access, both on-site and off-site;
  - b. Proper water, solid waste, and sewage disposal methods;
  - c. Security and fire protection for the use itself and for any use-related impacts to adjacent private property;
  - d. The prevention of overflow and trespass onto adjacent properties; and
  - e. Buffering of such development from adjacent private property or natural areas.

##### **B. Recreational Facilities Regulations**

1. Valuable shoreline resources and fragile or unique areas, such as wetlands and accretion shore forms, shall be used only for low impact and nonstructural recreation activities.
2. For recreation developments that require the use of fertilizers, pesticides, or other chemicals, the property owner shall submit plans demonstrating the methods to be used to prevent these chemical applications and resultant leachate from entering adjacent water bodies. The property owner shall be required to maintain a chemical-free swath at least one hundred (100) feet in depth adjacent to water bodies.
3. Recreational facilities shall make adequate provisions, such as screening, buffer strips, fences, and signs, to mitigate nuisance to nearby private properties.
4. No recreational buildings or structures shall be built waterward of the OHWM, except water-dependent and/or water-enjoyment public structures such as bridges and viewing platforms. Such uses may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use.
5. Proposals for recreational development shall include adequate facilities for water supply, sewage, and garbage disposal.

#### **20.230.140 Residential Development.**

1. Residential development does not include hotels, motels, or any other type of overnight or transient housing or camping facilities.

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2. A Shoreline Substantial Development Permit is not required for construction of a single family residence by an owner, lessee, or contract purchaser for their own use or the use of their family. Single family residential construction and accessory structures must otherwise conform to this Shoreline Master Program.
3. A Shoreline Variance or Shoreline Conditional Use Permit may be required for residential development for situations specified in the Shoreline Master Program.
4. Uses and facilities associated with residential development, which are identified as separate use activities in this Shoreline Master Program, such as land disturbing activities, are subject to the regulations established for those uses in this section. ~~Land disturbing activities may be exempted from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirement, provided it is associated with an exempted single family residence and the activity is confined to the construction site and excavation does not exceed 120 cubic yards or 2,000 square feet of grading, including grading for structures.~~

Comment [m25]: Consistency w/ WAC.

**A. Residential Policies**

1. In accordance with the Public Access requirements in 20.230.060, residential developments of four (4) or more dwelling units should provide dedicated and improved public access to the shoreline.
2. Residential development and accessory uses should be prohibited over the water.
3. New subdivisions should be encouraged to cluster dwelling units in order to preserve natural features, minimize physical impacts, and provide for public access to the shoreline.
4. In all new subdivisions and detached single family development with four (4) or more dwelling units, joint-use shoreline facilities should be encouraged.
5. Accessory uses and structures should be designed and located to blend into the site as much as possible. Accessory uses and structures should be located landward of the principal residence when feasible.

**B. Residential Regulations**

1. Residential development is prohibited waterward of the OHWM and within setbacks defined for each shoreline environment designation.
2. Residential development shall assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
3. Residential development shall not be approved if geotechnical analysis demonstrates that flood control or shoreline protection measures are necessary to create a residential lot or site area. Residential development shall be located and designed to avoid the need for structural shore defense and flood protection works.
4. If wetlands or other critical areas are located on the development site, clustering of residential units shall be required in order to avoid impacts to these areas.
5. Storm drainage facilities shall include provisions to prevent the direct entry of uncontrolled and untreated surface water runoff into receiving waters as specified in the Stormwater Manual.
6. Subdivisions and planned unit developments of four (4) or more waterfront lots/units shall dedicate, improve, and provide maintenance provisions for a pedestrian easement that provides area sufficient to ensure usable access to and along the shoreline for all residents of the development and the general public. When required, public access easements shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width and shall comply with the Public Access standards in 20.230.060. The design shall conform to the standards in the Engineering Development Manual.

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7. Single family residential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.
8. Multifamily residential development shall maintain a minimum setback from the OHWM consistent with Table 20.230.082.
9. One (1) accessory structure to the residence may be placed within the required shoreline setback provided:
  - a. No accessory structure shall cover more than 200 square feet.

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## Subchapter 3. Shoreline Modification Policies and Regulations

**20.230.150 General**

Shoreline modification involves developments that provide bank stabilization or flood control. The purpose of the modification is to reduce adverse impacts caused by natural processes, such as current, flood, tides, wind, or wave action. Shoreline modification includes all structural and nonstructural means to reduce flooding and/or erosion of banks.

Nonstructural methods include setbacks of permanent and temporary structures, relocation of the structure to be protected, ground water management, planning, bioengineering or “soft” engineered solutions, and regulatory measures to avoid the need for structural stabilization.

