

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

PURPOSE

This Shoreline Management Program Element provides the policy basis for directing development to be compatible with the natural attributes of Orting's shorelines. Shorelines help define the city's boundaries, provide recreational opportunities, offer views, and create habitats for wildlife and natural vegetation. These goals and policies apply to the shorelines of the Puyallup and Carbon Rivers and their associated wetlands.

SHORELINE ENVIRONMENT DESIGNATION

These designations establish the geographic coverage for specific policies guiding development within shoreline areas. Based on scientific analysis and the state of the shorelines, a single environment designation – Urban Conservancy has been applied to the following areas as defined under the Shoreline Management Act, shoreland areas or shorelands are:

“... those lands that extend landward for two hundred (200) feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred (200) feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are of a size large enough to be subject to the provisions of (the Shoreline Management Act); the same to be designated as to location by the Washington Department of Ecology. Any county or city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year-flood plain to be included in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land extending landward two hundred (200) feet there from.”

As defined in this Shoreline Master Program, the Orting shorelands extend two hundred (200) feet from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) and floodways associated with the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers, and include any wetlands associated with these two rivers.

URBAN CONSERVANCY DESIGNATION POLICIES

The following policies describe the purpose of the Urban Conservancy environment; the criteria used to designate the environment; and management policies specific to the environment.

Purpose. The purpose of this designation is to protect and preserve the shoreline by restricting intensive development along shorelines and provide habitats between the river and the adjacent residential and public service areas. This creates a regulatory framework leading to restoration of ecological functions of open space, the flood plain and other sensitive lands where they exist in urban and developed settings, while allowing for compatible uses.

Shoreline Environment Designation Policies.

D1.The City shall designate as Urban Conservancy those shoreline areas meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- a. They are suitable for water-related or water-enjoyment uses;
- b. They are open space, floodplain or other sensitive areas that should not be more intensively developed; They have potential for ecological restoration; They retain important ecological functions, even though partially developed; or
- c. They have the potential for development that is compatible with ecological restoration.

D2.The shorelines of the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers within the city limits of Orting shall be designated as the Urban Conservancy shoreline environment.

D3.All shorelines of the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers annexed to the City from its urban growth area shall be automatically assigned the Urban Conservancy shoreline environment designation until redesignated through a shoreline master program amendment.

D4.New development should be limited to water-related or water-enjoyment uses.

D5.Non water-related or non water-enjoyment development should not be permitted in the Urban Conservancy environment.

D6.Residential development may be allowed when self-contained or when supporting public facilities such as sewer, water, and power are available, and where allowing such development will not lead to higher densities in the future.

D7.Critical areas, such as wetlands should be protected through vegetation management, maintenance, and erosion control regulations.

D8. The use regulations for the Urban Conservancy shoreline environment shall be as indicated by Chapters 5, 6, and 7 of the City of Orting's Shoreline Master Program. Uses that preserve the natural character of the area or promote preservation of open space, floodplain or sensitive lands either directly or over the long term should be the primary allowed uses.

The following goals and policies are taken from the full SMP and reflect the City's priorities for shorelands uses, protection and restoration. More detailed policies are included in the SMP. Shorelands development regulations are adopted in the Orting Municipal Code in Title 5, Chapter 4. The numbering of the goals and policies in the following are not the same as the SMP numbering.

SHORELINE USES AND ACTIVITIES

GOAL SMP 1 - Maintain, restore and improve the quality of our shorelines.

Policies

Policy SMP 1.1 Ensure that activities and facilities are located on the shorelines in such a manner as to retain or improve the quality of the environment as it is designated for that area.

Policy SMP 1.2 Preserve shorelines in a manner that assures a balance of shoreline uses with minimal adverse effect on the quality of water, life, or environment.

Policy SMP 1.3 Preference should be given to those uses or activities which enhance the natural amenities of the shorelines and which depend on a shoreline location or provide public access to the shoreline.

Policy SMP 1.4 Proposed shoreline uses and activities that have the potential of being objectionable due to noise or odor or otherwise offensive or unsafe conditions should be mitigated before approval is granted.

