



# Planning Commission

December 8, 2020

# Status of SMP Process

# Where We Started

## 2011

May - July – Visioning Workshops

Sep –Dec - Shoreline Advisory Committee

## 2012

Jan- June - Shoreline Advisory Committee

Mar –Dec - Planning Commission

May - First SMP Working Draft Released

May – Joint SAC and PC meeting

June – Informal comment period

## 2013

Feb –SMP draft Ecology preliminary review released

Mar – July – Planning Commission

May – June 2013 Open Houses

## 2014

Jan – July – Planning Commission

Staff work on PC recommendations



## 2015

Mar – June – Planning Commission  
Staff work on revisions for final PC review

## 2016

Jan – Feb - Planning Commission  
Feb – Revised SMP draft released  
Mar – PC held public hearing  
Apr – Comment period ended  
Apr – Aug – PC deliberations  
Aug – PC issues recommendations on SMP  
Sep – PC recommendations presented to  
Board of County Commissioners



# Where We are Headed

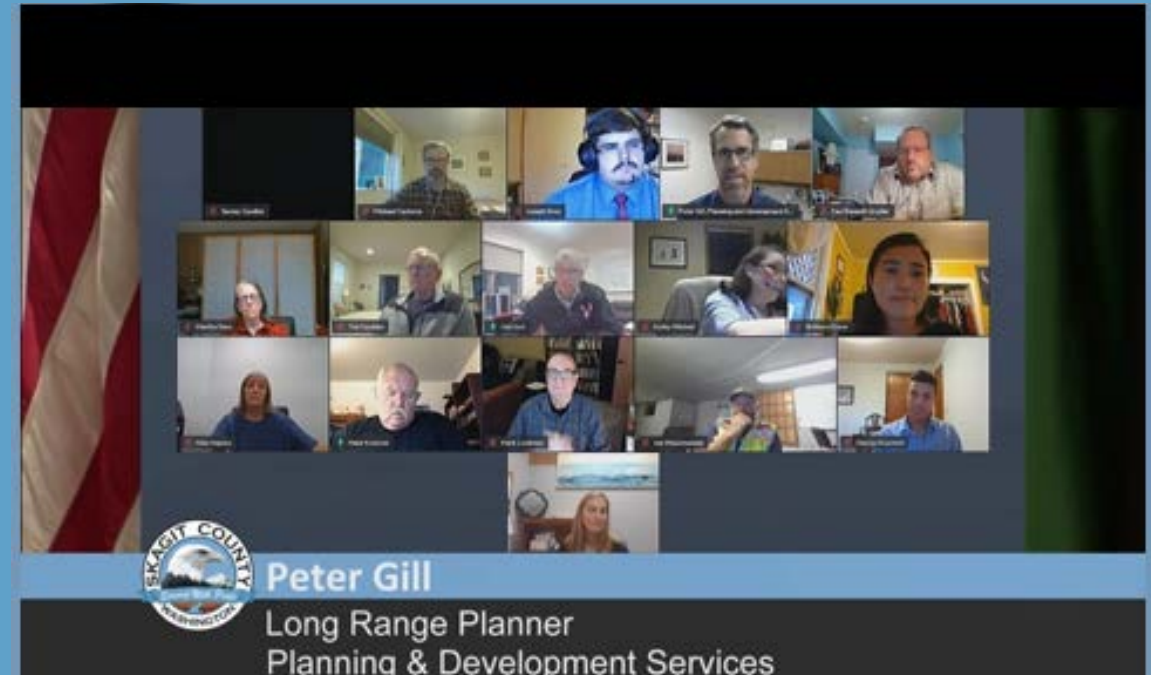
Study Sessions

Schedule and meeting Coordination

Bringing Everyone Up to Speed

Providing the Information Needed

Public Participation Looks Different



# When Our Work is Complete

**We Will Have a Comprehensive SMP Document**

**It Will Be Updated to Include the Periodic Review**

**We Will Have All the Supporting Documentation**

**A Recommendation to the Board**

**A Locally Adopted SMP**

**The SMP Ready to Transmit to Ecology for Final Review and Action**

*Megan Cardenas*

Photo credit Megan Cardenas

# What is a Shoreline Master Program?

An SMP is a set of policies and regulations required by state law that has three basic principles:

- Protect the environmental resources of state shorelines
- Promote public access and enjoyment opportunities
- Give priority to uses that require a shoreline location

