Burien Shoreline Master Program Overview

Washington state’s Shoreline Management Act (Act) was adopted in 1972 with the intent to ensure that development of our shorelines promote and enhance the public interest. This is to be accomplished through the protection of natural shorelines, and by encouraging water-related and water-dependent uses. Stating that shorelines are among the most valuable and fragile of the states’ resources, the Act sets out to prevent harm to the state’s shorelines by uncoordinated and piecemeal development.

The Burien Shoreline Master Program (SMP) defines the goals, objectives, and sets forth policy direction as reflected in the aspirations of the city’s citizens and shorelines’ stakeholders. The overarching goal of the SMP is to adopt and implement a program that causes “no net loss” to ecological functions along the shorelines and balances the interests of private property owners and the public interest.

An underlying goal is to find an equitable balance between uses that permit reasonable development and economic activity and uses that give preference to preserving the public’s access and enjoyment of the state’s shorelines.

The Act recognizes and protects private property rights along the shorelines and aspires to preserve the quality of these resources for Washington residents.

The Act applies to all marine waters, submerged, tidelands, lakes over 20 acres, and all streams with a mean annual flow greater than 20 cubic feet per second, Marshes, bogs, and swamps associated with the lakes, streams, and marine waters are also included, as is a 200-foot wide shoreline area landward from the water's edge. In Burien, only two water bodies – Lake Burien and the approximately five miles of shoreline along Puget Sound – are regulated under the Act.

The Act matters to anyone who cares about shorelines. From water-dependent businesses to those who live along the water’s edge, to others who enjoy occasional water access, all Washington residents are affected by how we manage our shorelines.

The Act regulates shoreline activity through local Shoreline Master Programs (SMP) based on guidelines established by the state’s Department of Ecology (Ecology) although each SMP is “tailored” to the unique characteristics, both physical and economic - of each locality.

As required by the Act, each SMP is both a planning and a regulatory document consisting of goals and objectives, policies, and land use regulations and even though local jurisdictions have primary responsibility for regulating shoreline development, Ecology has the authority to review and approve the local SMP.
Burien’s shorelines are almost entirely developed. Uses along Burien’s shorelines are primarily single-family residential and parks, with one community residential facility on Lake Burien. The City of Burien does not have any commercial or industrial uses on its shorelines.

Since Burien incorporated in 1993, the community has been good stewards of the environment, including the shorelines. A few examples include:

- Removal of 1,200 linear feet of shoreline armoring along the southern shoreline of Seahurst Park. Removal of another 1,800 linear feet of armoring along the northern shoreline of the park is funded and will begin in 2011.
- Purchase of 6.5 shoreline acres for Eagle Landing Park.
- Designation of both Seahurst and Eagle Landing Parks as “Marine Reserves”.
- Installing oil separators in storm drains around Lake Burien to protect the lake from street pollution.
- Opposition to SeaTac Airport’s 3rd Runway, which led to the Port of Seattle providing both primary and secondary treatment of polluted stormwater. This removed untreated airport runoff from Miller and Walker Creeks, which eventually flowed into Puget Sound.
- Supporting low-impact development throughout the city.
- Burien has supported educational efforts related to stewardship. For example,
  - Burien has a stream steward, who works with the community and homeowners along the creeks to make them healthier and decrease the pollution entering streams that flow into Puget Sound.
  - Burien provides free natural yard care classes.
  - Burien provides support to the Environmental Science Center, which operates out of a City owned building at Seahurst Park to educate children and adults in best practices to keep Puget Sound healthy for generations to come.

Chapter I of the SMP provides a “user’s guide” for understanding the underpinning legislation, how the Shoreline Management Act relates to the Growth Management Act, and the city of Burien’s responsibility over shoreline jurisdiction.

Chapter II of the SMP includes elements that address:

- Economic Development
- Public Access
- Recreation
- Circulation
- Land Use
- Conservation
- Historic, Cultural, Scientific, and Educational Value
- Flood Prevention and Minimization
- Restoration
Chapter III describes the environment designations established by the Act and how they apply to Burien.

Chapter IV contains the policies and specific regulations that manage the uses (and modifications) along shorelines in compliance with the Act.

Chapter V spells out the types of permits and the appropriate review procedures for development along shorelines including the Substantial Development Permit, (and exemptions), Conditional Use Permits, Variances, and regulations that govern alteration and replacement of nonconforming structures.

Chapter VI contains definitions to help the user understand the meaning of some specific terms.

As a way to sustain the balance of authority between local jurisdictions and the state government, Ecology has the authority to review shoreline development permit decisions and must approve, condition or deny shoreline variances and shoreline conditional use permits following their approval by local government. In other words, all proposed uses and development occurring within shoreline jurisdiction must conform to Chapter 90.58 RCW, the Shoreline Management Act, and with the Burien SMP.
Burien Shoreline Master Program
August 2010

Title 20

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Chapter I.   User’s Guide
20.10.001 Overview of State Shoreline Management Act

The State of Washington’s Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) was passed by the Legislature in 1971 and adopted by the public in a 1972 referendum. The following is an excerpt from the Shoreline Management Act stating Washington State’s policy regarding shorelines.

RCW 90.58.020 - The legislature finds that the shorelines of the state are among the most valuable and fragile of its natural resources and that there is great concern throughout the state relating to their utilization, protection, restoration, and preservation. In addition it finds that ever increasing pressures of additional uses are being placed on the shorelines necessitating increased coordination in the management and development of the shorelines of the state. The legislature further finds that much of the shorelines of the state and the uplands adjacent thereto are in private ownership; that unrestricted construction on the privately owned or publicly owned shorelines of the state is not in the best public interest; and therefore, coordinated planning is necessary in order to protect the public interest associated with the shorelines of the state while, at the same time, recognizing and protecting private property rights consistent with the public interest. There is, therefore, a clear and urgent demand for a planned, rational, and concerted effort, jointly performed by federal, state, and local governments, to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines.

It is the policy of the state to provide for the management of the shorelines of the state by planning for and fostering all reasonable and appropriate uses. This policy is designed to insure the development of these shorelines in a manner which, while allowing for limited reduction of rights of the public in the navigable waters, will promote and enhance the public interest. This policy contemplates protecting against adverse effects to the public health, the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state and their aquatic life, while protecting generally public rights of navigation and corollary rights incidental thereto.

Permitted uses in the shorelines of the state shall be designed and conducted in a manner to minimize, insofar as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline area and any interference with the public's use of the water.

In 1995, the Legislature amended the Growth Management Act (GMA) and the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) to partially integrate the two statutes. The amendments incorporated the goals and policies of the SMA as the 14th goal of the GMA, specifically designating the goals and policies of a local shoreline master program as a segment of the jurisdiction’s development regulations (RCW 36.70A.480). The diagram below indicates the relationship.
Figure 1: Relationship of Shoreline Master Program to GMA

- WA State Growth Management Act (GMA-RCW 36.70A)
- WA State Shoreline Management Act (SMA-RCW 90.58)
- City of Burien Comprehensive Plan
- City of Burien Critical Areas Regulations (BMC Chapter 19.40)
- City of Burien Shoreline Master Program (BMC Title 20)
The SMA is administered through a cooperative program between local governments and the Department of Ecology (Ecology), whereby local communities prepare a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) that is adopted under guidelines established by Ecology. The SMP serves to regulate development along shorelines of the state and establish a comprehensive vision of how the shoreline areas will be used and developed over time.

The SMP is a comprehensive use plan for local shoreline areas that includes desired goals and policies consistent with SMA policy (RCW 90.58.020); maps, diagrams and charts or other descriptive material and text; use and development regulations; and administrative procedures for the shoreline permitting process. The Ecology SMP guidelines (WAC 173-26) establish general goals and policies, and standards and criteria for regulations. The SMP is based on state guidelines, but tailored to the specific conditions and needs of individual communities. The SMP is also meant to be a comprehensive vision of how the shoreline area will be used and developed over time.

Under the SMA, the shoreline jurisdiction includes all water areas of the state, the lands underlying them, and areas that are 200 feet landward of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of waters that have been designated as “shorelines of statewide significance” or “shorelines of the state.” These designations were established in 1971, and are described in RCW 90.58.030 (Definitions and Concepts). Generally, “shorelines of statewide significance” include marine waters below extreme low water, rivers west of the Cascade Range that have a mean annual flow of 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) or greater, rivers east of the Cascade Range that have a mean annual flow of 200 cfs or greater, and freshwater lakes with a surface area of 1,000 acres or more. “Shorelines of the state” are generally described as all marine shorelines and shorelines of all other streams or rivers having a mean annual flow of 20 cfs or greater and lakes with a surface area greater than 20 acres.

**20.10.005 City of Burien Shoreline Jurisdiction**

Although there are a number of waterbodies, including streams, lakes and marine shorelines, within the City of Burien, only two are regulated under the SMA. The shoreline jurisdiction within the city limits of the City of Burien includes approximately five miles of marine shoreline along Puget Sound and Lake Burien. There are no “shorelines of the state” associated with rivers or streams in the city. The portions of Puget Sound within the city limits are defined as “shorelines of statewide significance” waterward of the line of extreme low tide (RCW 90.58.030(2)(e)(iii)-Shorelines of Statewide Significance). The marine shoreline has been given a special status because they are considered a major resource from which all people in the state derive benefit.

Under the SMA, the shoreline area to be regulated under the City’s SMP must include marine waters and shorelands, defined as the upland area within 200 feet of the OHWM, as well as any associated wetlands (RCW 90.58.030-Definitions and Concepts). All proposed uses and development occurring within shoreline jurisdiction must conform to
Chapter 90.58 RCW, the Shoreline Management Act, and this Shoreline Master Program.

### 20.10.010 Components of Burien Shoreline Master Program

The City of Burien Shoreline Master Program was originally adopted at the time of the City’s incorporation in 1993. Under new shoreline master program guidelines adopted by Ecology in 2004, cities within King County are required to update their local shoreline master programs.

![Figure 2: Structure of City of Burien Shoreline Master Program](image-url)
20.10.015 Amendments and State Role

The City of Burien Shoreline Master Program may be amended when new information is obtained, local circumstances change, or shoreline management approaches are improved. The city will follow procedures identified in BMC 19.65.080 (Type 4 Decisions) for Type 4 Legislative Decision which allow for public notice and hearing, review and recommendation by the Shoreline Administrator and the City Planning Commission with formal approval given by the City Council. After local adoption, all amendments to the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program must be approved by the Washington State Department of Ecology before they can be locally in effect.

Appeals of approved amendments to the Burien Shoreline Master Program are under the jurisdiction of the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board. Appeals involving a shoreline permit are under the jurisdiction of the State of Washington Shorelines Hearings Board.
Chapter II. General Goals and Policies
20.20.001 Purpose

The Shoreline Master Program goals and policies of this chapter reflect the aspirations and concerns that Burien citizens and stakeholders expressed about the City’s shorelines during community and Shoreline Advisory Committee meetings. These goal and policy statements, along with the shoreline land use map, are the foundation for specific guidelines concerning how to regulate and manage activities occurring within the City’s shoreline jurisdiction.

The goals and policies of this element apply to all water bodies and shorelands that meet the definitions set forth in RCW 90.58.030 (Definitions and Concepts) unless otherwise specifically stated in the goal or policy. Burien’s shorelines includes those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters. Water bodies in Burien that meet the applicable definitions include Puget Sound waterward to mid channel and Lake Burien.

20.20.005 General Goals and Policies

Goal ALL

Develop, implement, and maintain a Shoreline Master Program that results in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes, balances public and private interests in the shoreline, and considers other relevant programs.

Pol. ALL 1 The Shoreline Master Program shall result in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes.

Pol. ALL 2 Regulation and management of Burien’s shorelines should be guided by ongoing and comprehensive science.

Pol. ALL 3 The City should be proactive in managing activities within the shoreline jurisdiction.

Pol. ALL 4 Implement an adaptive management approach to respond to changes and to ensure continued effectiveness.

Pol. ALL 5 The Shoreline Master Program should balance private use and enjoyment of tidelands and adjacent lands with the greater public benefit that shorelines provide, while recognizing the rights of individuals to use and develop private property in a manner consistent with City and other applicable regulations.
When Shoreline Master Program regulations are developed and applied, they should consider site-specific characteristics.

Regulation and management of the City’s shorelines should be coordinated with relevant local, state, federal, and other programs. Such programs include, but are not limited to, those administered by: City of Seattle, City of Normandy Park, City of SeaTac, King County, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Puget Sound Partnership, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Muckleshoot Tribe, Puyallup Tribe, and Water Resource Inventory Area 9.

Consider an incentive base system to encourage redevelopment projects to comply with accepted shoreline best management practices and standards.

### 20.20.010 Economic Development Element

**Goal ED**

Insure healthy, orderly economic growth by allowing those economic activities which will be an asset to the local economy and which result in the least possible adverse effect on the quality of the shoreline and surrounding environment.

**Pol. ED 1**

Protect the beauty and function of the natural environment to maintain a community where workers want to live and work.

**Pol. ED 2**

Promote actions ensuring a clean and attractive community.

### 20.20.015 Shoreline Public Access Element

**Goal PA**

Increase and enhance public access to shoreline areas, consistent with the natural shoreline character, private property rights, and public safety.

**Pol. PA 1**

Developments, uses, and activities on or near the shoreline should not impair or detract from public access to the water.

**Pol. PA 2**

Publicly owned shorelines should be limited to water dependent or public recreational uses, otherwise such shorelines should remain protected open space.

**Pol. PA 3**

Public access to the City’s shorelines should be designed to provide for public safety and to minimize potential impacts to private property and individual privacy rights.
Pol. PA 4  Public access should be provided as close as possible to the water’s edge with no net loss of shoreline ecological function and without adversely impacting private property rights and personal privacy rights. Public access should be designed for handicapped and physically impaired persons.

Pol. PA 5  The City should seek opportunities to develop new public access areas in locations dispersed throughout the shoreline.

Pol. PA 6  The vacation or sale of street ends, other public right of ways and tax title properties that abut shoreline areas shall be prohibited except as provided for in RCW 35.79.035 (Streets-Vacation). The City should protect these areas for public access and public viewpoints.

Pol. PA 7  Waterfront street ends should be recognized as:

a. An important community resource that provides visual and physical access to the Puget Sound;

b. Special use parks which serve the community, yet fit and support the character of the surrounding neighborhoods;

c. A destination resource, where limited facilities and enhancements are provided.

Pol. PA 8  The City should manage and develop waterfront street ends by:

a. Supporting their use by residents city-wide, yet ensuring that the street ends and their supporting facilities are developed at a level or capacity which are appropriate to the neighborhood character, promotes safety, protects private property rights and individual privacy, and is consistent with City risk management practices;

b. Ensuring that public parking is available and limited to a level appropriate to the capacity of the public access site, and is harmonious with the surrounding neighborhood;

c. Ensuring that the waterfront street ends are preserved and maintained with limited enhancements, such as places to sit or rest which fit in with the natural environment of the area;

d. Installing signs that indicate the public’s right of access, the rules of use, and penalties for misuse;

e. Installing limited trail improvements and enhancements to allow access to the water;

f. Protecting adjacent private property including but not limited to protecting individual privacy rights and ensuring public safety; and

g. Developing a street ends plan that promotes waterfront access and public safety.

Pol. PA 9  Waterfront street ends or other shoreline access should be planned in conjunction with the affected neighborhoods. However, the broader community should be notified during the public notification process.
Pol. PA 10  The City should disseminate information that identifies all locations for public access to the shorelines.

Pol. PA 11  The public’s visual access to the City’s shorelines from streets, paths, trails and designated viewing areas should be conserved and enhanced.

Pol. PA 12  Public views from the shoreline upland areas should be enhanced and conserved, while recognizing that enhancement of views should not be necessarily construed to mean removal of vegetation.

Pol. PA 13  Promote a coordinated system of connected pathways, sidewalks, passageways between buildings, beach walks, and shoreline access points that increase the amount and diversity of opportunities for walking and chances for personal discoveries.

20.20.020  Recreation Element

Goal REC

Develop a well-maintained, interconnected system of multi-functional parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces that: is attractive, safe, and accessible for all geographic regions and population segments within the City; supports the community’s well-established neighborhoods and small town atmosphere; protects private property rights and results in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and processes.

Pol. REC 1  Recreation facilities in the shoreline area should be restricted to those dependent upon a shoreline location, or those benefiting from a shoreline or in-water location that are in the public interest.

Pol. REC 2  Recreational developments should be located, designed and operated to be compatible with, and minimize adverse impacts on, environmental quality and valuable natural features as well as on adjacent surrounding land and water uses. Favorable consideration should be given to proposals which complement their environment and surrounding land and water uses, and result in no net loss of ecological functions.

Pol. REC 3  Public information and education programs should be developed and implemented to help ensure that the public is aware of park regulations and private property rights, and to prevent the abuse of the shoreline and its natural ecological system.

Pol. REC 4  The City shall plan to provide, in coordination with other agencies, a range of park facilities that serve a variety of recreational and open space purposes. Such planning should use the following designations and guidelines to provide such diversity:
1. Mini or Pocket Park

*Use Description:* Passive recreation or specialized facilities that *may* serve a concentrated or limited population such as children or senior citizens.

*Service area:* Approximately 1/3 of a mile radius.

*Size:* No minimum to approximately one acre.

*Desirable Characteristics:* These parks should be in close proximity to dwellings and or other centers of activity. Mini parks should be designed for intensive use and should be accessible and visible from surrounding area.

*Examples:* In Burien these types of parks are primarily private parks consisting of beach access for adjacent subdivisions, view appreciation areas (bench or platform), picnic tables and trees in a small area, children’s play area, game tables, or planted areas.

*Other Considerations:* Since maintenance costs of these smaller parks are high relative to their service areas, few jurisdictions are able to meet the desired quantity. This type of park is most suitable to provide unique local needs, such as shore access, or as a consideration in the design of new development. The City should seek a variety of means for financing and maintaining mini-parks, including considering opportunities for community stewardship and grant or private funding.