Policy SMP 1.5 Ensure that proposed shoreline uses are distributed, located and developed in a manner that will maintain or improve the health, safety and welfare of the public.

GOAL SMP 2 - Promote reasonable and appropriate use of the shorelines, while recognizing and protecting private property rights consistent with the public interest.

Policies

Policy SMP 2.1 Public access should be maintained and regulated.

Policy SMP 2.2 Ensure that proposed shoreline uses do not infringe upon the rights of others or upon the rights of private ownership.

Policy SMP 2.3 Ensure that all planning, zoning and other regulatory and nonregulatory programs governing lands adjacent to shoreline jurisdiction are consistent with one another, the goals and policies of the Shoreline Management Act and the regulations and the provisions established in the Orting Shoreline Master Program.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOAL SMP 3- Ensure healthy, orderly economic growth by allowing those economic activities within the shorelands of Orting that will be an asset to the economy of the area and protect the quality of the shoreline environment.

Policies

Policy SMP 3.1 Promote recreational uses of the shorelines to contribute to the economic attractiveness of the community.

Policy SMP 3.2 Proposed economic development in the shoreline should be consistent with Orting's comprehensive plan and development regulations. Conversely, upland uses on adjacent lands outside of immediate SMA jurisdiction (in accordance with RCW 90.58.340) should be consistent with the purpose and intent of this Master Program as they affect the shoreline.

CIRCULATION

GOAL SMP 4- Provide safe, reasonable and adequate access and circulation systems to shorelines that have the least possible adverse effect on unique or fragile shoreline features and existing ecological systems, while contributing to the functional and visual enhancement of the shoreline.

Policies

Policy SMP 4.1 Emphasis should be placed on pedestrian and bicycle paths, rather than roads.

Policy SMP 4.2 Parking facilities on shorelands are discouraged.

Policy SMP 4.3 Shoreline trails, parks and public access points along the Carbon and Puyallup Rivers shall be integrated with the City's trail system.

Policy SMP 4.4 Public access shall be sensitive to the unique characteristics of the shoreline and the natural character and quality of the environment and adjacent wetlands.

Policy SMP 4.5 Locate vehicular circulation facilities as far upland as possible to reduce interference with natural shoreline resources and other more appropriate shoreline uses. Where possible, avoid creating barriers between adjacent uplands and the shorelines.

Policy SMP 4.6 Discourage shoreline uses that curtail or reduce physical and visual access to the water and shoreline area.

GOAL SMP 5- Increase and improve public access to shoreline areas provided that private rights, public safety, and the natural shoreline character are not adversely affected.

Policies

Policy SMP 5.1 Public right-of-way to and along the shoreline should provide pedestrian access.

RECREATION

GOAL SMP 6- Provide additional water-oriented recreation opportunities that are diverse, convenient and adequate to support active, passive, and contemplative uses while protecting the integrity and character of the shoreline.

Policies

Policy SMP 6.1 Recreational fishing should be supported and maintained.

Policy SMP 6.2 Water-related recreational activities including accessibility to the shorelines edge and provisions of passive and active recreational uses should be encouraged.

Policy SMP 6.3 Encourage recreational uses that are compatible with adjacent uses.

Policy SMP 6.4 Encourage state agencies and other local governments to acquire additional property for public recreational use.

Policy SMP 6.5 Integrate recreational elements into federal, state and local public access and conservation plans.

CONSERVATION

GOAL SMP7 - The resources and amenities of all shorelines within Orting are to be protected and preserved for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

Policies

Policy SMP 7.1 Erosion and pollution should be prevented.

Policy SMP 7.2 Shoreline development should result in no net loss of shoreline environmental resources, such as water circulation, sand and gravel movement, erosion and accretion.

Policy SMP 7.3 Reclaim and restore areas which are biologically and aesthetically degraded while maintaining appropriate use of the shoreline.

Policy SMP 7.4 Unique, rare and fragile natural and man-made features as well as scenic vistas and wildlife habitats should be preserved and protected from degradation or interference.

