



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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December 18, 2015

The Honorable James S. Ackerman
City of Nooksack
PO Box 4265
Nooksack, WA 98276

**Re: Final Ecology Approval of City of Nooksack Shoreline Master Program
Comprehensive Update**

Dear Mayor Ackerman:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce final approval of the City of Nooksack's (City) updated Shoreline Master Program (SMP). Congratulations to you, fellow council members, your staff, and the Nooksack community for completing this comprehensive update. We know this has been a long and challenging process. We appreciate the City's commitment to comprehensive land use planning for Washington's unique and valuable shorelines.

As you know, the following correspondence regarding the SMP update took place between Ecology and the City:

- September 24, 2014 – Ecology accepted the City's locally adopted SMP update as complete for purposes of review (Resolution No. 288).
- November 2, 2015 – Ecology conditionally approved the City's comprehensive SMP update with specific required and recommended changes.
- December 10, 2015 – The City sent notice to Ecology agreeing to all of Ecology's required and recommended changes.

Ecology therefore approves the City's comprehensive SMP update, which includes the agreed to required and recommended changes. This action represents Ecology's final decision and there shall be no further modifications to the City's proposal.

The effective date of the City's comprehensive SMP update is fourteen days from the date of this letter, Ecology's final approval letter. This fourteen day period was established by legislative action in 2011 and is intended to provide lead time for the City to prepare to implement the new SMP.

Ecology is required to promptly publish notice that the City's SMP has received final approval. The notice, in the form of a legal ad, will begin a 60-day appeal period. We will provide a copy of the legal advertisement to the City for your records.

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Thank you again for your significant work and leadership in completing this SMP update. If you have any questions, please contact our regional planner, Chad Yunge, at Chad.Yunge@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 715-5206.

Sincerely,



Tim Gates
Shoreline Policy Lead

By Certified Mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 4215]

cc: Rollin Harper, Sehome Planning
Erik Stockdale, Ecology
Chad Yunge, Ecology