“Hard” structural stabilization measures refer to those with solid, hard surfaces, such as concrete bulkheads, while “soft” structural measures rely on natural materials such as biotechnical vegetation or beach enhancement. Generally, the harder the construction measure, the greater the impact on shoreline processes, including sediment transport, geomorphology, and biological functions. New structural shoreline stabilization also often results in vegetation removal, as well as damage to nearshore habitat and shoreline corridors. There are a range of measures varying from soft to hard that include:

- Vegetation enhancement
- Upland drainage control
- Biotechnical measures
- Beach enhancement
- Anchor trees
- Gravel placement
- Rock revetments
- Gabions
- Concrete groins
- Retaining walls and bluff walls
- Bulkheads

~~Note: As applied to shoreline stabilization measures, “normal repair” and “normal maintenance” include the patching, sealing, or refinishing of existing structures; the replenishment of sand or other material that has been washed away; or replacement of less than twenty percent (20%) of the structure. Normal maintenance and normal repair are limited to those actions that are typically done on a periodic basis. Construction that causes significant ecological impacts is not considered normal maintenance and repair.~~

~~“Replacement” means the construction of a new structure to perform a shoreline stabilization function of an existing structure that can no longer adequately serve its purpose.~~

~~Additions to existing shoreline stabilization measures shall be considered new structures, with the exception that bulkhead height may be increased in the Waterfront Residential environment designation if a geotechnical report concludes that it is necessary or promotes better design.~~

Comment [m26]: Consistency w/ WAC.

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The following policies and regulations apply to all actions and developments that modify the shoreline for the purposes of preventing erosion or flooding. Following these general requirements, specific policies and regulations are provided for bulkheads, revetments, dikes, and levees.

#### A. Shoreline Modification Policies - General

1. Biostabilization and other bank stabilization measures should be located, designed, and constructed primarily to prevent damage to the existing primary structure.
2. All new development should be located and designed to prevent or minimize the need for shoreline stabilization measures and flood protection works. New development requiring shoreline stabilization shall be discouraged in areas where no preexisting shoreline stabilization is present.
3. Shoreline modifications are only allowed for mitigation or enhancement purposes, or when and where there is a demonstrated necessity to support or protect an existing primary structure or legally existing shoreline use that is otherwise in danger of loss or substantial damage.
4. Proposals for shoreline modifications should be designed to protect life and property without impacting shoreline resources.
5. Shoreline modifications that are natural in appearance, compatible with ongoing shoreline processes, and provide flexibility for long term management, such as protective berms or vegetative stabilization, should be encouraged over structural means such as concrete bulkheads or extensive revetments, where feasible.
6. Structural solutions to reduce shoreline damage should be allowed only after it is demonstrated that nonstructural solutions would not be able to withstand the erosive forces of the current and waves.
7. The design of bank stabilization or protection works should provide for the long-term, multiple-use of shoreline resources and public access to public shorelines.
8. In the design of publicly financed or subsidized works, consideration should be given to providing pedestrian access to shorelines for low impact outdoor recreation.
9. All flood protection measures should be placed landward of the natural flood boundary, including wetlands that are directly interrelated and inter-dependent with water bodies.
10. If through construction and/or maintenance of shoreline modification developments, the loss of vegetation and wildlife habitat will occur, mitigation should be required.

#### B. Shoreline Modification Regulations - General

1. All new development, uses or activities within the shoreline area shall be located and designed to prevent or minimize the need for bank stabilization and flood protection works.
2. Permitted and Shoreline Conditional Use requirements for bulkheads and revetments are specified under the headings below in this chapter. All other forms of shoreline modification, except soft shore, must be approved as a Shoreline Conditional Use within all shoreline environments.
3. All shoreline stabilization proposals, except soft-shore, require a geotechnical analysis.
4. All shoreline development and activity shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed in a manner that mitigates impacts to the environment. The preferred mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, mitigate, compensate) shall follow that listed in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(e).
5. New nonwater-dependent development, including single-family residences, that includes structural shoreline stabilization shall not be allowed unless all of the conditions below apply, otherwise new stabilization measures are limited to protecting only existing developments:

Comment [m27]: Clarity.

Comment [jef28]: Provides incentive for soft shore. Same as above.

