



# DRAFT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

## LINCOLN COUNTY COALITION SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM UPDATE

### **Prepared for**

Lincoln County, and the Towns of Odessa and Reardan

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## **INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

Lincoln County (County) and the Towns of Odessa and Reardan (communities), collectively referred to as the Coalition, have partnered to update Shoreline Master Programs (SMPs) in compliance with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and adopted state shoreline management guidelines. This work is funded by a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). The Coalition, in coordination with Ecology, will work to develop common SMP elements, share outreach materials, and obtain technical input from local, state, and federal agencies, as applicable. Through this concerted effort, each jurisdiction will develop a tailored SMP consistent with shoreline conditions, local policies and plans, and state requirements in order to provide for environmental protection, appropriate shoreline use and development, and public access. It is expected that Ecology will be able to approve the SMPs provided to them by each Coalition member due to the collaboration and communications that will occur during development of the SMP elements.

This Public Participation Plan (PPP) is intended to provide a guide to proactively encourage public participation throughout the respective SMP update processes. This PPP describes strategies, characterizes opportunities for public input during the planning process, and explains how to engage policymakers from the involved jurisdictions and key stakeholders. Common communication strategies are characterized, along with specific strategies for each jurisdiction, as applicable. Roles and responsibilities for the Coalition staff (including consultant staff) are also provided.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Coalition recognizes the importance of early and continuous public participation in order to adequately reflect the County and communities' preferred uses and allocation of waterfront lands, while also addressing state shoreline requirements. It is the goal of the Coalition to ensure public input is incorporated into the decision-making process, including:

- Establishing a strategy to educate the public and stakeholders about the SMP update process and requirements
- Ensuring available SMP information is current and accessible to the public
- Clearly identifying opportunities for public comment and participation, and providing adequate time for review of SMP materials and amendments prior to decision-making

- Encouraging and maintaining open lines of communication between the Coalition members, the public, and stakeholders through meetings, open houses, and workshops

## **STRATEGIES**

Described below are key strategies that have been developed to encourage outreach and public involvement throughout the SMP update process. Implementation of these strategies is expected to generate meaningful public participation.

### **Develop and Maintain Interested Parties List**

A list of interested parties will be developed and maintained throughout the SMP update process. Organizations and individuals on this list will be notified of education and input opportunities and decision points. This list will likely include members of the public and business community; environmental stakeholders; tribes; local, county, state, and federal officials and departments; and other applicable constituents. Any organization or individual expressing a desire for involvement in the SMP process will be added to this list.

An initial list of potential interested parties has been developed. These and others, as identified, will receive targeted communications on the SMP process and opportunities for participation. The preliminary list includes but is not limited to the following agencies and organizations:

- Angler groups
- National Audubon Society
- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Coulee Area Park and Recreation District (includes Lincoln, Grant, Douglas, and Okanogan counties)
- Dakota Columbia
- FutureWise
- Lincoln County Cattleman's Association
- Lincoln County Farm Bureau
- Lincoln County Health District
- Lake Roosevelt Forum
- Lincoln County Conservation District

- Lincoln County Economic Development Council
- Lincoln County Noxious Weed Control Board
- Lincoln County Park and Recreation Districts (1 – 3)
- Lincoln County Visitors and Convention Bureau
- National Park Service – Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area
- Nature Conservancy (Arid Lands Initiative)
- Odessa Chamber of Commerce
- Odessa Public Development Authority
- Seven Bays Marina
- Spokane Tribe of Indians
- Sprague Chamber of Commerce
- Sprague Lake Users Group
- Sprague Public Development Authority
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Parks and Recreation

### **Workshops and Open Houses**

The Planning Commission and councils from the respective Coalition members will host a series of open houses, workshops, and public meetings to communicate SMP information, including SMP requirements, findings and draft work products, opportunities for comments, and local government and Ecology decision points. The Coalition, Ecology, and consultant team will be available at these events to present information, field questions, and obtain input from the public and interested parties. These events are scheduled to coincide with the drafting of key deliverables and are planned as shown in Table 1. Exact dates, times, and agendas for these events will be announced prior to workshops and meetings.

