



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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November 2, 2020

The Honorable Bob Hamlin
Skamania County Courthouse
240 NW Vancouver
Stevenson, WA 98648

**Re: Skamania County Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update –
Conditional Approval**

Dear Commissioner Hamlin:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Skamania County (County) for its efforts in developing the proposed comprehensive Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. It is obvious that a significant effort was invested in this update and the SMP will provide a framework to guide development and environmental protection along the County's shorelines into the future.

As we have already discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has identified specific changes necessary to make the proposal approvable. These required changes are detailed in Attachment B. Additional recommended changes are proposed in Attachment C. The findings and conclusions that support Ecology's decision are contained in Attachment A.

Pursuant to RCW 90.58.090(2)(e), at this point, the County may:

- Agree to the proposed changes, or
- Submit an alternative proposal. Ecology will then review the alternative(s) submitted for consistency with the purpose and intent of the changes originally developed by Ecology and with the Shoreline Management Act.

Final Ecology approval will occur when the County and Ecology agree on language that meets statutory and guidelines requirements.

Please provide your response within 30 days to the Director at laura.watson@ecy.wa.gov.

Ecology appreciates the dedicated work that the Board of County Commissioners, the Planning Commission, the Shoreline Advisory Committee, County staff, and the community have put into the Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Update.

The Honorable Bob Hamlin

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We look forward to concluding the SMP update process in the near future. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the changes identified by Ecology, please contact our Regional Planner, Michelle McConnell, at Michelle.McConnell@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6349.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Watson", written in a cursive style.

Laura Watson

Director

Enclosures

cc: Perry Lund, Ecology
Michelle McConnell, Ecology
Alan Peters, Skamania County