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- a. The need to protect the development from destruction due to erosion caused by natural processes, such as currents and waves, is demonstrated through a geotechnical/hydro-geological report prepared by a City-approved qualified professional.
  - b. The erosion is not caused by upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation and/or drainage issues.
  - c. There will be no net loss of shoreline ecological functions or impacts to adjacent or down-current properties.
  - d. Nonstructural measures, such as placing the development further from the shoreline, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage improvements and soft structural solutions such as bioengineering, are not feasible or not sufficient.
  - e. The structure will not cause impacts to the functions and values of critical areas or properly functioning conditions for proposed, threatened, and endangered species.
  - f. Other mitigation/restoration measures are included in the proposal.
6. Upon project completion, all disturbed shoreline areas shall be restored to as near pre-project configuration as possible and replanted with appropriate vegetation. All losses in riparian vegetation or wildlife habitat shall be mitigated at a ratio of 1:1.25 (habitat lost to habitat replaced).
  7. Shoreline stabilization and flood protection works are prohibited in wetlands and on point and channel bars. They are also prohibited in fish spawning areas.
  8. Developments shall not reduce the volume and storage capacity of streams and adjacent wetlands or flood plains.
  9. Use of refuse for the stabilization of shorelines is prohibited.

#### **20.230.160 Dredging and Disposal of Dredging Spoils**

##### **A. Dredging and Dredge Spoil Policies**

1. Dredging waterward of the ordinary high water mark for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material is prohibited.
2. Dredging operations should be planned and conducted to minimize interference with navigation; avoid creating adverse impacts on other shoreline uses, properties, and ecological shoreline functions and values; and avoid adverse impacts to habitat areas and fish species.
3. Dredge spoil disposal in water bodies shall be prohibited except for habitat improvement.
4. Dredge spoil disposal on land should occur in areas where environmental impacts will not be significant.

##### **B. Dredging and Dredge Spoil Regulations**

1. Dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall be permitted only where it is demonstrated that the proposed actions will not:
  - a. Result in significant damage to water quality, fish, and other essential biological elements;
  - b. Adversely alter natural drainage and circulation patterns, currents, or reduce floodwater capacities;
  - c. Adversely impact properly functioning conditions for proposed, threatened, or endangered species; or
  - d. Adversely alter functions and values of the shoreline and associated critical areas.
2. Proposals for dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall include all feasible mitigating measures to protect habitats and to minimize adverse impacts such as turbidity; release of nutrients, heavy metals, sulfides, organic materials, or toxic substances; depletion of oxygen;

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disruption of food chains; loss of benthic productivity; and disturbance of fish runs and/or important localized biological communities.

3. Dredging and dredge spoil disposal shall not occur in wetlands unless for approved maintenance or enhancement **associated with a restoration project**.
4. Dredging within the shorelines shall be permitted only:
  - a. For navigational purposes; or
  - b. For activities associated with shoreline or aquatic restoration or remediation.
5. When dredging is permitted, the dredging shall be the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.
6. Dredging shall utilize techniques that cause minimum dispersal and broadcast of bottom material; hydraulic dredging shall be used wherever feasible in preference to agitation dredging.
7. Dredge material disposal shall be permitted in shoreline jurisdiction only as part of an approved shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement, fish habitat enhancement or watershed restoration project.
8. Dredged spoil material may be disposed at approved upland sites. If these upland sites are dry lands and fall within shoreline jurisdiction, the disposal of dredge spoils shall be considered landfilling and must be consistent with all applicable provisions of the Master Program. Depositing dredge spoils within the Puget Sound shall be allowed only by Shoreline Conditional Use for one of the following reasons:
  - a. For wildlife habitat improvements; or
  - b. To correct problems of material distribution that are adversely affecting fish resources.
9. If suitable alternatives for land disposal are not available or are infeasible, water disposal sites may be permitted by appropriate agencies, provided the sites are determined by the Director to be consistent with the following criteria:
  - a. Disposal will not interfere with geohydraulic processes;
  - b. The dredge spoil has been analyzed by a qualified professional and found to be minimally or non-polluting;
  - c. Aquatic life will not be adversely affected; and
  - d. The site and method of disposal meets all requirements of applicable regulatory agencies.
10. Disposal of dredge material shall be done in accordance with the Washington State DNR Dredge Material Management Program. DNR manages disposal sites through a Site Use Authorization (SUA); all other required permits must be provided to DNR prior to the DNR issuing a SUA for dredge disposal.
11. The City may impose reasonable limitations on dredge spoil disposal operating periods and hours, and may require buffer strips at land disposal sites.

Comment [m29]: Clarity.

#### 20.230.170 Piers and Docks

Piers and Docks may be allowed in accordance with Table 20.230.081 only when the following conditions are met:

1. The public's need for piers and docks is clearly demonstrated, and the proposal is consistent with protection of the public trust, as embodied in RCW 90.58.020.
2. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible, or would result in unreasonable and disproportionate cost to accomplish the same general purpose.
3. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.

