

# SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

## ***Purpose of checklist:***

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

## ***Instructions for applicants:***

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

## ***Instructions for Lead Agencies:***

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

## ***Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:***

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

## ***A. Background*** [\[HELP\]](#)

### **1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

City of Issaquah Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Locally Initiated Amendments

### **2. Name of applicant:**

City of Issaquah

**3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

Douglas Yormick, Associate Environmental Planner  
130 East Sunset Way  
Issaquah, WA 98027

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

November 2022

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

City of Issaquah

**6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

The City of Issaquah is expected to approve revisions to the SMP in March 2023 and forward the SMP to Department of Ecology for approval.

**7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

In accordance with RCW 90.58.808, periodic review of the SMP is required every eight (8) years.

**8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

The City's SMP was comprehensively updated in 2013 and went through periodic review October 2021. The City has made changes to some standards along Lake Sammamish. The environmental documents were prepared by The Watershed Company. Additionally, the City made changes to stream buffer widths. The outcome of the documents provided information to change the shoreline buffer standards and can be found in Attachments A and B.

1. Shoreline Setback Analysis (Lake Sammamish)
2. Issaquah Stream Buffer Width BAS

**9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

Land Use applications under the current Title 18 are pending throughout the City. Vesting statutes and regulations will determine if those applications are affected by the Title 18 Update.

**10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

The proposed SMP will need the following approvals:

1. Review the threshold determination under the State Environmental Policy Act for non-project actions
2. Adoption by Issaquah City Council
3. Approval by Washington Department of Ecology (RCW 90.50.090)

**11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)**

Based on feedback from the periodic update, staff were asked to evaluate buffer exceptions for Lake Sammamish and dock lighting. Staff hired consultants to provide documentation of the

environment, which guided the changes. These documents can be found in Attachment A to the SEPA Checklist.

Additionally, the SMP adopts as an appendix the environmental regulation from Title 18 IMC. The City is in the process of updating the entire Title 18 IMC, including the environmental regulations. The new environmental regulations will be incorporated into the SMP by appendix.

Other changes include updating code references to match the revised Title 18 IMC, grammar and spelling, and definitions. The entire SMP can be found as Attachment C.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The SMP periodic review is a city-wide, non-project action, which affects activities and development within the City's shoreline jurisdiction. Shoreline areas within Issaquah include Lake Sammamish, Issaquah Creek and East Fork of Issaquah Creek and all associated wetland to shoreline areas. Shoreline jurisdiction apply to upland areas 200-feet from ordinary high water mark (Lake Sammamish) and 200-feet upland from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established floodways (Streams) and all associated wetlands.

**B. Environmental Elements** [\[HELP\]](#)

**1. Earth** [\[help\]](#)

- a. General description of the site: (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other \_\_\_\_\_

Issaquah is an urbanized community generally located within and around a valley at the south end of Lake Sammamish. The downtown area is located primarily on the valley floor with the more suburban sections of the City located upon the surrounding hillsides. The terrain ranges from flat to rolling, hilly and steep slopes within the City limits.

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

The shoreline area covers varied terrain. Some streambanks or adjacent slopes may be steeper than 40%. The update of Shoreline Master Program is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on steep slope areas. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.**

The City of Issaquah has many different general types of soils both on the valley floor and the surrounding hillsides. The City is an urban environment with no large scale agricultural activity. The SMP is a non-project action and will not disturb soils.

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

Yes, in limited hillside areas as shown with critical area mapping. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would entail any physical modifications of existing topography. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

Erosion control would be addressed on a project level basis through the City's stormwater regulations, clearing and grading and other provisions of the City's code.

**g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not result in new impervious surfaces.

**h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

The SMP includes provisions to limit clearing, retain existing shoreline buffer vegetation, manage stormwater and provide erosion and sediment control. The SMP regulations will be in addition with other City development regulations to mitigate impacts of development. These provisions are implemented on a project-by-project basis.

