

Note: Copies of the following were given to Kitsap Co. DCD SMP Project manager Susan Donahue and SMP Task Force facilitator Margaret Norton-Arnold by Task Force member Bob Benze at the June 17, 2010 SMP Task Force meeting.

Questions, comments, and request for information related to the Draft Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report:

1. As noted by questions in last month's session, it is not clear how the report was actually developed. Apparently, GIS and tabular data from several sources was processed to develop the final shoreline maps and NAU characterizations. However, the data actually used and the methodology to weigh, normalize and manipulate it are not apparent. Although the East Kitsap Nearshore Assessment report contains some information on how the numerical scores were developed, even it is incomplete. Thus it is requested that DCD provide an appendix showing an example of how actual data from the Puget Sound Nearshore Restoration Project, the County's own shoreline inventory, the Battelle efforts, and any other sources was processed, to achieve the final results. This would include publishing the Controlling Factors numerical model that was apparently used by Battelle. Please indicate which organization did each segment of the actual work.
2. The county's approach to restoration is still not clear. . As noted in the last meeting, Ecology's Jeff Talent's presentation said the goal of the SMP update is to ensure no net loss of ecological function as the result of future development – with a baseline of today. This means that restoration activities would need to be identified to offset potential loss of ecological function from future allowed development. Depending on who you talk to in Ecology (and the chart Joe Burcar showed us), there may be a need for a small amount of restoration to mitigate ongoing shoreline uses – or not. But the Draft Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report defines restore as: “To restore structure and functions of the (NAU) sites to historical conditions”. These are obviously contradictory – Thus it is requested that DCD provide a clear and unambiguous statement of their proposed restoration policy – and how it conforms to Ecology's guidance.

Respectfully,

Bob Benze