

## Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update

# SMP GUIDELINES & UPDATE PROCESS

## Purpose of the Guidelines

Adopted in 2003, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-26 directs the State Department of Ecology and local jurisdictions to jointly administer and support the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and is intended to:

- . Assist local governments in developing master programs
- . Serve as standards for regulating shorelines
- . Serve as criteria for Ecology's review of local programs

*“Permitted uses in the shorelines of the state shall be designed and conducted in a manner to minimize, insofar as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline area and any interference with the public's use of the water.”*

-Shoreline Management Act of 1971

## Support Shoreline Policy Goals

The SMA seeks to protect ecological functions, foster reasonable shoreline uses and maintain right of navigation through the following policy goals:

- a. Encourage water-dependent uses
- b. Maintain public access and recreation
- c. Protect and restore ecological functions
- d. Protect public right of navigation
- e. Protect historic, cultural, scientific and educational resources
- f. Plan for public infrastructure (transportation, utilities, facilities)
- g. Prevent and minimize flood damage
- h. Recognize and protect property rights
- i. Preference for single-family residential uses
- j. Coordinate with other relevant shoreline programs

## Use Preferences for Shorelines of Statewide Significance

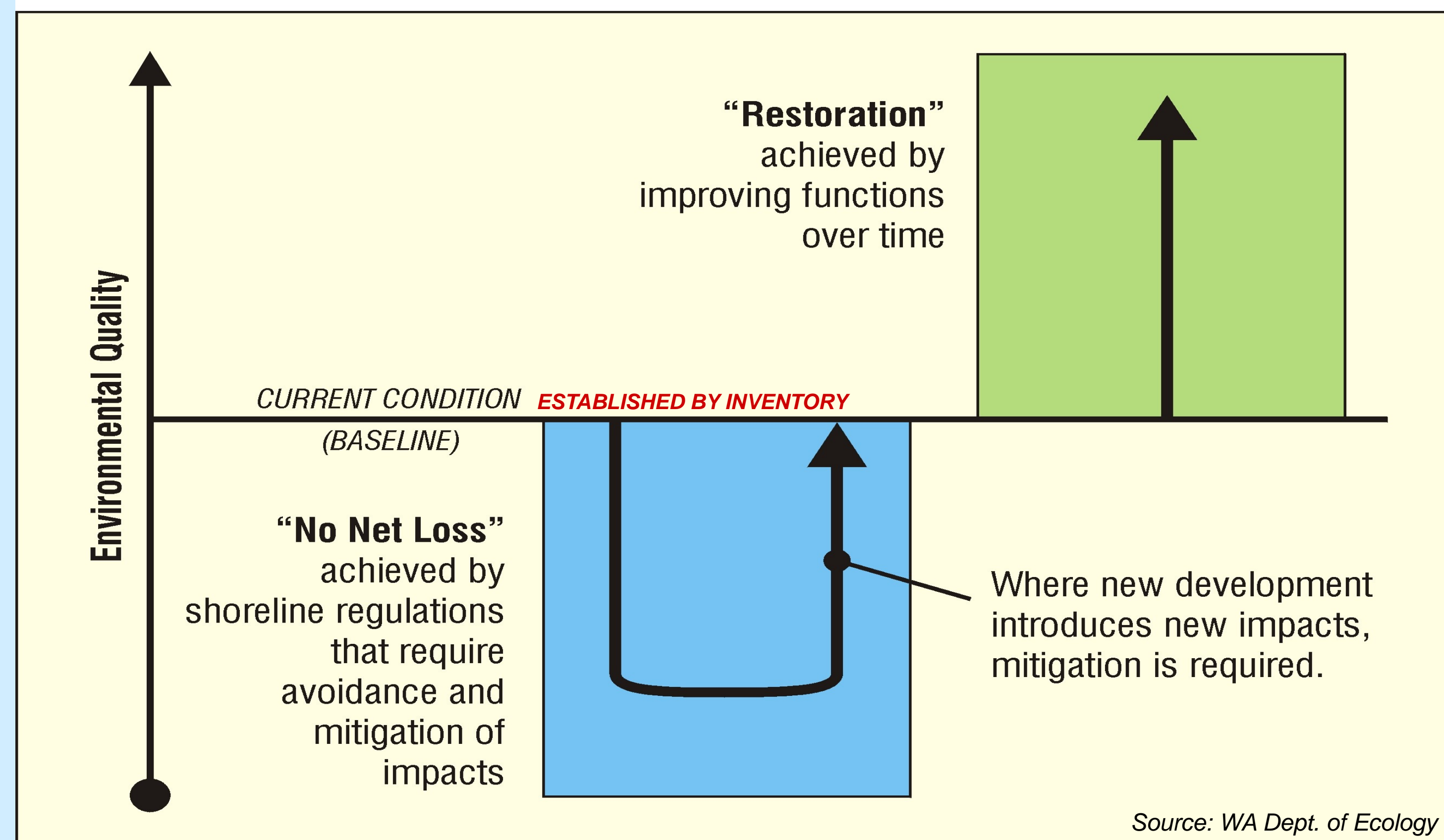
The SMA provides that both state guidelines and local master programs give preference to uses in the following order of preference:

1. Recognize and protect the state-wide interest over local interest;
2. Preserve the natural character of the shoreline;
3. Result in long term over short term benefit;
4. Protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline;
5. Increase public access to publicly owned areas of the shorelines;
6. Increase recreational opportunities for the public in the shoreline;
7. Provide for any other element as defined in RCW 90.58.100 deemed appropriate or necessary.

## Governing Principles

- . No net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes
- . Restoration of degraded &/or impaired shorelines (incentive/voluntary)
- . Cumulative impacts must be addressed

### Two Distinct Objectives: No-Net Loss of Shoreline Ecological Functions and Restoration Over Time



## Comprehensive SMP Update Process

### Basic Concepts:

1. Incorporate scientific and technical information
2. Adapt policies and regulations over time to meet changing needs and conditions
3. Protect ecological functions
4. Preference for water-dependent uses
5. Follow environmental impact mitigation sequence of avoid, minimize, mitigate, monitor
6. Include restoration planning goals, policies and actions to improve ecological functions over time

### Update Process:

1. Inventory shoreline conditions and restoration opportunity areas
2. Characterize ecological functions and ecosystem-wide processes for regional context
3. Develop a Restoration Plan with goals, priorities, policies, projects, benchmarks and funding ideas
4. Establish shoreline environment designations (SEDs)
5. Establish shoreline management goals and policies
6. Establish development standards and use regulations