Policy SMP 7.5 Public access to unique or fragile geological or biological areas such as wetlands should be limited.

Policy SMP 7.6 Development of shorelines that are identified as hazardous or sensitive should be discouraged.

Policy SMP 7.7 Spawning grounds for steelhead and salmon should be protected, improved, and, if feasible, enhanced.

HISTORIC & CULTURAL RESOURCES

GOAL SMP 8 - Protect, preserve and/or restore important archaeological, historical, and cultural sites located in the shorelands of Orting for educational, scientific, and enjoyment of the general public.

Policies

Policy SMP 8.1 Acquire historic/cultural sites to ensure their protection and preservation with available funding.

Policy SMP 8.2 Encourage educational projects and programs that foster a greater appreciation of the importance of shoreline management and environmental conservation.

Policy SMP 8.3 Ensure that access to such sites does not reduce their cultural attraction or degrade the quality of the environment.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

GOAL SMP 9 - Increase public awareness of its responsibility to maintain the quality of the environment and the intent of the Shoreline Management Act.

Policies

Policy SMP 9.1 The City should develop standardized markers to inform the public of shoreline access routes, parking, and allowable activities in each area.

Policy SMP 9.2 The City should promote ways to educate citizens on tools and techniques that minimize adverse impacts on water quality.

Policy SMP 9.3 The City should coordinate with local schools on providing programs on the adverse impacts of littering, clearing brush, and off-road vehicle traffic on shorelines and water quality.

HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Policy SMP 10.1 Native plant communities within and bordering shorelines, wetlands, creeks, and side channels should be protected and maintained to protect the ecological functions of the shoreline environment.

Policy SMP 10.2 Shoreline restoration projects should, wherever feasible, use soil bioengineering techniques to minimize the processes of erosion, sedimentation, and flooding.

Policy SMP 10.3 Aquatic weed management should involve usage of native plant materials wherever possible in soil bioengineering applications and habitat restoration activities. Where removal of aquatic vegetation is necessary, it should be done only to the extent necessary to allow water-dependent activities to continue. Removal or modification of aquatic vegetation should prevent adverse impacts to native plant communities and salmonid habitat. Weed management and removal should include appropriate handling or disposal of weeds and weed seedlings.

Policy SMP 10.4 The design and usage of native vegetation for prevention and control of shoreline erosion should be encouraged where:

- a. The length and configuration of the shoreline will accommodate the proposed design;
- b. Such protection is a reasonable solution to the needs of the specific site; and
- c. Shoreline restoration will accomplish the following objectives:
 - 1. Recreate natural shoreline conditions and habitat;
 - 2. Reverse otherwise erosional conditions; and
 - 3. Enhance access to the shore, especially to public shores.

Policy SMP 10.5 The following best management practices should be incorporated into vegetation management activities:

- a) Avoid use of herbicides, fertilizers, insecticides, and fungicides near water bodies within the City.
- b) Limit the amount of lawn and garden watering to reduce surface runoff.
- c) Dispose of grass clippings, leaves, or twigs properly; do not sweep these materials into the street, into a body of water, or near a storm drain.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

Policy SMP 11.1 The City encourages aggressive efforts to protect and enhance salmonid habitat because of its importance to the aquatic ecosystem and the local economy.

Policy SMP 11.2 Non-water dependent or non-water-related uses, activities, structures and fills should not be located in salmonid habitats.

Policy SMP 11.3 Where new non-water-dependent uses, activities, and structures must locate in salmonid habitats, impacts on these areas shall be lessened to the greatest extent possible. Significant unavoidable

impacts should be mitigated by creating in-kind replacement habitat near the project where feasible. Where in-kind replacement mitigation is not feasible, rehabilitation of degraded habitat is required.

