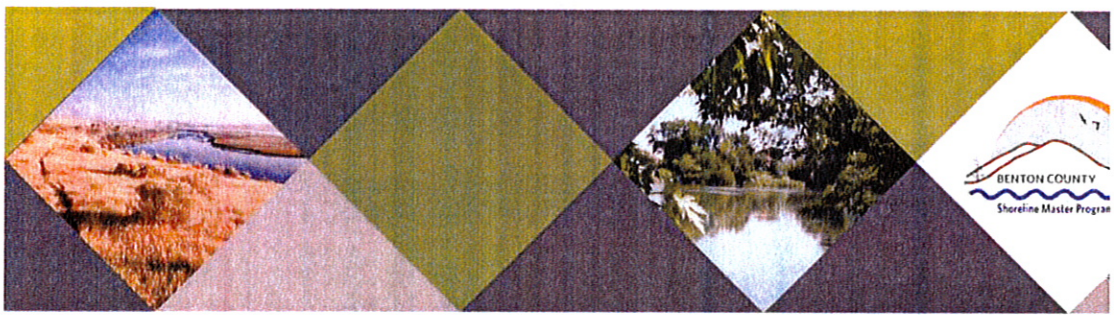
Benton County Shoreline Master Program Update-Info



Benton County is updating its Shoreline Master Program (SMP) to comply with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and current state shoreline management guidelines. To protect state shoreline areas, the Washington Legislature passed the Shoreline Management Act in 1971 (Chapter 90.58 RCW). The public adopted the Act in a 1972 referendum vote. Under the Act, each town, city and county with "shorelines of the state" must develop and adopt its own shoreline program. "Shorelines of the state" generally refers to rivers, larger lakes, and marine waterfronts along with their associated shorelands, wetlands, and floodplains. The County's initial SMP was adopted by the Department of Ecology on April 25, 1974 (Benton County Shoreline Master Plan), and has not been updated since that time.

The three primary areas of focus of the SMP update are to:

- Encourage reasonable and appropriate development of shorelines with an emphasis on water-dependent or related uses, such as docks, marinas, and recreational facilities, or industries and commercial uses that require a shoreline location and support economic development, and,
- Protects the natural character of the shorelines, the land, vegetation, wildlife, and shoreline environment, and,
- Promotes public access and provides opportunities to enjoy views and recreational activities in shoreline areas. (RCW 90.58.020)

The geographic scope and jurisdiction of the County's SMP update includes approximately 411 miles (calculated single banks) of shorelines, principally along the Columbia and Yakima Rivers.

What are shorelines?

Shorelines are special waterbodies that meet certain size or flow criteria in the Shoreline Management Act. These shorelines include rivers and streams with mean annual flow over 20 cubic feet per second. The shoreline jurisdiction extends 200 feet landward of these waters and additionally includes associated wetlands, floodways, and up to 200 feet of floodway-contiguous floodplains. The shorelines in Benton County include the Columbia and Yakima Rivers.

What is the Shoreline Management Act?

Washington's Shoreline Management Act was passed by the legislature in 1971 and affirmed by voters in 1972. The Act governs the use and development of Washington's shorelines and creates a unique partnership between local and state government. The Act strives to achieve responsible shoreline use and development, environmental protection, and public access. Local governments develop programs based on the Act and state guidance, and the state ensures local programs consider statewide public interests. The programs are developed at the local level to allow a locally tailored plan with community participation and involvement in decisions, and are adopted by both the County and the state upon its completion.

What is a shoreline master program?

Shoreline master programs carry out the policies of the Shoreline Management Act at the local level, regulating use and development of shorelines. Local shoreline programs include policies and regulations based on state laws and rules but tailored to the unique geographic, economic, and environmental needs of each community.

Updating a shoreline program is a complex and time-consuming process. Most comprehensive updates take two to three years. When updating their shoreline programs, local governments are required by law

to engage and seek input from the public, interested agencies, and affected tribes.

Under state law, Washington's 39 counties and more than 200 cities and towns that have shoreline areas covered under the Act must develop these individual, locally-tailored programs to guide construction and development in regulated shoreline areas.

Why is the County SMP Update necessary?

Most of the existing local shoreline programs were originally written between 1974 and 1978. Some have been updated over the years, but most have not. Since that time, we have made significant advances in our understanding of ecological processes, Washington's population has nearly doubled, and the use and development of shorelines has increased dramatically.

