

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Philip Morley, County Administrator

FROM: Al Scaff, Director – Department of Community Development
Stacie Hoskins, Planning Manager/Shoreline Administrator
Michelle McConnell, Associate Planner

DATE: June 6, 2011

SUBJECT: Continued Discussion: Draft Finfish Aquaculture Code for the Draft Jefferson County Response to Ecology on Changes to the *Locally Approved Shoreline Master Program* (MLA08-475)

ATTACHED: 1) Revised Draft Finfish Aquaculture Code; 2) Draft legal notice

STATEMENT OF ISSUE: Since February of this year, the Board of County Commissioners have been considering the preparation of a *DRAFT Jefferson County Response to Ecology on Changes to the Locally Approved SMP* ('Draft County Response') matrix to address the 61 possible changes to the *Locally Approved SMP*. In March, the Board recognized the need to review additional information on the issue of finfish aquaculture to assist the preparation of an alternative proposal to Ecology's required changes.

Once the Finfish Aquaculture Code (revised draft attached) is determined, the Draft County Response can be released for public review by publishing a legal notice (draft attached) to set the dates for an open formal comment period and public hearing.

ANALYSIS/STRATEGIC GOALS/PROS and CONS:

Ecology's approval is regarding the December 7, 2009 *Locally Approved SMP*, submitted to Ecology on March 1, 2010 as Exhibit A of Jefferson County Resolution 77-09 (erroneously referenced in Ecology documents as 'Ordinance Number 77-09') as the proposed amendments to the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan and Jefferson County Code. This SMP Comprehensive Update (MLA08-475) is required by law and must be completed by December 2011.

In March 2010, the County submitted a *Locally Approved Shoreline Master Program* (SMP) to the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) for final review and approval, per RCW 90.58 and WAC 173-26. After a public review process, Ecology reviewed the County's proposed SMP update for consistency with state statutory and rule requirements.

On January 26, 2011 Ecology determined that the County has met the procedural and policy requirements of the Shoreline Management Act and the SMP Guidelines, pending some required changes. A letter from Ecology's director with three attachments outlines their conditioned approval, findings and conclusions, required and recommended changes. The County needs to consider the

required changes and respond as to whether to accept or propose alternatives to those changes as part of the process for final adoption by the state and by local ordinance.

Staff reviewed the required and recommended changes and provided guidance to the Board on whether to agree, further study, decline or propose alternative changes, including numerous revisions proposed for clarification to correct various errors in the document prior to final adoption. The Board discussed the DCD Recommendation on February 22, February 28 and March 7, 2011 providing feedback to staff on each item for the County's response to Ecology. The Board reviewed and discussed the Draft County Response on March 14 and 21. Additional information was gathered and the Board continued discussion on the topic of finfish aquaculture on April 18 but further discussion was needed.

On April 25, the Board took action by sending a letter to alert Ecology about the status of the County's pending response and directed staff to cease further efforts to gather and catalogue more finfish information. With the Finfish Aquaculture Bibliography temporarily capped at 84 items, staff was directed to prepare a revised draft code proposal for finfish aquaculture.

The attached revised draft code proposal for finfish aquaculture is consistent with the statutory requirement to allow such shoreline activity as a water-dependent, preferred use and with Ecology's requirement for allowance as a conditional use. However, rather than Ecology's allowance for finfish aquaculture use/development in all shoreline environment designations (SEDs) the proposed draft code allows the use only in appropriate areas to ensure adequate protection of sensitive shoreline features and to minimize use conflicts with adjacent use/development. The specific performance standards are consistent with state guidance on finfish aquaculture use/development such as siting, use conflicts, and environmental impacts. Further, the provisions clarify aquaculture as a subset of agricultural use/development.

FISCAL IMPACT/COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

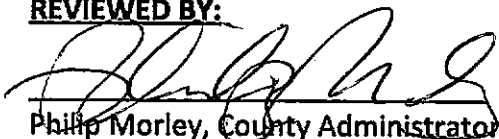
Grant funding for the SMP Update ended in June 2009. Department of Community Development staff work is covered by the department's annual budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board:

1. Direct staff as to what specific finfish aquaculture code language is to be added to the Draft County Response matrix; and
2. ^(Review) ~~Approve publication of~~ the legal notice ~~and the date~~ of a public hearing on the Draft County Response, and provide direction on any edits, for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.