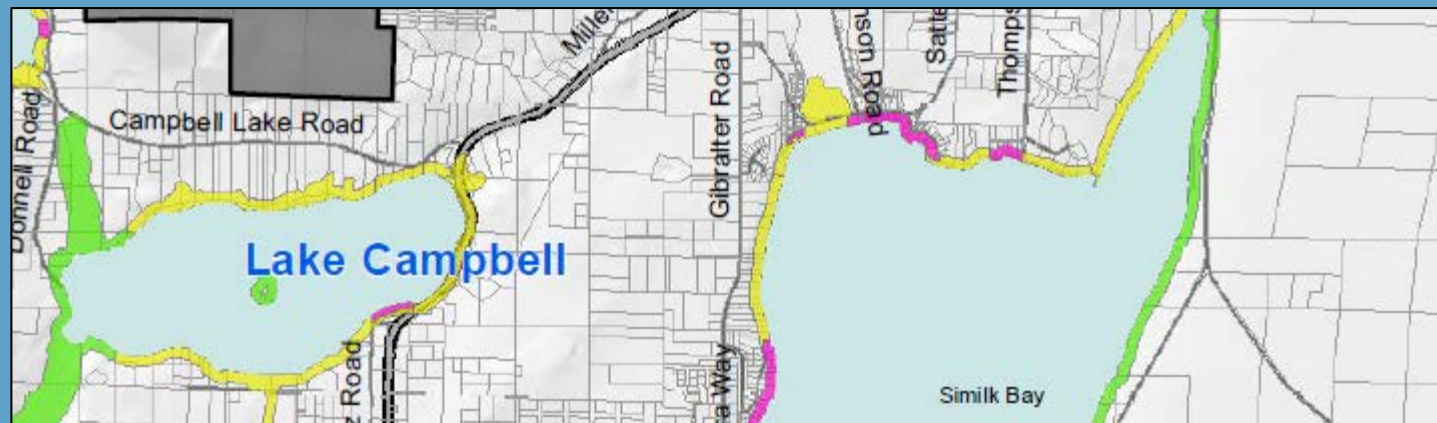
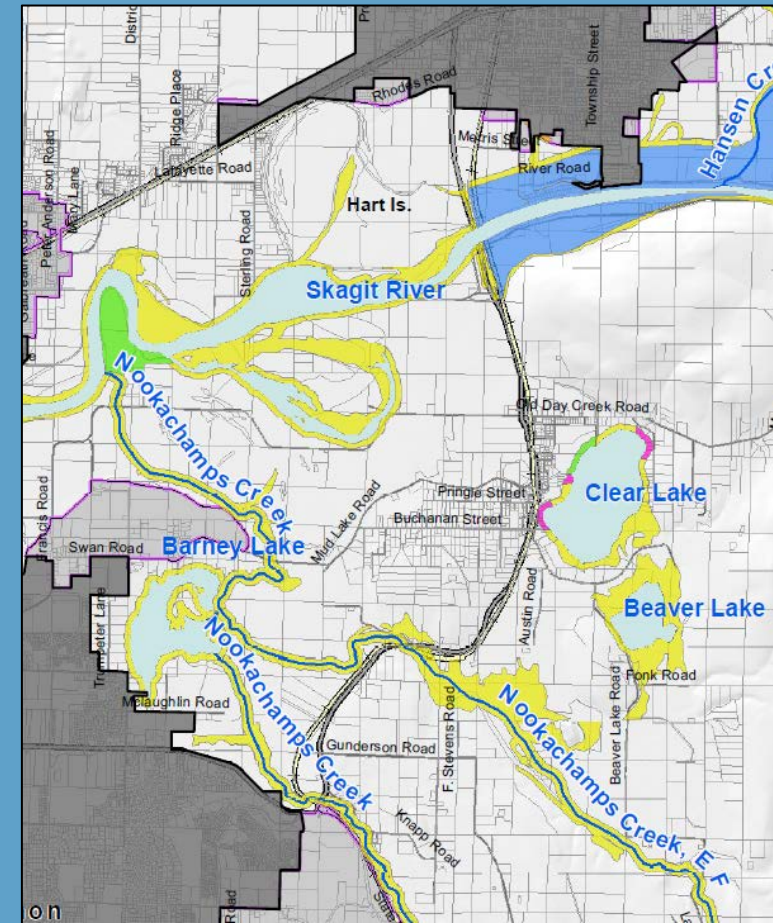
## Still must:

- Protect Critical Areas
- Ensure No Net Loss of Ecological Functions
- Encourage preferred uses



# Where does an SMP apply?

1. Applies to “Shorelines of the State,” which are waterbodies that meet certain criteria
  - Marine Shorelines
  - Lakes equal to or greater than 20 acres
  - Watercourses with a mean annual flow greater than 20 cubic feet per second
2. 200 feet landward of the ordinary high water mark
3. Also includes shoreline associated wetlands, floodways, and up to 200 feet of floodplain when contiguous with the floodway





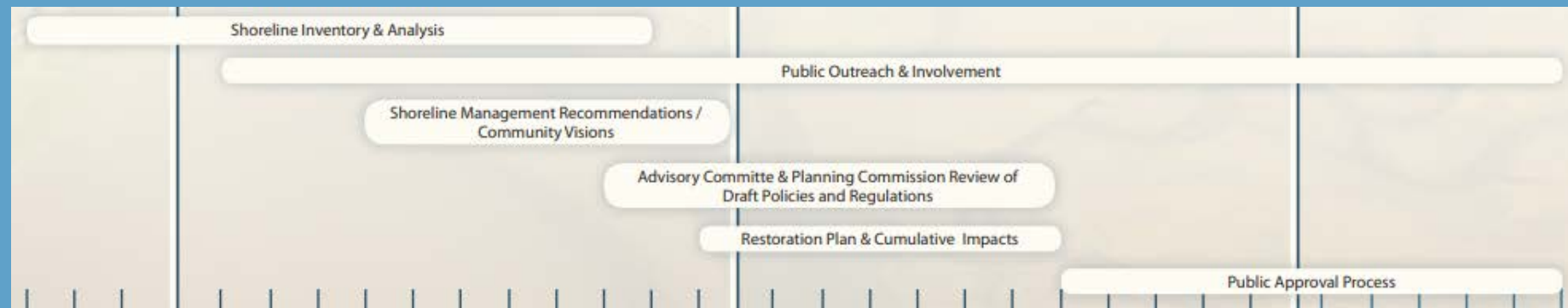
# What is an SMP comprehensive update?