**2. Air** [\[help\]](#)

**a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

None

**b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

No

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any**

None

**3. Water** [\[help\]](#)

**a. Surface Water:** [\[help\]](#)

- 1) **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

Shoreline jurisdiction includes the mainstem of Issaquah Creek, the East Fork of Issaquah Creek, Lake Sammamish and associated wetlands. Streams and lakes subject to shoreline jurisdiction is determined by the State, based on average annual stream flow and lake size.

**2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

Not applicable. The SMP is a non-project action and will not result in work in, over or adjacent to the described waters.

**3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Not applicable. The SMP is a non-project action and will not require any fill or dredging. New development within shoreline jurisdiction will be subject to the provisions of the SMP, which include specific standards for dredging and filling.

**4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No surface water withdraws are proposed.

**5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

The 100-year flood plain is mapped for the City on the King County FEMA flood insurance rate maps. Within Issaquah, the 100-year flood plain is shown around Lake Sammamish, Issaquah Creek and the East Fork of Issaquah Creek.

**6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

As a non-project action, no discharge of waste materials to surface waters are proposed.

**b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)**

**1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No groundwater withdrawals or discharges are proposed.

**2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

As a non-project action, no discharge of waste materials into the ground are proposed.

**c. Water runoff (including stormwater):**

**1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not result in new runoff. New development or redevelopment will be required to provide stormwater management facilities. The City maintains a storm conveyance system consisting of pipes, ponds, ditches, bioswales, and streams, which eventually discharge into Lake Sammamish via one of the City's streams, ditches and/or pipes.

**2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

The SMP includes standards and/or references other City ordinances to address measures to reduce or control surface, ground and runoff water impacts.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:**

The SMP encourages management of stormwater throughout the City consistent with adopted stormwater regulations. Low impact development techniques are encouraged where feasible.

**4. Plants** [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

None specifically. The SMP requires development to protect shoreline vegetation.

**c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Puget Sound Chinook Salmon were listed as a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in May 1999. Chinook are present in the main stem of Issaquah Creek and the East Fork. Bald eagles, an ESA listed threatened species, are known to nest near Lake Sammamish. However, the proposed amendments are non-project actions and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**

There are occurrences of Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus amreniacus*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).

## 5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

- a. **List** any birds and **other** animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: owls, woodpecker, kingfisher, mallard

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other \_\_\_\_\_

- b. **List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Puget Sound Chinook Salmon were listed as a “threatened” species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in May 1999. Chinook are present in the main stem of Issaquah Creek and the East Fork. Bald eagles are nesting on the shores of Lake Sammamish. The SMP update is a non-project actions and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

- c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

The Issaquah basin is part of the Pacific flyway and migratory bird species, including waterfowl use Issaquah Creek seasonally. Issaquah Creek is host to returning salmonids each year including sockeye, coho, chinook, kokanee, and cutthroat. The SMP update is a non-project action and will not have impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts will be evaluated with development applications.

- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

There are occurrences of Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus amreniacus*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), and Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).

## 6. **Energy and Natural Resources** [\[help\]](#)

- a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

- b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.



**c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, adoption of the SMP will not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**7. Environmental Health** [\[help\]](#)

**a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

No.

**1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

Not applicable.

**2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

Not applicable.

**3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

Not applicable.

**4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

Not applicable.

**5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

Not applicable.

**b. Noise**

**1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

Not applicable.

**2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Not applicable.

**3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

Not applicable.

**8. Land and Shoreline Use** [\[help\]](#)

**a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

Shoreline jurisdiction extends 200 feet landward of the mainstem of Issaquah Creek, the East Fork of Issaquah Creek and Lake Sammamish and therefore includes properties used for residential, recreation, and commercial purposes.

**b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance**



**will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?**

Historically, there were agricultural uses in the valley floor along Issaquah Creek. Most of these uses ceased by the 1960s.