2. Regional Parks

*Use Description:* Areas of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, beach activities, swimming, and trails. Such parks may contain special amenities, facilities or features that attract people from throughout the surrounding region. Such facilities require extensive on-site parking and good access by automobile.

*Service area:* Approximately 1/2 to 1 hour driving time.

*Size:* Approximately 90 acres.

*Desirable Characteristics:* Contiguous to or encompassing significant natural resources.

*Examples:* Seahurst Park.

3. Special Use Park

*Use Description:* Specialized or single-purpose recreational activities such as walking and bicycle trails, street ends, or areas that preserve buildings, sites or features of historical significance.
Service area: Variable.

Size: Depends on nature of facility.

Desirable Characteristics: Compatibility with adjacent facilities and uses.

Examples: Examples within Burien shoreline consist primarily of designated view points and historical markers, and waterfront street ends (including those at SW 170th Pl., SW 163rd Pl., and at the intersection of Maplewild Ave. SW and SW 172nd St.).

4. Conservancy Park

Use Description: Conservancy parks are formally designated public resource areas. In such parks the primary management objectives are protection and management of historical, cultural and natural resources, including fish and wildlife habitat areas and may include appropriate passive recreational activities.

Service area: None.

Size: As appropriate for the resource.

Desirable Characteristics: As appropriate for the resource.

Examples: Currently Salmon Creek Ravine is most appropriately classified in this category although its feasibility for including other types of park activities consistent with its character should be evaluated. This category would also apply to any significant formally designated land, protected wetlands or steep slope areas by private or public means.

Pol. REC 5 Access for motorized vessels should be discouraged at Seahurst Park. Access for non-motorized craft should be considered if access for such craft can be provided in an environmentally-sensitive manner.

Pol. REC 6 Where appropriate, recreational developments should make adequate provisions for:

a. Vehicular and pedestrian access, both on-site and off-site;
b. Proper water supply and sewage waste disposal methods;
c. Security and fire protection;
d. The prevention of overflow and trespass onto adjacent properties, including but not limited to landscaping, fencing and posting of property; and
e. Buffering of such development from adjacent private property or natural area.
Pol. REC 7  Trails and pathways on steep shoreline bluffs should be located, designed and maintained to protect bank stability without the need for shoreline armoring.

Pol. REC 8  Mooring buoys, in general, are beneficial in enabling increased recreational opportunities. However, the City should ensure that their possible negative effects on physical and visual environments are avoided.

Pol. REC 9  Artificial marine life habitats should be encouraged in order to provide increased aquatic life for recreation. Such habitats should be constructed in areas of low habitat diversity and in consultation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Pol. REC 10  The linkage of shoreline parks, recreation areas and public access points with linear systems, such as hiking paths, bicycle paths, easements and/or scenic drives, should be encouraged.

Pol. REC 11  Development of recreational facility along City shorelines should implement Low Impact Development techniques whenever feasible.

20.20.025  Circulation Element

Goal CI

Provide safe, reasonable, and adequate circulation systems in the shoreline area that will have the least possible adverse effect on unique or fragile shoreline features and existing ecological systems, while contributing to the functional and visual enhancement of the shoreline.

Pol. CI 1  Minimize impacts to the topography and other natural characteristics of the shoreline by appropriately locating transportation routes. New roadways for vehicle circulation should be located outside of or minimized within the shoreline area.

Pol. CI 2  Cross Puget Sound bridges should be prohibited within the Burien shoreline jurisdiction.

Pol. CI 3  Provide and/or enhance physical and visual public access along shoreline public roads and trails when appropriate given topography, views, natural features, and surrounding land uses.

Pol. CI 4  Public transit systems should provide service to designated public parks within the City.

Pol. CI 5  Wherever practicable, safe pedestrian and bicycle movement on and off roadways in the shoreline area should be encouraged as a means of personal transportation and recreation.
Parking in shoreline areas should directly serve a permitted shoreline use. Parking developed for public access points should be limited to the number of spaces consistent with the capacity of those public access points and is harmonious with the surrounding neighborhood.

Parking facilities should be located and designed to minimize adverse impacts, including those related to: stormwater runoff; water quality; visual qualities; public access; and vegetation and habitat maintenance.

Parking should be planned to achieve optimum use. Where possible, parking should serve more than one use.

Utilities are necessary to serve shoreline uses and shall be properly installed so as to protect the shoreline and water from contamination and degradation.

Utility facilities and right-of-ways should be located outside of the shoreline area to the maximum extent possible. When utility lines require a shoreline location, they should be placed underground.

Utility facilities should be designed and located in a manner which preserves the natural landscape and shoreline ecology and minimizes conflicts with present and planned land uses.

Parking for non water dependent uses should be located as far away as feasible from shorelines.

20.20.030 Land Use Element

Goal USE

Provide functional and attractive shoreline uses that are appropriate in scale, configuration, and location, and are sensitive to and do not degrade habitat and ecological systems and other shoreline resources.

The Shoreline Master Program shall govern the development of all designated shorelines of the City. Lands adjacent to these areas shall be managed in a manner consistent with the Shoreline Master Program.

The City will strive to ensure that basic community values are reflected in the City's land use and decision making processes, while recognizing the rights of individuals to use and develop private property in a manner consistent with City regulations.

Ensure the appropriate location, design, and operation of all activities, development, and redevelopment in the shoreline.
Incentives should be available to encourage the removal and/or reduction of non-conformances.

If feasible, septic systems should be connected to the sanitary sewer system where connections are available.

Any existing single-family lot that was legally subdivided or legally created prior to enactment of subdivision statutes prior to incorporation or annexation shall be considered a legally conforming lot for building purposes, providing the size of the lot was not reduced by more than 50 percent through acquisition for public purposes, and on such lots new homes may be built and existing houses may be expanded and remodeled, provided that applicable setbacks, lot coverage, critical area restrictions, design review requirements (if any), height limits and other applicable regulations in the zoning code are met.

When determining buildable lot size for residential development, the area of a lot covered by water (including but not limited to lakes or the Puget Sound) shall not be included in the calculation.

The planned densities for single-family development should encourage a lower development potential in areas with development constraints.

The Low Density Residential Neighborhood designation will provide for low-density residential development. Development within this designation includes existing neighborhoods that are zoned for four units per acre or less.

Allowed Uses and Description: The Low Density Residential Neighborhood designation allows single family residential uses and their accessory uses at a density of 4 units per acre or less, due to the constraints posed by critical areas. This policy may be implemented by more than one zoning category, based on the ability of the land and public facilities to support development. Development standards, for such items as impervious surfaces, streetscapes, sidewalks and stormwater drainage, may vary within each zoning category based on the existing character of the area.

Designation Criteria: Properties designated Low Density Residential Neighborhood should reflect the following criteria:

1. The area is already generally characterized by single-family residential development at four units per acre or less; and
2. Relative to other residential areas within the City, the area is characterized by lower intensity development as shown on Map LU-2.
3. The land is designated as a potential landslide hazard area, steep slope area, or wetland on the City of Burien’s Critical Areas Map,
4. The existing and planned public facilities for the area cannot adequately support a higher density.
5. The area is subject to existing impacts from high levels of airport-related noise.

**Pol. USE 10** Clustering of housing units may be allowed on lots designated for residential development that contain steep slopes and are located adjacent to an urban environment.

**Pol. USE 11** As slope increases, development intensity, site coverage, and vegetation removal should decrease and thereby minimize the potential for drainage problems, soil erosion, siltation and landslides. Slopes of 40 percent or greater should be retained in a natural state, free of structures and other land surface modifications.

1. Single-family homes and detached single-family garages on existing legally established lots are exempted from this restriction, provided that:

   a. The application of this restriction would deny any appropriate use of this property;
   b. There is no other appropriate economic use with less impact;
   c. The proposed development does not pose a threat to public health, safety or welfare on or off the development site;
   d. Any alterations permitted to the critical area shall be the minimum necessary to allow for economic use of the property;
   e. An analysis of soils, footings and foundations, and drainage be prepared by qualified professionals, certifying that the proposed activity is safe and will not adversely affect the steep slope hazard area or buffer; and
   f. There are adequate plans, as determined by the City, for stormwater and vegetation management.
   g. It is the applicant’s responsibility to show that these provisions are met through an appropriate mechanism such as, or similar to, the SEPA process.

2. Short plats or other divisions of an existing legal lot shall only be approved if all resulting lots are buildable under this restriction.

3. It is the applicant’s responsibility to show that these provisions are met through an appropriate mechanism such as, or similar to, the SEPA process.

**Pol. USE 12** The City should prohibit development on areas prone to erosion and landslide hazards. Further, the City should restrict development on potentially unstable land to ensure public safety and conformity with existing natural constraints, unless the risks and adverse impacts associated with such development can be appropriately mitigated.
Pol. USE 13  Land uses on steep slopes should be designed to prevent property damage and environmental degradation, and to enhance open space and wildlife habitat.

Pol. USE 14  Where there is a high probability of erosion, grading should be kept to a minimum and disturbed vegetation should be restored as soon as feasible. In all cases, the City shall require appropriate site design and construction measures to control erosion and sedimentation.

Pol. USE 15  The City should have development standards that promote the siting of new structures such that they will not require shoreline stabilization and protective measures in the future.

Pol. USE 16  Shoreline stabilization and protective measures should be limited in number and extent. The use of “soft” stabilization and protective measures, such as vegetation, is preferred over the use of “hard” measures, such as concrete bulkheads.

Pol. USE 17  Encourage joint-use activities in proposed shoreline developments.

Pol. USE 18  Wakes generated by vessels operating in the shoreline area should be minimized in order to reduce adverse impacts on the shoreline environment.

Pol. USE 19  Limit use of pesticides and herbicides within shoreline jurisdiction.

Pol. USE 20  Development should be designed to minimize impacts to both views of the shoreline and views from the water. Building orientation, height and the creation of view corridors shall be considered in site and structure design.

20.20.035  Conservation Element

Goal CON

Preserve and enhance shoreline natural resources in order to: protect public health, safety, and welfare; maintain the integrity of the natural environment; and preserve the quality of life in Burien.
Pol. CON 1  Protect critical areas and shoreline ecological processes and functions through regulatory and non-regulatory means. Protection may include acquisition of key properties, regulation of development, and incentives to encourage ecologically sound design.

Pol. CON 2  The City shall ensure that uses and development in shoreline areas is compatible with the shoreline environments designated in this Shoreline Master Program. Adherence to these designations will ensure that sensitive habitat, ecological systems, and other shoreline resources are protected.

Pol. CON 3  The City of Burien’s Critical Areas Map shall be used as a reference for identifying the City’s critical areas. Other unmapped critical areas do exist throughout the City. Any site containing critical areas are subject to the special development regulations and conditions found in the City’s Critical Areas Ordinance.

Pol. CON 4  Development should be directed toward areas where their adverse impacts on critical areas can be minimized.

Pol. CON 5  New development or redevelopment should avoid or mitigate additional loss of shoreline ecological functions. Developments should be encouraged to improve ecological functions and restore riparian buffers.

Pol. CON 6  The City shall maintain a system of development regulations and a permitting system to prevent the destruction of critical areas. Development regulations should at a minimum address wetland protection, aquifer recharge areas important for potable water, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas, and geologically hazardous areas.

Pol. CON 7  The City shall require permit review approval before any activity or construction is allowed to occur in, adjacent to, or impact a critical area.

Pol. CON 8  The City shall develop land use regulations to buffer critical areas from the impacts of adjacent land uses.

Pol. CON 9  The City requires the use of Best Available Science for protecting critical areas within the community pursuant to the Growth Management Act RCW 36.70A.172(1) (Critical Areas).

Pol. CON 10  The City should provide education and technical assistance on low-impact development techniques.

Pol. CON 11  Provide public outreach and education about shoreline ecological functions and processes, and engage the public in stewardship and enhancement activities.
Pol. CON 12  Encourage minimizing the amount of impervious surfaces in new development through the use of appropriate low-impact development techniques and removing paved areas or using retrofit options in existing developments, where applicable, to minimize runoff.

Pol. CON 13  The City shall consider the impacts of new development on water quality as part of its environmental review process and require where appropriate any mitigation measures.

Pol. CON 14  Educate the public on water quality issues and impacts of stormwater flow.

Pol. CON 15  Educate individuals and households about different ways to reduce pollution.

Pol. CON 16  If no feasible alternative exists, a limited amount of development may occur on wetlands and floodplains. In these instances, a broad range of site planning techniques should be explored to minimize impacts on these critical areas.

Pol. CON 17  All wetland functions should be considered in evaluating wetland mitigation proposals, including fish and wildlife habitat, flood storage, water quality, recreation, educational opportunities, and aesthetics.

Pol. CON 18  The City will protect wetlands by maximizing infiltration opportunities and promoting the conservation of forest cover and native vegetation.

Pol. CON 19  Mitigation for any adverse impacts on wetlands shall be provided in the same basin within which the impacts occur.

Pol. CON 20  The City shall consider the impacts of new development on the quality of land, wildlife and vegetative resources as a part of its environmental review process and require any appropriate mitigating measures. Such mitigation may involve the retention of significant habitats.

Pol. CON 21  The City shall encourage an increase in tree canopies through the addition and the preservation of existing vegetation and use of landscaping as an integral part of development plans.

Pol. CON 22  The City should require development proposals to include non structural measures to stabilize soils, hillsides, bluffs and ravine sidewalls and to promote wildlife habitat by removing invasive vegetation and retaining or restoring native vegetation.

Pol. CON 23  The City should consider developing policies that balance the removal of vegetation to preserve and enhance views with the need to retain vegetation to promote slope stability and open space.
Pol. CON 24  Enhance riparian vegetation to improve shoreline ecological functions and processes where possible.

Pol. CON 25  The City should maintain and enhance existing species and habitat diversity including fish and wildlife habitat that supports the greatest diversity of native species.

Pol. CON 26  All development activities shall be located, designed, constructed and managed to avoid disturbance of adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources, including spawning, nesting, rearing and habitat areas and migratory routes.

Pol. CON 27  Fish and wildlife habitat should be protected, conserved and enhanced, including:
   a. Habitats for species which have been identified as endangered, threatened, or sensitive by the state or federal government;
   b. Priority species and habitats listed in the Adopted King County Comprehensive Plan, October 2008, as amended;
   c. Shellfish areas;
   d. Kelp and eel-grass beds;
   e. Herring and smelt spawning areas; and
   f. Wildlife habitat networks designated by the City.

Pol. CON 28  Fish and wildlife should be maintained through conservation and enhancement of terrestrial, air and aquatic habitats.

Pol. CON 29  The City should ensure that habitat networks throughout the City are designated and mapped. The network should be of sufficient width to protect habitat and dispersal zones for small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds. These networks should be protected through incentives, regulation and other appropriate mechanisms. Site planning should be coordinated during development review to ensure that connections are made or maintained amongst segments of the network.

Pol. CON 30  Native plant communities and wildlife habitats shall be integrated with other land uses where possible. Development shall protect wildlife habitat through site design and landscaping. Landscaping, screening, or vegetated buffers required during development review shall retain, salvage and/or reestablish native vegetation whenever feasible. Development within or adjacent to wildlife habitat networks shall incorporate design techniques that protect and enhance wildlife habitat values.

Pol. CON 31  The City shall promote voluntary wildlife enhancement projects which buffer and expand existing wildlife habitat, through educational and incentive programs for individuals and businesses.
Pol. CON 32  The City shall seek to retain as open space, those areas that provide essential habitat for any rare, threatened or endangered plant or wildlife species.

Pol. CON 33  The City should maintain, protect and enhance greenbelts riparian corridors and wildlife habitat corridors so that the extent and intensity of the built environment is balanced by these natural features.

Pol. CON 34  The City shall work with property owners to encourage non-purchase options such as conservation easements, current use easements, and development covenants to preserve open space and greenbelts within the city’s neighborhoods. The City should also accept donations of properties where public access is anticipated or planned.

20.20.040  Historic, Cultural, Scientific, and Educational Element

Goal HCSE

Identify, protect, preserve, and restore buildings, sites, and areas in the shoreline having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value for educational purposes, scientific endeavors, and enjoyment by the general public.

Pol. HCSE 1  The City should protect buildings, sites, and areas in the shoreline having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value through designation, acquisition by purchase or gift, and incentives for preservation.

Pol. HCSE 2  Ensure that properties having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value are protected from undue adverse impacts associated with public or private uses and activities.

Pol. HCSE 3  The City should consider developing and implementing measures which preserve trees of historical significance.

Pol. HCSE 4  Encourage educational projects and programs, including signage, that foster a greater appreciation of the importance of buildings, sites, and areas in the shoreline having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value, as well as of shoreline management and environmental conservation.
20.20.045  **Flood Prevention and Minimization Element**

**Goal FLD**

Prevent and minimize flood damage to public and private property by locating development away from flood-prone areas and by protecting and restoring shoreline ecological functions and processes.

**Pol. FLD 1**  Discourage new development in shoreline areas that would be harmed by flood conditions, or which would create or intensify flood hazard impacts on other properties.

**Pol. FLD 2**  The capacity of natural drainage courses shall not be diminished by development or other activities.

**Pol. FLD 3**  New structural flood hazard reduction measures shall only be allowed where demonstrated to be necessary, and when non-structural methods are infeasible and mitigation is accomplished. New structural flood reduction measures shall be located landward of associated wetlands and buffer areas, except where no alternative exists as documented in a geotechnical analysis.

**Pol. FLD 4**  Monitor sea level rise and accordingly adjust development standards and building setbacks to minimize flooding potential.

20.20.050  **Restoration Element**

**Goal REST**

Restore areas which are ecologically degraded to the greatest extent feasible while maintaining appropriate use of the shoreline.

**Pol. REST 1**  Promote restoration actions that are doable, practical, and effective.

**Pol. REST 2**  The City shall be a good steward of public lands and should integrate restoration and/or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats into capital improvement projects whenever feasible.