REVIEWED BY:


Philip Morley, County Administrator

6/1/11
Date

**Draft Jefferson County Response to Ecology on Changes to the Locally Approved SMP:
Finfish & Net Pen Aquaculture Supplement**

To address Ecology's Attachment B. Required Changes #13, 14 and 15 regarding finfish aquaculture, revise text and reformat the following sections of the *Locally Approved SMP*:

- Article 2.E Definitions
- Article 4.3 Allowed Use Table
- Article 8.1 Agriculture
- Article 8.2 Aquaculture

(NOTE: Other Required, Recommended, and Proposed Clarification changes are referenced herein to assist review.)

Article 2.E Definitions

15. Experimental aquaculture means aquaculture that ~~uses~~ cultivates new species, or uses growing methods or harvesting techniques that have not previously been cultivated ~~used~~ in the state of Washington and that differ significantly from common practice.

Article 4. 3 Allowed Use Table

	Priority Aquatic	Aquatic	Natural	Conservancy	Shoreline Residential	High Intensity
Aquaculture:						
Net Pens/Finfish	X*	X*	X*	X*	X*	X*
In-water Finfish (Including Net Pens)	X	p*	X	X	X	C(d)*
Upland Finfish	X	p*	X	C(d)	X	C(d)

Article 8.1 Agriculture

A. Policies – Add new policy:

8. The County recognizes the importance of local food production, both on land and in water areas, when properly managed to control pollution and prevent environmental damage. As consistent with the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan, RCW 36.70A.030, and RCW 90.58.065, the commercial growth of food fish/finfish, shellfish and other aquatic plants and animals is considered agricultural production, however, for purposes of this Program, such food production that is water-dependent or located in water areas ("in-water") should be managed as aquaculture and aquaculture activities, as defined in Article 2.

B. Shoreline Environment Regulations – Delete text to read:

1. ~~New agricultural activities are prohibited. Farming and management of shellfish and other aquatic products are subject to the Aquaculture policies and regulations (Article 8 section 2) of this Program.~~

C. Regulations – Add new regulation;

3. Farming and management of food fish/finfish, shellfish or other aquatic plant or animal products shall be subject to the Aquaculture policies and regulations (Article 8 section 2) of this Program.

Article 8.2 Aquaculture

A. Policies

1. Aquaculture is a preferred, water-dependent use of regional and statewide interest that is important to the long-term economic viability, cultural heritage and environmental health of Jefferson County.
2. The County should support aquaculture uses and developments that:
 - i. Protect and improve water quality; and
 - ii. Minimize damage to important nearshore habitats; and
 - iii. Minimize interference with navigation and normal public use of surface waters; and
 - iv. Minimize the potential for cumulative adverse impacts, such as those resulting from in-water structures/apparatus/equipment, land-based facilities, and substrate disturbance/modification (including rate, frequency, and spatial extent).
3. When properly managed, aquaculture can result in long-term ecological and economic benefits. The County should engage in coordinated planning to identify potential aquaculture areas and assess long-term needs for aquaculture. This includes working with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), area tribes and shellfish interests to identify areas that are suitable for aquaculture and protect them from uses that would threaten aquaculture's long-term sustainability.
4. Aquaculture use and development should locate in areas where biophysical conditions, such as tidal currents, water temperature and depth, will minimize adverse environmental impacts. Individual aquaculture uses and developments should be separated by a sufficient distance to ensure that significant adverse cumulative effects do not occur.
5. The County should support tideland aquaculture use and development when consistent with this Program and protect tidelands and bedlands that were acquired and retained under the Bush and Callow Acts by not permitting non-aquaculture use and development on these tidelands.
6. Intensive residential uses, other industrial and commercial uses, and uses that are unrelated to aquaculture should be located so as not to create conflicts with aquaculture operations.
7. The County should promote cooperative arrangements between aquaculture growers and public recreation agencies so that public use of public shorelines does not conflict with aquaculture operations.
8. Experimental forms of aquaculture involving the use of new species, new growing methods or new harvesting techniques should be allowed when they are consistent with applicable state and federal regulations and this Program. Experimental aquaculture use/development in water

bodies should be limited in scale and may be allowed for a limited period of time to allow for evaluation and adaptive management as needed.

