

For Immediate Release — July 1, 2008

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County to hold community workshop and open house on Shoreline Master Program

Port Townsend, WA—On Thursday, July 10th, Jefferson County will hold a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Community Planning Workshop at the Inn at Port Hadlock. Stakeholder focus group meetings will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. and from 1-5 p.m. An open house reception area will be available for drop-in visitors throughout the day and an evening public meeting from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

“Public involvement has been an important part of the SMP update project over the past two years,” said Al Scalf, director for the Department of Community Development (DCD). “The County has been working with two advisory groups, holding a number of public events to facilitate citizen and stakeholder participation. The upcoming workshop is another opportunity for interested parties to further consider shoreline issues.”

The stakeholder focus group meetings will consider vegetation conservation and shoreline restoration from 9-10 a.m. and commercial, port, industrial and economic development from 10:30-11:30 a.m. After a lunch break, the meetings will resume with public access and recreation discussed from 1-2 p.m., historical, archaeological, cultural, scientific and educational resources from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and federal consistency from 4-5 p.m.

While the formal public review process begins this fall with the Planning Commission submittal, the County is encouraging feedback now on the current version of the draft proposal called the *Revised Committee Working Draft SMP* and two supplemental technical documents titled the *Final Shoreline Inventory & Characterization Report* and the *Shoreline Restoration Plan*. These documents are available for public review at the DCD office, Jefferson County Library in Port Hadlock and at www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/ShorelinePlanning.htm.

Please bring feedback to the July 10th Community Planning Workshop or submit comments by July 11th to the DCD office. Although the County is seeking input now, formal comment may also be made later in the year during the public review process with the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners.

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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