

# Seattle's Shorelines Today and Tomorrow



Seattle Shoreline Master Program Update  
Planning, Land Use and Sustainability Committee 3/3/15

# Overview

- Background on Shoreline Master Program
- Reasons for the update
- Components of the update
- Update process

# Shoreline Background

- **1971** – State Shoreline Management Act
- **1972** – Seattle adopted first Shoreline Master Program (SMP)
- **1987** – Last Seattle SMP Update
- **2003** – WA Dept. of Ecology adopts new Shoreline Guidelines



# Ecology Shoreline Master Program Guidelines

- 2003 Guidelines represent negotiated settlement between government, business and environmental communities
- Timelines set for local jurisdiction updates + grant (\$400,000)
- Ecology staff assigned to work with local jurisdiction





# New Shoreline Master Program Requirements

1. Shoreline Inventory and Characterization
2. Public Participation Plan
3. Shoreline Vision and Intent
4. Shoreline Environmental Designations
5. Develop Policies and Regulations
6. Cumulative Impact Analysis
7. Restoration Plan

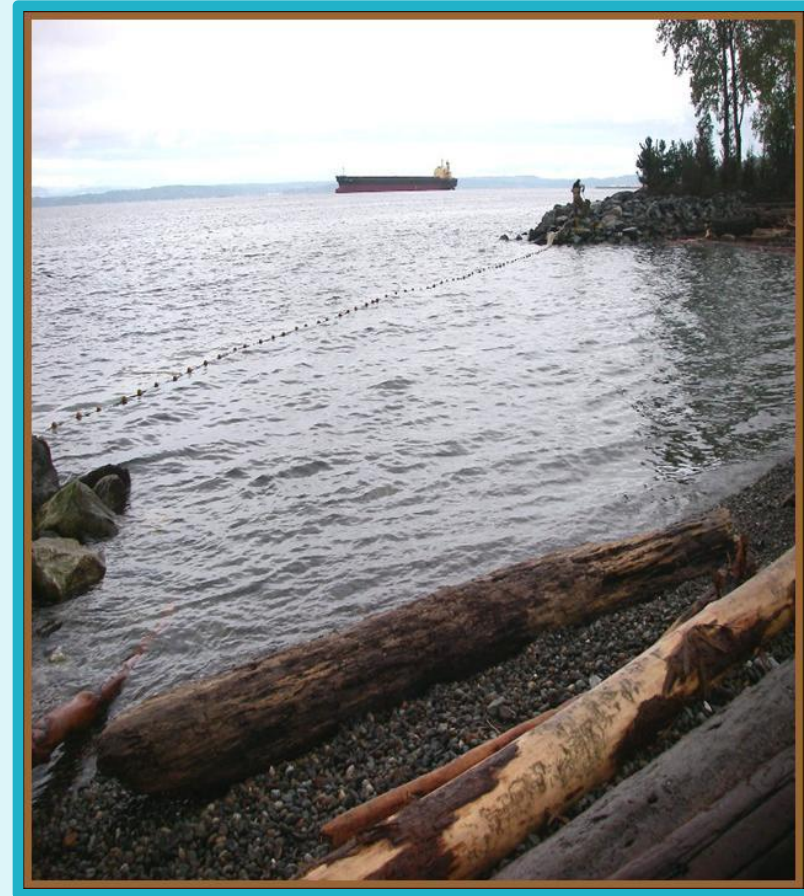


# Ecology Requirements

1. Establish use preferences:
  - Water-dependent
  - Water-related
  - Water-enjoyment
2. Ensure ecological protection - “No Net Loss”
3. Provide for public access
4. Provide shoreline views
5. Protect cultural/historic/archeological resources
6. Shoreline modifications
7. Vegetation management

# Process 2007 - 2009

- Shoreline Visioning Process survey, meetings, report, 2007 -
- Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings May 2008 – June 2009, Final meeting March 2011
- Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report, 2009
- Shoreline Environment Designations, 2009
- Industrial Lands Market Study, 2009



# Process

## 2011 & 2012

- February 2011 to June 2012  
- 2 public review drafts, comments, and revisions
- June 2012 – Publish SEPA decision, 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of regulations
- July 2012 - address comments; revise regulations





# Process 2013

- City Council adopted SMP update in January of 2013
- Ecology reviews to determine compliance with 2003 SMP Guidelines



# Process 2014

## State Legislation 2014

- SB 6450 created a new category to allow residential use overwater
- Category = Floating on-water residences
- Structure required to be in the City prior to July 1, 2014
- Designated these structures as conforming uses
- SMP required to allow maintenance, repair, replacement, and remodeling



# Recap

## Types of Floating Residential Structures

- Floating homes - late 1800s,  
connected to City system
- House barges – 1990,  
not connected
- Floating on-water residences  
After 1990 – July 1, 2014,  
not connected



# Registration/Verification

- DPD outreach
- DPD - Issue number plate
- Floating homes register within 6 months
- Floating on-water residences and house barges verification is voluntary
- DPD request verification after 60 days





# Process

## 2014 & 2015

- Ecology issued a conditional approval of Seattle's 2013 SMP on June 5, 2014
- This proposed legislation addresses changes required and recommended by Ecology's conditional approval of 2013 Legislation



# Department of Ecology Review

- Changes made since Ecology's conditional approval are required to be within the scope of the conditional approval
- If Ecology determines that the proposed amendments are consistent, final approval issued
- If Ecology determines that amendments are inconsistent, Seattle required to re-submit their SMP for another review and approval process.

Thank you