9. The County should support community restoration projects associated with aquaculture when they are consistent with this Program.
10. Commercial and recreational shellfish areas including Shellfish Habitat Conservation Areas are critical habitats. Shellfish aquaculture activities within all public and private tidelands and bedlands are allowed uses. Such activities include but are not limited to bed marking, preparation, planting, cultivation, and harvest. ~~Nothing in this program should be construed as to preclude their use.~~ [Note: See Required Change #12]
11. Chemicals and fertilizers used in aquaculture operations should be used in accordance with state and federal laws, and this Program.
- ~~12. Net pens, as defined in Article 2, should not be allowed.~~
13. Finfish aquaculture, including net pens as defined in Article 2 ~~that, that~~ uses or releases herbicides, pesticides, antibiotics, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, non-indigenous species, parasites, genetically modified organisms, ~~or~~ feed, or other materials known to be harmful into surrounding waters should not be allowed unless significant impacts to surrounding habitat and conflicts with adjacent uses are effectively mitigated.

~~B. Uses and Activities Prohibited Outright~~

- ~~1. Net pens, as defined in Article 2, are prohibited.~~
- ~~2. Finfish aquaculture that use or release herbicides, pesticides, antibiotics, fertilizers, non-indigenous species, parasites, pharmaceuticals, genetically modified organisms, feed or other materials known to be harmful into surrounding waters is prohibited.~~

C.B. Shoreline Environment Regulations

1. Priority Aquatic: Aquaculture activities may be allowed subject to the use and development regulations of the adjacent upland shoreline environment, except finfish aquaculture, including net pens, is prohibited.
2. Aquatic: Aquaculture activities may be allowed subject to the use and development regulations of the adjacent upland shoreline environment.
3. Natural: Aquaculture activities, except for geoduck aquaculture, may be allowed subject to policies and regulations of this Program. Geoduck aquaculture may be allowed with a conditional use permit (C(d)). Finfish aquaculture, including net pens, is prohibited.
4. Conservancy: Aquaculture activities, except for geoduck aquaculture, may be allowed subject to policies and regulations of this Program. Geoduck and upland finfish aquaculture may be allowed with a conditional use permit (C(d)). In-water finfish aquaculture, including net pens, is prohibited.

5. Shoreline Residential: Aquaculture activities, except for geoduck aquaculture, may be allowed subject to policies and regulations of this Program. Geoduck aquaculture may be allowed with a conditional use permit (C(d)). Finfish aquaculture, including net pens, is prohibited.
6. High Intensity: Aquaculture activities may be allowed subject to policies and regulations of this Program, except finfish aquaculture, including net pens, may be allowed with a conditional use permit ((C)d).

DC. Regulations – General

1. When a shoreline permit is issued for a new aquaculture use or development, that permit shall apply to the initial siting, construction, and/or planting or stocking of the facility or farm. If the initial approval is a shoreline substantial development permit, it shall be valid for a period of five (5) years with a possible one-year extension. If the initial approval is a conditional use permit, it shall be valid for the period specified in the permit.
2. Ongoing maintenance, harvest, replanting, restocking of, or changing the species cultivated in any existing or permitted aquaculture operation is not considered new use/development, and shall not require a new permit, unless or until: [Note: See Proposed Clarification #21]
 - i. The physical extent of the facility or farm is expanded by more than twenty-five percent (25%) or more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the facility/farm changes operational/cultivation methods compared to the conditions that existed as of the effective date of this Program or any amendment thereto. If the amount of expansion or change in cultivation method exceeds twenty-five percent (25%) in any ten (10) year period, the entire operation shall be considered new aquaculture and shall be subject to applicable permit requirements of this section; or
 - ii. The facility proposes to cultivate species not previously cultivated in the state of Washington.
3. Aquaculture uses and activities involving hatching, seeding, planting, cultivating, raising and/or harvesting of planted or naturally occurring shellfish shall not be considered development, as defined in Article 2, and shall not require a shoreline substantial development permit, unless:
 - i. The activity substantially interferes with normal public use of surface waters; or
 - ii. The activity involves placement of any structures as defined in Article 2; or
 - iii. The activity involves dredging using mechanical equipment such as clamshell, dipper, or scraper; or
 - iv. The activity involves filling of tidelands or bedlands.
4. The County shall assess the potential for interference described in 8.2.C.3 on a case-by-case basis. All proposed new aquaculture uses or developments shall submit a Joint Aquatic Permit Application (JARPA) and SEPA checklist to enable assessment by the county. Activities shall not be considered to substantially interfere with normal public use of surface waters, unless:
 - i. They occur in, adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of ~~public waters including~~ public tidelands; and [Note: See Required Change #18]
 - ii. They involve the use of floating ropes, markers, barges, floats, or similar apparatus on a regular basis and in a manner that substantially obstructs public

access, or passage from public facilities such as parks or boat ramps; ~~or~~ or they exclude the public from more than one acre of surface water on an ongoing or permanent basis.

