



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

615 Sheridan Street ♦ Port Townsend ♦ Washington ♦ 98368
www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org

April 14, 2014

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Philip Morley, County Administrator

FROM: Tami Pokorny, Environmental Health Specialist II

DATE: April 21, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Request:** Presentation on Marine Spatial Planning and its Relationship to Shoreline Master Programs by Jennifer Hennessey, Washington Department of Ecology

STATEMENT OF ISSUE: In March 2010, the state legislature enacted a marine spatial planning law to reduce use conflicts in Washington waters (Chapter 43.472 RCW). Washington State manages a number of human activities such as marine transportation, aquaculture, and fishing in marine coastal waters. Marine spatial planning is designed to integrate existing marine resource management with emerging issues and new uses, like renewable energy, and to inform the regulatory framework, including shoreline master programs (www.msp.wa.gov).

Jennifer Hennessey, ocean policy lead with Washington Department of Ecology, will present on marine spatial planning and its relationship to shoreline master programs. She will provide background on coastal jurisdictions in marine waters and an overview on marine spatial planning on Washington's coast. She will also discuss the next steps for the marine spatial planning process and opportunities for county involvement.

ANALYSIS: Marine spatial planning is unique in its reliance on map-based data layers for decision making. It's intended to be a comprehensive approach to managing human uses and activities in the marine environment. It allows for coordination between all ocean and coastal users, draws upon the best available science, and involves an inclusive decision-making process to consider economic, social, ecological, and cultural interests.

The overarching goal for the Marine Spatial Plan for Washington's Pacific Coast is: To ensure a resilient and healthy marine ecosystem on Washington's coast that supports sustainable

COMMUNITY HEALTH
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
MAIN: (360) 385-9400
FAX: (360) 385-9401

PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
WATER QUALITY
MAIN: (360) 385-9444
FAX: (360) 379-4487

economic, recreational, and cultural opportunities for coastal communities, visitors and future generations.

The individual goals for the plan are:

Goal 1: Protect and preserve existing sustainable uses to ensure economic vibrancy and resource access for coastal communities,

Goal 2: Maintain maritime coastal communities from now into perpetuity;

Goal 3: Ensure that our marine ecosystem is preserved for future generations;

Goal 4: Develop an integrated decision making process which supports proactive, adaptive and efficient spatial planning; and,

Goal 5: Encourage economic development that recognizes the aspirations of local communities and protects coastal resources.

In February 2014, a Summary of SEPA Scoping and Response to Comments was posted (<http://www.msp.wa.gov/connect/news>) which includes responses to comments by the Jefferson County Commissioners (letter of September 23, 2013).

The county-led North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Committee (NPC MRC) and its individual members participate in the marine spatial planning process and have contributed through SEPA scoping, development of goals and objectives, formation and participation in the Washington Coast Marine Advisory Council (RCW 42.145.050), the collection of human use mapping data, new project development, and as marine spatial planning liaisons for the wider West End community.

FISCAL IMPACT: The costs for this presentation are negligible.

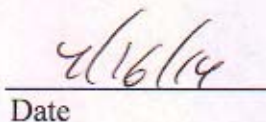
RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Visit the Marine Spatial Planning website (www.msp.wa.gov), including its mapping application (under "Explore").
- 2) Hear the presentation by Jennifer Hennessey.

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Tami Pokorny, Water Quality, Extension 498

REVIEWED BY:


Philip Morley, County Administrator


Date