

Shoreline Master Program Updates

Walla Walla County and Cities of Prescott, Waitsburg and Walla Walla

Memorandum

Date: November 6, 2013
To: Regional Working Group, Shoreline Master Program Updates
From: Bill Stalzer, Project Team Leader, Shoreline Master Program Updates
Re: Meeting of November 12, 2013

Thank you in advance for agreeing to participate on the regional working group for the shoreline master program updates for Walla Walla County and the Cities of Prescott, Waitsburg, and Walla Walla. Your participation and commitment are crucial to the success of the updates to each jurisdiction's SMP.

The regional working group is an advisory group to the project management team. Its purpose is to review and comment on all shoreline master program documents prepared by the staff and consultants. Meeting summaries will be prepared and transmitted to the project management team. Part of my role is to ensure that project management team receives accurate feedback about the discussions and progress of the regional working group. During the process there will be differing perspectives on many issues. At our first meeting next spring I will discuss some meeting "ground rules" so that these sessions will result in a forthright and productive dialogue.

The first meeting is primarily an orientation meeting with discussion of the preliminary shoreline jurisdiction maps and the shoreline inventory including the map folio. Most of the meetings will not be this technical in nature; only the first meetings focus on technical information that characterizes the shoreline jurisdiction areas. All meetings are open public meetings and a public comment period will be included at each meeting.

All of the materials for the November 12th meeting with the exception of the preliminary shoreline jurisdiction maps and the shoreline inventory map folio are posted at the following project link on the County's website: <http://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/departments/comms/RegionalWorkingGroup.shtml>. Please review them prior to the meeting as the agenda assumes that you have read them. No paper copies of documents other than the agenda will be available at meetings so if you want a paper copy of any document, please print it and bring it with you. Feel free to bring a laptop computer or tablet to the meetings. One of the first items of business will be to get your comments on the list of potential sources of information to see if there are other organizations that should be added to the list.

The October 25th letter from The Watershed Company to me on the website relates to preliminary shoreline jurisdiction. The preliminary jurisdiction maps are posted on the project website at: http://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/departments/comms/docs/WallaWalla_ShoreJuris_2013-09-30_lores.pdf. You should familiarize yourself with these maps as they are the areas in Walla Walla County that are subject to the shoreline management act in accordance with the State criteria. Part of the meeting will be devoted to questions or comments you have about the jurisdiction areas.

A preliminary shoreline inventory map folio has been posted online by the consultant. Instructions for accessing the map folio are posted with the materials for the November 12th meeting. This information is the foundation for all subsequent work, so your review and comment over the next months is important to assure the accuracy of the information. You are not expected to review all the maps or data in advance of the meeting: there are numerous map files and they generally are large and can take a long time to download. Select one or two maps that you feel you have some knowledge of or know of sources where current knowledge or data is available (e.g. landcover is a good one as it is not too large a file and not too technical). Dan Nickel of The Watershed Company will discuss the map folio at the meeting. A CD with the map folio will be made available to all members at the meeting.

Finally, please familiarize yourself with the SMP project link on the County website; there is a wealth of information posted there. It is located at: <http://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/departments/comms/ShorelineMasterProgramUpdate.shtml>.

I look forward to meeting each of you and to working productively with you between now and June of 2015. Please call/email me if you have trouble finding the online documents for the meeting. My email is shorelines@co.walla-walla.wa.us and my phone number is 206-264-1150.