

Shoreline Environment Designations



Washington Department of Ecology
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Betty Renkor

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Overview

- Basis for environment designations
 - Options
 - Guidelines designations
 - Alternative environments
 - Environment regulations
 - Parallel environments
 - Predesignation
- 
- A background image showing a body of water with several sailboats. One sailboat in the foreground has a blue and yellow sail, while another further back has a pink sail. The background is slightly blurred, showing a shoreline with trees and buildings.

Ecological characteristics



Hugh Shipman photo



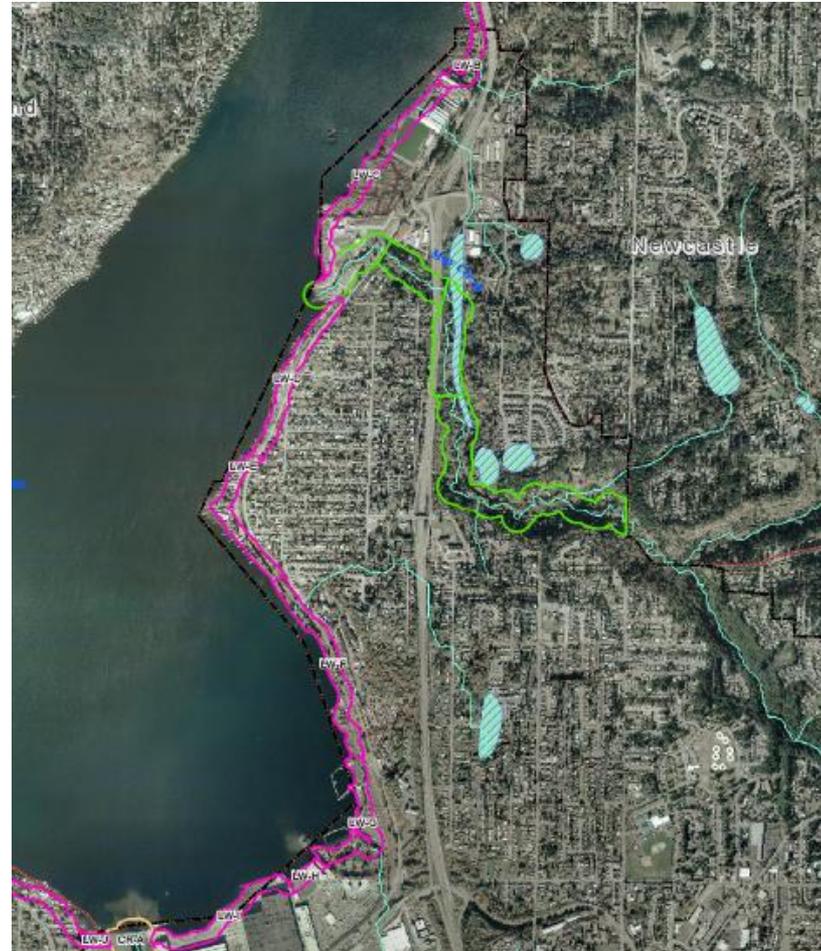
Twisp River

Patricia Olson photo

Shoreline reaches

Renton shoreline reaches

- Lake Washington -11
- May Creek – 4



Land use patterns

Richland (top)
Okanogon County (right)
Rock Lake (below)



Community goals

- Comprehensive plan = community goals
- Be consistent with comprehensive plans
- Comp plan should assure adequate infrastructure for shoreline uses