- Policy SMP 11.4 Proposed development that have the potential to significantly affect salmonid habitat shall develop mitigation measures in consultation with the City of Orting, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.
- Policy SMP 11.5 For proposed development, the City prefers full spanning structures without center support piles for crossing salmonid habitat.
- Policy SMP 11.6 Proposed structures and uses that create significant impervious surfaces shall include stormwater treatment systems.
- Policy SMP 11.7 Review of proposals for new impervious surfaces shall be guided by the City's adopted stormwater regulations in conjunction with the impervious surface and stormwater treatment requirements of the most recent version of Stormwater Management Manual for the Puget Sound Basin. This review shall apply except that the Orting Shoreline Administrator or his/her designee shall have authority to waive compliance with these guidelines for proposals with total impervious surface areas less than five thousand (5,000) square feet if the impact of the proposal does not warrant runoff treatment. Proposals for new impervious surface areas greater than five thousand (5,000) square feet shall adhere to the Stormwater Management Manual for the Puget Sound Basin regulations.
- Policy SMP 11.8 The City of Orting encourages and supports Adopt-A-Stream programs and similar efforts to protect and rehabilitate salmonid spawning, rearing, feeding, refuge, and migration habitat.

WATER QUALITY

Policy SMP 12.1 The City should prevent impacts to water quality and stormwater quantity that would result in a net loss of shoreline functions, or a significant impact to aesthetic qualities, or recreational opportunities.

Policy SMP 12.2 The City of Orting should ensure that there is mutual consistency between shoreline management provisions and other regulations that address water quality and storm water quantity, including public health, storm water, and water discharge standards. The regulations that are most protective of ecological functions should apply.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Policy SMP 13.1 The City shall coordinate with outside public agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, other appropriate interests to seek solutions to flooding. The City shall support projects that have a positive environmental benefit.

Policy SMP 13.2 The City shall emphasize long-term solutions over short term solutions.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Policy SMP 14.1 Public access to the Orting shorelines does not include the right to enter upon or cross private property, except for dedicated public easements. Public access provisions should be incorporated into all private and public developments, except for individual single family residences.

Policy SMP 14.2 Development uses and activities on or near the shoreline should not impair or detract from the public's visual or physical access to the water.

Policy SMP 14.3 Public access to the shoreline should be sensitive to the unique characteristics of the shoreline and should preserve the natural character and quality of the environment and adjacent critical areas.

- Policy SMP 14.4 Where appropriate, public access should be provided as close as possible to the water's edge without adversely affecting a sensitive environment.
- Policy SMP 14.5 Shoreline areas that hold unique value for public enjoyment should be purchased for public use, and public access areas should be of sufficient size to allow appropriate access, passage and enjoyment of the water.
- Policy SMP 14.6 Public access should be designed to provide for public safety and to minimize potential conflicts with private property and individual privacy. This may include providing a physical separation to reinforce the distinction between public and private space, achieved by providing adequate space, through screening with landscape planting or fences, or other means.
- Policy SMP 14.7 Public views of the shoreline should be enhanced and preserved. Enhancement of views should not be construed to mean excess removal of vegetation.
- Policy SMP 14.8 Public access facilities should be constructed of environmentally friendly materials and support healthy natural processes, whenever financially feasible and possible.
- Policy SMP 14.9 Public access facilities should be maintained to provide a clean and safe experience and protect the environment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Orting Comprehensive Plan includes a citywide Economic Development Element that calls for protecting Orting's quality of life; its role in economic development; and strategies for encouraging economic development appropriate for the City and the region. Certain shoreline uses are more dependent on, or have a more direct relationship with the shoreline than others. The Shoreline Management Act requires that shoreline master programs give preference to water-dependent uses, water-related uses, water-enjoyment uses (i.e., uses that provide an opportunity for substantial numbers of people to enjoy the shoreline), single-family residential uses, and shoreline recreation. Policies in the Shoreline Master Program give preference to such uses.

MANAGING SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES

Orting's shorelines are mostly single-family residential and public use lands. To protect valuable shoreline resources, the Shoreline Master Program limits the extent and character of a number of land uses and activities. Policies are designed to protect water quality, shoreline vegetation and buffers, fish habitat, open space, wildlife habitat, and shoreline hydrology. Land use policies are also designed to minimize impacts to visual access, aesthetic qualities, scenic view corridors, and physical public access. Shoreline policies provide for a range of reasonable uses within the shoreline, while establishing limits to protect these shorelines and adjacent uses.

