

**Grant County**  
***Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update***  
**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

## **WAC 197-11-960 Environmental Checklist.**

### **Purpose of checklist:**

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

### **Instructions for applicants:**

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

### **Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:**

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

## **A. Background**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Grant County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update

2. Name of applicant:

Grant County

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Damien Hooper, Planning Director, Grant County

457 1st Avenue NW, Ephrata, Washington 98823

(509) 754-2011, ext. 620

4. Date checklist prepared:

January 23, 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Grant County

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Grant County proposes to locally adopt the updated SMP in the spring or early summer of 2014, at which time the program will be forwarded to the Department of Ecology for final review.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

In accordance with the provisions of the State Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and the Growth Management Act, the updated SMP goals and policies will be incorporated in the County's Comprehensive Plan and the regulations will be integrated into the Unified Development Code as Chapter 24.12 of the Unified Development Code. Under the current SMA, the County is required to review and update the SMP every 8 years (Chapter 90.58.080(4)(a) RCW), following the completion of the current process.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

The SMP includes a shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report that includes reach-by-reach analyses tables, a Cumulative Impacts Analysis (CIA) Report and a Restoration Plan. Project-specific reviews will be prepared for specific development or restoration proposals.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

Not applicable for non-project proposal.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

After local adoption, the updated SMP is subject to Department of Ecology review and approval.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The SMP applies across the unincorporated areas of the County and establishes development standards for shoreline development. The State SMA requires each jurisdiction with shorelines of the state and shorelines of statewide significance to make and update these rules.

The SMP must comply with the requirements of the SMA, specifically the guidelines created in 2003. The general goals of the SMA are as follows:

- Protect shoreline natural resources, including, "...the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the water of the state and their aquatic life..."
- Promote public access, "the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines of the state shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible consistent with the overall best interest of the state and the people generally."
- Encourage water-dependent uses, "uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment, or are unique to or dependent upon use of the states' shorelines..."

The text of the SMP accompanies this determination. The SMP document features goals and policies, development regulations, shoreline jurisdiction maps with shoreline environment designations, a restoration plan and CIA report. The Shoreline CIA evaluates cumulative impacts of reasonably foreseeable future development on shoreline ecological functions and other shoreline functions fostered by the policy goals of the act (see attached).

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The updated SMP will apply to all waterbodies under SMA jurisdiction within Grant County, including: floodways; land within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the waterways; floodplains up to 200 feet from the floodway edge; and associated wetlands.

## **B. Environmental elements**

### **1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other. . . . .**

The County's slope areas range from "stable" to "moderate" and "high" geologic hazard. There are flat and rolling slopes in the central section of the County shoreline. Steep slopes are found along the Columbia River and north-central lakes shoreline and some parts of Crab Creek shoreline. The Columbia River flows in a deep valley along the southwestern boundary of the County. The northern part of the County is characterized by loess-mantled volcanic bedrock hills that have been eroded by floodwaters to form canyons and coulees. Babcock Ridge and Beezley Hills border the southern portion of the County, which in general is a smooth, southward-sloping plain that is interrupted by the Saddle Mountains and Frenchman Hills. This plain includes the Quincy Basin and Wahluke Slope.

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

Steep slopes greater than 40 percent are found in the shoreline jurisdiction. Elevations in the County range from 380 feet along the Columbia River in the southern part of the County to 2,882 feet at the top of Monument Hill.

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.**

The soil type is dictated by glacial outburst flooding that occurred near the end of the last major glacial period, known as Missoula Floods. Soil types are available in the U.S. Department of Agriculture 2012 Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey:

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

Non-project, not applicable. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing fill within SMA jurisdiction and critical areas, and cross references other requirements. Impacts of specific projects affected by policies and regulations in the SMP will be addressed by project-level State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review, if required.

**e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

Non-project, not applicable. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing fill within SMA jurisdiction. Impacts of specific projects affected by policies and regulations in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review, if required.

**f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

No specific actions resulting in erosion are proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing fill within SMA jurisdiction and critical areas, and cross references other requirements. Impacts of specific projects affected by policies and regulations in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review, if required.

**g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt, or buildings)?**

Non-project, not applicable.

