

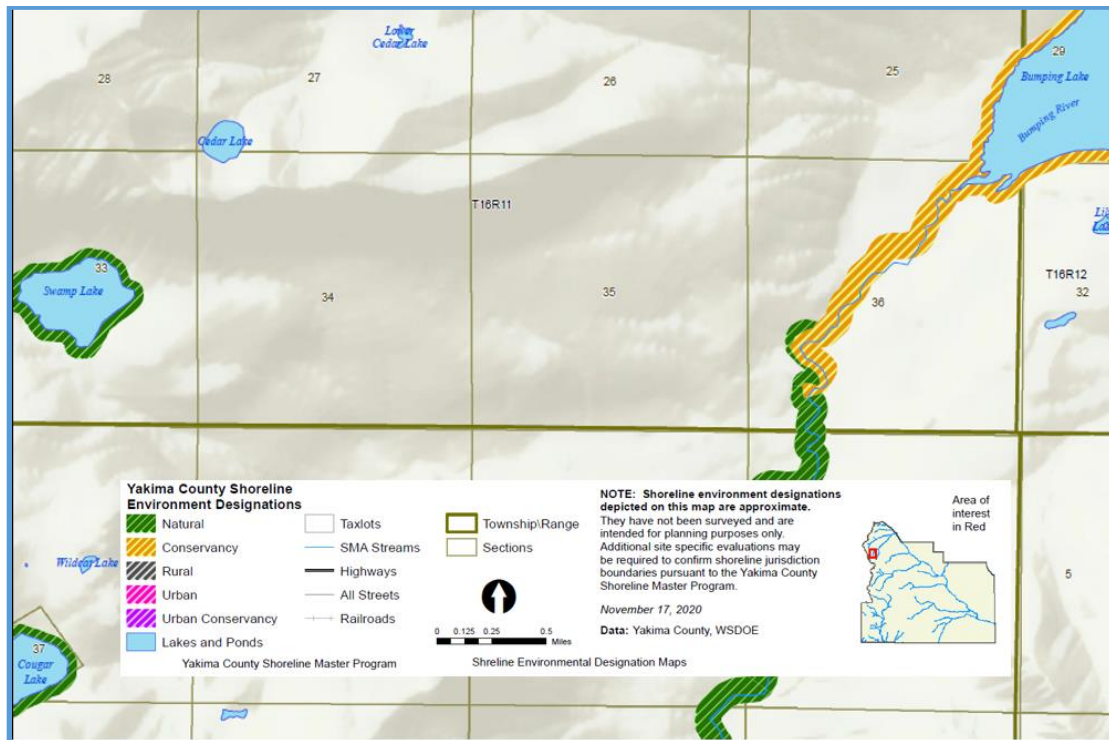


SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM 2021 PERIODIC UPDATE

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Yakima County is performing a periodic review of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP). Every community is required by the Shoreline Management Act to review its SMP every eight years. The purpose of the review is to ensure the SMP is consistent with changes in state and local laws. Yakima County has also decided to reorganize the SMP to make it more user friendly.

There are a variety of waterbodies within Yakima County that are considered shorelines under the Washington State Shoreline Management Act. Mapping segments for the entire county are located on the Shoreline Master Plan [website](#).



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Spring 2021 – Open House and Public Comment Period

Spring/Summer 2021 – Planning Commission/Dept. of Ecology Public Hearing

TBD – BOCC and Dept. of Ecology Public Hearing

Yakima County will be providing several opportunities to participate in the SMP Periodic Review. Visit the SMP: 2021 Periodic Review webpage (below) for more information. Questions and comments can be emailed to LongRangePlanning@co.yakima.wa.us. <https://www.yakimacounty.us/2447/Shoreline-Master-Program-2021-Periodic-R>

CONSISTENCY WITH CHANGES IN STATE LAW

Part of the periodic review includes updates to align the Yakima County SMP with state regulations. The Washington State Department of Ecology maintains a [checklist](#) of changes to state laws that affects SMPs. These changes are intended to keep SMPs current with amendments to state laws or rules, changes to local plans and regulations, and changes to address local circumstances, new information or improved data. The checklist summarizes amendments to state law, rules and applicable updated guidance adopted between 2007 and 2019. The most substantial update from the checklist is the update to the regulations of wetlands.

CONSISTENCY WITH CHANGES TO YAKIMA COUNTY'S CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE

Critical areas regulations apply to environmentally sensitive places such as fish and wildlife habitats, wetlands, geologically hazardous areas, frequently flooded areas, and areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water. Yakima County's critical areas regulations are found in Title 16C, where the SMP (which includes critical areas associated with shoreline environment) are found in Title 16D. Title 16C was last updated in 2017. These updates were also applied to the critical areas sections of the SMP to ensure consistency between 16C and 16D.

OTHER CHANGES

Yakima County took the opportunity during this periodic review to make other updates to our code. These changes include:

- Reorganization – The SMP received a complete reorganization for the ease of use.
- Shoreline Jurisdiction – The regulation of the shoreline jurisdiction was updated to be consistent with state law.
- Overall Cleanup – Sections of the SMP that were inconsistent with state law not specified in Ecology's checklist. Additionally, sections were rewritten for ease of use.

Guide to the SMP Periodic Review Changes

All new text is [identified by the blue, underlined text](#). This is text that we have added.

All deleted text is ~~identified by red, strike through text~~. This is text that we have deleted.

Language Change Annotations – You will see annotations in brackets after the code changes. The explanation below will help understand these annotations:

- **[SMP 2021]** – These changes are based on WA State Department of Ecology's Periodic Review Checklist Guidance (consistency with state law).
- **[CAO]** – These updates indicate areas where the SMP needs to be consistent with the language from the Title 16C - Critical Areas Ordinance.
- **[SMP Scrub]** – This annotation reflects change intended to update our code to be consistent with RCWs and WAC, make the language more user friendly, or ensure the language reflects how we are implementing our code.