The Orting Comprehensive Plan contains a Land Use Element with policies applicable to all areas of the City, including shorelines. In addition to Shoreline Master Program policies and regulations, the character, density and quality of shoreline development is currently addressed in sections of the Orting Municipal Code. These regulations manage landscaping, tree protection, and clearing and grading standards for the City. Some of the Orting Shoreline Master Program policies related to landfills, dredging, shoreline recreation, shoreline protective structures, transportation and circulation, and utilities are summarized below.

Landfills, Excavation and Dredging

Policy SMP 15.1 Fill (in a river or wetland) should be prohibited and only allowed when necessary to support the design and construction of a shoreline restoration or environmental enhancement project that is beneficial to the Puyallup and/or Carbon Rivers.

- Policy SMP 15.2 Dredging waterward of the ordinary high water mark for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material should not be allowed, except when the material is necessary for the restoration of ecological functions.
- Policy SMP 15.3 Dredging and dredge material disposal should be located and conducted in a manner that minimizes damage to existing ecological values and natural resources of the area to be dredged and of the disposal site.
- Policy SMP 15.4 Dredging operations should be planned and conducted to minimize adverse impacts to other shoreline uses, properties and values.
- Policy SMP 15.5 Dredge material disposal in water bodies should be discouraged, except for habitat improvement or where depositing dredge material on land would be more detrimental to shoreline resources than deposition in water areas.
- Policy SMP 15.6 Dredging and dredge material disposal operations should be periodically reviewed for consistency with the Shoreline Master Program.
- Policy SMP 15.7 New development siting and design should avoid the need for new and maintenance dredging.

Shoreline Recreation

- Policy SMP 16.1 The coordination of local, state, and federal recreation planning should be encouraged so as to mutually satisfy recreational needs. Shoreline recreational developments should be consistent with all adopted park, recreation, and open space plans.
- Policy SMP 16.2 The location and design of shoreline recreational developments should relate to local population characteristics, density and special activity demands. Acquisition priorities should consider these needs, demands, and special opportunities as well as public transit access and access for the physically impaired, where planned or available.
- Policy SMP 16.3 Recreational developments should be located, designed and operated to be compatible with, and

minimize adverse impacts on, environmental quality and valuable natural features as well as on adjacent and surrounding land and water uses. Favorable consideration should be given to proposals which compliment their environment and surrounding land and water uses, and which leave natural areas undisturbed and protected.

- Policy SMP 16.4 Shoreline areas with a potential for providing recreation or public access opportunities should be identified for this use and acquired by lease of purchase and incorporated into the City's parks, trails and open space plan.
- Policy SMP 16.5 The linkage of shoreline parks, recreation areas and public access points with nonmotorized linear systems, such as hiking paths, bicycle paths and easements should be encouraged through cooperative programs and policies. Planning of shoreline parks, public access points and linear systems should be coordinated with the City's nonmotorized transportation plan.
- Policy SMP 16.6 Recreational developments should be located and designed to preserve, enhance, or create scenic views and vistas.
- Policy SMP 16.7 The use of shoreline street ends and publicly owned lands for public access and development of recreational opportunities should be encouraged.
- Policy SMP 16.8 The use of off-road vehicles and other motorized recreational vehicles should be prohibited in all shoreline areas.
- Policy SMP 16.9 All recreational developments should make adequate provisions for:
- a) Vehicular and pedestrian access, both on-site and off-site;
 - b) Proper water supply and solid and sewage waste disposal methods;
 - c) Security and fire protection;
 - d) The prevention of overflow and trespass onto

adjacent properties, through, but not limited to, landscaping, fencing and posting of property; and

- e) Design of such development to avoid conflicts with adjacent private property or natural habitat areas.

Shoreline Protective Structures

Policy SMP 17.1 Levees should be located, designed, constructed and maintained so that they will not cause significant damage to adjacent properties or valuable resources, and so that the physical integrity of the natural shore process is maintained.

