

For Immediate Release — June 20, 2008

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Public invited to learn more about draft Shoreline Master Program (SMP)

Port Townsend, WA—Jefferson County has released three Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update documents that are available for the public to review and comment on by July 11, 2008. The first is a revised *Committee Working Draft Shoreline Master Program*. The other two are supplemental technical documents: the *Final Shoreline Inventory & Characterization Report* and the *Shoreline Restoration Plan*.

“Over the next two weeks, our staff will be providing informational ‘booths’ in various neighborhoods around the County to alert the public and answer questions about the SMP Update and encourage participation in the July 10 public event,” said Al Scalf, director for the County’s Department of Community Development (DCD). “A great deal of work has gone into the creation of these documents by our staff and consultant team ESA Adolfson, with input from advisory committees and interested citizens. Before we submit a staff proposal to the Planning Commission this fall, we’re welcoming the general public to review and provide comments.”

Dates, locations and times for upcoming SMP Neighborhood Information Booths are as follows:

Thursday, June 26, 9-11 am at Port Ludlow Village Market, 1-3 pm at Johnston Realty in Brinnon, 4-6 pm at Quilcene Community Center. **Saturday, June 28**, 10 am-noon, at Wild Birds Unlimited in Gardiner, 1-3 pm at Frank’s Surplus in Discovery Bay. **Tuesday, July 1**, noon-1 pm at North Beach County Park, 2-3 pm at Discovery Bay Golf Club, 4-6 pm at Port Townsend Safeway. **Wednesday, July 2**, 4-6 pm at Shine Fire Station. **Thursday, July 3**, 11 am-noon at Coyle Community Center, 2-3 pm at Nordland General Store on Marrowstone Island, and 4-6 pm at Port Hadlock QFC. Look for the SMP banner!

The public is encouraged to stop by one of these locations to ask questions and get information about such things as: existing shoreline conditions, State guidelines, changes to buffers, development standards and permit processes proposed in the updated SMP. The idea is to generate attendance at the July 10 SMP Community Planning Workshop, to be held at the Inn at Port Hadlock.

In September, a *Preliminary Draft SMP* will be submitted to the County Planning Commission to begin the formal public review process. It’s anticipated that the Planning Commission will provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) by mid-February 2009. Once the BOCC takes action to locally approve the document, it will be submitted to the Washington Department of Ecology for final approval and is due to them by June 30, 2009.

Jefferson County is required to update its Shoreline Master Program in compliance with the State’s 1971 Shoreline Management Act and the 2003 SMP Guidelines. All jurisdictions in the State must update their SMPs by 2014.

For more information, contact Michelle McConnell in DCD at 379.4484, via e-mail at mmcconnell@co.jefferson.wa.us or visit the County’s Web site on the SMP Update at www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/ShorelinePlanning.htm.

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