**Pol. REST 3**  Establish incentives that provide opportunities for new development or redevelopment activities in the shoreline to restore impaired ecological functions and processes. Incentives might include, but are not limited to: flexible development standards (e.g. setbacks, height limits, lot coverage), reduced or waiver of permits fees, and tax relief.

**Pol. REST 4**  The City shall promote voluntary shoreline enhancement projects through educational and incentive programs for individuals and organizations.
Pol. REST 5  The City should implement the restoration plan associated with this Shoreline Master Program.

Pol. REST 6  Improve natural stream and shoreline conditions to an environmental quality level that supports the return and continuation of salmon runs and eliminates fish blockages.

Pol. REST 7  Stream banks and stream channels should be maintained or restored to their natural condition wherever such conditions or opportunities exist.

Pol. REST 8  Increase availability of large woody debris and opportunities for recruitment in the nearshore zone.

Pol. REST 9  Restore degraded shoreline areas with native species.

Pol. REST 10 The City should investigate partnerships with local environmental groups, city, state or county agencies, or tribes to implement projects and conduct follow-up monitoring and reporting.
Chapter III. Shoreline Environment Designations
20.25.001  Shorelines of Statewide Significance

The State of Washington Shoreline Management Act (SMA) designates certain shoreline areas as shorelines of statewide significance. These shorelines are considered important major resources from which all people in the state derive benefit. The SMA states that local shoreline master programs must give preference to uses which favor public and long-term interests of the people of the state. In the City of Burien, only the marine shorelines below the extreme low tide are designated shorelines of statewide significance. Lake Burien is a “shoreline of the state” and is not a “shoreline of statewide significance.” The following policies apply to Burien’s marine shorelines:

- Recognize and protect the statewide interest over local interest.
- Preserve the natural character of the shoreline.
- Result in long-term over short-term benefit.
- Protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline.
- Increase public access to publicly owned areas of the shoreline.
- Increase recreational opportunities for the public on the shoreline.

20.25.005  Shoreline Environment Designation Map

The shoreline designation map, Figure 3, establishes the general locations of each of the shoreline designations within the City of Burien. This map generally illustrates the extent of shoreline jurisdiction, but is only a depiction that will need to be reviewed and determined on a case by case basis based on the relevant definitions in the SMA. In the event that there are any undesignated shorelines of the state, they will be automatically designated Urban Conservancy under this SMP. If any part of a proposed development or activity is located within shoreline designation, the entire proposal must be reviewed for consistency with the City of Burien’s Shoreline Master Program.

20.25.010  Aquatic

1.  Purpose

The purpose of the “Aquatic” shoreline environment designation is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of shoreline areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark, including both Lake Burien and Puget Sound. This is accomplished by managing water dependent uses and modifications to:

- Preserve/restore ecological functions of the nearshore area;
- Preserve critical saltwater and freshwater habitat;
- Provide public access and recreation opportunities;
- Assure compatibility between shoreland and aquatic uses.
2. **Criteria for Designation**

An “Aquatic” shoreline environment designation is assigned to lands waterward of the ordinary high water mark for both saltwater and freshwater bodies of water, including any submerged or inter-tidal areas. For the City of Burien, this designation applies to Lake Burien and all marine (Puget Sound) areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark out to the center of the channel within the City limits. The Aquatic shoreline environment designation includes the water surface together with the underlying lands and the water column.

3. **Management Policies**

   a. Shoreline uses and modifications should be compatible with the adjoining shoreline environment and designed and managed to prevent degradation of water quality and alteration of natural hydrographic conditions.

   b. New overwater structures should be allowed only for water-dependent uses, public access, or ecological restoration if it can be clearly shown that the cumulative environmental impacts of such structures will not cause significant adverse impacts to protected species.

   c. The size of new overwater structures should be limited to the minimum necessary to support the structure’s intended use and should support multiple uses.

   d. All developments and uses on navigable waters or their beds should be located and designed to minimize interference with surface navigation and moorage.

   e. All developments and uses should consider impacts to public views and access and allow for the safe, unobstructed passage of fish and wildlife, particularly those species dependent on migration.

   f. Restoration opportunities associated with project impacts should be encouraged in the aquatic environment.

   g. Uses that adversely impact the ecological functions of critical saltwater and freshwater habitats should not be allowed except where necessary to achieve the objectives of RCW 90.58.020 (Shoreline Management Act), and then only when their impacts are mitigated according to the sequence described in WAC 173-26-201(2)(e) (Environmental Impact Mitigation) necessary to achieve no net loss of ecological functions.

   h. Shoreline uses and modifications should be designed and managed to prevent degradation of water quality and alteration of natural hydrographic conditions.
20.25.015 Urban Conservancy

1. Purpose

The purpose of the “Urban Conservancy” shoreline environment designation is to protect and restore ecological functions of open space, floodplains, and other sensitive lands where they exist in urban and developed settings, while allowing a variety of compatible uses. This designation focuses on providing public access for the enjoyment of marine and lake shorelines by allowing the development of public recreational facilities.

2. Criteria for Designation

An “Urban Conservancy” environment designation is assigned to areas within shoreline jurisdiction that are suitable for public access, water-enjoyment recreational uses and active recreation developments. These are areas that are developed at a low density including residences and outdoor recreation.

3. Management Policies

a. Uses that preserve or restore the natural character of the shoreline area or promote preservation of open space and critical areas should be the primary allowed uses.

b. Public access and public recreation objectives should be implemented if feasible and wherever any significant ecological impacts can be mitigated.

c. Water-oriented uses should be given priority over non-water-oriented uses with water-dependent uses given the highest priority.

d. New development should be designed and located to preclude the need for shoreline armoring, vegetation removal, flood control, and other shoreline modifications.

e. Standards should be established for shoreline stabilization measures, vegetation conservation, water quality, and shoreline modifications. These standards shall ensure that new development does not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions or further degrade other shoreline values.
20.25.020 Shoreline Residential

1. Purpose

The purpose of the “Shoreline Residential” environment designation is to accommodate residential development and appurtenant structures as well provide appropriate public access.

2. Criteria for Designation

A Shoreline Residential environment designation is assigned to shoreline areas that are predominantly single-family or multifamily residential development or are planned and platted for residential development. These are areas that are developed at a moderate density or intensity including residences and outdoor recreation. Low intensity institutional uses may be allowed if their impacts on the shoreline environment are mitigated.

3. Management Policies

a. Residential and accessory uses, recreation facilities and public access shall be the preferred uses.

b. Multifamily and multi-lot residential and recreational developments should provide public access and joint use for community recreational facilities.

c. Water-oriented recreational uses should be allowed.

d. Any new development or redevelopment should utilize low impact development techniques where feasible.

e. Standards for building setbacks, lot coverage limitations, riparian buffers, shoreline stabilization, vegetation conservation, critical area protection, and water quality shall be set to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

f. Public access and public recreation objectives should be implemented if feasible and wherever any significant ecological impacts, such as importation of invasive species to Lake Burien, can be mitigated.
Figure 3  Shoreline Environment Designation Map

The AQUATIC DESIGNATION extends to all channel of Foss Waterway and designated shoreline areas are automatically designated URBAN CONSERVANCY.

Shoreline Designations
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- 300' from Center
- Boundary of Burden

SHORELINE RESIDENTIAL

URBAN CONSERVANCY

Shoreline Environment Designations

Designation Boundary

PUGET SOUND

AQUATIC
Chapter IV. Shoreline Uses and Modifications
Policies and Regulations
# Section 20.30

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## General Provisions

### 20.30.001 Figure 4 Shoreline Permit Matrix

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SDP  Shoreline substantial development permit (City Decision) – See Chapter 20.35 for specific procedures
CU  Shoreline conditional use permit (Department of Ecology Decision) – See Chapter 20.35 for specific procedures
X  Prohibited
N/A  Not applicable
1  Prohibited in critical saltwater habitats and Lake Burien
2  Allowed if necessary to construct a permitted use
3  Private mooring buoys are exempt from the shoreline substantial development permit process but shall comply with BMC 20.30.090[Recreational Mooring Buoys].
Construction of the normal protective bulkhead common to single-family residences must comply with BMC 20.30.070 [Bulkheads and other shoreline stabilization structures] but is not required to obtain a substantial development permit.

Construction of a dock, pier, or float that is below the substantial development threshold set forth in RCW 90.58.030 [Definitions and concepts, “substantial development”] shall be exempt from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit process, but shall comply with all other applicable sections of this master program.

Shoreline uses not listed in the matrix above are subject to a shoreline conditional use permit.

Exempt from shoreline substantial development permit requirements if this is for construction of only one detached unit built by an owner, lessee, or contract purchaser who will be occupying the residence, in accordance with WAC 173-27-040(g) [single-family residential exemption], as amended.

### 20.30.005 Applicability

The following provisions shall apply to all uses and activities within the City of Burien’s shoreline jurisdiction unless otherwise noted. These regulations are based on general goals and policies without regard to shoreline designation based upon elements of the shoreline detailed in Chapter II of this shoreline master program consistent with RCW 90.58.100(2) [SMP required contents] and implement the principles as established in WAC 173-26-186 [Governing principles of the guidelines] and WAC 173-26-221 [General Master Program Provisions].

- Land Use
- Archaeological and Historic Resources
- Critical Areas
- Flood Hazard Reduction
- Public Access
- Shoreline Vegetation Conservation
- Water Quality, Storm Water, and Nonpoint Pollution

### 20.30.007 Existing Development

1. **Existing Single-Family Homes, Appurtenances, and Other Existing Structures.** Single-family homes, appurtenances and other structures that were legally established by ______________ (effective date of this SMP) are considered to be conforming to the SMP. Any addition, expansion or reconstruction beyond the existing footprint of the single-family home, appurtenance or other structure must comply with the SMP.

   Replacement of any portion of any structure in the Aquatic shoreline designation shall comply with the SMP requirements for materials that come in contact with the water pursuant to 20.30.045 [2.b][Water Quality, Storm Water and Nonpoint Pollution].

2. **Other Existing Uses or Structures.** Uses or structures other than single-family homes that were legally established by __________(effective date of this SMP) are considered to be conforming to the SMP. Any enlargement or expansion of the use must comply with the SMP.
20.30.010 Impact Mitigation

1. Policy

a. Impacts to the ecological functions and values shall be mitigated to result in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and process.

b. Mitigation for impacts of new development projects should first consider enhancement of degraded conditions to offset the impacts of the new development near shoreline resources.

(For additional policy guidance please refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pgs. 1-2, 12-15 and Chapter III Management Policies, pgs. 2-4.)

2. Regulations

a. All shoreline development and uses shall occur in a manner that results in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions, through the location and design of all allowed development and uses. In cases where impacts to shoreline ecological functions from allowed development and uses are unavoidable, those impacts shall be mitigated according to the provisions of this section.

b. To the extent Washington’s State Environmental Policy Act of 1971 (SEPA), RCW chapter 43.21C[State environmental policy], is applicable, the analysis of environmental impacts from proposed shoreline uses or developments shall be conducted consistent with the rules implementing SEPA (BMC Chapter 14[Environmental Protection] and WAC 197-11[SEPA rules]).

c. Where required, mitigation measures shall be applied in the following sequence of steps listed in order of priority.
   i. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
   ii. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation by using appropriate technology or by taking affirmative steps to avoid or reduce impacts;
   iii. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
   iv. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation maintenance;
   v. Compensating for the impact by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources or environments;
   vi. Monitoring the impact and the compensation projects and taking the appropriate corrective measures.

d. In determining appropriate mitigation measures applicable to shoreline development, lower priority measures shall be applied only where higher priority measures are determined to be infeasible or inapplicable.
Required mitigation shall not be in excess of that necessary to assure that proposed uses or development will result in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

When requiring compensatory measures or appropriate corrective measures pursuant to the priority of mitigation sequencing above, preferential consideration shall be given to measures that replace the impacted functions directly and in the immediate vicinity of the impact. However, alternative compensatory mitigation within the watershed that addresses limiting factors or identified critical needs for shoreline resource conservation based on watershed or comprehensive resource management plans applicable to the area of impact may be authorized. Compensatory mitigation of impacts from new development projects should first consider enhancement of degraded conditions to offset the impacts of the new development near shoreline resources. If this is not feasible the second priority should focus mitigation on areas that are in need of restoration. Authorization of compensatory mitigation measures may require appropriate safeguards, terms or conditions as necessary to ensure no net loss of ecological functions.

20.30.015 Land Use

The following provisions apply to all development and uses regardless of whether a shoreline substantial development permit is required.

1. Policies

   a. Preference for shoreline permitted uses shall first be given to water dependent uses, then to water related and water enjoyment uses.

   b. The city should be proactive in enforcing shoreline regulations and provide sufficient resources to ensure enforcement occurs.

(For additional policy guidance please refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pgs. 8-11 and Chapter III Management Policies, pgs. 2-4.)

2. Regulations

   a. The application of master program policies and regulations to all uses and related modifications shall assure no net loss of ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources.

   b. Water dependent uses shall only be allowed overwater if the overwater location is necessary for the operation of the water dependent use. Uses which are not water dependent shall not be permitted overwater unless specifically stated otherwise in the regulations for the applicable shoreline environment.
20.30.020  Archaeological and Historic Resources

According to the state shoreline management guidelines, if archaeological or historic resources have been identified in shoreline jurisdiction, the local government is required to collect information about these resources and contact the state historic preservation office and local affected Indian Tribes. The county and the state maintain inventories of both archaeological and historic resources. These sites and artifacts are protected by several state provisions:

RCW Chapter 27.53— Archaeological Sites and Resources
This state law makes it illegal to knowingly disturb an archaeological site on public or private lands without a state-issued permit.

RCW Chapter 27.44— Indian Graves and Records
This state law makes it illegal to knowingly disturb Native American cairns, petroglyphs and graves on public or private lands without a state-issued permit. Selling any Native American Indian artifacts or remains removed from a cairn or grave is also illegal.

WAC 25-48—Archaeological Excavation and Removal Permit
This provision establishes procedures for application for and issuance of state permits for excavation and/or removal of archaeological sites and resources.

1. Policy

The City should ensure conservation of significant archeological and historic amenities in the shoreline areas and include on the inventory of registered sites maintained by the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and tribally identified sites.

(For additional policies refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 15.)

2. Regulations

a. Archaeological sites located in shoreline jurisdiction are subject to state and federal regulations as well as to the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program.

b. When an application for work in the shoreline area documented to contain archaeological resources is filed the application shall include an evaluation by a professional archaeologist coordinated with affected tribes.

c. All shoreline permits shall contain the requirement to stop work immediately and notify the City, affected tribes and the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation if an artifact is discovered. The property owner will be required to provide for a site inspection and evaluation by a professional archaeologist for review by the relevant tribes and agencies prior to proceeding with the development or activity.

d. Archaeological excavations may be permitted subject to the provisions of this shoreline program.
20.30.025 Critical Areas

Critical areas include the following areas and ecosystems: wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas, and geologically hazardous areas. Critical saltwater and critical freshwater habitats are also types of critical areas within shoreline jurisdiction.

1. Policies

a. In assessing the potential for net loss of ecological functions or processes, project specific and cumulative impacts should be considered.

b. Development standards for density, frontage improvements, setbacks, impervious surface, shoreline stabilization, vegetation conservation, buffers, critical areas, and water quality should protect existing shoreline ecological functions and processes. During permit review, the Shoreline Administrator should consider the expected impacts associated with proposed shoreline development when assessing compliance with this policy.

(For additional policy guidance please refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pgs. 12-15 and Chapter III Management Policies, pgs. 2-4.)

2. Regulations

a. BMC 19.40—Critical areas (City of Burien Ordinance 394, adopted October 20, 2003) shall apply to the shoreline jurisdiction with the following exceptions:

   i. The reasonable use provisions contained in BMC 19.40.070 (4) do not apply.
   ii. The following types of wetlands are not regulated by the SMP:
       (a). Small wetlands less than 1,000 square feet and hydrologically isolated;
       (b). Man-made ponds smaller than one acre and excavated from uplands without a surface water connection to streams, lakes, or other wetlands.

b. Wetland delineation. Wetlands are those areas in the City of Burien, designated in accordance with the Washington State Wetland Identification and Delineation Manual, as required by RCW 36.70A.175[Wetlands to be delineated in accordance with manual] (Ecology Publication #96-94).

c. Wetland rating system. Wetlands for the purposes of the SMP shall be categorized in accordance with the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington – Revised (Ecology Publication #04-06-025).

d. Wetland buffers. Wetland buffers for the purposes of this SMP shall be determined based upon Appendix 8-C of “Wetlands in Washington State Volume 2: Guidance for Protecting and Managing Wetlands FINAL April 2005 Ecology Publication #05-06-0088” based on information provided as part of a critical area study.
e. Development proposals shall adhere to the applicable submittal requirements (a critical area report specific to the critical area) as specified in the Critical Areas Ordinance.

f. Development shall not intrude into, over, or within 10 feet from critical saltwater habitats (e.g., eelgrass) except when an alternative alignment or location is not feasible and the development would result in no net loss of critical saltwater habitat.

g. When this Master Program requires mitigation, the mitigation sequence described in section BMC 20.30.010 [Impact Mitigation] shall be followed.

### 20.30.030 Flood Hazard Reduction

The following provisions apply to actions taken to reduce flood damage or hazard, as well as to uses, development and shoreline modifications that may increase flood hazards. Flood hazard reduction measures may consist of nonstructural measures such as setbacks, land use controls, wetland restoration, biotechnical measures, and storm water management. Flood hazard reduction measures may also include structural measures such as the weir at Lake Burien, floodwalls, dikes and elevation of structures consistent with the National Flood Insurance Program.

#### 1. Policies

a. All new shoreline development and uses shall be located and designed to prevent the need for shoreline stabilization and structural flood hazard reduction measures for the life of the development.

b. Flood protection structures may be allowed in shoreline jurisdiction if a shoreline substantial development permit is obtained.

c. New and expanded public flood protection measures may be permitted subject to City of Burien review and approval of a critical area study and the approval of a Federal Biological Assessment by the federal agency responsible for reviewing actions related to a federally listed species.

d. New structural flood protection measures should only be allowed when necessary to protect existing development or to facilitate restoration projects.

e. When emergency repair of flood protection structures are necessary, permits for the work including mitigation, should be obtained upon abatement of the emergency or the structure must be removed.

