

CHAPTER 10 - ENVIRONMENT

#	Page	Section/Policy	Proposed Amendment	Sponsor	Meeting
70	10-64	NEW Policy 10N-8	<p><u>Policy 10N-8: Address the issue of derelict vessels and change the current language in code to hold owners more accountable. Ensure that resources are available to fund established policies designed to address this issue.</u></p> <p><i>Staff Comment – The County only has jurisdiction over derelict vessels located on County-owned or managed aquatic lands. Recommend specifying that in the proposed policy.</i></p>	Galloway MRC	HOLD
71	10-64	NEW Policy 10N-9	<p><u>Policy 10N-9: Provide adequate toxicity testing of crab and bottomfish that dwell in areas of contaminated sediments to demonstrate that public health is protected. Determine mercury levels in edible tissues of juvenile Dungeness crab collected from Whatcom Waterway and create realistic models of consumption for populations and age groups most at risk.</u></p> <p><i>Staff Comment – The County does not have funding to do this and it is unclear if it has authority.</i></p>	Galloway MRC	HOLD
ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS FOR 4/28					
75	10-45	Policy 10F-6 (See #32)	<p>Policy 10F-6: <u>When not in conflict with state and federal permits, e</u>ncourage the use of low-impact sustainable development strategies to ensure water quality and quantity. Strategies may include installing water catchment systems.</p> <p><i>Note: Industrial wastewater and stormwater permits already contain state and federal requirements to ensure water quality. Permits must follow already established best management practices (BMP).</i></p>	Stremmer	
76	10-49	Policy 10H-8 (See #36)	<p>Policy 10H-8: <u>When not in conflict with state and federal permits e</u>ncourage the use of low-impact sustainable development strategies to minimize the effects of increased development in order to mitigate the effects of increased impermeable surfaces and increased stormwater runoff. Minimize the amount of impervious surface by using natural engineering design methods such as the use of open, grassed, street swales and rain gardens instead of curbs and gutters and vegetative buffers to reduce harmful stormwater runoff. Where feasible,</p>	Stremmer	

			<p>encourage alternate surfacing options and other techniques associated with Low Impact Development.</p> <p><i>Note: Industrial spill prevention plans often require impermeable surfaces to minimize potential spills from impacting the environment. Impermeable surfaces are also much safer in industrial settings than uneven ground.</i></p>		
77	10-61	Policy 10K-8 (See #49)	<p>Policy 10K-8: Discourage development within and adjacent to critical areas and along shorelines that support feeder bluffs or impact shoreline processes. Give careful consideration to the siting of industrial, commercial, residential, and other land use designations when located near important marine, terrestrial, or other critical habitats. Ensure development does not degrade water quality and aquatic resources, while also considering the cumulative impacts of development.</p> <p><i>Note: Return to language in the currently issued Comprehensive Plan. Similar to other policies, this proposed goal is potentially encroaching on Chapter 11 shoreline aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. Chapter 11 was recently approved by Washington Dept of Ecology. Recommend to address policies which are potentially in conflict with or add to Chapter 11 when Chapter 11 is updated next.</i></p>	Stremler	
78	10-61	Policy 10K-12 (See #51)	<p>Policy 10K-12: Ensure the design and development of land avoids or minimizes disturbance to marine shorelines, rivers, streams, floodplains, and functioning riparian areas to preserve their natural function, processes, and ecosystem benefits.</p> <p><i>Note: Retain original language. Remove the addition of marine shorelines as shoreline policies are already addressed in Chapter 11 of the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan which is approved by Washington Dept of Ecology. This will avoid potential conflicts with state-approved language.</i></p>	Stremler	
79	10-62	Policy 10L-5 (See #54)	<p>Policy 10L-5: Native vegetation and soils on streambanks and shorelines should not be disturbed <u>as little as possible</u>. In situations where re-vegetation is necessary to mitigate and (#54) restore streambank or shoreline stability and provide shading, site-specific native plants should be used. <u>Retention of vegetated riparian areas on all lake and marine shorelines shall also be required.</u></p> <p><u>Additional amendment by Stremler added for 5/19</u></p>	Stremler	

			<p><i>Note: Utilize language in the currently issued Comprehensive Plan. Does shoreline policy utilizing prohibitory language such as this belong in Chapter 11? In order to perform critical maintenance of marine infrastructure, native vegetation and soil can be disturbed during the work. This work is permitted by Whatcom County with appropriate BMPs to minimize disturbance.</i></p>		
80	10-62	Policy 10L-6 (See #55)	<p>Policy 10L-6: Shoreline armoring falls under the Shoreline Management Program and is only allowed in very limited circumstances. Restrict new hard armoring and require soft shore techniques or other less impactful solutions for new development and when armor is degraded and in need of replacement. Use resources such as the Shore Friendly Program (shorefriendly.org) that provide guidance on options for protection shoreline properties while promoting healthy shorelines along with requiring setbacks from the shoreline and natural or bio-engineering solutions such as planting native vegetation, engineered log jams/LWD, wing dams, and beach nourishment along eroding banks to address stream and shoreline bank erosion problems. Riparian buffers should be replanted with suitable native vegetation as a part of all bank stabilization projects.</p> <p><i>Note: Similar to other policies, this proposed policy is potentially encroaching on Chapter 11 shoreline aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. Chapter 11 was recently approved by Washington Dept of Ecology. Recommend to address policies which are potentially in conflict with or add to Chapter 11 when Chapter 11 is updated next.</i></p>	Stremler	
81	10-63	Policy 10L-7 (See #56)	<p>Policy 10L-7: Explore ways to fund an updated mapping of shoreline armoring and/or use Ecology's updated shoreline conditions inventory to create a database of existing shoreline armoring.</p> <p><i>Note: Repeal this new policy as it is already covered in Chapter 12</i></p>	Stremler	
82	10-63	Policy 10L-8 (See #57)	<p>Policy 10L-8: Ensure that amendments to the Shoreline Master Program and Critical Areas Ordinances protect marine shorelines. Seek ways to reduce existing shoreline armoring, prevent expansion that would impact forage fish spawning and salmonid migratory pathways, and re-establish or widen intertidal corridors for migrating juvenile salmon that have been lost due to shoreline armoring.</p> <p><i>Note: Repeal this new policy as it is already covered in Chapter 12</i></p>	Stremler	