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4. The project is consistent with the state's interest in resource protection and species recovery.
5. Private, noncommercial docks for joint or community use may be authorized provided that:
  - a. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible; and
  - b. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.
6. An inventory of the site and adjacent beach sections to assess the presence of critical saltwater habitats and functions is required. The methods and extent of the inventory shall be consistent with accepted research methodology. Proposals will be evaluated using Department of Ecology technical assistance materials for guidance.
7. Community moorage to serve new development shall be limited to the amount of moorage needed to serve lots with water frontage; provided that a limited number of upland lots may also be accommodated. Applications for shared moorage shall demonstrate that mooring buoys are not feasible prior to approval of dock moorage.
- ~~8. Industrial docks shall be permitted only for water dependent uses, and only if the applicant/proponent demonstrates that existing facilities in the vicinity, including marinas and shared moorage, are not adequate or feasible for the proposed water dependent use.~~
9. Piers and docks shall be constructed of materials that will not adversely affect water quality or aquatic plants and animals over the long term. Materials used for submerged portions of a pier or dock, decking, and other components that may come in contact with water shall be approved by applicable state agencies for use in water to avoid discharge of pollutants from wave splash, rain, or runoff. At a minimum, piles, floats, or other structural members in direct contact with the water shall be constructed of concrete or steel in accordance with BMP's published by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and they shall not be treated or coated with herbicides, fungicides, paint, or pentachlorophenol. Use of arsenate compounds or creosote is prohibited.
10. Pilings used in piers or docks shall have a minimum clearance of two feet above extreme high tide and a maximum clearance of five feet above the OHWM. Floats shall not rest on the substrate.
11. To minimize adverse effects on nearshore habitats and species caused by overwater structures that reduce ambient light levels, the following shall apply:
  - a. The width of docks, piers, floats, and lifts shall be the minimum necessary, and shall not be wider than six (6) feet unless authorized by in the permitting documents approved by WDFW and USACE;
  - b. The length of docks and piers shall be the minimum necessary to prevent the grounding of floats and boats on the substrate during low tide;
  - c. Docks floats or floating docks shall include stops that serve to keep the float bottom off tidelands at low tide;
  - d. The length and location of docks, piers, floats, and lifts pilings shall be designed using the BMP's as conditioned in the permitting documents approved by WDFW and USACE; and
  - e. The size of shared docks or piers is limited to 700 square feet for two lots and 1,000 square feet for 4 or more lots.
12. All new piers or docks must be fully grated. Grating to allow light passage or reflective panels to increase light refraction into the water shall be used on piers, docks, floats and gangways in nearshore areas. Decking shall have a minimum open space of 40% and after installation at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure shall be maintained.

**Comment [m30]:** Only expansion of existing is allowed as per use table and regs.



**20.230.175 Pier and Dock Repair, Replacement, or Expansion**

1. Existing over-water structures may be repaired and/or replaced in the same location as the existing structure.
2. Repair or replacement of 50% or more of an existing over-water deck structure shall include the replacement of the entire decking with grated material to achieve a minimum open space of 40% and shall result in at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure.
3. Repair or replacement of less than 50% of the over-water deck structure shall use grated decking in the area to be replaced. If the cumulative repair in any three year period exceeds 50%, the entire decking shall be replaced to achieve a minimum open space of 40% and shall result in at least 60% ambient light beneath the structure.
4. Repair or replacement of structural members in contact with the water shall be constructed of concrete or steel in accordance with BMP's published by WDFW and USACE and they shall not be treated or coated with herbicides, fungicides, paint, or pentachlorophenol. Use of arsenate compounds or creosote is prohibited.
5. Expansion of existing over-water structures is prohibited.
6. Other repairs not described in this section to existing legally established are considered minor and may be permitted consistent with all applicable regulations.

**20.230.180 Bulkheads**

Bulkheads are walls usually constructed parallel to the shore, whose primary purpose is to contain and prevent the loss of soil by erosion, wave, or current action. Bulkheads are typically constructed of poured-in-place concrete; steel or aluminum sheet piling; wood; or wood and structural steel combinations.

The Washington State Shoreline Management Act only exempts the construction of a normal protective bulkhead associated with an existing single family residence from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit requirement. However, these structures are required to comply with all the policies and development standards of this Shoreline Master Program.

**A. Bulkhead Policies**

1. Bulkheads constructed from natural materials, such as protective berms, beach enhancement, or vegetative stabilization are strongly preferred over structural bulkheads constructed from materials such as steel, wood, or concrete. Proposals for bulkheads should demonstrate that natural methods are unworkable.
2. Bulkheads should be located, designed, and constructed primarily to prevent damage to the existing primary structure. New development that requires bulkheads is not permitted except as specifically provided under this Master Program.
3. Shoreline uses should be located in a manner so that a bulkhead is not likely to become necessary in the future.
4. Bulkheads should not be approved as a solution to geo-physical problems such as mass slope failure, sloughing, or landslides. Bulkheads should only be approved for the purposes of preventing bank erosion by the Puget Sound.