(For additional policies refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 16.)
2. Regulations

a. Non-structural flood protection measures shall be used instead of structural solutions unless the project proponent demonstrates that a non-structural solution is not feasible and there would be no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

b. All flood protection measures, including repair and maintenance, shall conform to standards set forth in approved floodplain management plans, when available.

c. Flood protection shall not have adverse impacts on the property of others.

d. Flood control methods must be consistent with BMC 15.55-Flood Damage Prevention and BMC 19.40-Critical Areas.

e. Subdivision proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage by conforming to the adopted Base Flood Elevation regulations.

20.30.035 Public Access

Public access includes both physical access or visual access. Physical access is the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations, and/or to travel on the waters of the state, and. Visual access is access with improvements that provide only a view of the shoreline or water, but do not allow physical access to the shoreline.

1. Policies

a. Public access to shoreline areas should be designed to protect private property and public health and safety.

b. Public access should be provided as close as possible to the water’s edge with no net loss of shoreline ecological function that cannot be mitigated.

c. Private views of the shoreline, although considered during the review process, are not expressly protected. Property owners concerned with the protection of views from private property are encouraged to obtain view easements, purchase intervening property or seek other similar private means of minimizing view obstruction.

(For additional policies refer to Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 2-4 and Chapter III Management Policies, pg. 2-4.)
2. Regulations

a. Public access provided by shoreline street ends, rights-of-way, and other public lands shall provide, maintain, enhance and preserve visual access to the water and shoreline in accordance with RCW 35.79.035 [Limitations on vacations of streets abutting bodies of water — Procedure].

b. Visual access to outstanding scenic areas shall be provided with the provision of roadway design features that allow for visual access opportunities and are sensitive to adjacent land uses and neighborhood characteristics.

c. If a public road is located within shoreline jurisdiction, any unused right of way shall be dedicated as public access unless vacated as set forth in RCW 35.79.035 [Limitations on vacations of streets abutting bodies of water — Procedure].

d. Subject to constitutional limitations, public access shall be required for all new shoreline development and uses, except for water dependent uses, individual single family residences, and subdivisions of less than five parcels.

e. Public access to shoreline areas shall not be required, where it is demonstrated to be infeasible because of adverse ecological impacts that cannot be mitigated, incompatible uses, safety, security, or constitutional and other legal limitations that may be applicable.

f. The City shall utilize alternate methods of providing public access when appropriate and feasible, such as off-site improvements, viewing platforms, separation of uses through site planning and design, and restricting hours of public access.

g. Public access improvements shall not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

h. Required public access sites shall be fully developed and available for public use at the time of occupancy or use of the development or activity.

i. Public access easements and permit conditions shall be recorded on the deed where applicable or on the face of a plat or short plat as a condition running in perpetuity with the land and shall occur at the time of permit approval.

j. Future actions by the applicant or other parties shall not diminish the usefulness or value of the public access site.
20.30.040 Shoreline Vegetation

Vegetation along the shoreline plays a number of important roles including providing bank stability, habitat and wildlife corridors, shade and cover, wood and organic debris recruitment. By slowing erosion and retaining sediments, riparian vegetation reduces pollutants including nitrogen, phosphorus, hydrocarbons, PCBs, metals, and pesticides. Shoreline vegetation also prevents excessive turbidity by slowing down and filtering surface water runoff and associated sediments. This section should be used in conjunction with BMC section 20.30.050 [Dimensional Standards for Shoreline Development].

WAC 173-26-221[5.b] [SMP Guidelines, General master program provisions, vegetation conservation], sets forth the principles on how vegetation contributes to the overall health and sustainability of our shorelines. The applicability of these principles to Burien’s SMP is supported by the appendices to this SMP (Shoreline Inventory, Shoreline Analysis and Characterization, Shoreline Cumulative Impacts Analysis and Supplemental Informational Documents.

1. Policies

a. Native plant communities within shoreline jurisdiction including, but not limited to, wetlands, lakes, streams and bluffs should be protected and maintained to minimize damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline area.

b. Restoration and mitigation of shorelines degraded due to natural or manmade causes should, wherever feasible, use bioengineering techniques to arrest the processes of erosion and sedimentation, to improve water quality and to provide for properly functioning conditions.

c. Vegetation within the city shoreline areas should be enhanced over time to provide a greater level of ecological functions, human safety, and property protection. This should be accomplished by managing alterations within shoreline jurisdiction and implementing vegetation management standards that will maintain or enhance the ecological functions. Emphasis on vegetation maintenance and enhancement should be focused in degraded areas and areas that are most beneficial to shoreline ecological functions.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 10-15.)

2. Regulations

a. Alterations to vegetation within shoreline jurisdiction (except for the maintenance of existing or approved conditions) are not allowed without review and approval
by the City. When allowed, alterations to the vegetation shall result in no net loss of shoreline ecological value or function.

b. *Alterations* within the shoreline vegetation conservation buffer *(except for the maintenance of existing or approved conditions)* shall only be allowed through review and approval by the City of a vegetation management plan as set forth in paragraph d below.

c. If mitigation of impacts is necessary, it should take the form of vegetation enhancement and result in improvements to ecological functions. The vegetation management plan shall be prepared by a qualified professional and shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter and BMC Chapter 19.40*[Critical Areas]*. Vegetation enhancement plans shall include:

   i. Revegetation of degraded buffer areas within 20 feet of the ordinary high water mark (or top of shore armoring if applicable) or wetland edge with dense native vegetation meeting the standards of paragraph (d)(iii-iv) below. The Administrator may require wider widths or other improvements to mitigate greater impacts.

   ii. The above revegetation area may be modified using area averaging when existing structures encroach into the 20 foot width, when access through the area to waterfront facilities is needed, or when water-dependent activities need to take place in the area.

d. Within a shoreline vegetation conservation buffer as set forth in BMC 20.30.050*[Dimensional Standards for Shoreline Development]*, *alterations* shall comply with the following:

   i. The applicant shall provide a vegetation management plan prepared by a qualified professional; and

   ii. The total area of vegetation removal or *alteration* shall be replaced at a size equal or greater to the area being altered; and

   iii. Where new or altered vegetation planting areas are proposed within the shoreline vegetation conservation buffer, either as a part of a project proposal or to replace any existing vegetation that is removed, the new vegetation shall be provided at a density to mimic natural conditions rather than a landscaped yard; and

   iv. When new vegetation planting areas are proposed within the shoreline vegetation conservation buffer, the new or altered vegetation planting areas shall consist of mix of native trees, shrubs and ground cover; and

   v. Vegetation management plans should place emphasis on providing plantings within a 20 foot wide area parallel and adjacent to the shoreline; and
vi. Replacement of new lawn areas are prohibited in the shoreline riparian buffer due to their limited functional benefits and need for chemical and fertilizer application; and

vii. Appropriate limitations shall be included on the use of fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides as needed to protect lake and marine water quality.

e. Prior to issuance of a building permit, if applicable, the applicant shall submit a vegetation management plan pursuant to section h. The plans shall state what erosion control measures will be implemented during and after construction resulting in long term shoreline stabilization.

f. All clearing, grading and vegetation removal shall be the minimum necessary except for the removal of noxious and invasive vegetation. Hand equipment should be used when feasible.

g. In accordance with existing regulations, only noxious weeds shall be removed from the Lake Burien wetland or wetland buffer without approval of the Shoreline Administrator. Replacement of non-native vegetation may be allowed through approval of a vegetation management plan as prescribed in section h.

h. The Director may establish minimum standards for vegetation management plans. At a minimum, vegetation management plans shall comply with the following:

i. Describe the area to be disturbed and the proposed vegetation to be altered; and

ii. Outline specific actions or methods that will be used to minimize impacts to the ecological functions and values; and

iii. Indicate how existing shoreline vegetation will be preserved and protected; and

iv. Describe measures that will be used or enacted that will ensure any alteration and required vegetation will be maintained for a minimum of two years and preferably for the duration of the use or development; and

v. Delineate any applicable critical area and/or buffer; and

vi. The plan shall document how the proposed alteration will result in equal or better ecological function and value.

i. Hand removal of noxious weeds or invasive vegetation may be allowed without approval of a vegetation management plan as prescribed in section h, following a consultation with the Shoreline Administrator or his or her designee.
20.30.045 Water Quality, Storm Water and Nonpoint Pollution

Storm water picks up oil, grease, metals, yard and garden chemicals, dirt, bacteria, nutrients, and other pollutants from paved areas, and carries them to Puget Sound and Lake Burien without treatment. The higher rate of runoff from more impervious areas also results in decreased water quality by flushing more sediment into the water.

1. Policies

   a. The City of Burien should protect against adverse impacts to the public health, to the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and to the waters of the state and their aquatic life, through implementation of the following principles:

      i) Prevent impacts to water quality and storm water quantity that would result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions, or a significant impact to aesthetic qualities, or recreational opportunities.

      ii) Ensure mutual consistency between shoreline management provisions and other regulations that address water quality and storm water quantity, including public health, storm water, and water discharge standards. The regulations that are most protective of ecological functions shall apply, except as otherwise provided in RCW 36.70A.480[ Growth Management, shorelines of the state], regarding the level of protection for critical areas within shorelines of the state.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 12.)

2. Regulations

   a. Construction materials that come in continuous, direct contact with surface waters shall not be treated or coated with toxic materials. Untreated wood, precast concrete, plastic or nontoxic alternatives shall be used unless the project proponent demonstrates and the City of Burien building official determines that there is no feasible alternative to toxic treatments that will provide the structural characteristics necessary for the project.

   b. Low impact development methods shall be incorporated into any development or redevelopment in shoreline jurisdiction when feasible.
20.30.050 Dimensional Standards for Shoreline Development

The following buffers are based on the City of Burien Shoreline Inventory (Appendix 1), City of Burien Shoreline Analysis and Characterization (Appendix 2), and the City of Burien Shoreline Cumulative Impacts Analysis (Appendix 4) reports contained in this shoreline master program. The shoreline riparian buffers, building setbacks and vegetation conservation buffers are calculated from the ordinary high water mark or from the landward face of a bulkhead or other shoreline stabilization structure if one is present. For measurement methods, refer to BMC 19.17[Misc. Use, Development and Performance Standards].

A significant majority of Burien’s marine shorelines are developed with single-family residential structures and appurtenances. Specifically reaches 1, 3 and 4, on the Puget Sound, there are many structures in close proximity to the ordinary high water mark and due to this existing development pattern there is inherent conflicts in applying greater buffer widths while also retaining the ability of residents to continue use and maintain those areas that have been historically used in conjunction with those properties. The justification for this approach is supported by the documentation found in Appendix 5 of this SMP.

The riparian buffers and vegetation conservation buffers shown in Table-Figure 5 and in BMC 20.30.055[Shoreline Buffers]:

1. Do not apply to legally established structures existing on ________ (effective date of the SMP).

2. Apply to new development, new structures, and additions/expansion of legally existing structures.
### Figure 5  Dimensional Standards for Shoreline Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHORELINE ENVIRONMENT DESIGNATION</th>
<th>Shoreline Residential</th>
<th>Urban Conservancy</th>
<th>Aquatic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marine Riparian Buffer&lt;sup&gt;(3)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>20 ft.</td>
<td>50 ft.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Setback</td>
<td>0 ft</td>
<td>15 ft</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Burien Riparian Buffer&lt;sup&gt;(1)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>30 ft.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Setback</td>
<td>15 ft</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation Conservation Buffer&lt;sup&gt;(2)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>150 ft.</td>
<td>200 ft.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height Limit</td>
<td>35 ft.</td>
<td>35 ft.</td>
<td>35 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see BMC 19.15)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot Size&lt;sup&gt;(4)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>RS-12,000</td>
<td>RS-12,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see BMC 19.15)</td>
<td>RS-7,200 (Lake Burien)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Coverage</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see BMC 19.15)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>(1)</sup> Consistent with BMC 19.40-critical areas and BMC 20.30.040 (2) (g).

<sup>(2)</sup> See BMC 20.30.040 Shoreline Vegetation Conservation for specific requirements.

<sup>(3)</sup> For single family residential development, the buffers prescribed in this section may be reduced pursuant to BMC 20.30.095, through the conditional use permit process.

<sup>(4)</sup> See BMC 19.17.170 of the zoning code for minimum lot area requirements.
20.30.055 Shoreline Buffers

Regulations:

1. A twenty foot riparian buffer for the marine shoreline (thirty feet for Lake Burien) shall be established from the ordinary high water mark for all lots. The riparian buffer is measured landward from a perpendicular line from the edge of the OHWM.

2. Overwater structures are allowed within the buffer as provided herein. Structures and development such as viewing platforms, boardwalks, benches, and trails are allowed when associated with public access.

3. Whenever the Shoreline Administrator determines that monitoring has established a significant adverse deviation from predicted impacts, or that mitigation or maintenance measures have failed, the applicant or the property owner shall be required to institute corrective action(s), which shall also be subject to further monitoring as provided in this section.

4. The Shoreline Administrator may require a performance bond(s) or other security in an amount sufficient to guarantee that all required mitigation measures will be completed in a manner that complies with conditions of approval and to guarantee satisfactory workmanship and materials for a period not to exceed five years. The Shoreline Administrator shall establish the conditions of the bond or other security according to the nature of the proposed mitigation, maintenance or monitoring and the likelihood and expense of correcting mitigation or maintenance failures.

5. All costs associated with the mitigation/monitoring and planning including city expenses, shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
20.30.060  Select Shoreline Uses and Modifications

Shoreline master programs establish a comprehensive program of use regulations for shorelines and provisions for specific uses to assure consistency with the policy of the act and where relevant within the jurisdiction. This section provides specific policies and regulations for the following types of uses and modifications:

- Aquaculture
- Bulkheads and Other Shoreline Stabilization Structures
- Docks, Piers and Floats
- Habitat Restoration and Enhancement
- Recreation
- Recreational Mooring Buoys
- Residential
- Transportation Facilities and Parking
- Utilities

20.30.065  Aquaculture

Aquaculture means the culture, harvesting or farming of food fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals. Sport fishing is not considered an aquaculture activity. Aquaculture activities include the hatching, cultivating, planting, feeding, raising, harvesting, and processing of aquatic plants and animals and the maintenance and construction of necessary equipment, buildings and growing areas. Cultivation methods include but are not limited to fish pens, fish hatcheries, shellfish rafts, racks and long lines, seaweed floats and nets and the culture of clams and oysters on tidelands and subtidal areas.

1. Policies

a. Aquaculture should not be permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with existing adjacent uses.

b. Aquacultural facilities must be designed and located so as not to spread disease to native aquatic life, establish new nonnative species which cause significant ecological impacts, or significantly impact the aesthetic qualities of the shoreline.
2. **Regulations**

a. Aquaculture shall be limited to geoduck harvesting within Department of Natural Resources’ tracts or for recovery of a native aquatic population in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.

b. Aquaculture is not permitted in areas where it would result in a net loss of ecological functions, adversely impact eelgrass and macroalgae, or significantly conflict with navigation and other water-dependent uses.

c. Aquaculture is prohibited in critical saltwater habitat or within a 10 foot buffer from these areas.

d. No aquatic organism shall be introduced into City of Burien shoreline areas without the prior written approval of the Director of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife or the appropriate regulatory agency for the specific organism.

e. No aquacultural processing, except for the sorting or culling of the cultured organism and the washing or removal of surface materials or organisms, shall be permitted waterward of the ordinary high water mark unless fully contained within a tending boat or barge.

f. Shellfish seeding and culturing is allowed when conducted for native population recovery in accordance with a government and/or tribal approved plan.

20.30.070 **Bulkheads and Other Shoreline Stabilization Structures**

Shoreline stabilization includes actions taken to address erosion impacts to property and dwellings, roads and utilities, businesses, or structures caused by natural processes, such as current, flood, tides, wind, or wave action. These actions include structural and nonstructural methods.

Nonstructural methods include building setbacks, relocation of the structure to be protected, ground water management, planning and regulatory measures to avoid the need for structural stabilization.

1. **Policies**

a. New development should be located and designed to avoid the need for future shoreline stabilization to the greatest extent feasible.

b. New and replacement bulkheads should be designed to blend in with the natural surroundings and not detract from the aesthetic qualities or degrade the natural processes of the shoreline.
c. Burien should take active measures to preserve natural unaltered shorelines, and prevent the proliferation of new bulkheads and other forms of shoreline armoring.

d. Non-structural stabilization measures including relocating structures, increasing buffers, enhancing vegetation, managing drainage and runoff and other measures are preferred over new structural shoreline armoring.

e. Where feasible, any failing, harmful, unnecessary, or ineffective structural shoreline armoring that cannot be repaired or replaced should be removed, and shoreline ecological functions and processes should be restored using non-structural methods.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 7, 11, 13.)

2. Regulations

a. A shoreline stabilization structure legally existing on ______ (the effective date of the SMP):

   i. May be repaired and maintained.
   ii. May be replaced with a similar structure if the following apply:

   1) There is a demonstrated need to protect legally established principal uses or structures and legally established appurtenances necessary for use and enjoyment of a single-family home, which appurtenances shall not include fences, from erosion caused by currents, tidal action, or waves.

   2) The existing structure can no longer adequately serve its purpose of stabilizing the shoreline to protect established uses and structures.

   3) Replacement walls or bulkheads shall not encroach waterward of the ordinary high water mark or existing structure unless the residence was occupied prior to January 1, 1992 and there are overriding safety or environmental concerns. In such cases, the replacement structure shall abut the existing shoreline stabilization structure.

   4) Where a net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitats would occur by leaving the existing structure, removal of that structure may be required as part of the construction of the replacement.

