



Whitman County Coalition Shoreline Master Program Update

**Introduction to the SMP
December 4, 2013**



Agenda

- Why update the SMP?
- What is the process?
- Where does this apply?
- What are the basic principles of the SMA?
- What are the planned Public Involvement Opportunities?
- Next Steps



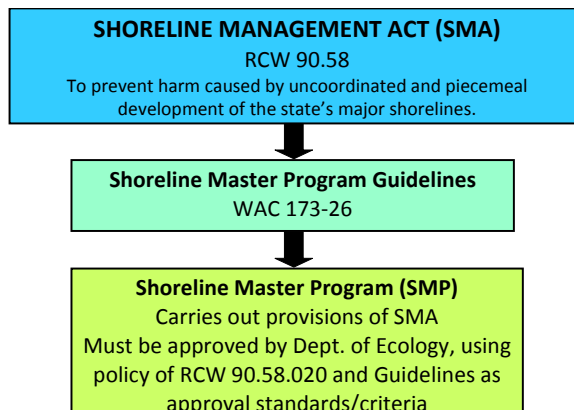


Why Update the SMP?

- The Shoreline Management Act requires all local governments to update
 - RCW 90.58 080 requires Whitman County be complete by June 2015
 - Ecology funding allows completion by December 2016
- Ecology rules passed in 2003
- County SMP developed in 1974
- Address changed conditions

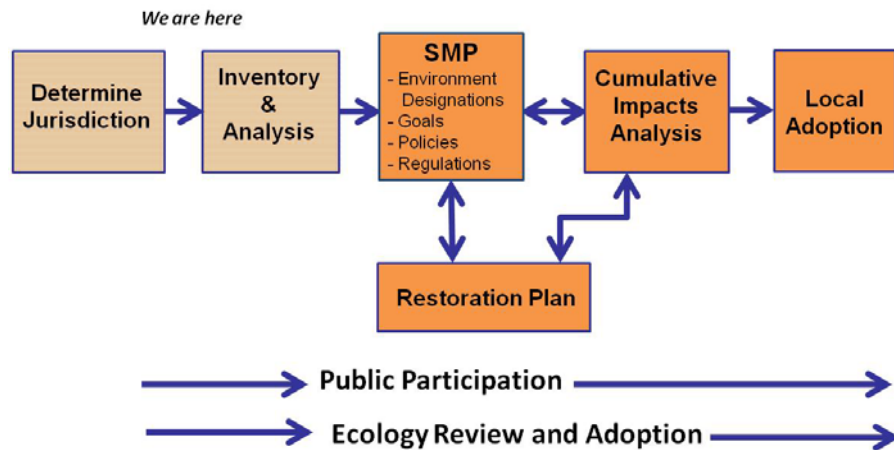


Shoreline Laws and Rules



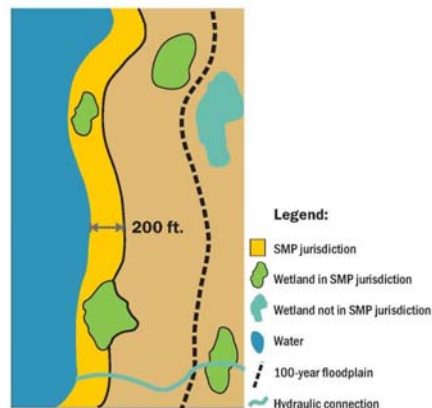


What is the Process?



Where Does this Apply?

- Minimum Shoreline Jurisdiction
 - Stream ≥ 20 cfs
 - Lakes ≥ 20 acres
 - Upland areas 200 feet from OHWM
 - Floodways and 200 feet of adjacent floodplain area
 - Associated wetlands
- NEW Uses
 - Existing shoreline uses and activities may continue





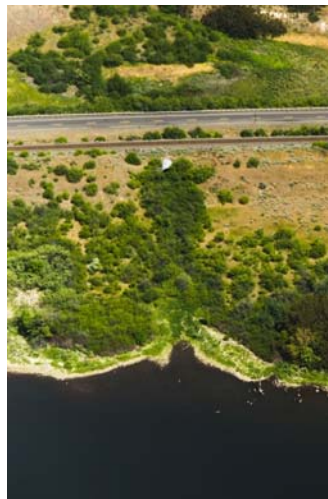
What are the Basic Principles of the SMA?