**B. Bulkhead Regulations**

1. New bulkheads may be allowed only when evidence is presented which demonstrates that one of the following conditions exist:
  - a. Serious erosion threatens an established use or existing primary structure on upland property.

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- b. Bulkheads are necessary to the operation and location of water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment activities consistent with this Shoreline Master Program, provided that all other alternative methods of shore protection have proven infeasible; and/or
  - c. A bulkhead is necessary to retain landfilling that has been approved consistent with the provisions of the Master Program.
- 2. Proposals for bulkheads must first demonstrate through a geotechnical analysis that use of natural materials and processes and non-structural or soft structural solutions to bank stabilization are not feasible.
- 3. The construction of a bulkhead for the primary purpose of retaining landfilling shall be allowed only in conjunction with:
  - a. A water-dependent use;
  - b. A bridge or navigational structure for which there is a demonstrated public need and where no feasible upland sites, design solutions, or routes exist; and/or
  - c. A wildlife or fish enhancement project.
- 4. Bulkheads shall not be located on shorelines where valuable geo-hydraulic or biological processes are sensitive to interference. Examples of such areas include wetlands and accretion landforms.
- 5. Bulkheads are to be permitted only where local physical conditions, such as foundation bearing materials, and surface and subsurface drainage, are suitable for such alterations.
- 6. If possible, bulkheads shall be located landward of the OHWM and generally parallel to the natural shoreline. In addition:
  - a. Where no other bulkheads are adjacent, the construction of a bulkhead shall be as close to the eroding bank as possible and in no case shall it be more than three (3) feet from the toe of the bank;
  - b. A bulkhead for permitted landfilling shall be located at the toe of the fill; and
  - c. Where permitted a bulkhead must tie in flush with existing bulkheads on adjoining properties, except where the adjoining bulkheads extend waterward of the base flood elevation, the requirements set forth in this section shall apply.
- 7. Replacement bulkheads may be located immediately waterward of the bulkhead to be replaced such that the two (2) bulkheads will share a common surface, except where the existing bulkhead has not been backfilled or has been abandoned and is in serious disrepair. In such cases, the replacement bulkhead shall not encroach waterward of the OHWM or existing structure unless the residence was occupied prior to January 1, 1992 and there are overriding safety or environmental concerns.
- 8. All bulkheads proposals require a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional. Bulkheads shall be sited and designed as recommended in approved geotechnical reports. For the Waterfront Residential environment designation, one geotechnical report could be prepared for multiple properties.
- 9. When a bulkhead is required at a public access site, provision for safe access to the water shall be incorporated into bulkhead design.
- 10. Bulkheads shall be designed for the minimum dimensions necessary to adequately protect the development.
- 11. Stairs or other permitted structures may be built into a bulkhead but shall not extend waterward of the bulkhead, unless they are retractable or removable.
- 12. Bulkheads shall be designed to permit the passage of surface or groundwater without causing ponding or saturation of retained soil/materials.
- 13. Adequate toe protection consisting of proper footings, a fine retention mesh, etc., shall be provided to ensure bulkhead stability without relying on additional riprap.

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14. Materials used in bulkhead construction shall meet the following standards:

- a. Bulkheads shall utilize stable, non-erodible, homogeneous materials such as concrete, wood, and rock that are consistent with the preservation and protection of the ecological habitat;
- b. Dredge spoils shall not be used for fill behind bulkheads, except clean dredge spoil from a permitted off-site dredge and fill operation; and
- c. Backfill and wave returns to stabilize bulkheads are permitted.

### 20.230.190 Revetment

A revetment is a sloped shoreline structure built to protect an existing eroding shoreline or newly placed fill against currents. Revetments are most commonly built of randomly placed boulders (riprap) but may also be built of sand cement bags, paving or building blocks, gabions (rock filled wire baskets), or other systems and materials. The principal features of a revetment, regardless of type is a heavy armor layer, a filter layer, and toe protection.

#### A. Revetment Policies

1. The use of armored structural revetments should be limited to situations where it is determined that nonstructural solutions such as bioengineering, setbacks, buffers or any combination thereof, will not provide sufficient shoreline stabilization.
2. Revetments should be designed, improved, and maintained to provide public access whenever possible.

