



KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM UPDATE

Project Proposal: Volunteer Public Access Identification with Photos (8/19/2010)

Problem: Many road-ends not associated with publically-owned tidelands were not part of the original dataset used in the Inventory and Characterization. It is important to include them, as they do provide some public access, even as views, and it is required to identify them for the Shoreline Master Program Update (WAC 173-26-221(4)).

Objective: To provide a reasonable public access database for the SMP update, as well as any future public mapping system. Parameters for selecting sites will be proposed to the SMP Task Force for consideration.

Summary and Methods: All known right-of-ways / road ends are already accounted for in multiple other datasets. We propose that this list of locations, and other known public access sites, be distributed to Beach Watchers volunteers. Volunteers would take a photo of each road end/ public access location and fill out a brief form describing parking availability, ease of locating and other points of interest. Photos and forms would be emailed to County staff (or delivered to Peg Tillery for later pick up by County staff).

Public Access points would be later grouped by County staff into four categories based on the following:

Green Light: The site is currently a public park or port which provides easy access, trails and/or parking and publically-owned tidelands. Recommended for use.

Yellow Light: The site is a road end or right of way, but is easily located with room for parking and/or has an existing, well-used trail. The tidelands are publically owned and adjacent neighbors (at least on one side) do NOT own tidelands, making the beach more accessible. Recommended for light, neighborhood use and potential future park site.

Red Light: The site is a road end or right or way, but is NOT easily located and/or does not have reasonable room for parking or useable trails. The tidelands may or may not be publically owned and the adjacent neighbors own tidelands, making the beach less accessible. Adjacent neighbors may have inadvertently placed structures or lawns within the right of way. Not recommended for use.

Blue Light: This site is a publically owned parcel or right of way which is only safely accessible by non-motorized water craft (kayaks). Recommended for use as a potential haul-out site.

These categories also apply to View Only locations based on ease of locating/parking or trail to the view point, but this must be noted on the site description form.

This information would be presented to the SMP Task Force to decide if all access should be considered in the plan, or only those from some categories.

Products:

1) Initially, for SMP purposes, the information and photos would be used to decide what sites would be included in the official SMP Public Access map.

2) Later, or if time allows, the information and photos would be added to an interactive Google Earth map that would be available online. Each site would get a corresponding interactive color "dot" on the map. When clicked, the site photo and relevant information collected would be posted (including access type, parking, etc.).

Contacts:

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