**h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

No specific actions resulting in erosion are proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing erosion within SMA jurisdiction and critical areas, and cross references other requirements. Impacts of specific projects affected by policies and regulations in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review, if required.

## **2. Air**

**a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Non-project. No specific actions resulting in air emissions are proposed in the SMP.

**b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

Not relevant to a policy action, such as the SMP.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

None as part of the SMP. Governed by other regulations.

**3. Water**

**a. Surface:**

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

Within the shoreline jurisdiction, Grant County contains rivers, streams, and about 80 lakes with surface areas greater than 20 acres. Water resources in the County are significantly affected by the Columbia Basin Project.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

No specific actions resulting in such work are proposed in the SMP. The SMP will apply to all shoreland areas within 200 feet of the OHWM and associated wetlands. Any subsequent project-specific development proposals will be subject to the provision of this SMP.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

No specific actions resulting in fill and dredge material are proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing fill within SMA jurisdiction and critical areas, and cross references other requirements.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Not applicable. No new withdrawals or diversions are proposed in the SMP.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

Floodway and floodplains are included in the shoreline jurisdiction. Managing flooding is one of the goals of the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction and critical areas, and other requirements.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No specific discharge is proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction, such as water quality. Discharge is primarily addressed by other regulations.

**b. Ground:**

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

The potential effects of the SMP are addressed in Subsection D – Supplemental Sheet for Non-project Actions. No specific withdrawal or discharge is proposed in the SMP. Impacts of specific projects that may result from policies in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

No specific system discharges are proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction. Discharge is primarily addressed by other regulations and by County utilities.

Impacts of specific projects that may result from policies in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review.

**c. Water runoff (including stormwater):**

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action. No specific source runoff is proposed in the SMP. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction, which are likely to reduce or eliminate impacts.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction, which are likely to somewhat reduce impacts.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:**

Not applicable, non-project action. The SMP contains policies and regulations addressing this element within SMA jurisdiction, which are likely to somewhat reduce impacts.

**4. Plants**

**a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Some threatened and endangered species are found in multiple locations throughout the County. Rare plant species, including constricted Douglas' onion, arrow thelypody, and Piper's daisy, are known to be within the shoreline jurisdiction.

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

The SMP contains a range of policies and regulations to address vegetation as part of development on a county-wide basis as it affects water.

## 5. Animals

**a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:**

**birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

**mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

**fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

The fish community in this segment of the Columbia River supports more than 40 species, including individuals from 14 families of freshwater fishes. Among these species are anadromous and resident fishes, including non-native species. Six anadromous fish species are known to occur in this reach: spring, summer, and fall Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); steelhead (*O. mykiss*); sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*); Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*); and pacific lamprey (*Lampetra tridentata*). Other fish supported within the Columbia River basin include brown and rainbow trout, bass, walleye, burbot, and mountain whitefish.

Terrestrial species include mule deer, jack rabbits, and, in select areas, Rocky Mountain elk. A number of priority species are supported by the wetlands and shrub steppe habitat within the shoreline jurisdictions such as sagebrush lizard, sharptail snake, striped whipsnake, pygmy rabbit, Lewis' woodpecker, Columbia spotted frog, Northern leopard frog, mule deer, Washington ground squirrel, and mink.

Bird species include bald eagles, peregrine falcons, golden eagles, burrowing owls, ferruginous hawks, and a number of other resident and migratory species. Prairie falcons are present along some shorelines and cliffs. Other waterfowl and shorebird species include dabbling ducks, diving ducks, Canadian geese, white pelicans, sandhill cranes, ring-necked pheasants, great blue herons, tundra swans, grebes, and long-billed curlew.

**b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Steelhead are known to be within the shoreline jurisdiction waters. 33 species of wildlife (not including fish) are listed as federal or as state candidate, threatened, or endangered wildlife species that are likely present on or near the shoreline jurisdiction.

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

The Columbia River serves as a migration corridor to and from the Pacific Ocean for adult and juvenile salmon, steelhead, and pacific lamprey. Grant County is located in the Pacific Flyway Migration Route.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

A Restoration Plan has been prepared identifying restoration opportunities throughout the County.