- Balance
 - water-oriented uses
 - public access
 - environmental protection
- Preferred Uses
- No Net Loss of Ecological Function



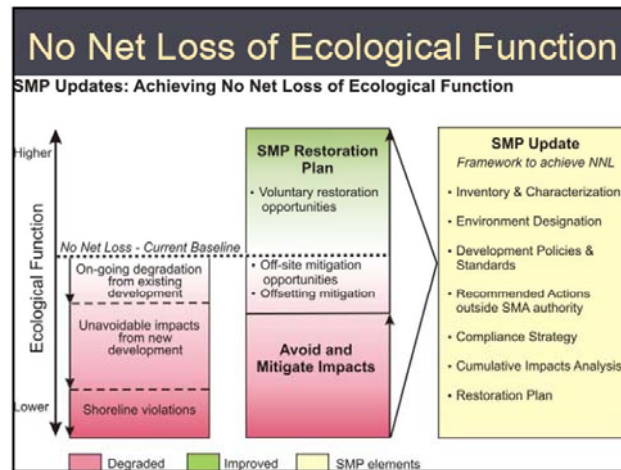
Ecological Functions and Values

- SMA Environmental Goals for Shorelines
 - Preserve the natural character of the shoreline
 - Protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline
- SMP will address shoreline vegetation, setbacks - recognizing existing conditions and uses
- Process includes developing a Shoreline Restoration Plan





No Net Loss of Ecological Functions



Water-Oriented Uses

- Water-Dependent
 - Can only exist in a shoreline location
 - E.g. ports, marinas
- Water-Related
 - Support water-dependent use
 - Functional requirement for a waterfront location
 - E.g. arrival or shipment of materials by water
- Water-Enjoyment
 - Recreational or other use that provides for public access or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline





Agriculture

- Existing agriculture activities can continue - not subject to the SMP
- SMP will allow new agricultural activities



Public Access

- Waters of the state are a public resource for all citizens for the purposes of navigation, conducting commerce, fishing, recreation and similar uses
- Trespassing on private property is not allowed
- SMP will address public access policies and standards



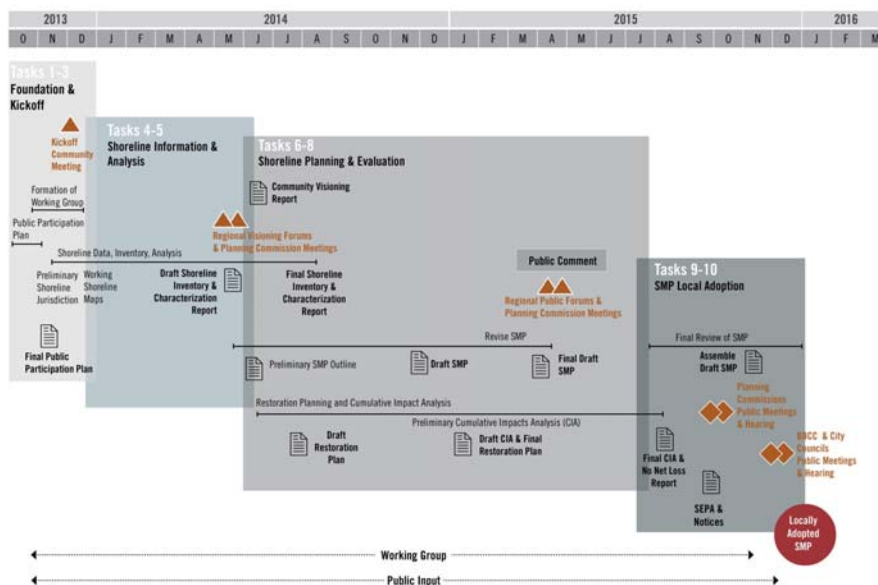


What are the Planned Public Involvement Activities?

- Open Houses & Forums
 - Kick-off
 - Inventory & Analysis
 - Visioning
 - Draft SMP
 - Revised Draft SMP
- Planning Commission Meetings & Hearings
- BOCC and City/Town Council Meetings & Hearings



Whitman County and Cities Shoreline Master Program Update Timeline





Summary of Next Steps

- Spring 2014
 - Develop Shoreline Analysis Report
 - Conduct Shoreline Visioning
- Summer/Winter 2014
 - Develop Draft SMP, Restoration Plan & Cumulative Impacts Analysis
- Spring/Summer 2015
 - Revise Draft Documents
- Fall/Winter 2015
 - Local Adoption Process
- Spring 2016
 - Formal Ecology Review