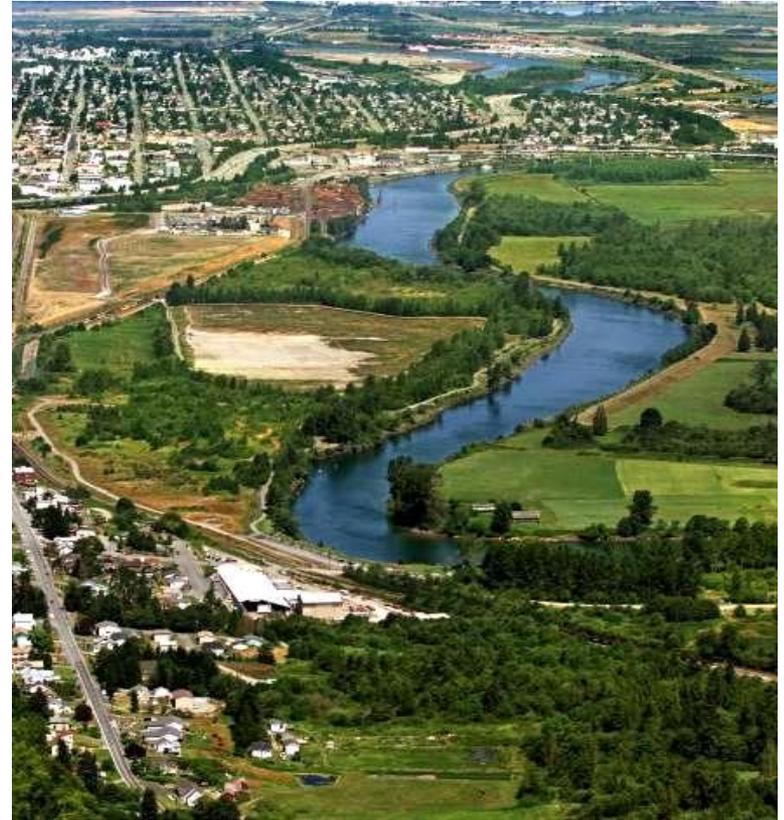
Inventory-characterization recommendations

Table 6-2. Summary of Process Alterations and Management Potential, Lake Washington Shoreline

Process	Scale	Alterations	Restoration Potential
Hydrology: Flow Regime	Watershed	<u>High</u> Regional management of water resources has altered watershed hydrography and temporal water level fluctuations	<u>Low</u> Human needs expressed in existing land-use and water resource management limits potential for restoration of hydrologic processes.
	City	Not applicable	Not applicable
Water Quality: Inputs	Watershed	<u>High</u> Urbanized land-uses contribute toxins and nutrients from lakeshore and tributaries Point-source inputs from industrial sources	<u>Low</u> Lake Washington tributaries outside of the City are the most urbanized in the state, limiting the potential for effective protection and restoration.
	City	<u>High</u> Although the upper Cedar and May Creek watersheds are rural, areas within the city are still highly urbanized. The lakeshore is completely built-out.	<u>Moderate</u> May Creek and Cedar River basins are less urbanized than other Lake Washington tributaries and have potential for protection through Best Management Practices (BMPs) along the lakeshore must focus on limiting continuing degradation from existing development
Water Quality: Storage	Watershed	<u>High</u> Disturbed riparian corridors in low-order streams and loss of wetlands and floodplain connectivity	<u>Low-Moderate</u> Potential for wetland and floodplain restoration is low, but riparian restoration/protection to attenuate nutrient cycling through biotic uptake and improved hyporheic function is more feasible.
	City	<u>High</u> Remnant wetlands persist or have been restored along the lakeshore; floodplain connection is very minimal along the Cedar River; May Creek and other low-order tributaries have some riparian function	<u>Low</u> Lakeshore naturalization would improve groundwater exchange and potentially increase water quality in nearshore areas See Sections 5.2 and 5.3 for management options in May Creek and Cedar River