5. Aquaculture activities not listed in 8.2.DC.3 and listed activities that fail to meet any of the criteria in ~~8.2.C.48.2.A.2~~ shall require a shoreline substantial development permit (SDP) or conditional use permit (CUP), and shall be subject to all of the following regulations: [Note: See Recommended Change #13]

- i. Subtidal, intertidal, floating, and upland structures and apparatus associated with aquaculture use shall be located, designed and maintained to avoid adverse effects on ecological functions and processes.
- ii. The County shall consider the location of proposed aquaculture facilities/farms to prevent adverse cumulative effects on ecological functions and processes and adjoining land uses. The County shall determine what constitutes acceptable placement and concentration of commercial aquaculture in consultation with state and federal agencies and Tribes based on the specific characteristics of the waterbody, reach, drift cell, and uplands in the vicinity of the farm/facility.
- iii. Upland structures accessory to aquaculture use that do not require a waterside location or have a functional relationship to the water shall be located landward of shoreline buffers required by the Program.
- iv. Overwater work shelters and sleeping quarters accessory to aquaculture use/development shall be prohibited.
- v. Floating/hanging aquaculture structures and associated equipment shall not exceed six (6) feet in height above the water's surface. The Administrator may approve hoists and similar structures greater than six (6) feet in height when there is a clear demonstration of need. The six foot height limit shall not apply to vessels.
- vi. Floating/hanging aquaculture facilities and associated equipment, except navigation aids, shall use colors and materials that blend into the surrounding environment in order to minimize visual impacts.
- vii. Aquaculture use and development shall not materially interfere with navigation, or access to adjacent waterfront properties, public recreation areas, or tribal harvest areas. Mitigation shall be provided to offset such impacts where there is high probability that adverse impact would occur. This provision shall not be interpreted to mean that an operator is required to provide access across owned or leased tidelands at low tide for adjacent upland owners.
- viii. Aquaculture uses and developments, except finfish aquaculture, shall be located at least six hundred (600) feet from any National Wildlife Refuge, seal and sea lion haulouts, seabird nesting colonies, or other areas identified as critical feeding or migration areas for birds and mammals. Finfish facilities, including net pens, shall be located 1,500 feet or more from such areas. The County may approve lesser distances based upon written documentation that US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and affected tribes support the proposed location.

- ix. Aquaculture use and development shall be sited so that shading and other adverse impacts to existing red/brown macro algae (kelp), and eelgrass beds are avoided.
- x. Aquaculture uses and developments that require attaching structures to the bed or bottomlands shall use anchors, such as helical anchors, that minimize disturbance to substrate.
- xi. Where aquaculture use and development are authorized to use public facilities, such as boat launches or docks, the County shall reserve the right to require the applicant/proponent to pay a portion of the maintenance costs and any required improvements commensurate with the applicant's/proponent's use.
- xii. Aquaculture use and development shall employ non-lethal, non-harmful measures to control birds and mammals. Control methods shall comply with existing federal and state regulations.
- xiii. Aquaculture use and development shall avoid use of chemicals, fertilizers and genetically modified organisms except when allowed by state and federal law.
- xiv. Non-navigational directional lighting associated with aquaculture use and development shall be used wherever possible and area lighting should be avoided and minimized to the extent necessary to conduct safe operations. Non-navigational lighting shall not adversely affect vessel traffic.
- x. Aquaculture waste materials and by-products shall be disposed of in a manner that will ensure strict compliance with all applicable governmental waste disposal standards, including but not limited to the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, and the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act (RCW 90.48).

6. Prior to approving a permit for floating/hanging aquaculture use and development or bottom culture involving structures, the County may require a visual analysis prepared by the applicant/proponent describing effects on nearby uses and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. The analysis shall demonstrate that adverse impacts on the character of those areas are effectively mitigated.