**Table 1  
General Meeting Plan by SMP Update Task**

Tasks	Public Outreach Efforts for Lincoln County	Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Odessa	Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Reardan
Public Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create SMP update web page</li> <li>• Develop/maintain email and direct mail distribution lists</li> <li>• Develop project outreach materials</li> <li>• Stakeholder input on draft Public Participation Plan and planning topics</li> <li>• November 2013 – SMP introduction and kickoff at a Joint Coalition Elected Officials and Planning Commission(s) workshop</li> </ul>		
Preliminary Assessment of Shoreline Jurisdiction			
Shoreline Inventory, Analysis, and Characterization	<p>February 2014 – General information public meeting/Planning Commission workshop in Davenport on SMP process; draft Shoreline Inventory, Analysis, and Characterization Report and next steps</p> <p>Send postcard out in advance of meeting to all shoreline landowners in County</p>	<p>February 2014 – General information public and Town Council Meetings in Odessa and Reardan on SMP process; draft Shoreline Inventory, Analysis, and Characterization Report and next steps</p>	<p>Send postcard out in advance of meeting to all shoreline landowners in Towns</p>

Tasks	Public Outreach Efforts for Lincoln County	Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Odessa	Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Reardan
Develop Draft SMP	May, August, and November 2014 – Quarterly Planning Commission and County Commission and Town Council briefings (Consultant supports)		
	March and April 2014 – Visioning Workshops – Goals, Policies, and Uses (12 meetings) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Davenport (central/upper lakes/Lake Roosevelt/Seven Bays Areas) (Public Works Building)</li> <li>• Town of Odessa (Town Hall)</li> <li>• Crab Creek/lakes in lower County/Wilbur (Odessa Town Hall)</li> <li>• Sprague Area (Sprague Emergency Response Center or City Hall)</li> <li>• Spokane River/Reardan (Reardan Town Hall)</li> </ul>		
	June and August 2014 – Planning Commission meetings on Preliminary Draft SMP Elements (goals, policies, environmental designations, and public access – 3 meetings)	June 2014 – Town Council meetings on Preliminary Draft SMP Elements (goals, policies, environmental designations, and public access – 2 meetings)	
	October 2014 – Draft SMP public meetings (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Davenport (central/upper lakes/Lake Roosevelt/Seven Bays Areas) (Public Works Bldg)</li> <li>• Town of Odessa (Town Hall)</li> <li>• Crab Creek/lakes in lower County/Wilbur (Odessa Town Hall)</li> <li>• Sprague Area (Sprague Emergency Response Center or City Hall)</li> <li>• Spokane River/Reardan (Reardan Town Hall)</li> </ul>		July 2014 – Towns of Odessa and Reardan draft SMP public meeting
	November 2014 – Planning Commission meeting on public input and updated Draft SMP		August or September 2014 –Town Council meetings on public input and updated Draft SMP

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Public Outreach Efforts for Lincoln County</b>	<b>Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Odessa</b>	<b>Public Outreach Efforts for Town of Reardan</b>
Cumulative Impacts/Restoration Plan, Final draft SMP	September/October 2015 – Planning Commission meeting – Revisit Restoration Plan, draft SMP, and Cumulative Impacts Analysis (1 meeting)	September/October 2015 – Town Council meetings – Revisit Restoration Plan, draft SMP, and Cumulative Impacts Analysis (1 meeting)	
Local SMP Adoption Process	January/February 2016 – Planning Commission hearing and County Commission approval (1 hearing; County staff lead with Consultant support)	January/February 2016 – Council Public Hearings and approval (with Consultant support)	

## **Technical Agency Workshops**

Technical workshops will be held to obtain input on information related to streams, lakes, wetlands, and other areas regulated under the SMA. These workshops will facilitate detailed analyses and discussions on key elements of the SMPs and will include representation from local agencies, tribes, and state and federal agencies. Two technical workshops are tentatively targeted for the following quarters:

- First Quarter of 2014 – Shoreline Analysis and Characterization Report
- Third Quarter of 2014 – Development of Shoreline Environment Designations

## **Formal Public Review**

Prior to final adoption of the SMP update(s), a formal public review will be conducted under the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C), including a public hearing and public comment period (WSL 2012a). All comments received during the public hearing and public comment period will be compiled, and an updated SMP will be developed consistent with the requirements of WAC 173-26-100 (WSL 2012b).