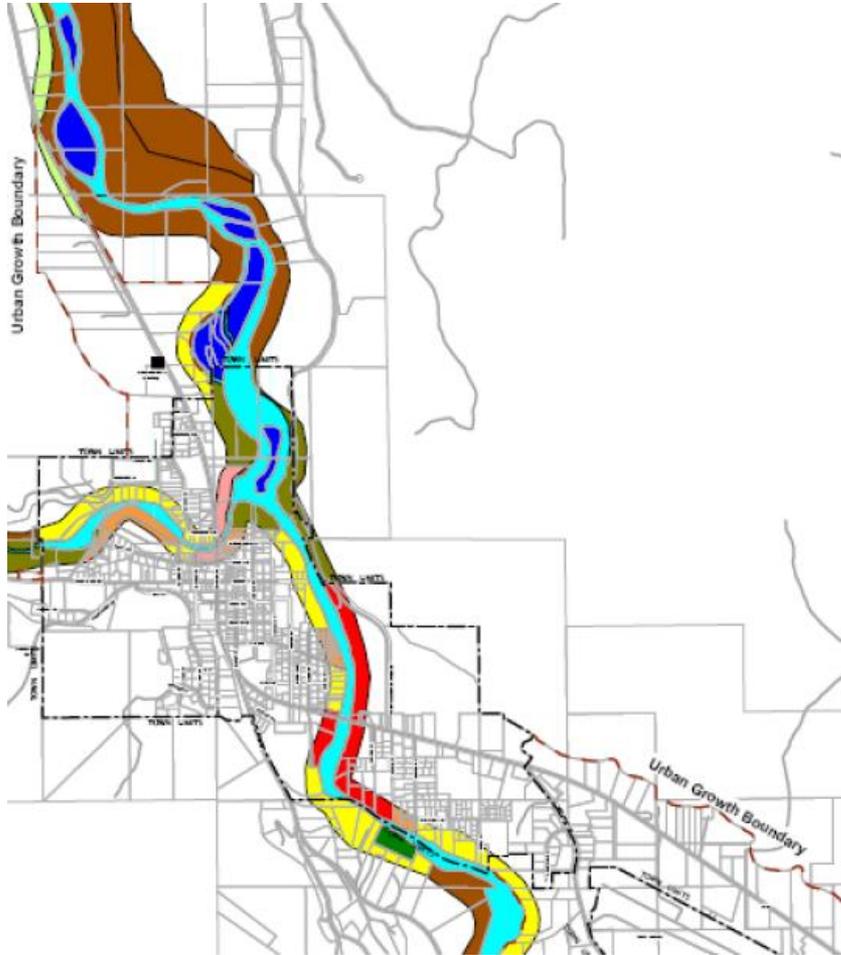
Options

- Use designations in Guidelines
- Retain designations from current SMP
- Develop alternative designations
- Use any combination of above



Snohomish River

Environment designation maps



WAC 173-26-211:

- Accurate map
- Identify boundaries in text if parcels are not on map
- Automatic Urban/ Rural Conservancy if not mapped

Town of Twisp environment designations map

Natural



Protect
ecologically
intact shorelines
with minimally
degraded
shoreline
functions