Policy SMP 17.2 Levees should be permitted only when the purpose or primary use being protected is consistent with this program and when they can be developed in a manner compatible with the multiple use of the floodway and associated resources, such as wildlife habitat, water quality, aesthetics, recreational resources and public access.

Policy SMP 17.3 Subdivision of land shall be regulated to assure that the lots created will not require shoreline stabilization in order for reasonable development to occur.

Policy SMP 17.4 Shoreline stabilization structures should be limited to the minimum size necessary.

Policy SMP 17.5 Public access should be required as part of publicly financed shoreline erosion control measures.

Policy SMP 17.6 Bulkheads are prohibited in the Orting shoreline jurisdiction.

Policy SMP 17.7 Dikes and levees and revetments shall only be authorized by conditional use permit unless they are solely for the purpose of shorelands restoration, and shall be consistent with all flood control management plans and regulations adopted by the City of Orting

Policy SMP 17.8 New levees shall be limited in size to the minimum

height required to protect adjacent lands consistent with FEMA certification.

Policy SMP 17.9 Dikes, levees and revetments shall be placed landward of the floodway, OHWM, or channel migration zone (whichever is further landward) except as current deflectors necessary for protection of bridges and roads, provided that flood hazard reduction projects may be authorized if it is determined that no other alternative to reduce flood hazards to existing development is feasible.

Policy SMP 17.10 If an armored revetment is proposed, the siting and design of revetments shall be performed using appropriate engineering principles, including the usage of guidelines from both the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the following design criteria shall be met:

- a) The size and quantity of the material shall be limited to only that necessary to withstand the estimated energy intensity of the hydraulic system;
- b) Filter cloth must be used to aid drainage and help prevent settling;
- c) The toe reinforcement or protection must be adequate to prevent a collapse of the system from river scouring or wave action; and
- d) Fish habitat components, such as large boulders, logs, and stumps must be considered in the design subject to Hydraulic Project Approval by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Policy SMP 17.11 All new projects shall include and provide improved access to public shorelines whenever possible.

Transportation and Circulation

Policy SMP 18.1 New roads, railroads and bridges in the Urban Conservancy environment should be minimized, and allowed only when related to and necessary for the

support of permitted shoreline activities. New roads and bridges in the Urban Conservancy environment are prohibited, except when related to and necessary for the support of permitted shoreline activities. Major new highways should be located out of shoreline jurisdiction.

Policy SMP 18.2 New roads should be planned to fit the topographical characteristics of the shoreline such that minimum alteration of natural conditions results. New transportation facilities should be located and designed to minimize the need for shoreline protection measures and minimize the need to modify natural drainage systems. The number of waterway crossings should be limited to the minimum number possible.

Policy SMP 18.3 Trail and bicycle paths should be encouraged along the Puyallup and Carbon River in places where they are compatible with the natural character resources and ecology of the shoreline, such as in areas where there is a potential for a nonmotorized transportation linkage to existing public access area.

Policy SMP 18.4 Joint use of transportation corridors within shoreline jurisdiction for roads, utilities and motorized forms of transportation should be encouraged.

Policy SMP 18.5 Abandoned or unused road or railroad rights-of-way which offer opportunities for public access to the water should be acquired and/or retained for such use.

Utilities

Policy SMP 19.1 Utilities should utilize existing transportation and utility sites, rights-of-way and corridors whenever possible, rather than creating new corridors. Joint use of rights-of-way and corridors should be encouraged.

Policy SMP 19.2 Utilities should be prohibited in wetlands, critical wildlife areas or other unique and fragile areas unless no feasible alternatives exist.

Policy SMP 19.3 New utility facilities should be located so as not to

require shoreline protection works.

Policy SMP 19.4 Utility facilities and corridors should be located so as to protect scenic views. When possible, new utilities should be placed underground or alongside or under bridges.

Policy SMP 19.5 Utility facilities and rights-of-way should be designed to preserve the natural landscape and to minimize conflicts with present and planned land uses.

Policy SMP 19.6 New solid waste disposal activities and facilities should be prohibited in shoreline areas.