## **Email Communications**

An email distribution list will be maintained for individuals and groups that request to be placed on the distribution list. Periodic project announcements, public notices of upcoming public meetings, and other SMP update-related information will be sent to this list. Individuals and organizations interested in being included on the email distribution list should contact Courtney Thompson, Lincoln County Planning Division, by email at [SMPupdate@co.lincoln.wa.us](mailto:SMPupdate@co.lincoln.wa.us) or visit the SMP update website available at: <http://www.co.lincoln.wa.us/Planning/smpupdate.htm>.

## **SMP Update Mailings**

A mailing list of property owners within the shoreline jurisdiction will be maintained. Periodic project announcements and notices of upcoming public meetings related to the SMP update will be mailed directly to the property owners.

## **Website**

A website is being maintained to provide a public forum for obtaining SMP information, including but not limited to status updates, reports, public meeting notices and agendas, and other project information. The website will be updated on a regular basis and is available at: <http://www.co.lincoln.wa.us/Planning/smpupdate.htm>.

Other websites applicable to the SMP update process will be provided as links on the County website, including the Ecology SMP website:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/shorelines/smp/toolbox.html>

Links to the County SMP website will be included on the Odessa and Reardan websites, including:

- Town of Odessa website: <http://www.odessawa.com/Documents.html>
- Town of Reardan website: <https://www.mrsc.org/cityprofiles/cityprofile.aspx?id=189>

## **Libraries and Town Halls**

A hardcopy of SMP work products will be available at the County Planning Division, Odessa Town Hall, and Reardan Town Hall or other suitable location(s). The SMP update website (listed above) will be updated with documents as they become available as well as hardcopy locations.

## **Documentation**

All public outreach efforts and the results of those efforts will be documented in the administrative record maintained by the County. Documentation will include invitation letters and responses; meeting and hearing notices; meeting materials; meeting notes with attendance and comments received; draft and final work products; and other information as applicable.

## **Legal Notifications**

Legal notifications for dates and times of open houses, public hearings, and comment periods will be distributed to the public via email, U.S. Postal Service, newspapers, flyers, and other public postings. Notices will also be provided on the County website.

## Other Public Outreach Approaches

Other outreach approaches may be employed. The Coalition will also periodically evaluate the effectiveness of outreach approaches and adjust these as necessary, and within budget constraints, to continue providing appropriate opportunities for public input to the SMP update process.

## CONTACTS

Key contacts for the SMP update are provided in Table 2. These contacts will also be provided on the SMP update website address provided above.

**Table 2**  
**Key Contacts**

Jurisdiction	Primary Contact	Email	Phone
Lincoln County	Courtney Thompson, Senior Planner	cthompson@co.lincoln.wa.us	509-725-7911
Town of Odessa	Mayor Doug Plinski	mayor@odessaoffice.com	509-982-2401
	Gail Kiesz, Town Clerk	clerk@odessaoffice.com	
Town of Reardan	Bruce Johnson, Town Administrator/Manager	townofreardan@gmail.com	509-796-3921
Consultant Team Project Manager	Ben Floyd, Anchor QEA	bfloyd@anchorqea.com	509-491-3151

## REFERENCES

WSL (Washington State Legislature), 2012a. Chapter 43.21C RCW. State Environmental Policy. Accessed 10/1/2013. Available from:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=43.21C>

WSL (Washington State Legislature), 2012b. Chapter 173-26-100. Local process for approving/amending shoreline master programs. Accessed 10/1/2013. Available from: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-26-100>