Columbia River, Douglas County

Rural Conservancy

Conserve natural resources & processes, provide for sustainable resource use



Columbia River, near city of Rock Island, Douglas County

Aquatic

Protect,
restore and
manage
resources
waterward of
the OHWM



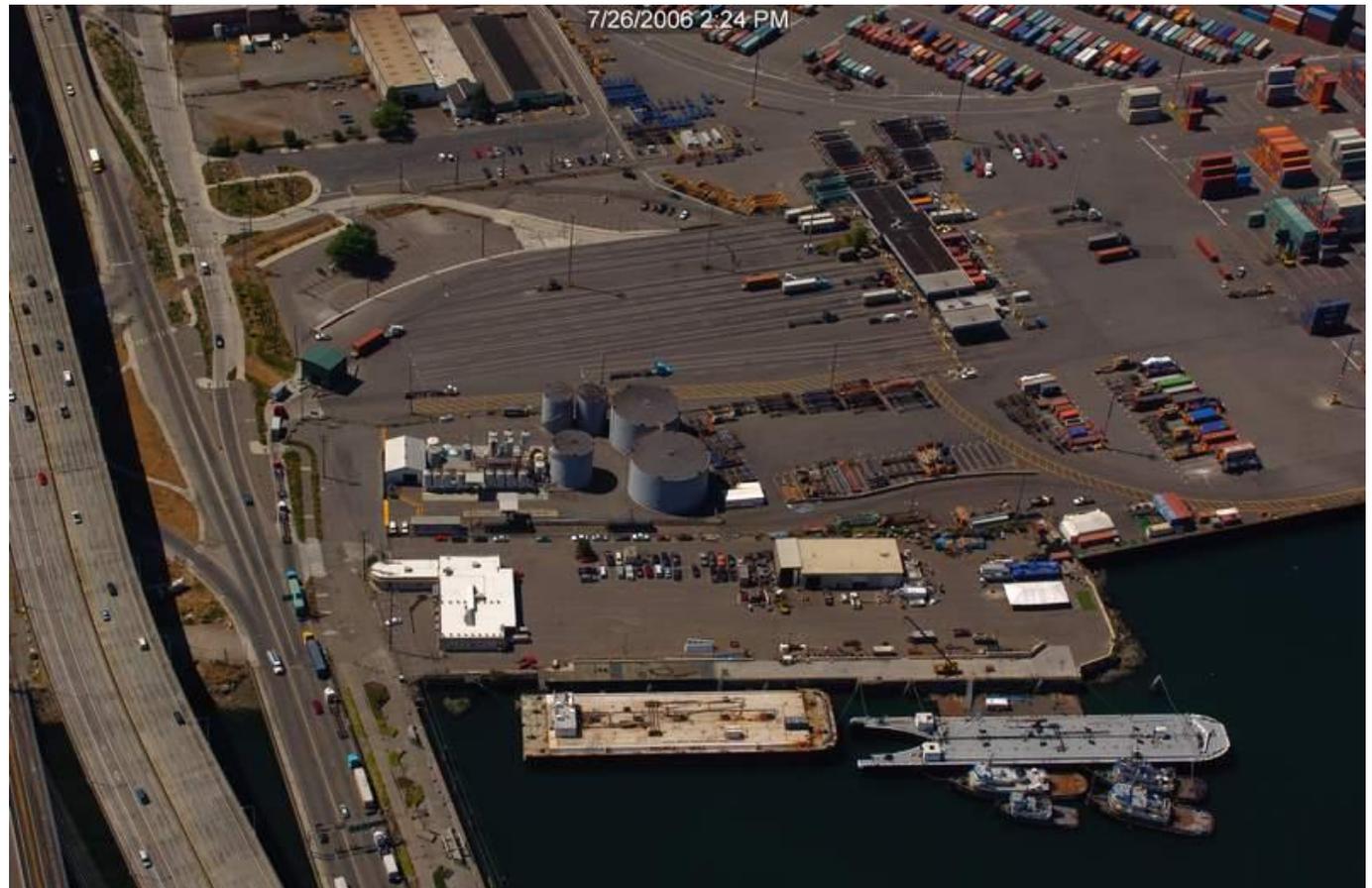
Urban Conservancy



Protect & restore ecological functions of sensitive shorelines; allow uses consistent with this intent

High Intensity

Provide for water-oriented commercial, transportation & industrial uses; protect & restore ecological functions