**6. Energy and natural resources**

**a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**7. Environmental health**

**a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**b. Noise**

**1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Not directly from the non-project action. A wide variety of noise sources exists, especially within the Urban Growth Areas (UGA).

**3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

Not directly from the non-project action. The County has a noise ordinance that regulates the degree of noise according to time and location.

**8. Land and shoreline use**

**a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?**

The shoreline areas have variety of land uses including agricultural, residential, recreational, and commercial.

**b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action.. There are agricultural uses within the County's shoreline.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Not applicable, non-project action. A variety of structures are found within the shoreline jurisdiction.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

None. Impacts of specific projects that may result from policies in the SMP will be addressed by project-level SEPA review.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

Not applicable. The shoreline includes multiple zoning designations.

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

Not applicable. The shoreline includes multiple Comprehensive Plan designations.

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

Multiple shoreline Environment Designations have been proposed for the County.

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.**

The Grant County shoreline includes following critical areas:

- Wetlands
- Fish and wildlife habitat Areas
- Aquifer recharge areas
- Geologically hazardous area
- Frequently flooded areas
- Cultural Resources

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

None. The SMP will not directly affect population or employment.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

None. The SMP will not directly affect population or employment.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

None. The SMP will not directly affect population or employment.

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

The Comprehensive Plan and SMP are consistent. The SMP will not directly affect the adopted land use in the Comprehensive Plan, but it will provide performance standards for development within SMA jurisdiction.

## 9. Housing

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

None. The SMP will not directly affect housing.

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

None. The SMP will not directly affect housing.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

None. The SMP will not directly affect housing.

## 10. Aesthetics

**a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

Not applicable. No specific structures are proposed as part of the SMP. Height limits in the SMP are generally consistent with upland zoning.

**b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

No specific facilities that would alter views are proposed in the SMP. The proposed increase in maximum height standards for single-family residential use may alter views for some uphill properties. The SMP includes policies and regulations to protect view of the shoreline.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

The SMP contains a variety of policies and regulations addressing aesthetics, which are largely beneficial.

## 11. Light and glare

**a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

Not applicable, non-project action. No specific lighting is proposed in the SMP.

**b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

Not applicable, non-project action. The SMP addresses light and glare in a variety of provisions, including no net loss of ecological functions.

## 12. Recreation

**a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Not applicable, non-project action. Shoreline area has multiple active and passive recreational opportunities, mostly on public land and private resort style facilities.

**b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

The updated SMP includes goals and policies to support and improve recreational opportunities and public access on the shoreline.

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

**a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

Not applicable, non-project action.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

The updated SMP includes goals and policies to protect cultural and historical resources.

## 14. Transportation

**a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Not applicable. There are multiple transportation facilities within the County.

**b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

Not applicable.

**c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?**

Not applicable.

**d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

Uses governed by the SMP are adjacent to the water. To the extent that water-dependent uses are preferred, some increase in water transportation may occur.

**e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

Policies and regulations in the SMP are not likely to change transportation demand from uses provided for in the Comprehensive Plan.

**f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**

Policies and regulations in the SMP are not likely to change transportation demand from uses provided for in the Comprehensive Plan.

**g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

Policies and regulations in the SMP are designed to ensure that new uses do not interfere with navigation.

## **15. Public services**

**a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

Policies and regulations in the SMP are not likely to change the types of uses and needed public services provided for in the Comprehensive Plan.

**b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

Not applicable.

## **16. Utilities**

**a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.**

A variety of utility facilities are available throughout the County, including all the utilities listed above.

**b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

Policies and regulations in the SMP are not likely to change the types of uses and needed utility services provided for in the Comprehensive Plan.

## **C. Signature**

**The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.**

Signature: 

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Floyd, Anchor QEA  
8033 W. Grandridge Blvd  
Kennewick WA 99336

Date Submitted: January 23, 2014

## D. Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, that would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

### 1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The purpose of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) is to regulate uses on and adjacent to certain waters. The policies and regulations in the SMP will not produce or discharge emissions or toxins. The SMP addresses water quality and the release of substances to surface water that will likely to decrease such emissions.

