

Merrill, Hannah

From: Bob Vreeland [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012 7:12 AM
To: zSMPC
Subject: Re: SMP Committee Agenda and Meeting Details

Don't know if this is the right place to comment about the Feb. 28 SMP meeting, but here goes.

With regard to pesticide use to remove noxious weeds in buffers:

There may be cases where pesticide use is the least intrusive method for control of noxious weeds. One example tested in Seattle by Thornton Creek Alliance with an EPA grant was Himalayan blackberries along Thornton Creek. Three methods were tested: digging, spraying with Roundup, cutting the stocks close to the ground and "painting" the cut end of the blackberry stock with Roundup. Spraying Roundup was the least effective method. Digging the blackberries out was effective but most damaging to the stream bank and buffer. The most effective control was to cut the blackberry stocks at a 45 degree angle close to the ground and "paint" the stock with straight Roundup. This may be an effective method for other noxious plants in buffers, and be less damaging to the aquatic environment than spraying or digging out large areas of noxious plants.

With regard to buffer widths:

It seems to me that there may not be a full understanding of the purpose of buffers. A primary purpose of buffers is to filter storm water runoff. Thus, the wider the buffer the greater the level of filtration. But as I stated at the meeting, what happens behind the buffer can totally or partly defeat the function of the buffer. It may also be possible that under certain development conditions, if done to minimize impervious surface and maximize water infiltration, could enhance the function of the buffer and perhaps allow for a narrower buffer.

Thus, there may be a case for allowing a variance to buffer widths in certain areas based on how a land owner is willing to develop to minimize building footprint and impervious surface and maximizes storm water infiltration. Some potential ideas for this are building up instead of out to minimize the footprint of a structure; limiting structure footprints to some minimal portion of the property (e.g. 20-30%); installing some type of detention system for runoff from structures; using permeable surfaces for driveways, sidewalks, patios, etc.; landscaping with native vegetation instead of lawn or limiting lawn area to a small percentage of the development site (e.g. 5%); no use of pesticides and fertilizers on the property; other methods I have overlooked.

I don't know if there is any Best Available Science to support the possible reduction of buffer width through storm water management, where the main purpose to the buffer is storm water infiltration. If this science does not now exist, there seems to me to be a potential for a demonstration project in a small watershed (e.g. Lake Sutherland) for doing a project to test my assumption that buffer widths could be modified based on willingness of a property owner to implement storm water management.

Bob Vreeland

----- Original Message -----

From: "zSMPC" <SMPC@co.clallam.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 3:52:46 PM
Subject: SMP Committee Agenda and Meeting Details

Hello Clallam Co. SMP Committee,

In preparation for the Tuesday, February 28, 2012 SMP Committee meeting , please familiarize yourself with the following (eac h underlined item linked) :

1. Meeting Agenda
2. SMP Summary Comparison Matrix
3. Chapter 3–Shoreline Environmental Designations & Revised Related Shoreline Environment Designation Maps (in blue box)
4. Chapter 4–Sections 4.2; 4.5; 4.8; 4.9

We will be covering specific sections of the SMP over the course of the next four meetings (Feb., 28, March 6, March 27, and April 24), so you do not need to have studied the entire document by next week. There will be CD's and copies of the document and maps at the SMPC meeting.

The entire Preliminary Draft SMP and SED Maps are at:
http://www.clallam.net/RealEstate/html/draft_smp.htm

Thanks, Steve

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