Shoreline Residential



Moses Lake

Accommodate residential development consistent with SMA

Waiting for a designation



South Fork
Palouse River,
city of Pullman

Waiting for a designation



South Fork
Palouse River,
city of Colfax

Waiting for a designation



Joseph Creek, just north of Oregon border, Asotin County

Waiting for a designation



Mill Creek, southeast of Walla Walla

Alternative environments



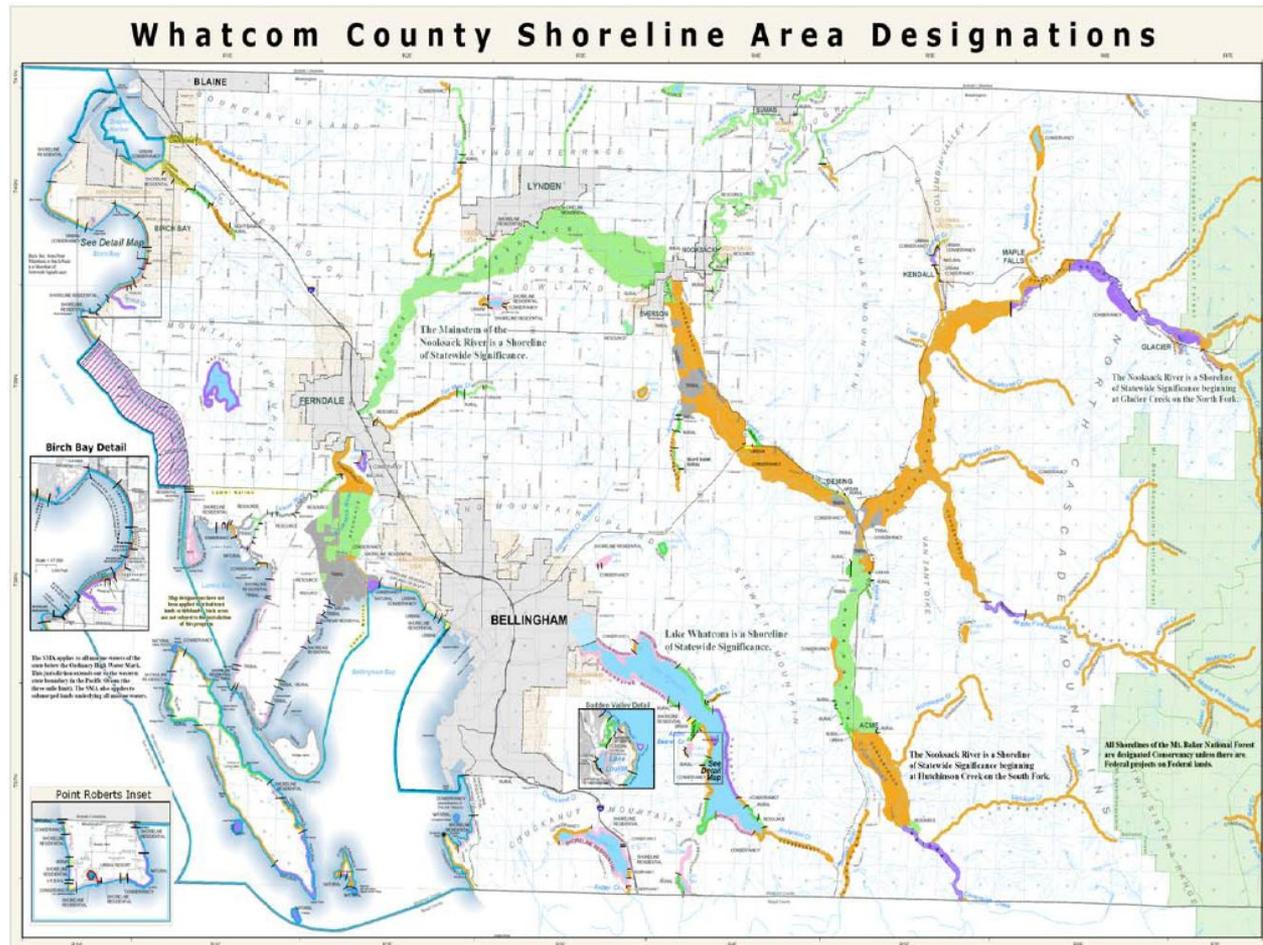
Bishop Building
Waterfront Historic District
environment designation
Port Townsend



photos by Jeffrey Stewart

Boathaven Marina
Boathaven environment
designation
Port Townsend

Alternative environments



10 environment designations

Purpose statement



Describe
shoreline
management
objectives

Designation criteria



Describe basis for assigning designation to shoreline reaches

Management policies: basis for regulations

- Encourage a mixture and variety of uses and activities in the Historic Waterfront Designation, particularly those that:
 - a. Preserve and restore the historic character of Port Townsend.
 - b. Support and reinforce the design and architectural qualities of the Water Street National Historic District when located within or adjacent to its boundaries.

Environment designation regulations

Address only issues that vary from designation to designation

- Permitted and prohibited uses
- Setbacks, buffers, height, bulk and density limits
- Lot coverage, density
- Conditional uses

Tables

Sultan SMP, part of use table

	Urban Center	Shoreline Residential	Urban Conservancy	Natural	Aquatic
Landfill ²	P	P	P	P	CU
Parking ³	A	CU	CU	CU	P
Recreation Facilities ⁴	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU
Residential Development ⁵	A	A	CU	CU	P
Shoreline Modification					
• Bulkheads	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU
• Dikes and Levees	CU	CU	CU	CU	CU
• Revetments	P	CU	CU	CU	CU
Signs ⁶	A	CU	CU	CU	CU
Stormwater Facilities	A	A/CU ⁷	CU	CU	P
Transportation	A	A/CU ⁷	CU	CU ⁸	CU
Utilities	A	A/CU ⁷	CU	CU	CU