**1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:**

No.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

The SMP includes many properties and there are multiple structures existing within the shoreline jurisdiction, including office buildings, retail shops, single-family homes, and multifamily developments.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

No. The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

The shoreline jurisdiction area includes the following zoning classifications: TP-NRCA (Tradition Plateau – Natural Resource Conservation Area); C-Rec (Conservancy Recreation); CF-F (Community Facilities – Facilities); CF-R (Community Facilities Recreation); CF-OS (Community Facilities Open Space); C-Res (Conservancy Residential); SF-S (Single Family Suburban); SF-SL (Single Family Small Lot); SF-D (Single Family Duplex); SF-E (Single Family Estates); MF-M (Multifamily – Medium); MF-H (Multifamily – High); CBD (Cultural and Business district); UC (Urban Core – Central Issaquah); MUR (Mixed Use – Central Issaquah).

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

The City of Issaquah Comprehensive Plan land use designations include: Conservancy, Community Facilities, Low Density Residential, Multifamily Residential, Retail, and Mixed Use.

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

The current SMP includes the following shoreline environment designations: Issaquah Creek Shoreline Residential, Lake Sammamish Shoreline Residential, Lake Sammamish Urban Conservancy, Urban Conservancy, Transportation High Intensity, Shoreline Commercial/Mixed Use, and Natural.

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

All shoreline water bodies - Issaquah Creek, the East Fork of Issaquah Creek and Lake Sammamish have been classified as environmentally sensitive areas.

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

The SMP is a non-project action and no people will reside or work in the project.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

The SMP is a non-project action and does not include measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts.

**L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

The SMP has been developed as both policy and regulatory program and was developed to be consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan and its elements.

**m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

Not applicable.

**9. Housing** [\[help\]](#)

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not provide housing units.

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

The proposed amendments are non-project actions and no measures to reduce or control housing impacts is proposed.

**10. Aesthetics** [\[help\]](#)

**a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

The SMA limits building heights to 35-feet in shoreline areas to protect views and aesthetics.

**11. Light and Glare** [\[help\]](#)

**a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

The Shoreline Master Program is a non-project action and would not produce light or glare.

**b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**12. Recreation** [\[help\]](#)

**a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

The City has numerous recreational opportunities within shoreline jurisdiction. Along Lake Sammamish and the mouth of Issaquah Creek is Lake Sammamish State Park. Confluence Park is located at the confluence of Issaquah and East Fork Creeks. Other parks include Squak Valley, Salmon Run, Sena, and Pickering Farm. Collectively, these parks provide a variety of recreational options including swimming, boating, trails, picnicking etc.

Additionally, there are several recorded native growth protection easements (NGPE), which protect the shoreline buffers of the creeks and lake in perpetuity.

**b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

The SMP is a non-project action. Measures in the SMP would ensure public access and standards would reduce or control impacts on recreation opportunities in the shoreline area.

**13. Historic and cultural preservation** [\[help\]](#)

**a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

None known. The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

The SMP is a non-project action and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment. Specific project impacts would be evaluated with project applications.

**d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

The SMP requires if archeological artifacts are uncovered during excavations in the shoreline, work must stop and the City, affected tribes, and the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation must be notified. Permits applications in areas known or highly suspected to contain archeological artifacts and data require a site inspection and evaluation by an archeologist in coordination with affected Tribes prior to disturbance and for monitoring of potentially disruptive activities.

#### **14. Transportation** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

The SMP is a non-project action and numerous streets serve the shoreline area. The non-project action doesn't include new roads or access.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

Parts of the shoreline area are served by public transit. The City of Issaquah is served by two transit agencies: King County Metro and Sound Transit.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?**

None. The SMP is a non-project action and would not create parking spaces and would not have direct impacts on this element of the environment.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

The SMP is a non-project action and doesn't include new roads or access.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

No. The SMP is a non-project action.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

None. The SMP is a non-project action and would not have an impact on this element of the environment.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**

No. The SMP is a non-project action and would not have an impact on this element of the environment.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

None. The SMP is a non-project action and would not have an impact on this element of the environment.

#### **15. Public Services** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

No.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

Not applicable.

## 16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:  
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other \_\_\_\_\_

The City is served by all the utilities identified above. However, a few septic systems remain.