D. Regulations – Finfish

- 1. Surveys & Monitoring- For experimental finfish aquaculture use/development, and for other proposed finfish aquaculture activities subject to a shoreline substantial development permit (SDP) or a conditional use permit (CUP), the County may require, at the applicant/proponent's expense, baseline and periodic surveys, assessments, and operational monitoring by a County-approved consultant to determine the success of the project and/or the magnitude of any adverse impacts. Permits for such activities shall include specific performance measures and provisions for adjustment or termination of the project at any time if monitoring indicates significant, adverse environmental impacts that cannot be adequately mitigated.
- 2. Experimental Scope - Finfish aquaculture use or development approved on an experimental basis shall not exceed two (2) acres in area (except land based projects and anchorage for floating systems) and three (3) years in duration; provided that, the County may issue a new permit to

continue an experimental project as many times as is deemed necessary and appropriate by the Administrator.

3. Chemical Use - Any finfish operation/facility that uses or releases herbicides, pesticides, antibiotics, fertilizers, non-indigenous species, parasites, pharmaceuticals, genetically modified organisms, feed, or other materials known to be harmful into surrounding waters shall demonstrate all significant impacts have been mitigated. When state or federal agencies/permits require the owner/operator to prepare records/reports on the use of such chemicals/materials, copies shall be provided to the County.

4. Mortality Events - In the event of a significant fish kill at the site of any finfish operation/facility, the owner/operator shall submit a timely report to the County Public Health and Community Development departments stating the date and extent of the loss, cause of death, and detailed remedial action to prevent reoccurrence.

5. Siting, Use Conflicts & Impacts - Proposals for in-water and upland finfish aquaculture activities, including net pens as defined in Article 2, may be allowed with conditional use approval (C(d)) subject to the policies and regulations of this Program, provided that any adverse environmental impacts, facility siting, and use compatibility issues related to the following are demonstrated to be adequately mitigated. Conditions of approval may address:

a. Environmental impacts such as:

i. In- or over-water processing, sorting, culling, washing or similar activities;

ii. Broodstock supply is state-approved;

iii. Copies of state- or federal-required monitoring reports provided to County;

iv. Copies of required analysis of potential discharge per NPDES provided to County;

b. Facility siting issues such as:

i. Site characterization and baseline survey including photo/computer simulation of visual impact for any in-water facility located within 1,500' of OHWM;

ii. In-water operations/facilities shall locate 2 nautical miles from Type S streams and 1 nautical mile from Type F streams unless documented conflicts with navigation prove this infeasible;

c. Use compatibility issues such as:

i. Direct light, reflected glare, and security lighting;

ii. Odor control;

iii. Upland operations must be screened from view by fences, berms, and/or vegetation unless visual assessment shows unnecessary.

6. Net Pens/In-Water - Proposals for in-water finfish aquaculture activities, including net pens as defined in Article 2, shall also demonstrate the following provisions are met and issues are adequately mitigated:

a. Fish pen structures solely and directly established and managed for purposes of native salmon enhancement and/or restoration are not considered net pens for purposes of this Program, as defined in Article 2.

b. Operation/facility shall not occupy more than two (2) surface acres of water area.

- c. Operation/facility shall not be located closer than one (1) nautical mile to any other finfish aquaculture activities. The County may approve a lesser distance if the applicant/proponent can demonstrate that the proposal will be consistent with the environmental and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline and that the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed operations/facilities would not be contrary to the policies and regulations of this Program.
- d. The cleaning of nets and other apparatus shall be conducted on a frequent enough basis so as not to violate state water quality standards and shall be accomplished by air drying, spray washing, hand washing or other similar means. If such means are demonstrated as infeasible, other methods may be used, provided they are in accordance with this Program.
- e. Net pens shall be located no closer than 1,500 feet from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) unless demonstrated as infeasible and all significant environmental impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation (such as eelgrass and kelp) and other habitats of special significance are effectively mitigated.
- f. At a minimum, all applicable state-approved guidelines shall be met, including, but not limited to, the 1986 Recommended Interim Guidelines for the Management of Salmon Net Pen Culture in Puget Sound, the 1986 Aquaculture Siting Study, the 1988 Use Conflicts & Floating Aquaculture in Puget Sound, and the 1990 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Fish Culture in Floating Net-Pens Preferred Alternative. In the event there is a conflict in requirements, the more restrictive shall prevail. Upon availability of any other subsequently state-approved guidance, the more current requirements shall prevail.
- g. Net pens shall be prohibited in areas identified in the 1986 guidelines for restricted or no harvest of net pen finfish, including but not limited to Hood Canal and Discovery Bay south of the Protection Island Aquatic Reserve.