Department of Ecology's adoption of updated Guidelines in 2003 began a new era of shoreline planning in Washington. Between now and 2014, towns, cities and counties across the state (about 260 in all) must comprehensively update their shoreline programs to meet the requirements of the new Guidelines. The State offers grant funding and guidance to support these local governments through the Department of Ecology. If local jurisdictions do not prepare and adopt a local plan, the Department of Ecology will provide a plan for them.

Benton County Shoreline Master Plan Documents for Update Program

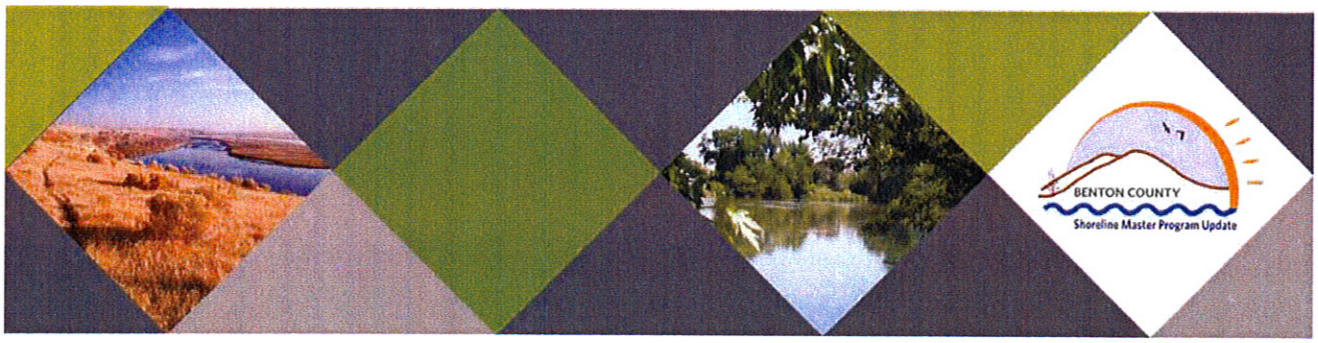
Benton County Shoreline Master Plan (1974)

Adopted 1974 Shoreline Map

SMP Update Brochure

Shoreline Management Grant Agreement

SMP UPDATE-HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?



There are many opportunities for County Residents to get involved and participate in the Shoreline Management Program (SMP) Update!

The Benton County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update Public Participation Plan (PPP) prepared by the County describes the process and steps they will take to involve its rural community in decisions regarding the SMP update. The goal is to provide the public with timely information, an understanding of the process and opportunities to review and comment on update alternatives before final decisions are made. The PPP contains an introduction to the Shoreline Master Program, Program background, goals, work plan and phasing, timeline, meetings and hearing format, public involvement strategies, stakeholders list, contacts, and various tables, figures and maps. Benton County views this Public Participation Plan as establishing the basic public involvement processes that will be utilized during the SMP Update Program.

Email Notification/Mailing list

To receive future updates and meeting notices by email, send your full name and email address to smp@co.benton.wa.us . If you prefer to be notified by posted mail, you may call and leave your full name and complete mailing address with the Planning Department at (509) 786-5612.

Internal SMP Webpages

SMP MATERIALS TO DATE	SMP SHORELINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

Upcoming Events:

October 2013 SMP Public Forums- Draft SMP Public Review October 2013

SMP-Oct_Forums_Postcard

Past Events:

June 2013 Public Forums Summary

June 2013 SMP Public Forums- Preliminary Plan and Goals

SMP-SHORELINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Shoreline Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Shoreline Advisory Committee is made up of rural residents, property owners, ports and irrigation districts, public and state agencies, farm and natural resource interests, tribes, recreational users, and interested parties. The SAC meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Benton PUD, 250 N. Gap Rd, Prosser, WA @3:00-4:30pm- County residents and interested parties are encouraged to attend.

SAC Participation Agreement
Revised SAC Meeting and Forum Schedule (9/5/2013)

SAC MEETINGS AGENDAS, HANDOUTS, & SUMMARIES

2013:

- October 10th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; the SAC meeting is preceding the Thursday SMP October Public Forum.