Most of the residents are connected to sanitary sewer.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No new utilities are proposed. The SMP notes that new utilities should be located inland from the land/water interface, preferably out of shoreline jurisdiction, unless this location is reasonably necessary for the efficient operation of the utility facility or service. Utilities are required to be located and designed to avoid negative impacts to public recreation and public access areas and significant natural, historic, archaeological, or cultural resources.

## C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Douglas Yormick

Name of signee Douglas Yormick

Position and Agency/Organization Associate Environmental Planner, City of Issaquah,  
Community Planning & Development

Date Submitted: November 15, 2022

## D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposal would not directly increase discharges to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise. All development and redevelopment in the shoreline jurisdiction would be subject to applicable local, state and federal

regulatory requirements, including building code, fire code, storm water, in addition to the provisions of the SMP.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

The SMP includes policies and regulations for the protection of the shoreline environment and addressing impacts of specific uses and shoreline modifications. The development standards and regulations of shoreline modifications provides more protection for shoreline ecological processes. The standards and regulations are more restrictive of activates that would result in adverse impacts to the shoreline environment. The shoreline restoration plan provides the City with opportunities to improve or restore ecological functions that have been impaired because of past development activities.

**Summary of Proposed Changes Related to Water**

Existing Code	Proposed Code	Changes
Shoreline Master Program (IMC 18.10.940)	Shorelines (ch. 18.804 IMC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removed common line setback exception (SMP pg. 76)</li> <li>• Removed all reference to buffer reduction (SMP pg. 75, 77)</li> <li>• Removed buffer reduction with bulkhead removal incentive (SMP pg. 58 &amp; 76)</li> <li>• Added bulkhead removal as part of new/redevelopment (SMP pg. 77) To balance stability of the shoreline with restoration of shorelines, an assessment option is provided.</li> <li>• Removed illustration for buffer example with bulkhead removal (SMP pg. 79)</li> <li>• Created lighting dock standards for new, replaced, major repair, additions, or enlargements of docks (SMP pg. 88)</li> <li>• Added threshold for docks to come into compliance with new dock standards (SMP pg. 88 &amp; 89)</li> <li>• Added critical area regulations (Chapter 18.802 IMC) as an appendix with certain regulations excluded.</li> </ul>
Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (IMC 18.10.796); Permitted Use Table footnotes (IMC 18.06)	Critical Areas, Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (CARAs) (IMC 18.802.350-.390)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-mapped CARA designations, from 3 to 4 classes, based on hydrogeologic study, making more areas of the City subject to CARA regulations protecting groundwater.</li> <li>• Moved CARA regulations from Permitted Use Table into Critical Areas chapter.</li> <li>• Expanded development restrictions in CARAs based on best available science.</li> </ul>
Wetlands (IMC 18.10.590-.730)	Wetlands (IMC 18.802.240.B.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated surface water management to only allow stormwater Low Impact Development Best Management Practices in wetland buffers.</li> <li>• Stormwater facilities such as vaults or structures are not allowed in wetland buffers IMC 18.802.240.B.4.</li> </ul>
Streams (IMC 18.10.770-795)	Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (IMC 18.802.330.G)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated surface water management to only allow stormwater Low Impact Development Best Management Practices in stream buffers. Stormwater facilities or structures are not allowed in stream buffers IMC 18.802.330.G.</li> <li>• Buffers for Type S (shorelines of the state) streams increased from 100 ft to 150 ft, consistent with Best Available Science analysis (Attachment B).</li> </ul>

**2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?**

The SMP has been developed, in part, to meet the goal of "no net loss" of shoreline ecological functions. As development occurs in accordance with the SMP, impacts to shoreline ecological functions will be avoided, minimized, and/or compensated for. Additionally, the shoreline restoration plan addresses the goal of improving shoreline ecological functions that have been degraded over time from past development activities. Through goals, policies, development standards, use regulations, and mitigation requirements, the SMP provides protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, natural vegetation, and management of critical areas.