   5) Soft shoreline stabilization measures that provide restoration of shoreline ecological functions may be permitted waterward of the ordinary high water mark.
b. New shoreline stabilization structures, bulkheads, gabions, revetments, retaining walls and bluff walls are allowed if there would be no net loss of shoreline ecological functions and the following requirements are met:

i. Non structural methods (e.g., building setbacks, biotechnical vegetation measures, anchor trees, upland drainage control, and beach enhancement) are not feasible to protect a residence or other primary structure or essential public facility.

ii. The necessity to protect existing primary structures is demonstrated in the following manner:

1) A geotechnical analysis, accepted by the Administrator, indicates confirms that there is a significant possibility that the primary structure will be damaged within three years as a result of shoreline erosion caused by tidal action, currents, or waves in the absence of an armoring structural solution. Normal sloughing, erosion of steep bluffs, or shoreline erosion itself, without a scientific or geotechnical analysis, is not demonstration of need.

2) The geotechnical analysis should evaluate on-site drainage issues and address drainage problems away from the shoreline edge before considering structural shoreline stabilization.

c. The following requirements apply to both new and replacement bulkheads:

i. Bulkheads shall be located and constructed in a manner which will not result in adverse effects on littoral drift and adjacent properties.

ii. Bulkheads shall not be installed solely for the purpose of creating upland by filling behind the bulkhead.

iii. The size and quantity of material utilized for the bulkhead shall be the minimum necessary to protect the structure from the estimated energy intensity of the shoreline hydraulic system.

iv. The maximum height of a new bulkhead on the marine shoreline shall be no greater than four (4) vertical feet above the OHWM. The height of a replacement bulkhead shall not exceed four (4) vertical feet above the OHWM or the height of the existing bulkhead, whichever is greater.

d. All new and replacement shoreline structures shall be designed to minimize the transmission of wave energy.
20.30.075 Over-Water Structures—Including Docks, Piers and Floats

*Docks* are fixed structures floating upon the water. *Piers* are fixed, pile-supported structures. *Floats* (rafts) are floating structures that are moored, anchored, or otherwise secured in the water that are not directly connected to the shoreline. All of these types of overwater structures are found in the City’s shoreline jurisdiction. These structures typically require permits from local, state and federal agencies. For structures overlying state owned lands, an Aquatic Lands lease and authorization from the Department of Natural Resources is required. For the purposes of this section, docks, piers, and floats will be called Over-Water Structures and addressed together unless otherwise noted. In addition to the following policies and regulations, applicants for an over-water structure should contact other permitting agencies including the Washington State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their requirements, including dimensional standards.

1. Policies

   a. Over-water structures should be designed to minimize impacts to ecological functions of the water body including but not limited to water quality, anadromous and forage fish habitat, spawning and rearing areas, migration, and passage.

   b. New over-water structures should be restricted to the minimum size necessary and permitted only when the applicant has demonstrated that a specific need exists to support the intended *water dependent* use.

   c. Ensure that over-water structures are designed and maintained to avoid adverse impacts to the environment and shoreline aesthetics and minimize interference with the public’s use of the water and public beach area.

   d. Encourage the use of mooring buoys in place of over-water structures.

   e. Encourage shared docks between multiple owners for single family waterfront development to minimize over-water coverage adversely impacting shoreline ecological functions.

   f. Over-water structures should be designed to avoid the need for maintenance dredging. The moorage of a boat larger than provided for in the original moorage design shall not be grounds for approval of dredging.

2. Regulations

   a. New over-water structures shall be limited to those required as part of a permitted water dependent use or for joint use of the facility.

   b. Over-water structure design and construction shall be restricted to the minimum necessary to meet the needs of the proposed water dependent use.
c. Private, single residence over-water structures for the sole use of the property owner shall not be considered an outright use on City of Burien marine shorelines. An over-water structure may be allowed on the marine shoreline when the applicant has demonstrated a need for moorage and the following alternatives have been investigated and are not available or feasible:
   i. Commercial or marina moorage;
   ii. Floating moorage buoys;
   iii. Joint use moorage pier.

d. The design and construction of over-water structures as well as their subsequent use and operation, shall:
   i. Be capable of withstanding expected environmental conditions; and,
   ii. Minimize interference with adjacent water uses and navigation; and
   iii. Minimize adverse effects on fish, shellfish, wildlife, water quality and geohydraulic processes by limiting the size of the structure and the use of hazardous materials, incorporating grating to allow light passage or reflective panels to increase light refraction; and spaced and oriented to minimize shading and avoid a ‘wall’ effect that would block or baffle wave patterns, currents, littoral drive, or movement of aquatic life forms.

e. Over-water structures shall not be used for residential dwelling purposes nor provide moorage for boats that are occupied longer than two (2) days unless pump-out facilities are available and then no longer than seven (7) days total.

f. Only joint use over-water structures are allowed for attached dwelling unit developments.

g. Only one over-water structure is allowed for each single family detached residential lot.

h. No covered moorage is allowed waterward of the ordinary high water mark.
20.30.080 Habitat Restoration and Enhancement

Shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement projects include those activities proposed and conducted specifically for the purpose of establishing, restoring, or enhancing habitat for priority species in shorelines. Restoration or enhancement of shoreline areas means a change of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic ecological functions of a former or degraded wetland or fish and wildlife habitat conservation area.

1. Policy

a. Habitat restoration or enhancement projects that are not exempt pursuant to WAC 173-27-040 [Developments exempt from substantial development permit requirement], may be allowed in shoreline jurisdiction if a shoreline substantial development permit is obtained.

   (For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 16 & 17.)

2. Regulations

a. Shoreline restoration or enhancement shall be designed to result in a natural shoreline with functions, vegetative communities and structure similar to what would historically have been found on the site or in the vicinity.

b. All shoreline restoration or enhancement projects shall ensure that critical areas and their functions are not degraded by the action.

c. Shoreline restoration projects shall implement the City’s adopted shoreline restoration plan and be conducted specifically for the purpose of establishing, restoring, or enhancing habitat for priority species in shorelines.

d. Nonstructural approaches for shoreline restoration or enhancement shall be used for shoreline stabilization instead of bulkheads or other structural stabilization measures, where feasible.

e. Shoreline restoration projects that are not specifically listed in the City’s adopted shoreline restoration plan shall be considered subject to approval of the Shoreline Administrator.

f. Existing artificial structures on the site of a shoreline restoration or enhancement project that appear to be impeding natural recovery of a species or habitat shall be removed.
g. When habitat is restored or enhanced, priority shall be given to retention of snags and trees that provide overhanging vegetation and/or nesting or perching branches for eagles, other raptors, or priority species.

h. Shoreline habitat restoration or enhancement projects shall not adversely impact sediment processes, littoral drift, wetlands or fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas.

i. Beach enhancement shall not be allowed within spawning, nesting or breeding habitats unless the completed project will result in a greater long term benefit to the ecological functions and values.

j. Restoration of native vegetation shall comply with the vegetation conservation section BMC 20.30.040. In addition to the provisions of BMC section 20.30.040 a re-vegetation plan shall include a monitoring and maintenance program that shall, at a minimum, include the following:
   i. Goals and objectives for the mitigation plan; and
   ii. Criteria for assessing the effectiveness of the mitigation; and
   iii. Monitoring plan including annual progress reports submitted to the Shoreline Administrator. The plan shall be in effect for a period of time sufficient to establish that performance standards have been met as determined by the Shoreline Administrator, but no less than five years; and
   iv. A contingency/adaptive management plan.

k. Restoration resulting in movement of the OHWM shall meet the following standards.

   i. The Shoreline Administrator may grant relief from shoreline master program development standards and use regulations when the following apply:
      (a) A shoreline restoration project causes or would cause a landward shift in the ordinary high water mark, resulting in the following:
         (i) (A) Land that had not been regulated under this Shoreline Master Program prior to construction of the restoration project is brought under shoreline jurisdiction; or
         (B) Additional regulatory requirements apply due to a landward shift in required shoreline buffers or other regulations of the shoreline master program; and
         (ii) Application of shoreline master program regulations would preclude or interfere with use of the property permitted by other development regulations, thus presenting a hardship to the project proponent;
      (b) The proposed relief meets the following criteria:
         (i) The proposed relief is the minimum necessary to relieve the hardship;
(ii) After granting the proposed relief, there is net environmental benefit from the restoration project;

(iii) Granting the proposed relief is consistent with the objectives of the shoreline restoration project and consistent with the shoreline master program; and

(iv) Where a shoreline restoration project is created as mitigation to obtain a development permit, the project proponent required to perform the mitigation is not eligible for relief under this section; and

(c) The application for relief must be submitted to the Department of Ecology for written approval or disapproval. This review must occur during the Department of Ecology’s normal review of a shoreline substantial development permit, conditional use permit, or variance. If no such permit is required, then the Department of Ecology shall conduct its review when the City of Burien provides a copy of a complete application and all supporting information necessary to conduct the review.

(i) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, the Department of Ecology shall provide at least twenty-days (20) notice to parties that have indicated interest to the department in reviewing applications for relief under this section, and post the notice on their web site.

(ii) The department shall act within thirty calendar days of close of the public notice period, or within thirty days of receipt of the proposal from the local government if additional public notice is not required.

ii. The public notice requirements of subsection (1)(c) of this section do not apply if the relevant shoreline restoration project was included in a shoreline master program or shoreline restoration plan as defined in WAC 173-26-201[Comprehensive process to prepare or amend shoreline master programs], as follows:

(a) The restoration plan has been approved by the Department of Ecology under applicable shoreline master program guidelines;

(b) The shoreline restoration project is specifically identified in the shoreline master program or restoration plan or is located along a shoreline reach identified in the shoreline master program or restoration plan as appropriate for granting relief from shoreline regulations; and

(c) The shoreline master program or restoration plan includes policies addressing the nature of the relief and why, when, and how it would be applied.

iii. A substantial development permit is not required on land that is brought under shoreline jurisdiction due to a shoreline restoration project creating a landward shift in the ordinary high water mark.
20.30.085 Recreational Development

Shoreline recreational development includes facilities for activities such as hiking, fishing, picnicking, swimming, photography and viewing. It also includes facilities for more intensive uses, such as parks. This section applies to both publicly- and privately-owned shoreline facilities intended for use by the public or private group, association, or individual.

1. Policies

a. Allow a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities in the shoreline areas.

b. Encourage provision of view points, rest areas and picnic facilities in public shoreline areas.

(For additional policy guidance, including policies that provide for public access planning as set forth in WAC 173-26-221(4)(c)[General master program provisions, Planning process to address public access], please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 4-7)

2. Regulations

a. Commercial recreational development or use in Seahurst Park shall be consistent with the provisions of this section.

b. Recreation facilities shall be designed to take maximum advantage of and enhance the natural character of the shoreline area.

c. Recreation areas shall promote public health, safety and security and not materially interfere with the normal public use of the water and shorelines.

d. Recreation facilities shall provide adequate provisions to prevent the general public from trespassing and overflowing into adjacent, privately owned properties.

e. Recreation facilities shall provide signage that prohibits tree cutting and collecting of marine life, driftwood and other natural materials.

f. Jet skis and water craft with combustion engines are prohibited on Lake Burien.

 g. No person shall moor, anchor or dock a boat or other object overnight on or within 50 feet of the ordinary high water mark at any city beachfront park without authorization from the City of Burien Parks Department.

h. Should public access occur on Lake Burien, no watercraft access is allowed from public access areas.
20.30.090 Recreational Mooring Buoys

A recreational mooring buoy is a device used to tie up a boat and typically consists of a line from the boat attached to a float at the water’s surface with a cable or line fixed underwater to the submerged ground. The anchor line allows the boat to float and swing around the fixed buoy anchor.

1. Policies

   a. Recreational boat mooring buoys are the preferred method to provide moorage instead of constructing new residential docks, piers or floats.

      (For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 7.)

2. Regulations

   a. Mooring buoys shall be located as close to the shore as possible while avoiding beaching under all tidal situations and no farther waterward than existing authorized mooring buoys unless the drift of the boat dictates it.

   b. Mooring buoys shall be located away from critical saltwater habitat.

   c. Mooring buoys shall utilize a system design that minimizes damage to underwater lands and marine vegetation.

   d. Individuals owning residential property abutting state-owned aquatic lands may install a mooring buoy on those public lands for recreational purposes after obtaining approval from the State of Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Washington Department of State Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Army Corps of Engineers.

   e. Recreational mooring buoys on public lands shall be installed using a DNR or WDFW approved system.

   f. Buoys shall be visible under normal daylight conditions at a minimum of 100 yards during daylight hours and must have reflectors for night time visibility.

   g. Recreational mooring buoys on public lands are prohibited for commercial and transient uses or live-aboards.

   h. Boats must be sixty feet or less in length to tie up to a recreational mooring buoy on public lands.

   i. A Community Beach may have one mooring buoy for every one hundred (100) lineal feet of waterfront.

   j. Mooring buoys are prohibited on Lake Burien.
20.30.095 Residential Development

Single family residences are the most common form of shoreline development and are identified as a priority use when developed in a manner consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment. Residential development shall mean the construction or exterior alteration of one or more buildings, structures or portions thereof which are designed for and used to provide a place of abode for human beings including one and two family detached dwellings, multi-family residences, townhouses and condominiums, together with appurtenances and accessory structures. Bed and Breakfast establishments are considered an accessory use.

1. Policy

Residential development should demonstrate that the development and its related activities will not be detrimental to the public interest and uses of the shoreline and its associated water bodies.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 8-15.)

2. Regulations

a. General. Consistent with WAC 173-26-221(4)(d)(iv)[General master program provisions, Standards for height limits, setbacks, and view corridors], residential development shall protect existing shoreline and water views promote public safety, avoid adverse impacts to marine bluffs and nearshore habitat, and not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

b. Dimensional Standards. Residential development in shoreline jurisdiction shall conform to the dimensional standards found in BMC 20.30.050.

c. Common-line riparian buffer and building setback standards. Riparian buffer standards for new or expanded single-family primary residential structures may be reduced through the shoreline conditional use permit process. In addition to the conditional use criteria the Shoreline Administrator may approve reduced buffer for residential development under the following conditions:

i. Where there are existing legally constructed single-family primary residential structures that are located within the riparian buffers designated in BMC 20.30.050 and within 50 feet of either side of the proposed building site, the required riparian buffer of the new or expanded home may be reduced. As an alternative in such cases, the proposed new or expanded single-family primary residential structure may be set back from the OHWM common to
the average of the buffers of the existing adjacent residences. (see Figure 6)

ii. In those instances where only one existing single family primary residence is within 50 feet of the proposed building site, the OHWM setback of the proposed structure may be reduced to the average of the OHWM setbacks for the existing adjacent residence and the applicable setback for the adjacent vacant parcel (65-feet for marine shorelines, 45-feet for Lake Burien).

iii. In no case shall the reduced buffer be less than 20 feet landward of the OHWM without a variance.

iv. In cases where the common line setback does not apply, expansion of existing single-family primary residential structures within the designated riparian buffer may be allowed through a conditional use permit, if there is no development waterward of the existing primary residential structure.

v. Any riparian buffer reduction beyond that allowed in this section shall require approval of a shoreline variance permit.

d. **Lot size calculations.** Lot size calculations shall not include portions of the lot that are waterward of the ordinary high water mark.

e. **Bluff top protection.** New development located at the top of bluffs in shoreline jurisdiction must be setback to ensure that shoreline stabilization is unlikely to be necessary for the life of the structure as demonstrated by a geotechnical analysis.

f. **Vegetation removal for access.** Private access from single family detached residences to the shoreline shall avoid removal of trees and other woody vegetation when feasible.

g. **Accessory structures and appurtenances.** Accessory structures and appurtenances must be proportional in size and purpose to the residence and compatible with onsite and adjacent structures, uses and natural features. Accessory structures and appurtenances are not permitted within the riparian buffer except for:
   a. Fences less than 6 feet high or less
   b. Water-dependent features (buoys, docks and floats) used for recreational or personal use.
   c. Stairs and trams pursuant to section i below.

h. **Floating homes or houseboats.** Floating homes or houseboats are prohibited in shoreline jurisdiction.
i. **Stairs and trams.** Construction of new stairs and trams to the beach are allowed within required riparian buffer areas, except on feeder bluffs, provided the project proponent demonstrates that existing shared, public or community facilities are not adequate or available for use and the possibility of a multiple-owner or multiple-user facility has been thoroughly investigated and is not *feasible*. New facilities are encouraged to be shared with adjacent properties that do not already have such facilities, and shall include shared maintenance easements and agreements as necessary. Only one stair or tram system is allowed for each primary residential structure – duplicate facilities are not allowed.

j. **Beach stairs and trams design.** New beach stairs and trams shall be designed and located such that no fill or other modification waterward of the ordinary high water mark is necessary to construct or use the structure. Stairways, trams and landings shall be located upland of existing bulkheads.

k. **Detached Accessory Dwelling Units.** New detached accessory dwelling units shall not be located in riparian buffers.
Figure 6  Common-line Riparian Buffer and Building Setback Reduction Examples
20.30.100 Transportation Facilities and Parking

Transportation facilities are those structures and developments that aid in land and water surface movement of people, animals, goods and services. They include streets, bridges, bikeways, trails and other related facilities.

1. Policies

a. All new or expanded roadways should be designed and located to minimize impacts to shoreline ecological functions including riparian and nearshore areas, and the natural landscape.

b. Parking is not a preferred use in shorelines and should only be allowed to support authorized uses where no feasible alternatives exist.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 7 & 8.)

2. Regulations

a. New transportation and parking facilities shall be located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction or as far landward from the ordinary high watermark as feasible, unless they support public access or other authorized use.

b. Transportation facilities shall be designed and maintained to minimize erosion, preserve natural drainage ways and utilize low impact development techniques.

c. Transportation and utility facilities shall share rights-of-way to minimize disturbance in shoreline areas.

d. The City shall give preference to mechanical means rather than the use of herbicides for roadside brush control on City streets in shoreline areas.

e. Construction debris, overburden and other waste materials shall not be allowed to enter into any water body by disposal or erosion from drainage, high water or other means.

f. Transportation facilities shall provide public access appropriate to the location and extent of the facility.

g. All shoreline areas disturbed by road construction and maintenance shall be replanted and stabilized. Such vegetation shall be maintained by the agency or developer constructing or maintaining the road until established.
h. Landscaping shall be provided to minimize visual impacts for all new and expanded transportation facilities in shoreline areas. A landscape plan shall be provided in conjunction with review and issuance of a shoreline substantial development permit.