  Presentations/Handouts: Public Review of DRAFT SMP; Further Revised DRAFT SMP Sections from August 8th Meeting, Revised DRAFT Sections for September 12th meeting

- September 12th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; Presentations/Handouts:SMP Review DRAFT Sections for September 12th Meeting, Further revised DRAFT SMP Sections from Aug 8th Meeting,

- August 8th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; Presentations/Handouts:

  SMP Review DRAFT Sections for August 8th Meeting,
  Further revised DRAFT SMP Sections from May 9th Meeting,
  Further revised DRAFT SMP Sections from June 13th Meeting,
  Revised DRAFT SMP Sections from July 11th Meeting,
  SMP Public Access Focus Group Summary 5_30_13

- July 11th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; Presentations/Handouts:

  Revised DRAFT SMP Sections from May 9th Meeting,
  Revised DRAFT SMP Sections from June 13th Meeting,
  July's DRAFT SMP Sections

- June 13th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; Presentations/Handouts:

  Revised DRAFT SMP Sections from May 9th Meeting,
  June's DRAFT SMP Sections

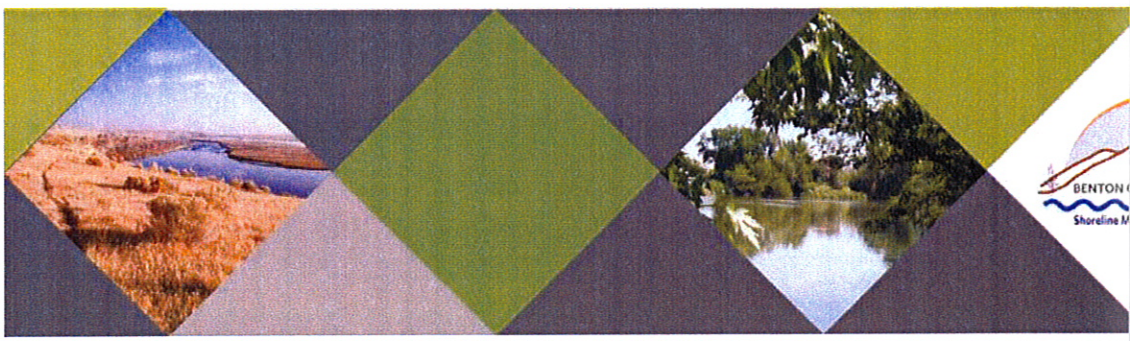
- May 9th- Agenda, Meeting Summary; Presentations/Handouts:

  Revised **DRAFT** Environment Designation Code Sections,
  Environmental Designation Maps,
  Revised Preliminary Goals

Benton County Shoreline Master Program Update-Info

- SMP UPDATE- INFORMATIVE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES
- SMP UPDATE-HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?
- SMP-ECOLOGY GRANT DELIVERABLES
- SMP-MATERIALS TO DATE
- SMP-SHORELINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- SMP-Shoreline Map-Archived

SMP-MATERIALS TO DATE



The documents and links below are the tasks performed and materials produ Benton County-Washington State Department of Ecology Grant Agreement N for the Benton County Shoreline Master Program Update. This webpage pro to date information and links as required by the SMP Public Participation Pla the documents are shown by month in descending order.

October 2013

Public Review Draft of SMP
October Regional Public Forums 10/9/2013 & 10/10/2013

July 2013

Final Restoration Plan-June 28, 2013
Summary of Public Access Focus Group 5/30/2013
Summary of June Public Forums

June 2013

SMP June Public Forums-Preliminary Plan and Goals Poster 5/22/13
June Public Forums Presentation and Handouts: Informational Boards, Preliminary Goals, FAQs

May 2013

*Revised Preliminary SMP Goals 4/22/13
*Revised SMP Environmental Designations 5/2/13
Environmental Designations Maps 4/29/13
SMP Community Questionnaire Open House Summary

April 2013

Final Analysis Report-April 2013
Shoreline Inventory Map Folio PDF Document

Visioning -Community Questionnaire cont.