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

The SMP incorporates most of the the City's exiting critical area and regulations. Certain sections of the City critical area regulations are excepted from implementation with shoreline jurisdiction and replaced with shoreline specific measures. The SMP also provides for additional protections of native vegetation and limitations on shoreline developments. The SMP requires that all uses and developments (even exempt activities) achieve no net loss of ecological functions. As part of the SMP update a cumulative impacts assessment was completed to analyze the potential adverse impacts that could result from uses and developments permitted through the SMP

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

Existing Code	Proposed Code	Changes
Shoreline Master Program (IMC 18.10.940)	Shorelines (ch. 18.804 IMC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adds regulation for shoreline dock lighting to minimize adverse impacts on salmon.</li> <li>• Places limits on shoreline buffer averaging.</li> <li>• Add standards for requiring bulkhead removal.</li> <li>• Include Chapter 18.802 IMC with certain regulations excluded as an appendix.</li> </ul>
Critical Areas Regulations (18.10.340-.515)	Critical Areas, General (IMC 18.802.010 – 18.8-2.490)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general, updated Critical Areas regulations to reflect best available science and to better preserve habitats.</li> </ul>
Wetlands (IMC 18.10.590-.730)	Critical Areas, Wetlands (IMC 18.802.260)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update to use the latest Ecology wetland guidance.</li> <li>• Eliminate buffer reductions.</li> <li>• Added examples of resource agencies and clarifies that non-native vegetation is not allowed in buffers (18.802.260.B).</li> <li>• Protective fencing updated under section (C)(6).</li> <li>• Established requirement that best practices must be used for pesticide use in wetland areas by referencing IMC 13.29 .</li> </ul>
Environmental Protection (ch. 18.10 IMC)	Critical Areas, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (IMC 18.802.290-.240)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changed stream critical area code to Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (FWCAs) to better reflect and prioritize fish streams and conservation of surrounding habitats.</li> <li>• Added standards for wildlife corridors and standards for priority species (IMC 18.802.340.A.6).</li> <li>• Increased buffer widths for Type S (shorelines of the state) streams, from 100 feet to 150 feet (IMC 18.802.330.E).</li> </ul>

**3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?**

The proposed SMP revisions would not result in the depletion of energy or natural resources

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**



The shoreline environments and regulations were developed with the intent to preserve the City's natural resources.

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

Generally, the SMP establishes policies and regulations for the protection and conservation of environmentally sensitive areas and public access to recreational sites. The development standards and regulation of shoreline modifications provide protection for shoreline processes. The standards and regulations are more restrictive of activities that would result in adverse impacts to the shoreline environment. The restoration plan provides opportunities to improve or restore ecological functions that have been impaired because of past development activities. In addition, the propose SMP is meant to complement several City, state and federal efforts to protect shoreline functions and values.

**Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

The SMP was developed to be consistent with the state shoreline guidelines (WAC 173-26) to provide a level of protection to assure no net loss of ecological functions and values. These include protection of critical areas and native shoreline vegetation. The also include limitations of damaging shoreline development and shoreline modifications.

**5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?**

The City's SMP identifies preferences for water-oriented uses and public access in the shorelines. The SMP also allows most uses that are allowed by the underlying zoning provided they are developed consistent with the SMP's development standards. The SMP would not allow any new uses in the shoreline that are not currently allowed.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

The SMP contains seven (7) shoreline environments (Issaquah Creek Shoreline Residential, Lake Sammamish Shoreline Residential, Lake Sammamish Urban Conservancy, Urban Conservancy, Transportation High Intensity, Shoreline Commercial/Mixed Use, and Natural). The shoreline environment designations are consistent with both the existing land use pattern and Comprehensive Plan land use designations.

**6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?**

The proposed SMP revisions do not establish new patterns of land use or increased density of existing land use patters. Reasonably foreseeable development will likely be redevelopment of property rather than new development. Redevelopment will not likely result in significant changes to or increased demand for public services or infrastructure.

**Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

Since increased demands are not anticipated, no specific measures are proposed.

**7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

The City's SMP is designed to be consistent with and work in conjunction with local, state and federal programs to protect the functions and values of shoreline resources and protect the health and safety of Issaquah's residents.