20.30.105 Utilities

Utilities are services and facilities that produce, convey, transmit, store, or process water, sewage, communications, electric power, fuel, natural gas, and the like.

1. Policies

a. On-site utility features serving a primary use, such as water, sewer or gas lines to a residence, are considered a part of the primary use.

b. Utilities production and processing facilities, such as sewage treatment plants, or parts of those facilities that are non-water-oriented should not be allowed in shoreline areas unless it can be demonstrated that no other feasible option is available.

c. Utilities should be located and designed to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions, preserve the natural landscape, and minimize conflicts with present and planned land and shoreline uses while meeting the needs of future populations in areas planned to accommodate growth.

d. New development of pipelines and cables on tidelands, particularly those running roughly parallel to the shoreline, and development of facilities that may require periodic maintenance which would disrupt shoreline ecological functions should be discouraged except where no other feasible alternative exists.

(For additional policy guidance please see Chapter II General Goals and Policies, pg. 4 & 9.)

2. Regulations

a. Utilities shall be placed underground pursuant to BMC 12.40[Utility Undergrounding Policy].

b. New development of underwater pipelines and cables on tidelands is prohibited except for deepwater outfalls and facilities where no other feasible alternative exists.

c. New cable crossings for telecommunications and power lines entering or leaving a body of water shall be bored or buried below the surface of the water body’s bed from the ordinary high water mark out to a minimum water depth of minus ten feet (-10’) below mean lower low water.
d. Directional boring, instead of excavation or trenching is required where feasible.

e. New transmission facilities for the conveyance of services, such as power lines, cables, and pipelines, shall be located outside of the shoreline area where feasible and when necessarily located within the shoreline area shall assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions.

f. New or altered aerial utility lines and vertical utility facilities shall make maximum use of topography to minimize visual impact on the surrounding area.

g. Communication, radio towers and personal wireless service facilities shall not obstruct or destroy scenic views of the water. This may be accomplished by design, orientation and location of the tower, height, camouflage of the tower, or other features consistent with utility technology.

h. Culverts shall be located and installed in accordance with City of Burien standards and specifications.

i. New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharge from the systems into flood waters.

j. Except for water lines, all underwater pipelines transporting substances hazardous to aquatic life or water quality are prohibited unless no other feasible alternative exists. Such facilities shall include an automatic shut off valve on both shorelines and have established maintenance procedures.

k. Expansion or repair of existing, underground utilities within shoreline jurisdiction shall include reclamation of areas disturbed during construction including, where feasible, replanting and maintenance care until the newly planted vegetation is established.
Chapter V.  Administration and Shoreline Permit Procedures
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20.35.001 Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of this chapter is to establish a program for the administration and enforcement of the permit system for shoreline management provided by the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 (RCW Chapter 90.58). This chapter applies to all development within shorelines of the state within the City of Burien’s shoreline jurisdiction. The City’s shoreline administrative procedures are intended to be consistent with all provisions, criteria, application requirements, public notice requirements, and local or state review procedures set forth in WAC 173-27, Shoreline Management Permit and Enforcement Procedures. In the event of any inconsistencies between this Shoreline Master Program and WAC 173-27, the WAC shall govern.

All development in designated shoreline areas shall comply with the policy, provisions, and intent of the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program. Definitions contained in the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 (RCW Chapter 90.58) and the Shoreline Master Program Guidelines (WAC Chapter 173-26) shall apply to all terms and concepts used in this chapter, provided that definitions contained in this title shall be applicable where not in conflict with the Shoreline Management Act and the Shoreline Master Program Guidelines. In addition, the City will establish minimum application requirements, checklists, handouts, forms and fees for shoreline permits and shoreline exemption determinations.

Amendments to the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program will not become effective until approval by the Washington State Department of Ecology pursuant to RCW 90.58.090 (Approval of Master Program).

20.35.005 Authority and Rule of Liberal Construction

This chapter is promulgated pursuant to the authority and mandate of RCW 90.58.140(3) (Development Permits). Compliance with this chapter shall constitute compliance with the Shoreline Management Act, the Shoreline Master Program Guidelines, and the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program (SMP) for evaluating permits on shorelines of the state.

As provided under RCW 90.58.900 (Liberal Construction), the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) is exempted from the rule of strict construction. The SMA and the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program shall, therefore, be liberally construed to give full effect to the purposes, goals, policies, and standards for which the SMA and this Master Program were enacted. Exemptions from the Act or this Master Program are to be narrowly construed.
20.35.010 Shoreline Permit Types and Review Procedures

1. **Non-Exempt Development.** Substantial development that is not otherwise exempt or uses that are identified as requiring conditional use permits within the City of Burien’s shoreline jurisdiction must obtain a *Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, Shoreline Conditional Use Permit*, or *Shoreline Variance* from the City.

2. **Exempt Development.** Development within the City of Burien’s shoreline jurisdiction that is exempt from the requirement to obtain a *Shoreline Substantial Development Permit* shall comply with BMC 20.35.025. An exempt development that requires a Conditional Use Permit or Variance shall also comply with applicable provisions related to those processes.

3. **Pre-application Meeting.** The owner of the subject property or the authorized agent of the owner is encouraged to have a pre-application meeting with the Shoreline Administrator to determine the appropriate type of shoreline permit needed for the proposed action.

**Permit Review.** Shoreline permits shall be reviewed using the land use decision processes in BMC Chapter 19.65 (Procedures).

Shoreline permits are processed as a Type 1 land use decision pursuant to BMC Chapter 19.65 (Procedures). A Type 1 decision is a written administrative decision issued following public notice, consideration of written public comments and review of a written staff recommendation. For the purposes of this Master Program, the Shoreline Administrator is the decision maker on a shoreline permit using the Type 1 land use decision. The Type 1 land use decision can be appealed to the City’s Hearing Examiner.

If any shoreline use or development is subject to other approvals or permits under another permit authority, such as the zoning or subdivision codes, they shall be subject to a consolidated review and the decision maker designated for the non-shoreline approval or permit shall be the decision maker for the consolidated review.

Depending on the underlying land use permits, the shoreline permit may be processed as a Type 2 or 3 land use review involving the Hearing Examiner or the City Council.

4. **Public Notice.** Public notice of an application for a shoreline permit shall be provided pursuant to BMC Chapter 19.65 (Procedures) unless otherwise specifically stated in this code. The minimum public notice period for shoreline permits shall be thirty (30) days. If there are conflicting public notice time
periods with State Law or Administrative Codes, or local laws, the longer notice period shall be used.

5. **Department of Ecology Notification.** The Washington Department of Ecology-SEA Division (Ecology) shall be notified of the permit decision.

6. **Compliance with Regulations.** In the case of either a shoreline conditional use permit or a shoreline variance, the Shoreline Administrator shall determine the application’s compliance with the relevant review criteria and prepare a recommendation that is then forwarded to Ecology for review and approval. The City’s recommendation may include issuing the shoreline permit, issuing the shoreline permit with conditions, or denial of the requested shoreline permit.

7. **Shoreline Conditional Use Permit required.** A development activity or use that is listed as a conditional use pursuant to this master program or is an unlisted use, must obtain a conditional use permit even if the development or use does not require a substantial development permit. The conditional use permit application shall be processed as indicated in BMC 20.35.010.3, except the decision maker issues a recommendation to the Dept. of Ecology rather than a decision. This recommendation is not appealable to the Hearing Examiner or City Council.

8. **Shoreline Variance Required.** When a development or use is proposed that does not comply with the bulk, dimensional and performance standards of the master program, such development or use can only be authorized by approval of a shoreline variance, consistent with WAC 173-27-170 (Variances). The variance application shall be processed as set forth in BMC 20.35.010.3, except that the decision maker issues a recommendation to the Department of Ecology rather than a decision. This recommendation is not appealable to the Hearing Examiner or City Council.
Figure 7 is a flow chart illustrating the shoreline permit review process for a type 1 shoreline permit.

**Figure 7  Shoreline Permit Review for Type 1 Process**

1. Pre-application meeting
2. Applicant submits permit application to Community Development Department
3. Public Notice (Mailings, Posting, Publication)
4. Technical Review and Administrative Decision by City Shoreline Administrator

- Shoreline substantial development permit
- Shoreline Conditional Use Permit or Variance

For Shoreline substantial development permit:
- If applicable, City Hearing Examiner rules on an appeal of administrative decision
- Permit Decision Sent to Ecology for Notification
- If appeal:
  - State Shoreline Hearings Board hears appeals and issues decision
  - Ecology sends Authorization to Commence Activity to City
  - City Notifies Applicant

For Shoreline Conditional Use Permit or Variance:
- Permit Recommendation sent to Ecology
- Ecology issues decision approving, conditioning or denying
- If appeal:
  - State Shoreline Hearings Board hears appeals and issues decision
  - Ecology sends Authorization to Commence Activity to City
  - City Notifies Applicant
20.35.015 Shoreline Substantial Development Permits

1. **Substantial Development Permit Required.** Prior to any shoreline substantial development within a shoreline of the state, a shoreline substantial development permit shall be obtained. Development undertaken pursuant to the issuance of a permit shall be limited to that specifically delineated on the official site plan submitted by the applicant. The development shall be in compliance with any and all conditions imposed upon such permit at its issuance, including any impact mitigation measures identified in documents submitted in support of the application.

2. **Approval Criteria.** A substantial development permit shall be granted by the Shoreline Administrator only when the development proposed is consistent with the following;
   a. City of Burien Comprehensive Plan, Burien Municipal Code, and Burien Shoreline Master Program; and
   b. The proposed development or activity must also be found to be consistent with policies, guidelines, and regulations of the state Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58, WAC 173-26 and WAC 173-27).

3. **Authority to Condition.** The Shoreline Administrator may attach conditions to the approval of permits and shoreline exemptions as necessary to assure this consistency.

20.35.020 Substantial Development Permits for Limited Utility Extensions

1. **Procedures.** An application for a substantial development permit for a limited utility extension shall be subject to the following procedures:
   a. The public comment period shall be 20 days. The public notice issued pursuant to BMC 19.65.040 (Notice of Application) shall explain how the public may obtain a copy of the city’s decision on the application no later than two days following its issuance consistent with BMC 19.65.055 (Notice of Decision). If there is an appeal of the decision to grant or deny the permit to the local government legislative authority, the appeal shall be finally determined by the legislative authority within thirty days.

   b. For purposes of this section, a limited utility extension means the extension of a utility service that:

      i. Is categorically exempt under RCW Chapter 43.21C (State Environmental Policy Act) for one or more of the following: natural gas, electricity, telephone, water or sewer;
ii. Will serve an existing use in compliance with RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act); and

iii. Will not extend more than 2,500 linear feet within the shorelines of the state.

**20.35.025 Exemptions from Shoreline Substantial Development Permits** (See WAC 173-27-040 (Exemptions From Substantial Development Permit Requirement) for additional language and details)

1. **Rule of Narrow Construction.** There are several types of development activities that are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. State law requires that such exemptions be construed narrowly and if any part of the development is not eligible for exemption, then a Substantial Development Permit is required for the entire proposed development. No pre-application meeting is required for a shoreline exemption, and the City usually makes a determination on the exemption within thirty days of application. The Department of Ecology does not review shoreline exemptions unless State or Federal agency approvals are required for the project.

2. **Shoreline Exemption Process.** Exemption from the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit process does not constitute exemption from compliance with the policies and use regulations of the SMA (RCW 90.58), the provisions of this master program, or other applicable city, state or federal permit requirements. The Shoreline Administrator is authorized to grant or deny requests for exemptions from the shoreline substantial development permit requirement for uses and developments within shorelines that are specifically listed in the Shoreline Permit Matrix (Figure 4) of this master program.

   Such requests shall be applied for on forms provided by the Shoreline Administrator. The request shall be in writing and shall indicate the specific exemption of this SMP that is being applied to the development. The Shoreline Administrator shall prepare an analysis of the consistency of the project with this SMP and the SMA. As appropriate, the Shoreline Administrator’s analysis and decision shall include statements of exemption, which may contain conditions and/or mitigating measures of approval to achieve consistency and compliance with the provisions of the SMA and SMP. A denial of an exemption shall be in writing and shall identify the reason(s) for the denial.

   The Shoreline Administrator’s actions on the issuance of a statement of exemption or a denial are subject to appeal. The appeal shall be processed using the appeal procedures for the underlying land use approval pursuant to BMC 19.65 (Procedures). If there is no underlying land use approval, the appeal shall be processed pursuant to the Type 1 appeal procedures in BMC 19.65.065 (Type 1 Decisions).

3. **Agency Approvals Required.** Even though a project is exempt from obtaining a substantial development permit, it may still need approvals from other agencies. For
example, if the proposal involves construction within navigable water or if the project includes dredging or placement of fill, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 10 and/or 404 permit is required. In addition, if the project involves construction or other activity waterward of the ordinary high water mark or if the project includes an activity that will use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any state waters, a Hydraulic Project Approval from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife is required.

4. **Exemptions.** The developments listed below shall not require a local Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. Developments not meeting the provisions below must obtain a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit.

   a. Any development of which the total cost or fair market value, whichever is higher, does not exceed five thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars ($5,718), if such development does not materially interfere with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state and does not result in a net loss of ecological functions. For purposes of determining whether or not a permit is required, the total cost or fair market value shall be based on the value of development that is occurring on shorelines of the state as defined in RCW 90.58.030 (2)(c) (Definitions and Concepts). The total cost or fair market value of the development shall include the fair market value of any donated, contributed or found labor, equipment or materials. The dollar amount above will be periodically adjusted for inflation by the State Office of Financial Management pursuant to WAC 173-27-040(2)(a) (Exemptions From Substantial Development Permit Requirement). When a revised dollar amount is in effect, it will be provided on forms provided by the Shoreline Administrator.

   b. **Normal Maintenance and Repair.** Normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments, including damage by accident, fire or elements. “Normal maintenance” includes those usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition. "Normal repair" means to restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including, but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, except where repair involves total replacement which is not common practice or causes substantial adverse effects to the shoreline resource or environment. The need for replacement resulting from neglect or maintenance and repair is not considered a common method of repair. Normal repair must occur within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction. If decay or partial destruction occurs to an extent of fifty percent or greater of the replacement cost of the original development, repair or replacement must be addressed within one year. Restoration may include total replacement of buildings and structures when supported by a statement from the Building Official that complete replacement is common practice.

   c. **Construction of a normal protective bulkhead common to single family residences.** An exempt “normal protective” bulkhead shall be constructed at or near the ordinary high water mark and shall be for the purpose of protecting a single family residence from erosion, not for the purpose of creating land.
When an existing bulkhead is being replaced, it shall be constructed no further waterward of the existing bulkhead than is necessary for construction of new footings. When an exempt bulkhead has deteriorated such that an ordinary high water mark has been established by the presence and action of water landward of the bulkhead then the replacement bulkhead must be located at or near the actual ordinary high water mark. Bioengineered erosion control and alternative bank stabilization projects may be considered an exempt normal protective bulkhead, when any structural elements are consistent with the above requirements and when the project has been approved by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Backfill behind a constructed exempt normal protective bulkhead is allowed; however, no more than 1 cubic yard of fill per 1 horizontal foot of bulkhead wall may be used.

d. **Emergency Construction.** Emergency construction necessary to protect property from damage by the elements. An emergency is an unanticipated and imminent threat to public health, safety, or the environment which requires immediate action within a time too short to allow full compliance with this chapter. Emergency construction does not include development of new permanent protective structures where none previously existed, except where new protective structures are deemed by the administrator to be the appropriate means to address the emergency situation. Upon abatement of the emergency situation the new structure shall be removed or any permit be obtained which would have been required, absent an emergency, pursuant to RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), or the Burien Shoreline Master Program.

e. **Single Family Residence.** Construction on shorelands by an owner, lessee or contract purchaser of a single family residence for his/her own use or for the use of his/her family, which residence does not exceed a height of thirty-five (35) feet above average grade level and which meets all requirements of the state agencies having jurisdiction and the City. “Single-family residence” means a detached dwelling designed for and occupied by one family, including those structures and developments within a contiguous ownership which are a normal appurtenances. An appurtenance is necessarily connected to the use and enjoyment of a single-family residence and is located landward of the ordinary high water mark and the perimeter of a wetland. Appurtenances typically include a garage, decks, driveway, utilities and fences. Construction of a single-family residence may include grading which does not exceed two hundred fifty (250) cubic yards, and which does not involve placement of fill in any wetland or waterward of the ordinary high water mark. Construction authorized under this exemption shall be located landward of the ordinary high water mark.

f. **Marking of Property Lines.** The marking of property lines or corners on state owned lands, when such marking does not significantly interfere with normal public use of the surface of the water.

g. **Navigational Aids.** Construction or modification, by or under the authority of the Coast Guard, of navigational aids such as channel markers and anchor buoys.

h. **State Certified Project.** Any project with a certification from the Governor
pursuant to RCW Chapter 80.50 (Energy Facilities).

i. **Site Exploration and Investigation.** Site exploration and investigation activities that are prerequisite to preparation of an application for development authorization under this chapter, if:

   i. The activity does not interfere with the normal public use of the surface waters;

   ii. The activity will have no significant adverse impact on the environment including but not limited to fish, wildlife, fish or wildlife habitat, water quality, and aesthetic values;

   iii. The activity does not involve the installation of any structure, and upon completion of the activity the vegetation and land configuration of the site are restored to conditions existing before the activity;

   iv. A private entity seeking development authorization under this section first posts a performance bond or provides other evidence of financial responsibility to ensure that the site is restored to preexisting conditions;

   v. The activity is not subject to the permit requirements of RCW 90.58.550 (oil or natural gas exploration in marine waters).

j. **Noxious Weeds.** The process of removing or controlling aquatic noxious weeds, as defined in RCW 17.26.020 (Weeds, Rodents and Pests), through the use of an herbicide or other treatment methods applicable to weed control that are recommended by a final environmental impact statement published by the Department of Agriculture or Ecology jointly with other state agencies under RCW Chapter 43.21C (State Environmental Policy Act).

k. **Watershed Restoration Projects.** The Shoreline Administrator shall review watershed restoration projects for consistency with the this master program in an expeditious manner and shall issue a decision along with any conditions within forty-five days of receiving all materials necessary to review the request for exemption from the applicant. No fee will be charged for accepting and processing requests for a shoreline exemption for watershed restoration projects as used in this section.

l. **Private or Public Restoration Projects.** A public or private project, the primary purpose of which is to improve fish or wildlife habitat or fish passage, when all of the following apply:

   i. The project has been approved in writing by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) as necessary for the improvement of the habitat or passage and appropriately designed and sited to accomplish the intended purpose;

   ii. The project has received hydraulic project approval by WDFW pursuant to RCW 77.55 (Construction Projects in State Waters); and
iii. The Shoreline Administrator has determined that the project is consistent with this master program.

m. Hazardous Substance Remedial Actions. The procedural requirements of RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act) shall not apply to a project for which a consent decree, order or agreed order has been issued pursuant to RCW Chapter 70.105D (Model Toxics Control Act) or to Ecology when it conducts a remedial action under RCW Chapter 70.105D (Model Toxics Control Act). Ecology shall, in consultation with the City, assure that such projects comply with the substantive requirements of RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), WAC Chapter 173–26 (SMP Guidelines) and this master program.

