The San Juan County Shoreline Master Program (SMP)

Help develop a long-term vision for the County’s shorelines. San Juan County will conduct a series of Visioning Workshops for its Shoreline Master Plan update to give the community a chance to map out what it wants its shorelines to look like in the future.

“Imagine that it is 25 years into the future and we have been successful in managing San Juan County’s shorelines. How will you know? What will you see (or not see)? What will be happening (or not happening)? What will be the same (or different)?”

In the simplest terms, a vision is a consensus image of what a community seeks to become. Adopted as a formal policy statement, a vision serves as a blueprint for future direction and a standard for measuring current decisions and actions. In the SMP Update, visioning will help to find the right balance of:

- Encouraging reasonable and orderly development of shorelines, emphasizing water-dependent and related uses that control pollution and protect the natural environment.
- Protecting the natural character of shorelines, including the land, vegetation, wildlife, and shoreline environment.
- Promoting public access and providing opportunities to enjoy views and recreational activities in shoreline areas.

We need your help to describe how this balance will work and look in the future.

Share your photos

Because it can be a challenge to describe what shorelines should look like and how they should be managed, we are asking you to send us pictures of County shoreline areas that you think best capture what you want to see in the future; all the better if you can tell us why or what characteristics of your photos make them desirable. You can also send us pictures that you think don’t represent the future you want to see.

E-mail your photo to: smp@sanjuanco.com

Attend a Visioning Summit

Visioning summits in late September 2011 will give community members an opportunity to work in small groups to visually and descriptively map out future shorelines visions. Each summit will focus on the island on which it is being held.

- **San Juan Island** - Tuesday, September 20th at the Grange, 152 First St., Friday Harbor; there will be two meetings, the first in the afternoon with a specific emphasis on concerns and wishes of outer island residents, this meeting is expected to run from 1 – 4 pm. The next meeting will follow in the same location, from 5 - 8 pm.
- **Orcas Island** - Wednesday, September 21st at the Madrona Room in the Orcas Center, 917 Mt Baker Road, Orcas, from 5 - 8 pm.
- **Lopez Island** - Thursday, September 22nd at the Lopez Center for Community and the Arts, 204 Village Road, Lopez from 5 - 8 pm.