



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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February 25, 2010

The Honorable Mike Leita, Commissioner  
Yakima County  
128 North Second Street  
Yakima, WA 98901

**Re: Approval of Changes to the Yakima County Regional Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update**

Dear Commissioner Leita:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is required to notify the local government and all interested parties of the effective date of a Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Amendment.<sup>1</sup> As you know, the following correspondence regarding the Shoreline Master Program Amendment took place between Ecology and Yakima County (County):

- On December 18, 2009 - Ecology approved the Yakima County Regional Shoreline Master Program (YCRSMP) Comprehensive Update with specific required changes.
- On February 11, 2010 – The County sent a letter to Ecology agreeing to all of Ecology's documented changes to the SMP, except for proposing alternative language referenced in Exhibit 1 and incorporating updated FEMA maps.

Ecology finds the proposed alternative found in Exhibit 1 consistent with the purpose and intent of the changes originally proposed by Ecology, Shoreline Management Act (SMA) policy, and the applicable guidelines. Additionally, Ecology finds the incorporation of the new FEMA maps consistent with the purpose, the regulatory text and the intent of the original SMP as submitted July 2008, and, therefore, consistent with SMA policy and the applicable guidelines. In conclusion, Ecology approves the alternative language and per WAC 173-26-120(7)(b)(ii), **the effective date of Yakima County's SMP is the date of this letter.**

When integrating the updated FEMA maps, the environment designation maps submitted by the County in July 2008 will require updating. When forwarding your final version of the SMP to Ecology, please include new map sets (County and Cities) reflecting the FEMA floodway where identified, floodplain location, and environment designation locations.

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<sup>1</sup> WAC 173-26-120(7)(b)(ii)



As a reminder, shoreline procedural rules<sup>2</sup> require the County to publish a notice that Ecology has taken final action on this amendment. **This notice will initiate a 60-day appeal period.**

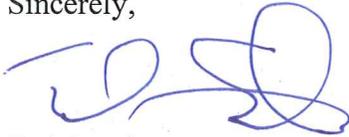
As we have discussed with your staff, we will need you to forward two, clean, hard copies of the SMP with changes integrated, and one digital copy of the SMP which includes map sets and jurisdictional GIS shape files to Ecology within 60 days.

**To summarize, please:**

1. Publish a notice that Ecology has taken final action. This notice will begin the appeal period.
2. Forward two, clean, hard copies (including new map sets), with changes integrated, and one digital copy including maps to Ecology.

Congratulations and thank you again for your efforts. If you have any questions, please contact our Regional Planner, Clynda Case at [clynda.case@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:clynda.case@ecy.wa.gov)/(509) 457-7125.

Sincerely,



Ted Sturdevant,  
Director

Enclosures

**By certified mail [7006 2760 0000 7716 6632]**

cc: Clynda Case, Ecology Central Regional Office  
Steve Erickson, Yakima County Public Services Department  
Jeff Lewis, Ecology Central Regional Office  
Doug Pineo, Eastern Regional Office  
Tom Tebb, Central Regional Director  
Gordon White, Ecology HQ SEA Program Director  
Interested Parties

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<sup>2</sup> WAC 173-26-120(9)