- SMP Community Questionnaire Public Open House Flier
- SMP Community Questionnaire Open House Presentation

March 2013

Visioning -Community Questionnaire

- SMP Community Questionnaire Display Advertisement
- SMP Community Questionnaire Postcard Mail-out

- SMP Community Questionnaire Flier
- SMP Community Questionnaire Local Newspaper Reminder Segment
- Copy of SMP Community Questionnaire-March 2013

February 2013

Draft Restoration Plan2_6_13

Regional Forums

- SMP January Regional Forums Summary- January 9th and 10th
- SMP January Regional Forums PowerPoint Presentation

- SMP January Regional Forums Summary- January 9th and 10th
- SMP January Regional Forums PowerPoint Presentation

January 2013

Revised Preliminary SMP Goals: Working Document

Regional Forums

- SMP Regional Forums Display Advertisement
- SMP Regional Forums Postcard Invitation
- SMP Regional Forums Save the Date Poster

December 2012

November 2012

Draft Analysis Report:

- Draft Analysis Report, Nov 30

Shoreline Inventory Map Folio:

Preliminary Analysis Report:

- Analysis Transmittal Memo
- Draft Analysis Report, Nov 1

*Shoreline Inventory Map Folio:

- Map Folio Cover Sheet
- Butterfly Occurrences
- Channel Migration Zone (CMZ)
- Comp Plan Designations
- Current Land Use
- Floodplain, Floodways and Wetlands
- Geologically Hazardous Areas
- Impervious Surfaces
- Land Cover- Vegetation
- Land Ownership
- Priority Habitat Regions
- Priority Species
- Priority Species- Regions
- Shoreline Public Access
- Shoreline Modifications
- Soils Map
- Surface Water System
- Surficial Geology
- Water Quality
- Zoning
- Reaches 9/13/12

October 2012

September 2012

Preliminary Shoreline Inventory Map Folio:

*See Revised Links Above

August 2012

- SMP Open House Summary- August 1st and 2nd
- SMP Open House PowerPoint Presentation
- Open House PPP Schedule
- SMP SAC Application Letter from BOCC

July 2012

- SMP Open House Display Advertisement
- SMP Open House Postcard Invitation
- SMP Open House Save the Date Poster
- SMP Brochure Folio
- Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) Mapping
- Preliminary List of Inventory Data Sources

June 2012

- Shoreline Master Program Update-Public Participation Plan
- Shoreline Minimum Jurisdiction Maps (File size is too large for this webpage, please contact the Planning Department for original mapping) Low Resolution PDF maps of the Minimum Shoreline Jurisdiction may be accessed here.

May 2012

April 2012

March 2012

February 2012

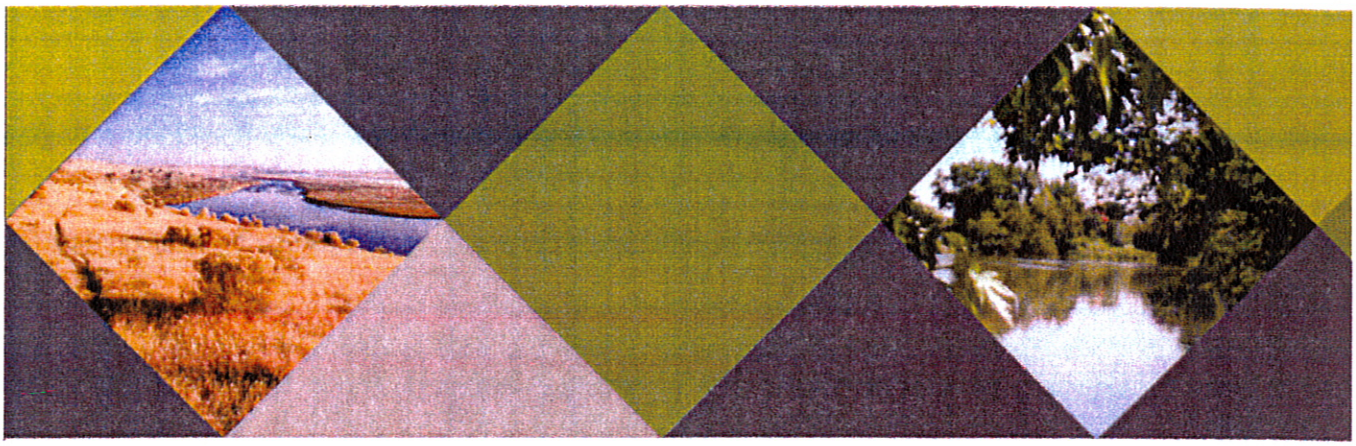
- Request for Proposals
- Proposal Overview
- Draft Public Participation Plan
- Benton County-Washington State Department of Ecology Grant Agreement No. G1200022