Yakima County shoreline use table

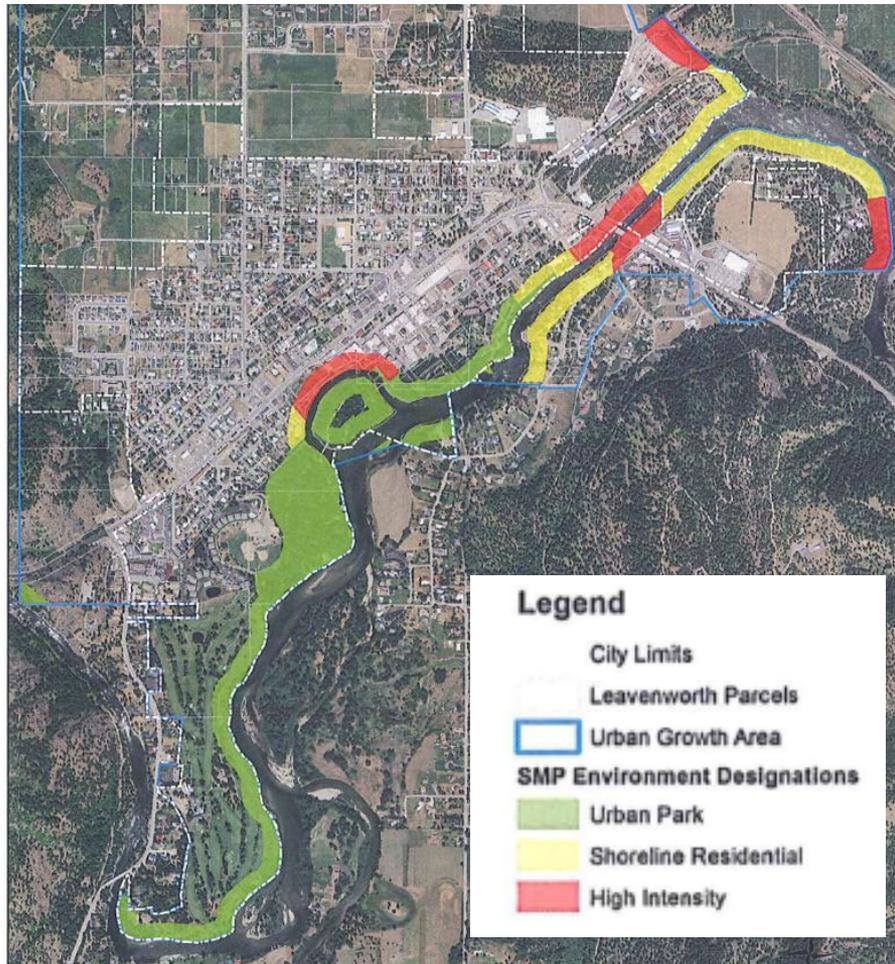
Activity	Environments					
S = Substantial Development C = Conditional Use X = Prohibited N/A = Not Applicable Review section 16D.01.05 (Applicability) to see if this Title applies to the project. Review section 16D.03.07 (Exemptions) to see if the project qualifies for an exemption from a Substantial Development permit. For existing uses that are prohibited, see section 16D.03.26 Non-Conforming Uses and Facilities.	Urban	Rural	Conservancy	Natural	Floodway / CMZ	Urban Conserv.
GENERAL						
Activities listed in 16D.06.10 Prohibited Uses	X	X	X	X	X	X
AGRICULTURE Also see Section 16D.03.07 for common exemptions.						
Agriculture, including accessory agricultural structures, but excluding grazing.	S	S	C	X	C	S
Grazing, also see special grazing provisions in 16D.01.05(e) (Applicability) and 16D.03.13(2)(b) (Development Authorization) for development standards.	S	S	S	S	S	S
Confinement Feeding Operations(CFO)	X	C	X	X	X	X
Ag. Related Industry (Feed Mills, Processing/Packing Plants, Storage Facilities, etc)	C	C	X	X	X	C

Example -- standards table*

	High Intensity	Shoreline Residential	Urban Conservancy	Natural	Aquatic
Riparian Buffer	50 ft	150 ft	150 ft	200 ft	n/a
Building Setback	15 ft	20 ft	20 ft	n/a	n/a
Building Height Limit	50 ft	25 ft	35 ft	15 ft	n/a
Density	10 du/acre	6 du/acre	4 du/acre	1du/acre	n/a
Frontage Width	50-70 ft	50*-90 ft	50*-90 ft	n/a	n/a
Lot Coverage	85%	35%	35%	n/a	n/a

