Shoreline Planning Committee
October 8, 2014
Agenda

A. Historical Context for the Pacific County SMP update
B. 1975 v. 2000 SMPs – what changed?
C. Does the 2000 SMP meet the new guidelines?
D. Upcoming highlights/schedule
1975 v. 2000 SMPs

1. Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975</th>
<th>2000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Definitions</td>
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<td>Goals</td>
<td>Policies</td>
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<td>Policies/Regulations</td>
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<td>Columbia River Estuary</td>
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<td>Administration</td>
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<td>Environment Designations</td>
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<td>Ocean Resources</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. Wordsmithing (policies)

- "Visioning" came out
- General discussion material came out
- "Intent" and "general info" material will come back in the current update through Visioning Report and Shoreline Inventory Report

**SECTION 6 - AQUACULTURE**

**POLICIES**

6.01 Aquaculture means the farming of lakes, streams, estuaries or the sea. It refers to the planting, feeding, raising and harvesting of aquatic species, usually fish and shellfish. It is an outgrowth of (and an improvement over) the simple extraction of food from the waters and so is in the tradition of this ancient means of livelihood. At the same time, it is an industry on the technological frontier and has a large, as yet barely tapped, potential for growth.

Because aquaculture requires waters of high quality (defined in such terms as temperature, oxygen content, nutrient levels and, in marine waters, salinities), its very presence along COUNTY shorelines, meaning primarily Willapa Bay and associated waters, testifies to their relatively clean and healthy conditions. Indeed, these waters constitute the last major unspoiled estuary in the country and as such offer an unduplicated potential for aquaculture. Recognizing this unique suitability, and the fact that aquaculture is a use with minimally adverse environmental impact, it is the policy of this Program to give a high priority to aquaculture whenever other uses come into conflict with or threaten it. It is envisioned that the Willapa estuary will remain a naturally productive, working estuary—unlike the other marine shorelines in the state which are either pre-empted already by other uses or are less suited for aquaculture.

It is not the intention of this Program to encourage one economic use of the shorelines and waters at the expense of another. The fundamental aim is to protect the water quality and natural productivity of the Willapa estuarine system regardless of the amount of development along its shorelines. An expanding and diversified economic base is not necessarily incompatible with a health, productive estuarine system, although as experience with the urbanization of other estuaries around the country indicates, economic development in the future must be more careful than it usually has been in the past. It is the policy of this Program to encourage "development-with-care" so that aquaculture and fisheries may continue to thrive in clean waters without stunting whatever amount of economic development and shoreline use is desired by COUNTY citizens.
1975 v. 2000 SMPs

2. Wordsmithing (policies)

**1975**

6.02 Aquacultural enterprises should be located in areas where the navigational access of commercial traffic is not significantly restricted.

6.03 The above statements of policy more truly reflect local conditions than do the guidelines on aquaculture included under WAC 173-16-060(2) of the Guidelines and therefore supersede those guidelines.

**2000**

a. Areas with high aquacultural use potential should be identified and encouraged for aquacultural use and protected from degradation by other types of land and water uses.

b. Aquacultural uses and associated on-shore facilities should be located, designed and operated consistent with state guidelines, specifically WAC 173-16-060(2).
1975 v. 2000 SMPs

2. Wordsmithing (Aquaculture regulations)

### 1975

**Natural Environment**

6.20 Aquacultural uses are permitted on natural shorelines provided that they do not have a harmful ecological impact and do not materially interfere with the normal public use of the waters or shorelines of the state, except that unlimited recreational navigation over the surface of the waters shall not be construed as normal public use.

### 2000

**A. Natural Environment**

1. Aquacultural uses are permitted on natural shorelines provided that they do not have a harmful ecological impact and do not materially interfere with the normal public use of the waters or shorelines of the state, except that unlimited recreational navigation over the surface of the water shall not be construed as normal public use.
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

- Shoreline Master Program Guidelines found under Chapter 173-26
- Amended in 2003
- 2000 SMP provides good framework, but...
  - Some missing requirements
  - Sample of the need for clarity, greater specificity for activities & uses
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

1. Some missing requirements
   - Consistency with Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations (especially critical areas)
   - No net loss of ecological function
   - Shorelines of Statewide Significance
   - Property rights
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

2. Sample of need for clarity, greater specificity of activities and uses

**Shoreline Vegetation Conservation**

- Regulations do not address protecting or restoring shoreline vegetation that contributes to shoreline function
- Need standards for buffers, clearing & grading requirements, selective pruning, noxious weed removal
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

2. Sample of need for clarity, greater specificity of activities and uses

Agriculture

- RCW 90.58.065 exempts existing agricultural activities & lands
- Focus on new agricultural activities & lands – how will we do this?
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

2. Sample of need for clarity, greater specificity of activities and uses

**Aquaculture**

- Regulations do not address geoduck production
- New aquaculture must locate in areas that do not create a net loss of shoreline ecological function
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

2. Sample of need for clarity, greater specificity of activities and uses

Environment Designations

- Existing designations more complex than required under Guidelines
- Mapping is often complex/inconsistent with text
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

2. Sample of need for clarity, greater specificity of activities and uses

Environment Designations

Example of environment designation mapping for North River
2000 SMP = Guidelines?

In conclusion...

- 2000 SMP provides a good foundation, but it needs more specificity
- Need to address some missing issues
- Make the document more organized, user friendly
- Use the Guidelines as a checklist as we move forward with update