20.35.030 Letter of Exemption

1. Letter of Exemption, General. Persons requesting an exemption must obtain a written letter of exemption verifying the proposed development as not subject to a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. The letter of exemption must state how the proposed action is consistent with the policies and regulations of the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program. For example, the approval of a Building Permit for a single-family residence and bulkhead can be conditioned on the basis of shoreline policy and use regulations. The Building Official or other permit authorizing official, through consultation with the Shoreline Administrator, shall attach shoreline management terms and conditions to a building permit or other permit approvals pursuant to RCW 90.58.140 (Development Permits).

2. State and Federal Agencies. Where shoreline development proposals are subject to review, approval, and permitting by a federal or state agency, the Shoreline Administrator shall prepare a letter and send to the Department of Ecology indicating the specific exemption provision from WAC 173-27-040 (Exemptions From Substantial Development Permit Requirement) that is being applied to the development and provide a summary of the City’s analysis of the consistency of the project with the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program and the state Shoreline Management Act.

20.35.035 Shoreline Conditional Use Permits (See also WAC 173-27-160 (Conditional use Permits))

1. Purpose. The purpose of a shoreline conditional use permit is to allow greater flexibility in administering the use regulations of the Burien Shoreline Master Program in a manner consistent with the policies of the Shoreline Management Act. This allows for review of a proposed action which may have a potential for compatibility concerns with nearby uses of other impacts that could be resolved under special circumstances with appropriate mitigation measures or conditions of approval.
2. **Criteria.** Shoreline conditional uses identified in the Burien Shoreline Master Program Use Matrix or those that are unlisted uses but not prohibited uses, may be allowed only when the applicant can demonstrate all of the following:

   a. The proposed use will be consistent with RCW 90.58.020 (Use Preference) and the Shoreline Management Act and the Burien Shoreline Master Program;

   b. The proposed use will not interfere with the normal public use of public shorelines;

   c. The proposed use and development of the site and design of the project will be compatible with other permitted and planned uses within the area;

   d. The shoreline proposal will not result in significant adverse impacts on the shoreline environment and that the cumulative impact of additional requests for like actions in the area will remain consistent with the policies of the Shoreline Management Act and the Burien Shoreline Master Program.

   e. That the proposed use will not cause a substantial detrimental effect to the public interest. In authorizing a shoreline conditional use permit, special conditions may be attached to the permit to prevent undesirable effects of the proposed use, to ensure consistency with the Shoreline Management Act and the Burien Shoreline Master Program, or to address cumulative impacts of all like actions.

### 20.35.040 Shoreline Variance Permits

(See also WAC 173-27-170 (Variances))

1. **Applicability.** A shoreline variance permit is strictly limited to granting relief from specific bulk, dimensional or performance standards set forth in the Burien Shoreline Master Program where there are extraordinary or unique circumstances relating to the physical character or configuration of property such that strict implementation of the policies, regulations or development standards would impose unnecessary hardships on the applicant or thwart the policies set forth in RCW 90.58.020 (Use Preference) or the Burien Shoreline Master Program. Shoreline variance permits should be granted in circumstances where denial of the permit would result in a thwarting of the policy enumerated in RCW 90.58.020 (Use Preference). The applicant must demonstrate that extraordinary circumstances shall be shown and the public interest shall suffer no substantial detrimental effect. A variance permit cannot be granted for a use.

2. **Landward Variance Criteria.** Variance permits for development and/or uses that will be located landward of the ordinary high water mark and/or landward of a wetland may be authorized provided the applicant can demonstrate all of the following:
a. The strict application of the bulk, dimensional or performance standards set forth in the applicable master program precludes reasonable use of the property;

b. The hardship described in (a) of this subsection is specifically related to the property, and is the result of unique conditions such as irregular lot shape, size, or natural features and the application of the master program, and not, for example, from deed restrictions or the applicant's own actions;

c. The design of the project is compatible with other authorized developments within the area and with uses planned for the area under the City’s comprehensive plan and Shoreline Master Program and will not cause adverse impacts to the shoreline environment;

d. The variance will not constitute a grant of special privilege not enjoyed by the other properties in the area;

e. The variance requested is the minimum necessary to afford relief; and

f. The public interest will suffer no substantial detrimental effect.

3. **Waterward Variance Criteria.** Variance permits for development and/or uses that will be located waterward of the ordinary high water mark or within a wetland, may be authorized provided the applicant can demonstrate all of the following:

a. The strict application of the bulk, dimensional or performance standards set forth in the Burien Shoreline Master Program precludes all reasonable use of the property;

b. The proposal is consistent with the criteria established (b) through (f) of section 2; and

c. The public rights of navigation and use of the shorelines will not be adversely affected.

4. **Consideration of Cumulative Impacts.** In the granting of all variance permits, consideration shall be given to the cumulative impact of additional requests for like actions in the area. For example, if variances were granted to other developments and/or uses in the area where similar circumstances exist, the total of the variances shall also remain consistent with the policies of RCW 90.58.020 (Use Preference) and shall not cause substantial adverse effects to the shoreline environment.

20.35.050 **Appeals**

Any person aggrieved by the granting, denying or rescinding of a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit pursuant to BMC 19.65.060 (Judicial Appeal) and RCW 90.58.140 (Development Permits) may seek review from the state shorelines hearings board by filing a
petition for review within twenty-one days of the date of filing as defined in RCW 90.58.140(6) (Development Permits).

**20.35.055 Effective Date and Duration of Shoreline Permits**

Construction authorized by an approved shoreline permit shall not begin until 21 days after the date of filing as defined by WAC 173-27-130 (Filing With Ecology). This restriction shall be stated on the permit. Construction shall be commenced or, where no construction is involved, the use or activity shall be commenced within two years and the construction related activity shall terminate within five years after the effective date of a shoreline permit or the final settlement date of any associated appeals or legal actions regarding the proposed action. Provided, that the City may authorize a single extension for a period not to exceed one year based on reasonable factors, if a request for extension has been filed before the expiration date and notice of the proposed extension is given to parties of record and the Department of Ecology. The City shall notify the Department of Ecology in writing of any change to the effective date of a permit, as authorized by this section, with an explanation of the basis for approval of the change. Any change to the time limits of a permit other than those authorized by this section shall require a new permit application.

**20.35.060 Compliance and Enforcement**

1. **Choice of Action/Penalty; Conflict.** The choice of enforcement action to be taken and the severity of any penalty to be imposed shall be guided by the nature of the violation, the damage or risk to the public or to public resources, and/or the existence or degree of bad faith of the person or persons subject to the enforcement action. The provisions of Section 20.35.060 shall supersede and take precedence over any other enforcement provisions of the Burien Municipal Code in conflict herewith.

2. **Order to Cease and Desist; Notice of Correction:** In the event any person is or has engaged in activity that violates any of the provisions of, BMC Chapter 20.35, RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), or a permit issued pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35, the City may issue and serve upon such person or persons, a cease and desist order and/or an order to take corrective action.
   
a. **Content of order.** The order shall set forth and contain:

   i. A description of the specific nature, extent, and time of violation and the damage or potential damage; and

   ii. A notice that the act or acts causing a violation or a potential violation shall immediately cease and desist or, in appropriate cases, the specific corrective action to be taken within a specific and reasonable time, which
corrective action may include, but is not limited to, restoration and/or mitigation of the site and other property damaged.

b. Effective date. An order issued under this section shall become effective immediately upon receipt by the person to whom the order is directed.

c. Compliance. Failure to comply with the terms of an order issued pursuant to BMC Section 20.35.060(B) shall be a violation of BMC Chapter 20.35 and can result in enforcement actions including, but not limited to, the issuance of a civil penalty.

d. Other Action. In addition to the issuance of the cease and desist order and/or an order to take corrective action, the City may take other enforcement action available at law including, issuance of a civil notice of violation and penalties pursuant to BMC Section 20.35.060(C), seeking injunctive or declaratory relief, imposition of criminal penalties, and permit rescission as set forth in RCW 90.58.140 (Development Permits). The City may combine an order issued pursuant to Section 20.35.060(B) with a notice of violation.

3. **Civil Penalties; Procedures; Remission:**

   a. Civil Violations. It shall be a civil violation of this BMC Chapter 20.35 for any person to:

   i. Use, construct or demolish any structure, or to conduct clearing, earth-moving, construction or other development not authorized under a Substantial Development Permit, Conditional Use Permit or Variance Permit, where such permit is required by BMC Chapter 20.35.

   ii. Undertake or conduct any work which is not conducted in accordance with the plans, conditions, or other requirements in a permit approved pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35, provided that the terms or conditions are stated in the permit or the approved plans;

   iii. Remove or deface any sign, notice, complaint or order required by or posted in accordance with BMC Chapter 20.35;

   iv. Misrepresent any material fact in any application, plans or other information submitted to obtain any shoreline use or development authorization;

   v. Fail to comply with the requirements of a substantial development permit, conditional use permit or variance issued pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35;

   vi. Undertake a development or use on shorelines of the state without first obtaining a permit required pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35;

   vii. Fail to comply with an order issued under BMC Section 20.35.060(B);
b. Amount of penalty. The penalty for each civil violation shall not exceed one thousand dollars for each violation and shall not be less than twenty-five dollars. The amount of the penalty prescribed in the notice of violation shall be determined based upon the guidelines set forth in BMC Section 20.35.060(A).

c. Separate Violation. Each calendar day that a civil violation occurs or continues to occur shall constitute a separate civil violation.

d. Notice of Civil Violation. A notice of civil violation and penalty shall be imposed by issuance and service of a notice of civil violation in writing.

e. Contents of Notice of Violation. The notice of violation shall set forth and contain:

   i. A description of the specific nature, extent, and time of violation(s) and the damage or potential damage; and

   ii. A notice that the act or acts causing a violation or a potential violation shall immediately cease and desist or, in appropriate cases, the specific corrective action to be taken within a specific and reasonable time; and

   iii. A notice that any order included in the notice of violation shall become effective immediately upon receipt by the person to whom the order is directed.

f. Service of Notice of Violation. The notice of violation shall be served upon the person or persons alleged to have committed the violation either by certified mail with return receipt requested, at such person’s or persons’ last known address of record, or by personal service.

g. Application for Remission or Mitigation. Any person incurring a penalty may apply in writing, within thirty days of receipt of the penalty, to the Director for remission or mitigation of such penalty. The application shall be filed with the City Clerk and shall identify the specific violation or violations for which the applicant seeks remission or mitigation, set forth the specific facts establishing the extraordinary circumstances which the applicant desires the Director to consider, include complete copies of any documents or records applicant wishes the Director to consider, include the mailing address (not a post office box) at which the applicant will receive notice of the decision, and shall be signed by the applicant. Incomplete applications and applications filed with the City after the thirty-day period specified herein shall not be considered by the Director.

Upon receipt of a complete application for remission or mitigation, the Director, or his/her designee, shall consider the application, together with any information the Director, or his/her designee, determines is relevant, and may remit or
mitigate the penalty only upon a finding that that applicant has demonstrated extraordinary circumstances, such as the presence of information or factors not considered in setting the original penalty. When a penalty is imposed jointly by the Department of Ecology and the City, the penalty may be remitted or mitigated only upon such terms as both the Department of Ecology and the City agree.

h. Right of Appeal.

i. Any person issued a notice of civil violation pursuant to BMC Section 20.35.060(C), may appeal the same to the City Council; provided that, if the penalty is imposed jointly by the City and the Department of Ecology, an appeal shall be filed with the shorelines hearings board in accordance with WAC 173-27-290 (Appeal of Civil Penalty).

ii. Timing of Appeal. Except as provided below, any person appealing a notice of civil violation to the City Council shall file a written notice of appeal with the City Clerk within thirty days of service of the notice of civil violation. In the event that a timely and completed application is filed with the City Clerk for remission or mitigation, an appeal of a civil violation that is the subject of the application for remission or mitigation shall be filed within thirty days of applicant’s receipt of the City’s written decision regarding the remission or mitigation. The applicant shall be deemed to have received the written decision upon the earlier of the date of personal service of the written decision or three days after the written decision is deposited in the United States Mail, in a postage pre-paid, properly addressed envelope, using the applicant’s address as stated in the application.

iii. Notice of Appeal. All appeals shall be in writing and contain the following:

A. A heading in the words: “Before the Hearing Examiner;

B. A caption reading: “Appeal of ______” giving the name of all appellant(s);

C. A brief statement in concise language of the violation or violations protested, together with any material facts claimed to support the contentions of the appellant, including a copy of the notice of civil violation(s) being appealed;

D. A brief statement in concise language of the relief sought, and the reasons why it is claimed the protested notice of violation(s) should be reversed, modified or otherwise set aside;

E. The signatures of appellant and appellant’s official mailing addresses;
F. The verification (by declaration under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington) of the appellant as to the truth of the matters stated in the appeal.

iv. Hearing. Within 10 days of receiving the written appeal, the city clerk shall fix a date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal. Such date shall be not less than 10 days nor more than 60 days from the date the appeal was filed; provided that, the Hearing Examiner may reset or continue a hearing upon request of the City or the party appealing, upon good cause shown, or sua sponte. Written notice of the date of the hearing shall be provided to the appellant by mailing such notice by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the appellant at the address shown on the notice of appeal. At the hearing the appellant shall be entitled to appear in person and be represented by counsel, and to offer evidence pertinent and material to those matters or issues specifically raised by the appellant in the written notice of appeal.

v. Evidence. Unless otherwise provided by law, evidence that is material and relevant to determination of the matter consistent with the applicable legal requirements and subject to administrative rules of proceedings before the Hearing Examiner, shall be admitted into the record whether or not such evidence was considered by the official issuing the notice of civil violation.

vi. Findings/Conclusions/Recommendation. The Hearing Examiner shall conduct adjudicative proceedings, receive and examine all evidence it finds relevant to the subject matter, and prepare a record thereof. When the Hearing Examiner renders a recommendation, the examiner shall make and enter written findings and conclusions which support such decision. The findings and conclusions shall set forth and demonstrate the manner in which the decision or recommendation is consistent with applicable laws, regulations and policies of the city of Burien. The Hearing Examiner may recommend that the notice of civil violation be affirmed, dismissed or modified consistent with his/her findings and conclusions. The decision or recommendation shall be rendered as soon as possible but in all events within 20 working days of the conclusion of the hearing.

vii. City Council. When taking final action, the City Council shall make and enter findings of fact from the record before the Hearing Examiner which support its action, may affirm, reverse, modify, or remand the decision of the hearing examiner, and may adopt all or portions of the examiner’s findings and conclusions. The decision of the City Council shall be a final decision.

i. Penalties due.
i. Penalties imposed under BMC Section 20.35.060(C) shall become due and payable thirty days after receipt of notice of civil violation unless application for remission or mitigation is made or an appeal is filed. Whenever an application for remission or mitigation is made, penalties shall become due and payable thirty days after receipt of the City’s decision regarding the remission or mitigation. Whenever an appeal of a penalty is filed, the penalty shall become due and payable upon completion of all review proceedings and upon the issuance of a final decision confirming the penalty in whole or in part.

ii. If the amount of a penalty owed the City is not paid within thirty days after it becomes due and payable, the City may take actions necessary to recover such penalty.

j. Aiding or abetting. Any person who, through an act of commission or omission procures, aids or abets in the civil violation shall be considered to have committed a civil violation for the purposes of the civil penalty.

4. Criminal Penalties.

In addition to incurring civil penalties under BMC Section 20.35.060(C), any person found to have willfully engaged in activities on shorelines of the state in violation of the provisions of BMC Chapter 20.35, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and shall be punished by:

a. A fine of not less than twenty-five dollars ($25) or more than one thousand dollars ($1,000);

b. Imprisonment in the County/City jail for not more than ninety (90) days; or

c. Both such fine and imprisonment; provided that, the fine for the third and all subsequent violations in any five (5) year period shall not be less than five hundred dollars ($500) nor more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000); provided further, that fines for violations of RCW 90.58.550 (Oil and Natural Gas Exploration), or any rule adopted thereunder, shall be determined under RCW 90.58.560 (Oil and Natural Gas Exploration).

5. Inspection Access.

The Director and his/her authorized representatives, may for the purpose of inspection for compliance with the provisions of a permit issued pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35, enter all properties that are subject to such a permit. All persons applying for a permit under this BMC Chapter 20.35 shall be deemed to have given their consent to entry upon the property upon issuance of the permit. No owner or occupant of any premises shall fail to provide prompt entry to the Director or authorized representative for the purposes of
inspection under this section. If such entry is refused, the City shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry, including, issuance of a notice of a notice of correction and issuance of a notice of civil violation.