* Just an example, not prescriptive

Parallel environments



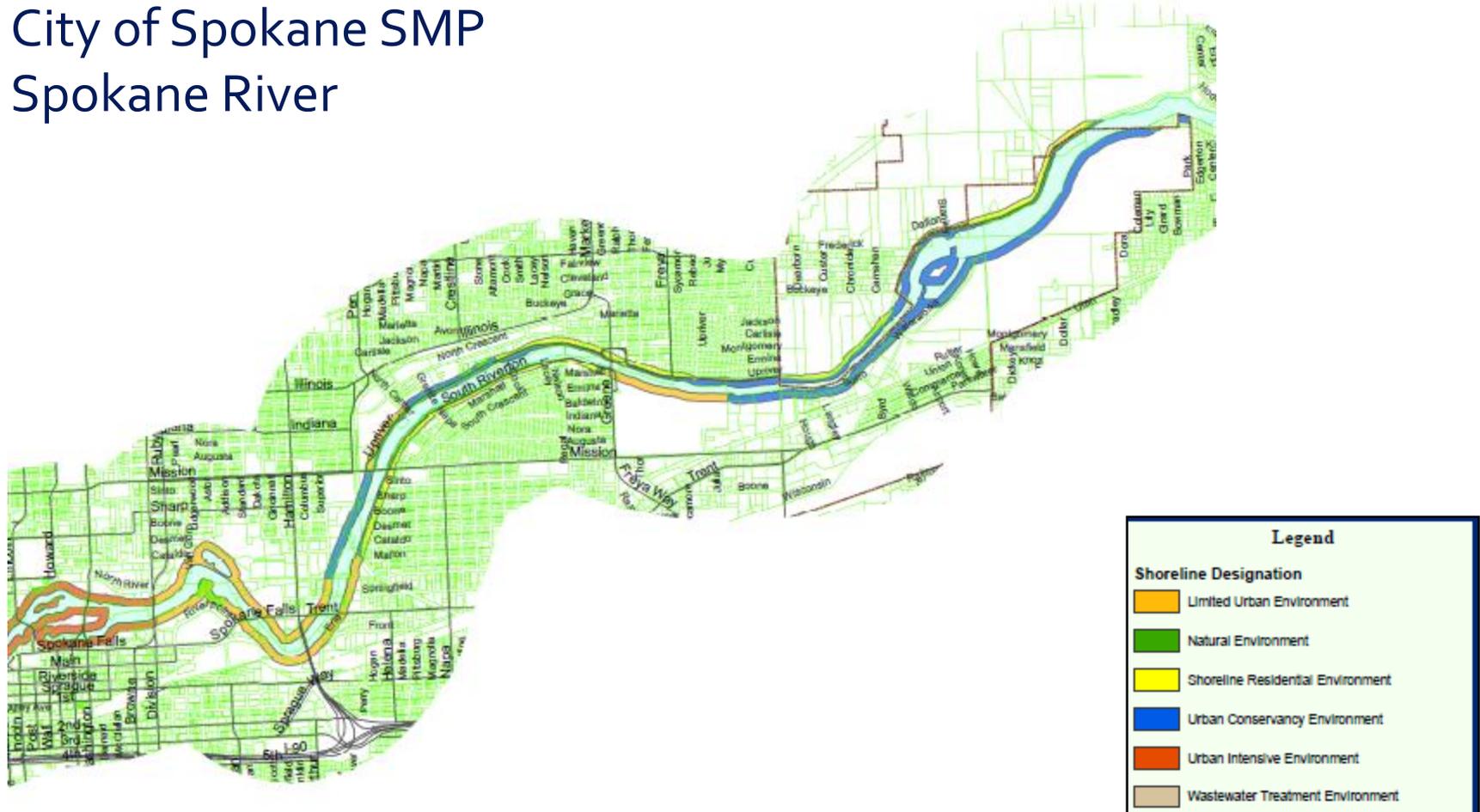
City of Leavenworth Draft SMP

Parallel environments

- Reflect differences in environmental conditions
- Acknowledge the presence and effect of physical features
- Protect the immediate riparian corridor shoreline qualities
- Allow for upland development