#### B. Revetment Regulation

1. The proposed revetment shall be designed by a qualified professional engineer.
2. Design of revetments shall include and provide improved access to public shorelines whenever possible.
3. When permitted, the location and design of revetments shall be determined using engineering principles, including guidelines of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
4. Armored revetment design shall meet the following design criteria:
  - a. The size and quantity of the material shall be limited to only that necessary to withstand the estimated energy intensity of the hydraulic system;
  - b. Filter fabric must be used to aid drainage and help prevent settling;
  - c. The toe reinforcement or protection must be adequate to prevent a collapse of the system from scouring or wave action; and
  - d. Fish habitat components, such as large boulders, logs, and stumps shall be considered in the design subject to a Hydraulic Project Approval by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### 20.230.200 Clearing and Grading Land Disturbing Activities

#### A. Land Disturbing Activity Policies

1. Land disturbing activities should only be allowed in association with a permitted shoreline development.
2. Land disturbing activities should be limited to the minimum necessary to accommodate the shoreline development or a landscape plan developed in conjunction with the shoreline development.

**Comment [m31]:** Amended as a solution to needing to remove language that was inconsistent with the WAC, while allowing for the common-sense exception to be able to add some sort of wave deflector to the top of bulkheads in order to prolong the life of the structure without unnecessary process or expense. The term "wave returns" was recommended by the Department of Ecology because "wave deflector" can also apply to in-water structures.

**Comment [m32]:** Clarity.

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- 3. Land disturbing should not be permitted within shoreline environment setbacks, unless fish and wildlife habitat will not be degraded.
- 4. Erosion shall be prevented and sediment shall not enter waters of the state.

**Comment [m33]:** Broader authority than State regs. allow.

**B. Land Disturbing Activity Regulations**

- 1. All land disturbing activities shall only be allowed in association with a permitted shoreline development.
- 2. All land disturbing activities shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the intended development, including any clearing and grading approved as part of a landscape plan. Clearing invasive, non-native shoreline vegetation listed on the King County Noxious Weed List is permitted in the shoreline area with an approved clearing and grading permit provided best management practices are used as recommended by a qualified professional, and native vegetation is promptly reestablished in the disturbed area.
- 3. Tree and vegetation removal shall be prohibited in required Native Vegetation Conservation Areas, except as necessary to restore, mitigate or enhance the native vegetation by approved permit as required in these areas.
- 4. All significant trees in the Native Vegetation Conservation Areas shall be designated as protected trees consistent with SMC 20.50.340 and removal of hazard trees must be consistent with SMC 20.50.310(A)(1).
- 5. All shoreline development and activities shall use measures identified in the Stormwater Manual. Stabilization of exposed surfaces subject to erosion along shorelines shall, whenever feasible, utilize soil bioengineering techniques.
- 6. For extensive land disturbing activities that require a permit, a plan addressing species removal, revegetation, irrigation, erosion and sedimentation control, and other methods of shoreline protection should be required.

**20.230.210 Landfilling**

Landfilling is the placement of soil, rock, existing sediment or other material (excluding solid waste) in order to raise the elevation of upland areas or to create new land, tideland or bottom land area along the shoreline below the OHWM.

**Comment [m34]:** Already defined.

**A. Landfilling Policies**

- 1. The perimeter of landfilling should be designed to avoid or eliminate erosion and sedimentation impacts, during both initial landfilling activities and over time.
- 2. Where permitted, landfilling should be the minimum necessary to provide for the proposed use and should be permitted only when conducted in conjunction with a specific development proposal that is permitted by the Shoreline Master Program. Speculative landfilling activity should be prohibited.

**B. Landfilling Regulations**

- 1. Landfilling activities shall only be permitted in conjunction with a specific development. Landfilling may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use for any of the following:
  - a. In conjunction with a water-dependent use permitted under this Shoreline Master Program; and/or
  - b. In conjunction with a bridge, utility, or navigational structure for which there is a demonstrated public need and where no feasible upland sites, design solutions, or routes exist;
  - c. As part of an approved shoreline restoration project;