Whenever entry is required for purposes of inspection pursuant to this section, if the premises are occupied, the persons conducting the inspection shall present proper credentials and request entry, and if the premises are unoccupied, reasonable effort shall first be made to locate the owner of the premises and request entry.

6. **Other Remedies.**

   a. In addition to the civil and criminal penalties provided for herein, the City may, pursuant to RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), bring such injunctive, declaratory, or other actions as are necessary to insure that no uses are made of the shorelines of the state located within the City of Burien in conflict with the provisions of, RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), BMC Chapter 20.35, a permit issued pursuant to BMC Chapter 20.35, or other regulations adopted pursuant state law or city code, and to otherwise enforce the provisions of the City’s Shoreline Master Program.

   b. Any person subject to the regulatory provisions of this Program or the Act who violates any provision thereof, or permit, or permit condition issued pursuant thereto shall be liable for all damage to public or private property arising from such violation, including the cost of restoring the affected area to its condition prior to violation. The City Attorney may bring suit for damages under this section on behalf of the City and on the behalf of all persons similarly situated pursuant to RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act).

7. **Abatement.**

Structures or development on shorelines considered by the Director to present a hazard or other public nuisance to persons, properties or natural features may be abated by the City using all lawful means available.

**20.35.065 Revisions to Shoreline Permits** (See also WAC 173-27-100 (Revisions to Permits))

1. **Revision required.** A permit revision is required whenever an applicant proposes substantive changes to the design, terms or conditions of a project from that which is approved in the shoreline permit. Changes are considered substantive if they materially alter the project in a manner that relates to its conformance to the terms and conditions of the permit, the Burien Shoreline Master Program and/or the policies and provisions of RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act). Changes which are not substantive in effect do not require approval of a revision.
2. **Required Information.** When an applicant seeks to revise a permit, the city will request from the applicant detailed plans and text describing the proposed changes. If the Shoreline Administrator determines that the proposed changes are within the scope and intent of the original permit, and are consistent with the Burien Shoreline Master Program and the Shoreline Management Act, the city may approve a revision.

"Within the scope and intent of the original permit" means all of the following:

a. No additional over water construction is involved except that pier, dock, or float construction may be increased by five hundred square feet or ten percent from the provisions of the original permit, whichever is less;

b. Ground area coverage and height may be increased a maximum of ten percent from the provisions of the original permit;

c. The revised permit does not authorize development to exceed height, lot coverage, setback, or any other requirements of the applicable master program except as authorized under a variance granted as the original permit or a part thereof;

d. Additional or revised landscaping is consistent with any conditions attached to the original permit and with the applicable county master program;

e. The use authorized pursuant to the original permit is not changed; and

f. No adverse environmental impact will be caused by the project revision.

3. **New Permits Required.** If the revision, or the sum of the revision and any previously approved revisions will violate the criteria specified in (a)-(f) of the preceding section, the City shall require that the applicant apply for a new shoreline permit. Revisions to permits may be authorized after original permit authorization has expired under WAC 173-27-080(2) (Legally Established Structures). The purpose of such revisions shall be limited to authorization of changes which are consistent with this section and which would not require a permit for the development or change proposed under the terms of RCW Chapter 90.58 (Shoreline Management Act), the Burien Shoreline Master Program and this section. If the proposed change constitutes substantial development, then a new permit is required. Provided, this subsection shall not be used to extend the time requirements or to authorize substantial development beyond the time limits of the original permit. The revision approval, including the revised site plans and text consistent with the provisions of WAC 173-27-180 (Application Requirements) as necessary to clearly indicate the authorized changes, and the final ruling on consistency with this section shall be filed with the Washington State Department of Ecology. In addition, the city shall notify parties of record of the action.
4. **Revisions to Conditional Use or Variance Permits.** If the revision to the original permit involves a conditional use or variance, the city shall submit the revision to the Department of Ecology for the required state's approval, approval with conditions, or denial, and shall indicate that the revision is being submitted under the requirements of this subsection. The Department of Ecology shall render and transmit to the City and the applicant its final decision within fifteen days of the date of their receipt of the submittal from the City. The City of Burien shall notify parties of record of the Department of Ecology's final decision.

5. **Effective Date.** The revised permit is effective immediately upon final decision by the City or, when appropriate, upon final action by the Department of Ecology.

6. **Appeals.** Appeals shall be to the state shorelines hearings board in accordance with RCW 90.58.180 (Appeals) and shall be filed within twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the City's action by the Department of Ecology or the date the Department of Ecology's final decision is transmitted to the City and the applicant.

7. **Construction Authorization.** Construction undertaken pursuant to that portion of a revised permit not authorized under the original permit is at the applicant's own risk until the expiration of the appeals deadline. If an appeal is successful in proving that a revision is not within the scope and intent of the original permit, the decision shall have no bearing on the original permit.

**20.35.070 Rescission of Shoreline Permits and Exemptions** (See also RCW 90.58.140(8) (Development Permits))

Whenever any development or use is in violation of a permit or shoreline exemption issued pursuant to this chapter, the City may, concurrent with or as an alternative to any other remedy provided by this title or other law or ordinance, initiate permit rescission proceedings by scheduling a public hearing before the hearing examiner and serving the applicant with written notice thereof. Notice shall be provided in accordance with BMC 19.65.045 (Type 1 Decisions) and contain a general description of the alleged noncompliance and date, time, and place of public hearing. It shall be served by registered mail at least 15 calendar days prior to such hearing. The permit rescission request shall be processed as a Type 2 decision in accordance with the procedures established in BMC Chapter 19.65 (Procedures).
Chapter VI. Shoreline Definitions
**20.40.000** Alteration means any human activity which results or is likely to result in a significant impact upon the existing condition of a critical area. Alterations include, but are not limited to, grading, filling, dredging, draining, channelizing, applying herbicides or pesticides or any hazardous substance, discharging pollutants except storm water, grazing domestic animals, paving, constructing, applying gravel, modifying for surface water management purposes, cutting, pruning, topping, trimming, relocating or removing vegetation or any other human activity which results or is likely to result in a significant impact to existent vegetation, hydrology, wildlife or wildlife habitat. Alterations do not include walking, fishing or any other passive recreation or other similar activities.

**20.40.005** Appurtenance means development necessarily connected to the use and enjoyment of a single family residence and located landward of the perimeter of an associated wetland and landward of the ordinary high water mark. Normal appurtenances include a garage; deck; driveway; utilities solely servicing the subject single family residence; fences; and grading which does not exceed 250 cubic yards.

**20.40.010** Aquaculture means the culture, harvesting or farming of food fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals. Activities include the hatching, cultivating, planting, feeding, raising, harvesting, and processing of aquatic plants and animals and the maintenance and construction of necessary equipment, buildings and growing areas. Cultivation methods include but are not limited to fish pens, fish hatcheries, shellfish rafts, racks and long lines, seaweed floats and nets and the culture of clams and oysters on tidelands and subtidal areas.

**20.40.015** Associated wetlands means those wetlands which are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the Shoreline Management Act.

**20.40.020** Beach means the zone of unconsolidated material that is moved by waves, wind, and tidal currents, extending landward to the coastline.

**20.40.025** Boat ramp means graded slopes, slabs, pads, planks, or rails used for launching boats by means of a trailer, hand, or mechanical device.

**20.40.030** Bulkhead means a solid or open pile wall erected generally parallel to and near the ordinary high water mark for the purposes of protecting adjacent uplands from waves or current action.

**20.40.035** Community Beach means a beach area jointly owned by a homeowners association for use of the neighborhood.

**20.40.040** Community residential facility means living quarters meeting applicable federal and state standards that function as a single housekeeping unit and provide supportive services, including but not limited to counseling, rehabilitation and medical
supervision, excluding drug and alcohol detoxification; if staffed by nonresident staff, each 24 staff hours per day equals one full-time residing staff member for subclassifying community residential facilities as follows:

1. Community residential facility-I: Nine to ten residents and staff.

2. Community residential facility-II: Eleven or more residents and staff. [BMC 19.10.065]

**20.40.042 Critical saltwater habitat** means all kelp beds, eelgrass beds, spawning and holding areas for forage fish, such as herring, smelt and sand lance; shellfish beds; mudflats, intertidal habitats with vascular plants, and areas with which priority species have a primary association.

**20.40.044 Development** means a use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to this chapter at any state of water level.

**20.40.045 Docks** are fixed structures floating upon the water.

**20.40.050 Dredging** means the removal of earth, sand, sludge or other materials from the bottom of a stream, river, lake, bay or other water body. However, the creation of temporary depressions or contour alterations on tidelands or bedlands through the use of aquaculture harvesting equipment approved by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall not be construed to be dredging.

**20.40.055 Feasible** means actions that meet all of the following conditions:
(a) The action can be accomplished with technologies and methods that have been used in the past in similar circumstances, or studies or tests have demonstrated in similar circumstances that such approaches are currently available and likely to achieve the intended results;
(b) The action provides a reasonable likelihood of achieving its intended purpose; and
(c) The action does not physically preclude achieving the project's primary intended legal use.

**20.40.060 Fill** means any material, such as earth, clay, sand, concrete, rubble, wood chips, bark or waste of any kind which is placed, stored or dumped upon the surface of the ground resulting in an increase in the natural surface elevation.

**20.40.065 Floating home** means a structure designed and operated substantially as a permanently based structure and not as a vessel and is typically characterized by permanent utilities, a semi-permanent anchorage/moorage design, and by the lack of adequate self-propulsion to operate as a vessel.
**20.40.070 Floats (rafts)** are floating structures that are moored, anchored, or otherwise secured in the water that are not directly connected to the shoreline.

**20.40.073 Government Facility** – Services and facilities operated by any level of government, excluding those use listed separately in this Code. [BMC 19.10.210]

**20.40.074 Grading** means the movement or redistribution of the soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, or other material on a site in a manner that alters the natural contour of the land.

**20.40.075 Houseboat** means a vessel used for living quarters but licensed and designed substantially as a mobile structure by means of detachable utilities or facilities, anchoring, and the presence of adequate self-propulsion to operate as a vessel.

**20.40.080 In-water structure** means a structure located waterward of the ordinary high water mark that either causes or has the potential to cause water impoundment or the diversion, obstruction, or modification of water flow.

**20.40.085 Littoral drift** means the mud, sand, or gravel materials moved parallel to the shoreline in the nearshore zone by waves and currents.

**20.40.088 Mean higher high water** or “MHHW” means the tidal elevation obtained by averaging each day's highest tide at a particular location over a period of nineteen years. It is measured from the mean lower low water = 0.0 tidal elevation.

**20.40.090 Mooring buoy** means a floating object anchored to the bottom of a water body that provides tie up capabilities for vessels.

**20.40.095 Normal protective bulkhead** means a bulkhead, common to single family residences, constructed at or near the ordinary high water mark to protect an existing single family residence, the sole purpose of which is to protect land from erosion, not for the purpose of creating new land.

**20.40.097 Office** – A place of employment providing professional, administrative, educational, business or governmental services other than production, distribution, sale or repair of goods or commodities. The following is a nonexclusive list of office uses: medical, dental or other health care; veterinary, accounting, architectural, engineering, consulting or other similar professional services; management, administrative, secretarial, marketing, advertising, personnel or other similar services; sales offices where no inventories or goods are available on the premises, real estate, insurance, travel agent, brokerage or other similar services.[BMC 19.10.385]

**20.40.100 Ordinary High Water Mark** (OHWM) means on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition existing on June 1,
1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department: PROVIDED, That in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

20.40.102 Personal wireless service facility (PWSF) – A site, building, and/or structure that contains facilities to provide personal wireless services. A personal wireless service facility includes at least one of the following: antenna, support structure, and/or equipment enclosure. [Ord. 265 § 23, 1999], [BMC 19.10.397]

20.40.105 Piers are fixed, pile-supported structures extending over the water.

20.40.110 Physical access means the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations.

20.40.115 Primary structure means any permanent building, road, bridge or utility requiring a permit or approval which is necessary to support the primary use of a site.

20.40.116 Public park and recreation facilities – A natural or landscaped area, buildings or structures, provided by a unit of government, to meet the active or passive recreational needs of people. [BMC 19.10.210]

20.40.117 Retail – A commercial enterprise which: provides goods and/or services directly to the consumer; and, whose goods are available for immediate purchase and/or rental; and, whose goods are available for immediate removal from the premises by the purchaser and/or whose services are traditionally not permitted within an office use. The sale and consumption of food are included if: a) the seating and associated circulation area does not exceed ten percent of the gross floor area of the use, and b) it can be demonstrated to the City that the floor plan is designed to preclude the seating area from being expanded. Goods and services offered include, but are not limited to: convenience retail uses. [BMC 19.10.465]

20.40.119 School - An institution of learning offering instruction in the several branches of learning and study required by the Education Code of the state of Washington. The following are categories of schools:

1. Elementary, and middle/junior high schools: Grades kindergarten through nine, including associated meeting rooms, auditoriums and athletic facilities.

2. Secondary or high school schools: Grades 9 through 12, including associated meeting rooms, auditoriums and athletic facilities.

20.40.120 Shorelands means those lands extending landward for 200 feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and 100-year floodplains; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the
streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the State of Washington Shoreline Management Act.

20.40.125 **Shoreline Administrator** means the City Manager or his or her designee in the Community Development Department who is responsible for administering the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program.

20.40.130 **Shoreline conditional use** means a use or modification classified by the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program as a conditional use or modification for certain shoreline environments or is an unlisted use/modification.

20.40.135 **Shoreline modification** means an action that modifies the physical configuration or qualities of the shoreline area, usually through the construction of a physical element such as a breakwater, dock, boat launch ramp, or other shoreline structures. A shoreline modification also can consist of other activities, such as dredging and filling.

20.40.140 **Shoreline permit** means any substantial development, variance, conditional use, or revision thereto authorized under the provisions of the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program subject to review by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

20.40.145 **Shoreline substantial development** means any development of which the total cost, or fair market value, whichever is higher, exceeds $5,000, or any development which materially interferes with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state.

20.40.150 **Shoreline variance** means a permit for the limited purposes of granting relief to specific bulk, dimensional, or performance standards set forth in the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program.

20.40.155 **Shoreline environment designations** means the categories of shorelines established by the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program in order to provide a uniform basis for applying policies and use regulations within physically distinct shoreline areas. The City of Burien Shoreline Master Program classifies shorelines into three shoreline environment designations: Urban Conservancy, Aquatic and Shoreline Residential.

20.40.160 **Shoreline jurisdiction** means the proper term describing all of the geographic areas regulated by the City of Burien Shoreline Master Program.

20.40.165 **Shoreline master program** means the general term for shoreline comprehensive plans and regulations prepared under the jurisdiction of the Shoreline Management Act.

20.40.170 **Shorelines** means all of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated shorelands, together with the lands underlying them; except (1) shorelines of statewide significance, (2) shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean annual flow is 20 cubic feet per second or less, and the wetlands...
associated with such upstream segments, and (3) shorelines on lakes less than 20 acres in size, and wetlands associated with such small lakes.

20.40.175 Shorelines of statewide significance means shorelines designated by the State of Washington that are major resources from which all people in the state derive benefit. Shoreline areas in the City of Burien that are designated as shorelines of statewide significance are portions of the Puget Sound adjacent to the city limits extending out to mid channel.

20.40.180 Shorelines of the state means the total of all "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance" within the state.

20.40.185 Tidal waters means marine and estuarine waters bounded by the ordinary high mark. Where a stream enters the tidal waters, the tidal water is bounded by the extension of the elevation of the marine ordinary high water mark within the stream.

20.40.190 Tidelands means the land on the shore of marine water bodies between the line of ordinary high tide and the line of extreme low tide.

20.40.195 Tram means a conveyance that transports passengers or freight in carriers on rails or suspended from cables supported by a series of towers.

20.40.200 Upland means generally the area above and landward of the ordinary high water mark.

20.40.205 Visual access means access with improvements that provide only a view of the shoreline or water, but do not allow physical access to the shoreline.

20.40.210 Water dependent means a use or a portion of a use which requires direct contact with the water and cannot exist at a nonwater location due to the intrinsic nature of its operations. Examples of water dependent uses may include ship cargo terminal loading areas, ferry and passenger terminals, barge loading facilities, ship building and dry docking, marinas, aquaculture, float plane facilities, and sewer outfalls.

20.40.215 Water enjoyment means a recreational use, or other use facilitating public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general character of the use and which through the location, design and operation assures the public’s ability to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. In order to qualify as a water enjoyment use, the use must be open to the general public and the shoreline space of the project must be devoted to provisions that accommodate public shoreline enjoyment. Examples may include parks, piers, museums, restaurants, educational/scientific reserves, resorts, and mixed use projects.

20.40.220 Water oriented means any combination of water dependent, water related, and/or water enjoyment uses. Nonwater oriented serves to describe those uses which have little or no relationship to the shoreline. Examples of nonwater oriented uses include
professional office, automobile sales or repair shops, mini storage facilities, multifamily residential development, department stores, and gas stations.

20.40.225 Water related means a use or a portion of a use which is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location but whose operation cannot occur economically without a waterfront location. Examples of water related uses may include warehousing of goods transported by water, seafood processing plants, hydroelectric generating plants, gravel storage when transported by barge, oil refineries where transport is by tanker, and log storage.

20.40.230 Watershed restoration plan means a plan, developed or sponsored by the department of fish and wildlife, the department of ecology, the department of natural resources, the department of transportation, a federally recognized Indian tribe acting within and pursuant to its authority, a city, a county, or a conservation district that provides a general program and implementation measures or actions for the preservation, restoration, re-creation, or enhancement of the natural resources, character, and ecology of a water body or reach, drainage area, or watershed for which agency and public review has been conducted pursuant to chapter 43.21C RCW, the State Environmental Policy Act.

20.40.235 Wetlands means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.