



CLALLAM COUNTY
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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SHEILA ROARK MILLER, DIRECTOR

PRESS RELEASE

PLEASE ATTEND A CLALLAM COUNTY SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM (SMP) PUBLIC FORUM

Public participation in Clallam County’s update of its Shoreline Master Program is vital to ensure the future for the natural and human benefits of our stream, river, lake and marine shorelines. The experience and perspectives of county residents and businesses is critical to create an accurate picture of the current state of our local shorelines and to craft a vision for the future. Public forums will be held four evenings and three afternoons the week of April 11th to get views on how to:

- best manage river floodplains
- protect private property
- protect environmental resources
- ensure public access

The County has heard from a number of citizens that these issues are critical and that people want to get into the tough issues that need to be carefully addressed to successfully achieve both public and private interests. The county also has heard that people want multiple options for participating because of their busy schedules and other commitments. To accommodate people’s schedules, many public forums have been scheduled both during the day and in the evening at locations across the County. People are encouraged to attend as often as they can. Comments can also be sent by e-mail, letter to:

Clallam Co. DCD, 223 E. 4th St., Suite 5, Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015;

T: (360) 417-2563 E: SMP@co.clallam.wa.us;

and by filling out a questionnaire that will be available at the forums and on the County website:

http://www.clallam.net/RealEstate/html/shoreline_management.htm

SMP Forum Format:

Open House (first 30 mins.) view maps & information. The overall process for the updating the Shoreline Master Program will be presented along with a detailed summary of floodplain management along rivers and streams, marine shoreline erosion and human efforts to protect property and aquatic habitat, and public access opportunities and concerns. Following the presentation, people will be encouraged to work with others in small groups to develop strategies for critical issues. Results from the group work will be used by County staff and an advisory committee to develop detailed strategies and bring them back to the public for comment in the fall.

Get Involved! Be Informed! Learn the Issues! Give your feedback! Attend a local forum!

Day/Time	Place
Mon. – April 11, 2011 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.	Port Angeles Senior Ctr, 328 E. 7th St., Port Angeles
Tues. – April 12, 2011 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.	Sekiu Community Center, 42 Rice St., Sekiu
Tues. – April 12, 2011 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.	Sekiu Community Center, 42 Rice St., Sekiu
Wed. – April 13, 2011 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.	Crescent Community Grange, 50870 Hwy 112, Joyce
Wed. – April 13, 2011 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.	Crescent Community Grange, 50870 Hwy 112, Joyce
Thurs. – April 14, 2011 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.	John Wayne Marina, 2577 W. Sequim Bay Rd., Sequim
Thurs. – April 14, 2011 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.	John Wayne Marina, 2577 W. Sequim Bay Rd., Sequim

BACKGROUND:

The County website also has important background information on the Shoreline Master Program update process. Briefly, a Shoreline Master Program is a regulatory document that promotes and enhances public access, water dependent uses, and ecological functions. Shorelines are where the land meets state waters. The balance to accommodate necessary and appropriate new development requires that we manage our limited shoreline resources wisely.

Shoreline master programs establish each community's goals for its shoreline areas and implement policies and regulations to:

- Help protect water quality for our marine waters, lakes, and stream systems.
- Increase protection of lives and property from flood, landslide, and other natural disasters.
- Protect critical habitat for fish and other wildlife.
- Promote recreational opportunities in shoreline areas and encourage public access.
- Identify restoration opportunities.