

# SMP Organization and Structure

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# REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF A “COMPLETE” SMP:

- Shoreline goals and policies (these can be merged).
- Local SMP jurisdiction - updated and mapped. If exercising the local “option” to expand jurisdiction to include CA buffers, this must be clearly identified.
- Environment designations described and mapped
- Environment-specific regulations, establishing:
  - which shoreline uses and activities are allowed by SDP or CUP, and which are prohibited
  - bulk & dimensional standards (buffers, setbacks, density, etc.)
  - shoreline modification standards

# Required components of a “complete” SMP (continued):

- ▣ Permit administration provisions, including:
  - standards for reviewing CUPs and Variances
  - a statement of applicability, *“All proposed uses and development occurring within shoreline jurisdiction must conform to chapter 90.85 RCW, the SMA, and this master program”*
- ▣ A complete description of all components that make up the SMP

## Required components of a “complete” SMP (continued):

- ▣ All “other local ordinances” relied upon to satisfy SMA and SMP guidelines requirements. These provisions:
  - must be adopted by reference to a “*specific, dated edition*” of the local ordinance
  - become part of the SMP and yes, will require Ecology approval for future changes
  
- ▣ Definitions – which must be consistent with SMA policy and WACs

# “Optional” SMP components/structure:

- ▣ SMP “users guide” (strongly recommended)
- ▣ RCW 90.58.100(2) - “elements” may be addressed throughout the SMP, rather than used as a means of organizing the SMP
- ▣ “General” SMP policies and regs that apply regardless of environment designation – which lessen repetition

## “Optional” SMP components/structure (continued):

- ▣ Shoreline use and dimensional standards listed by environment in (usually two) matrices. Standards are required, matrices are strongly recommended.
- ▣ Policy followed directly by related regulations (means policies are more likely considered during implementation)

# “Optional” SMP components/structure (continued):

- ▣ Additional administrative provisions (when not in conflict with chapter 173-27 WAC provisions), such as:
  - Exemptions listed
  - Nonconforming uses/ activities (or WAC “default” applies)
  - Additional definitions not included in the SMA or WAC
  
- ▣ “A mechanism for documenting all project review actions” and “evaluating the cumulative effects of authorized development on shoreline conditions” (Note: this is required, but not necessarily as part of the SMP).

# What is NOT part of a SMP?

- ▣ Shoreline inventory and characterization
- ▣ Land use analysis
- ▣ Cumulative impacts analysis
- ▣ Itemized list of local restoration projects (restoration policies and priorities are)
- ▣ Local permit process, permit fees, etc.

# What to look for in SMP organization:

- ▣ Easily accessible structure and content, that includes a TOC
- ▣ Straight forward numbering
- ▣ Precise language. Note: meaning can swing on a word. Be deliberate with such words as:
  - Should (in policies)
  - Shall (in regulations)
  - Exempt
  - Overwater
  - Landward or Waterward of OHWM (not above or below)

# What to look for in SMP organization (continued):

- ▣ Ensure information in matrices does not conflict with SMP text
- ▣ Clear distinction between provisions “adopted by reference” as a part of the SMP and “loose references” to other local programs, codes, or regulations

# What to look for in SMP organization (continued):

- ▣ Definitions and terms that are consistent with SMA and WAC
- ▣ An *SMP Submittal Checklist* completed at each step in the SMP update process:
  - Demonstrates required topics are covered
  - Helps facilitate review
- ▣ When “appendices” are included, they must be described in the SMP, as either a part of the SMP, or not.