Parallel environments

City of Spokane SMP Spokane River



Parallel environments

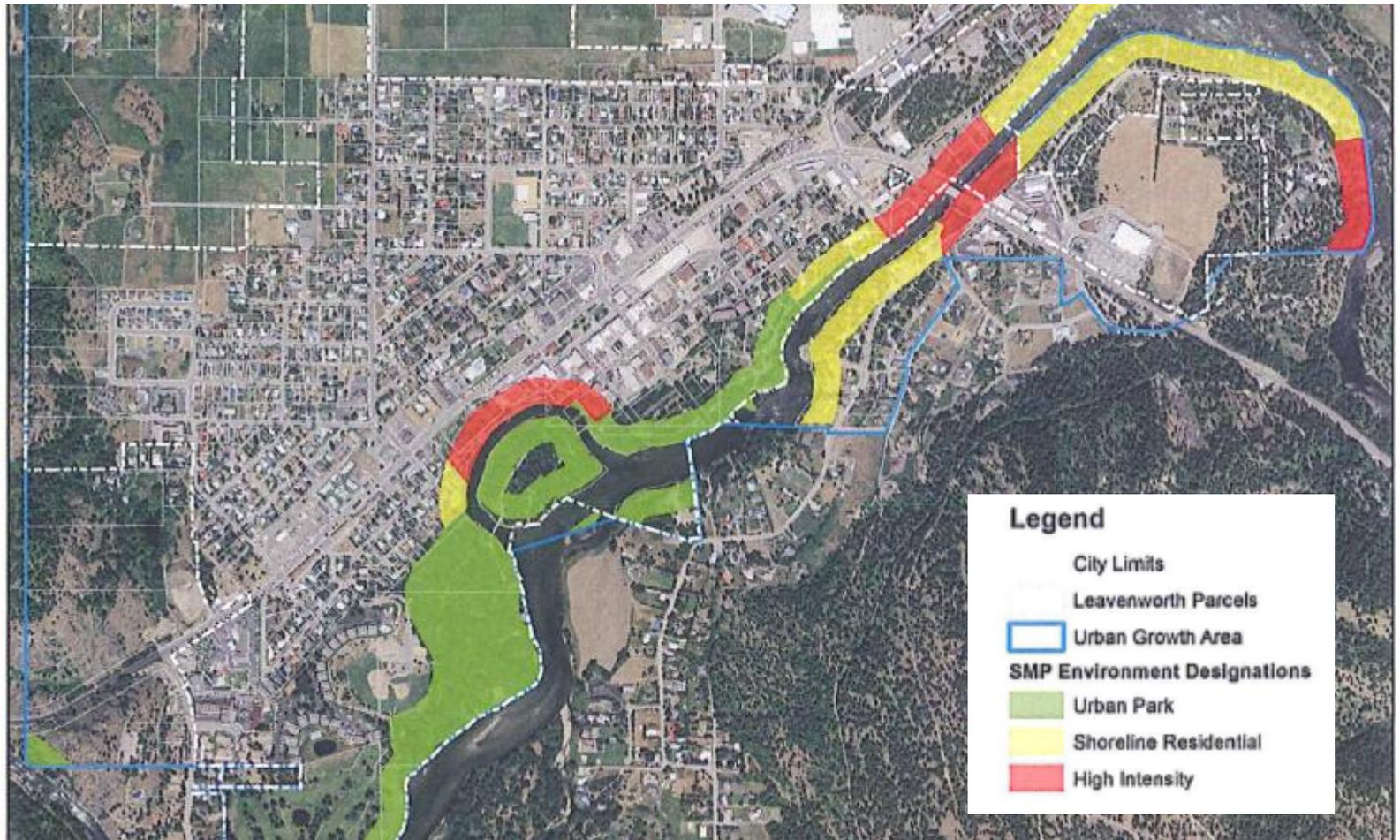


City of Anacortes, Guemes Channel
Conservancy adjacent to OHWM, Shoreline Residential upland



City of Dayton, Touchet River

Predesignated environments



Leavenworth Draft SMP

What will Ecology look for?

- Base environment designations on:
 - Ecological characteristics
 - Land use pattern
 - Community goals
 - Inventory/characterization recommendations



What will Ecology look for?

- Explain custom designations
- Include purpose statement, criteria, management policies & regulations
- Maps!