E. Regulations – Application Requirements

16. Prior to issuing a permit for any proposed ~~bottom culture or floating/hanging culture~~ aquaculture use or development, the County may require copies of permit applications and/or studies required by state and federal agencies to ensure provisions of this Program are met, including, but not limited to, the following information:
- i. Anticipated harvest cycles and potential plans for future expansion or change in species grown or harvest practices
 - ii. Number, types and dimensions of structures, apparatus or equipment.
 - iii. Predator control methods.
 - iv. Anticipated levels of noise, light, and odor and plans for minimizing their impacts.
 - v. Potential impacts to animals, plants, and water quality due to the discharge of waste water from any upland development.

- vi. Proof of application for an aquatic lands lease from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or proof of lease or ownership if bedlands are privately held.
- vii. Department of Health (DOH) Shellfish Certification Number.
- viii. Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) commercial aquatic farm or non-commercial, personal consumption designation.
- ix. Proof of application for any permits required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Health, or other agency-
- x. Proof of application for any state and federal permits/approvals including any required federal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq., ESA).

27. Prior to approving a permit for floating/hanging or upland aquaculture use and development or bottom culture involving structures, the County may require a visual analysis prepared by the applicant/proponent describing effects on nearby uses and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. The analysis shall demonstrate that adverse impacts on the character of those areas are effectively mitigated.

TO: Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader

LEGAL NOTICE

Please publish one (1) time: Wednesday, June _____, 2011 in 7-point font

BILL: Jefferson County Department of Community Development
621 Sheridan Street
Port Townsend WA 98368
Attn: Michelle McConnell
Tel: 360-379-4450
Account# 17385

DATE: Monday, June 6, 2011

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN AND JEFFERSON COUNTY CODE, TO UPDATE THE
SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on _____, **2011 at 6:00 p.m.** at the County Courthouse Superior Court Room, 1820 Jefferson St., Port Townsend, Washington, on the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Jefferson County Code, to update the Shoreline Master Program.

Written comments will be accepted by the Board of County Commissioners from _____, 2011 until 4:30 p.m. on _____, 2011. Written comments should be sent to: **BoCC - SMP Comments, PO Box 1220, Port Townsend, WA 98368** or to **JeffBoCC@co.jefferson.wa.us**.

The BoCC is considering changes to the *Locally Approved Shoreline Master Program* (LA-SMP) prior to final adoption by the state and the County. The specific changes under consideration are proposed as the *DRAFT Jefferson County Response to Ecology on Changes to the Locally Approved Shoreline Master Program (SMP)*. Public input is sought on the 61 possible changes listed therein including, but not limited to, topics such as common line buffer, tribal issues, residential dock length, in-water and upland finfish aquaculture, non-water oriented shoreline use/development, forest practices, boathouses, and vegetation trimming.

Below is a summary of the proposed Comprehensive Plan and Development Code amendments for a Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update (MLA08-475):

Comprehensive Plan – The amendment is proposed as an appendix of updated goals and policies that will supplement the following sections:

Element 3. Land Use & Rural;

Element 4. Natural Resource Conservation;

Element 6. Open Space, Parks and Recreation, and Historic Preservation; and

Element 8. Environment.

JCC Chapter 18.25 Shoreline Master Program – The amendment is proposed as a stand-alone document that will replace this chapter in its entirety including:

Article I. Recitals;

Article II. Definitions;

Article III. Scope;

Article IV. Shoreline Designations and Project Classifications;

Article V. Policies and Performance Standards;

Article VI. Administration;

Article VII. Variances;

Article VIII. Program Revisions; and

Article IX. Legal Provisions

This proposal will supplement existing goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan and replace the existing Shoreline Master Program (JCC 18.25) in entirety.

Availability of Documents: The full text of the *DRAFT Jefferson County Response to Ecology on Changes to the Locally Approved SMP* matrix and the *12-7-09 Locally Approved SMP* proposed amendment can be found at the DCD Front Desk in Port Townsend or online at http://www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/Shoreline_StateApproval.htm. For further information, please contact Department of Community Development (DCD), 621 Sheridan Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368, (360) 379-4450 or mmcconnell@co.jefferson.wa.us.

Date: _____, 2011

John Austin, Chair