The SMP does not contain specific, detailed standards addressing noise, but it is addressed to some extent in a variety of provisions, including no net loss of ecological functions.

Elements within the SMP that are likely to affect emissions to air, or water include: Section II General Regulations; Water Quality; Stormwater and Nonpoint Pollution; and Critical Areas.

Noise is likely to be produced by a variety of uses permitted by the SMP in construction and use. The SMP does not contain specific policies and regulations addressing noise, but it is addressed to some extent through other provisions, including no net loss of ecological functions.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

Performance standards in the code sections above generally would reduce pollutants, in combination with other programs. Proposed measures to address adverse impact on developments on ecological functions include: avoidance of the impact altogether; minimization of impacts; and where necessary, mitigation of impacts. The updated SMP also includes prohibition of certain uses within the shoreline areas, maintenance of the critical area buffers, and overall maintenance of no net loss of ecological functions.

### 2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Protection and enhancement of aquatic life and overall ecological function is one of the goals of the SMP. Major provisions that address this issue include Environmental Protection (Section 24.12.230), Shoreline Vegetation Conservation (24.12.240), Critical Areas in Section II, Title V (Sections 24.12.520 and 530).

These provisions, together with specific performance standards for Shoreline Uses and Shoreline Modification (Section II), are designed to ensure that new development has minimal effects on aquatic and upland habitat.

Provisions for ecological enhancement are provided in the Restoration Plan and would be required for non-water-dependent commercial and industrial uses.

For more information, see the Cumulative Impacts Analysis Report.

Overall, the combined results of the SMP on properties immediately adjacent to shorelines, the critical area regulations that address upstream conditions in watersheds not under SMP jurisdiction, and various restoration activities on shorelines and in watersheds are likely to result in no net loss of ecological functions on Grant County shorelines. Over time, these actions would likely lead to improvements in the ecosystem.

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

As indicated above, protection and enhancement of aquatic life and overall ecological function is one of the goals of the SMP and is addressed by a variety of policies and regulations.

**3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?**

The proposed updates in the SMP will not have a substantial effect on energy use or natural resources. Energy is used in a variety of public and private projects fostered by the County's Comprehensive Plan.

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

No specific goals or policies in the SMP address energy and natural resources.

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

Critical areas are defined by RCW 36.70A.030(5) and WAC 365-196-485 as:

- Wetlands
- Areas of critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water
- Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas
- Frequently flooded areas
- Geologically hazardous areas
- Cultural Resources

SMP, Section II, Critical Areas, contains specific buffers and other standards appropriate to shorelines. The SMP encourages shoreline-oriented recreation use and recognizes parks as a major resource for public access. Historical or cultural sites are addressed in SMP's Archaeological and Historic Resources subsection. The SMP aims to protect various functions of the shoreline.

**Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

The SMP will maintain and enhance protection of environmentally sensitive areas, endangered species habitat, wetlands, and floodplains in the County.

**5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?**

The SMP is intended to influence land uses with the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) jurisdiction by

fulfilling the general goals of the SMA which are:

- Protect shoreline natural resources, including, "...the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the water of the state and their aquatic life..."
- Promote public access, "the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines of the state shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible consistent with the overall best interest of the state and the people generally."
- Encourage water-dependent uses, "uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment, or are unique to or dependent upon use of the states' shorelines..."

The general patterns of land use on the County shoreline are well established. The proposed uses within shoreline are consistent with the land-use plan and restrict to the incompatible non-water oriented uses.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

The provisions of the SMP are designed to work together to provide a priority to water-oriented use and provide performance standards to ensure ecological protection and public access and promote the land-use vision in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

**6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?**

None of the proposed changes in policies in the SMP are likely to increase demands on transportation. Impacts on transportation are likely to be similar to those expected impacts from development encouraged by the Comprehensive Plan and zoning.

The SMP policies are not likely to change demands for public services and utilities or change current practices.

**Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

No specific measures are proposed in the SMP to reduce demands on transportation, public services, and utilities. These issues are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan and other County policies and respond to County-wide trends.

**7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

The proposed changes in policies in the SMP do not conflict with any known local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment and are designed to implement such programs, specifically the requirements of the SMA.