**Comment [m35]:** No need for CUP per WAC. Same for below.

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- d. For fisheries, aquaculture, or wildlife habitat enhancement projects; and/or
2. Pier or pile supports shall be utilized in preference to landfilling. Landfilling for approved road development in floodways or wetlands shall be permitted only if pile or pier supports are proven structurally infeasible.
3. Landfilling shall be permitted only where it is demonstrated that the proposed action will not:
    - a. Result in significant damage to water quality, fish, and/or wildlife habitat; or
    - b. Adversely alter natural drainage and current patterns or significantly reduce floodwater capacities.
  4. Where landfilling activities are permitted, the landfilling shall be the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.
  5. Landfilling from dredging and dredge material disposal shall be done in a manner that avoids or minimizes significant ecological impacts. Impacts that cannot be avoided shall be mitigated in a manner that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.
  6. Dredging waterward of the OHWM for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material shall not be allowed, except when the material is necessary for the restoration of shoreline ecological functions. When allowed, the site where the fill is to be placed must be located waterward of the OHWM.
  7. Landfilling shall be designed, constructed, and maintained to prevent, minimize, and control all material movement, erosion, and sedimentation from the affected area. Landfilling perimeters shall be designed and constructed with silt curtains, vegetation, retaining walls, or other mechanisms to prevent material movement. In addition, the sides of the landfilling shall be appropriately sloped to prevent erosion and sedimentation, during both the landfilling activities and afterwards.
  8. Fill materials shall be clean sand, gravel, soil, rock, or similar material. Use of polluted dredge spoils and sanitary landfilling materials are prohibited. The property owner shall provide evidence that the material has been obtained from a clean source prior to fill placement.
  9. Landfilling shall be designed to allow surface water penetration into aquifers, if such conditions existed prior to the fill.

**Comment [m36]:** Separated from 1 above, will fix formatting.

### 20.230.230 Signs

#### A. Sign Policies

Signs should be designed and placed so that they are compatible with the natural quality of the shoreline environment and adjacent land and water uses.

#### B. Sign Regulations

Signs within the City, including the shoreline area, are subject to the requirements and standards specified in SMC 20.50 Subchapter 8. Signs are based on the underlying zoning. In addition, the following sign requirements shall apply to signs within shoreline areas.

1. Signs shall only be allowed in or over water for navigation purposes; at road or railroad crossings as necessary for operation, safety and direction; or as related and necessary to a water dependent use.
2. Signs are permitted in all shoreline environments upland of the OHWM. These sign standards supplement the provisions of SMC 20.50.530 to 20.50.610. Where there is a conflict, the provisions herein shall apply.

**C. Prohibited signs.**

1. All prohibited signs per SMC 20.50.550.
2. Balloons, any inflatable signs, or inflatable objects used to aid in promoting the sale of products, goods, services, events, or to identify a building.
3. Searchlights and beacons.
4. Electronic reader boards or changing message signs.
5. Neon signs.
6. Pole Signs.
7. Backlit awnings used as signs.
8. Internally illuminated signs, except as allowed in 20.230.230(D)(1).
9. Signs that impair visual access from public viewpoints in view corridors are prohibited in all shoreline environments.

**D. Illumination of Signs**

1. Illumination of signs is only allowed as permitted by the underlying zoning.
2. Internal illumination of signs is only allowed with light provided by LED or other Energy Star rated luminaries, and is limited to:
  - a. Opaque cabinet signs where light only shines through the letters, not including symbols, images, or background; or
  - b. Shadow lighting, where letters are backlit, but light only shines through the edges of the letters.
3. All externally illuminated signs shall shield nearby properties from direct lighting. Light source must be within a maximum of 6 feet from the sign display, and limited to LED or other Energy Star rated luminaries.
4. No commercial sign shall be illuminated after 11:00 p.m. unless the commercial enterprise is open for business, and then may remain on only as long as the business is open.
5. The light from any illuminated sign shall be shaded, shielded or directed so that the light intensity or brightness shall not adversely affect:
  - a. Surrounding or facing premises;
  - b. Safe vision of operators of vehicles on public or private roads, highways, or parking areas; or
  - c. Safe vision of pedestrians on a public right-of-way.
6. Light from any sign shall not shine on, nor directly reflect into, residential structures, lots, or the water.
7. These provisions shall not apply to:
  - a. Lighting systems owned or controlled by any public agency for the purpose of directing or controlling navigation, traffic, and highway or street illumination;
  - b. Aircraft warning lights;
  - c. Temporary lighting used for repair or construction as required by governmental agencies; or
  - d. Temporary use of lights or decorations relating to religious or patriotic festivities.

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**20.230.240 Stormwater Management Facilities****A. Stormwater Management Facilities Policies**

1. Stormwater facilities located in the shoreland area should be maintained only to the degree necessary to ensure the capacity and function of the facility, including the removal of non-native, invasive plant species.
2. The stormwater facility should be planted with native vegetation.

**B. Stormwater Management Facility Regulations**

1. New stormwater facilities shall be located so as not to require any shoreline protection works.
2. Stormwater facility development shall include public access to the shoreline, trail systems, and other forms of recreation, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with stormwater facility operations, endanger the public health, safety, and welfare, or create a significant and disproportionate liability for the owner.
3. Construction of stormwater facilities in shoreland areas shall be timed to avoid fish and/or wildlife migratory and spawning periods.