January 2012

- Preliminary Shoreline Jurisdictional Map

Page Updated -10/4/2013

SMP UPDATE- INFORMATIVE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES



In February 2012, the Benton County Board of Commissioners approved Resolution 2012-101 **Adopting the Benton County-Washington Department of Ecology** Grant Agreement

Washington State Department of Ecology SMP Guidelines

Informative Documents and Resources:

Benton County Shoreline Master Plan

Adopted 1974 Shoreline Map

Benton County's Ecologically Sensitive Areas Document- 1982

Benton County's Floodways and Flood Areas Map(FEMA)

Benton County Side Hill Development Standards- 1979

Washington Department of Ecology Resources

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Yakima County's Shoreline Master Plan Update Program

Yakima Subbasin Plan

Yakima Subbasin Salmon Recovery Plan(2005 Draft)

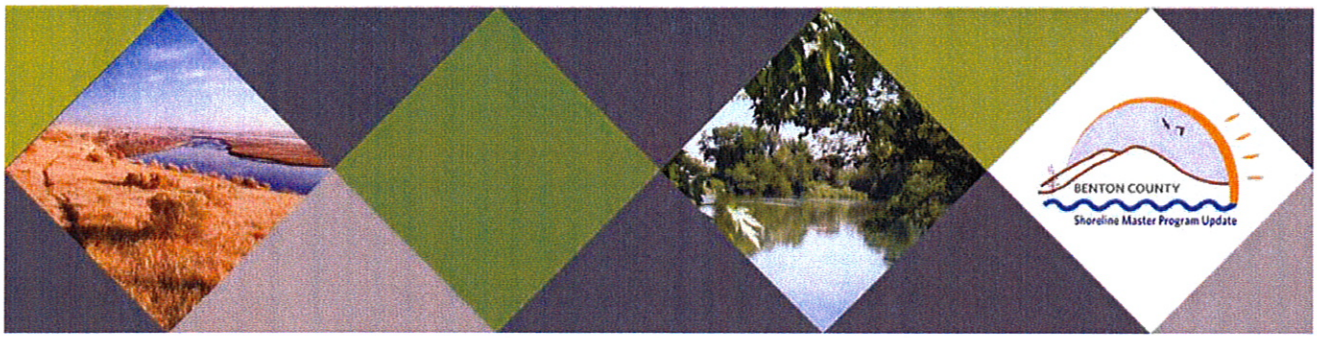
Watershed Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs):

Alkai-Squilchuck

Lower Yakima

Rock-Glade

SMP-ECOLOGY GRANT DELIVERABLES



The documents and links below are the tasks performed and deliverables required by the Benton County-Washington State Department of Ecology Grant Agreement No.G1200022, for the Benton County Shoreline Master Program Update. The links to the documents are shown by month in descending order.

August 2013

Deliverables:
-Benton County Full Visioning Survey Results 5/1/2013
-SMP Update Open House Notes 5/2/2013
-Benton County Visioning Survey Handouts 4/11/2013

July 2013

Progress Report #6- July 2nd, 2013

Benton County's Ecology Grant Progress Report #6 PDF Document

Deliverables:
-Final Analysis Report 4/17/2013
-SMP Submittal Checklist 6/28/2013
-Final Restoration Plan 6/28/2013

April 2013

Progress Report #5- April 20, 2013

Benton County's Ecology Grant Progress Report #5 PDF Document

Deliverables:
- Final Analysis Report 4/17/2013

Progress Report Documentation:
- Task C Implement Public Participation Plan- January Regional Public Forums
- Phase 2 Task 2.3 Final Analysis Report (linked above)
- Phase 2 Task 2.3 Complete Inventory Map Folio-Low Resolution 4/18/2013 PDF
- Phase 3 Task 3.1 Visioning Process- Community Questionnaire
- Phase 3 Task 3.2 Preliminary Goals and Policies
- Phase 3 Task 3.3 Draft Environmental Designations
- Phase 4 Task 4.1 Draft Restoration Plan

- Priority Habitat Regions
- Priority Species- Regions
- Shoreline Public Access
- Shoreline Modifications
- Soils Map
- Surface Water System
- Surficial Geology
- Water Quality
- Zoning
- Reaches 9/13/12

June 2012

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February 2012

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- Proposal Overview
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- Benton County-Washington State Department of Ecology Grant Agreement No. G1200022

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