



Memorandum

TO: County Council
Jack Louws, County Executive

FROM: Cliff Strong, Senior Planner

THROUGH: Mark Personius, Director

DATE: August 29, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 Shoreline Management Program (SMP) Periodic Update – Scoping Document

At your August 7th Natural Resources Committee meeting, the motion to approve the scoping document was held in committee. The Committee requested “staff and the consultant to provide as soon as possible an estimate for creating a baseline of ecological function as shown in item 28, including cost and timing, as would be required to be done in a comprehensive update.”

We have obtained that estimate and will present it along with a presentation on how No Net Loss is achieved through the Shoreline Management Program and associated monitoring systems at your September 10th meeting. In support of that presentation, we are providing in your packet the following documents:

- Chapter 4 of the Department of Ecology’s Shoreline Management Plan Handbook, regarding No Net Loss of Shoreline Ecological Functions.
- A copy of the October 29, 2018, Critical Areas Ordinance Monitoring proposal memo.
- A list of restoration opportunities identified in the 2007 SMP Restoration Plan
- This link to the 2007 SMP Restoration Plan:
<http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/38631/SMP-Background-Volume-III---Restoration-Plan> (or you can access it on PDS’s project website via Home > Your Government > Departments > Planning & Development Services > Planning > Long Range Planning > Projects & Programs > Shoreline Master Program Periodic Update 2020 > SMP Update 2020 Documents)

Additionally, we are also providing a revised Scoping Document, as staff would like to add one more item to it. After your last meeting, Public Works contacted us to discuss adding to the SMP a reference to the *Swift Creek Sediment Management Action Plan* (SCSMAP) and its supporting documents (EIS, forthcoming consent decree, etc.). State law allows projects such as this certain permitting leeway and Public Works would like to explore that. PDS supports this proposal. A new bullet under Issue #12 has been added, reading, “Add a reference to the Swift Creek Sediment Management Action Plan so as to clarify permitting procedures for actions necessitated by this plan.”

Requested Action: Staff requests that the Council review the attached scoping document and concur with the Planning Commission’s recommendation to approve (with the addition of a reference to the SCSMAP).