**20.230.250 Transportation.**

Transportation facilities are those structures and developments that aid in land and water surface movement of people, goods, and services. They include roads and highways, bridges and causeways, bikeways, trails, railroad facilities, and boat and floatplane terminals.

**A. Transportation Policies**

1. New roads within the shoreline area should be minimized.
2. Roads and railroad locations should be planned to fit the topographical characteristics of the shoreline such that alternation of natural conditions is minimized.
3. Pedestrian and bicycle trails should be encouraged.
4. When existing transportation corridors are abandoned they should be reused for water-dependent use or public access.
5. Alternatives to new roads or road expansion in the shoreline area should be considered as a first option.
6. Joint use of transportation corridors within shoreline jurisdiction for roads, utilities, and motorized forms of transportation should be encouraged.
7. New roads should be designed to accommodate bicyclists, pedestrians and transit, where feasible.

**B. Transportation Regulations**

1. Transportation facilities and services shall utilize existing transportation corridors wherever possible, provided the shoreline is not adversely impacted and the development is otherwise consistent with this Shoreline Master Program.
2. Transportation and primary utilities shall jointly use rights-of-way.
3. Landfilling activities for transportation facility development are prohibited in ~~water bodies, wetlands, and on accretion beaches, except when all structural and upland alternatives have proven infeasible, and the transportation facilities are necessary to support uses consistent with this Shoreline Master Program.~~

**Comment [m37]:** Not consistent w/ WAC, covered by Critical Areas Ordinance.

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4. Major new roads and railways shall avoid being located in the shoreline jurisdiction to the extent practical. These roads shall cross shoreline areas by the shortest, most direct route, unless this route would cause more damage to the environment.
5. New transportation facilities shall be located and designed to minimize or prevent the need for shoreline modification.
6. All bridges must be built high enough to allow the passage of debris, and provide 3 feet of clearance above the base flood elevation.
7. Shoreline transportation facilities shall be located and designed to avoid steep or unstable areas and fit the existing topography in order to minimize cuts and fills.
8. Bridge abutments and necessary approach fills shall be located landward of the OHWM, except bridge piers may be permitted in a water body as a Shoreline Conditional Use.

**20.230.260 Unclassified Uses and Activities**

In the event that a proposed shoreline use or activity is not identified or classified in this Shoreline Master Program, the following regulation shall apply.

**A. Regulations**

1. All uses and activities proposed in the shoreline area that are not classified by provisions in this Shoreline Master Program shall require a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit.

**20.230.270 Utilities**

Primary utilities include substations, pump stations, treatment plants, sanitary sewer outfalls, electrical transmission lines greater than 55,000 volts, water, sewer or storm drainage mains greater than eight (8) inches in diameter, gas and petroleum transmission lines, and submarine telecommunications cables. Accessory utilities include local public water, electric, natural gas distribution, public sewer collection, cable and telephone service, and appurtenances.

**A. Utility Policies**

1. Utilities should utilize existing transportation and utility sites, rights-of-way, and corridors whenever possible. Joint use of rights-of-way and corridors should be encouraged.
2. Unless no other feasible alternative exists, utilities should be prohibited in the shoreline jurisdiction, wetlands, and other critical areas. There shall be no net loss of ecological functions or significant impacts to other shoreline resources or values.
3. New utility facilities should be located so as not to require extensive shoreline modifications.
4. Whenever possible, utilities should be placed underground or alongside or under bridges.
5. Solid waste disposal activities and facilities should be prohibited in shoreline areas.

**B. Utility Regulations**

1. Utility development shall provide for compatible, multiple-use of sites and rights-of-way when practical.
2. Utility development shall include public access to the shoreline, trail systems, and other forms of recreation, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with utility operations, endanger the public health, safety, and welfare, or create a significant and disproportionate liability for the owner.



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3. The following primary utilities, which are not essentially water-dependent, may be permitted as a Shoreline Conditional Use if it can be shown that no reasonable alternative exists:
  - a. Water system treatment plants;
  - b. Sewage system lines, interceptors, pump stations, and treatment plants;
  - c. Electrical energy generating plants, substations, lines, and cables; or
  - d. Petroleum and gas pipelines.
4. New solid waste disposal sites and facilities are prohibited.
5. New utility lines including electricity, communications, and fuel lines shall be located underground, except where the presence of bedrock or other obstructions make such placement infeasible.
6. Transmission and distribution facilities shall cross shoreline areas by the shortest most direct route feasible, unless such route would cause increased environmental damage.
7. Utilities requiring withdrawal of water shall be located only where minimum flows as established by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife can be maintained.
8. Utilities shall be located and designated so as to avoid the use of any structural or artificial shoreline modification.
9. All underwater pipelines are prohibited. If no other alternative exists a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit is required.