## Documentation

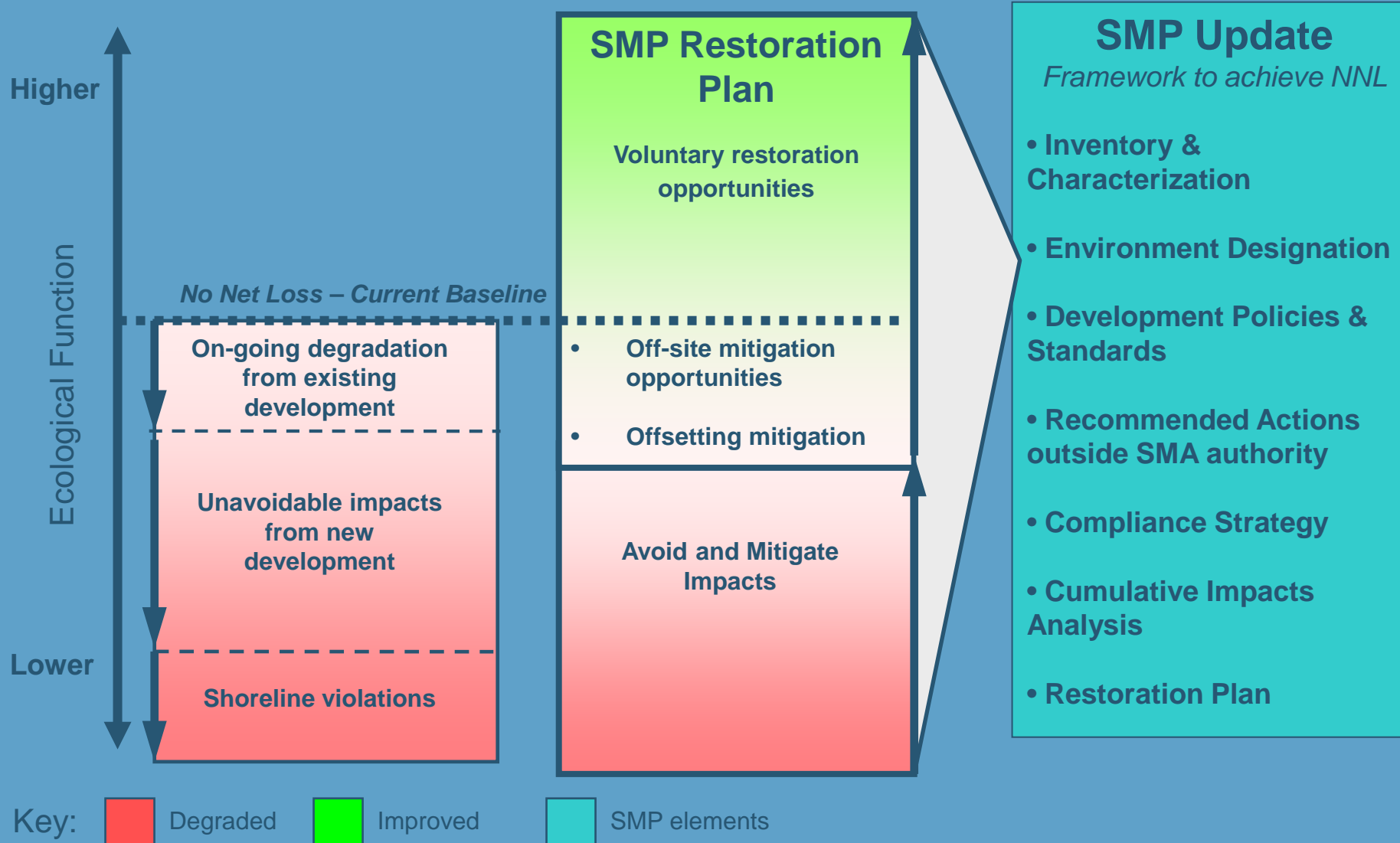
- Shoreline Inventory and Characterization (2014)
- Complete update to the Shoreline Master Program Policies and Regulations (2016)
- Mapping of environment designations (2016)
- Cumulative Impacts Analysis (2016)
- Shoreline Restoration Plan (2016)
- No Net Loss Evaluation (2016)

## Public Process

- Visioning Open Houses
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Open Houses
- Planning Commission review



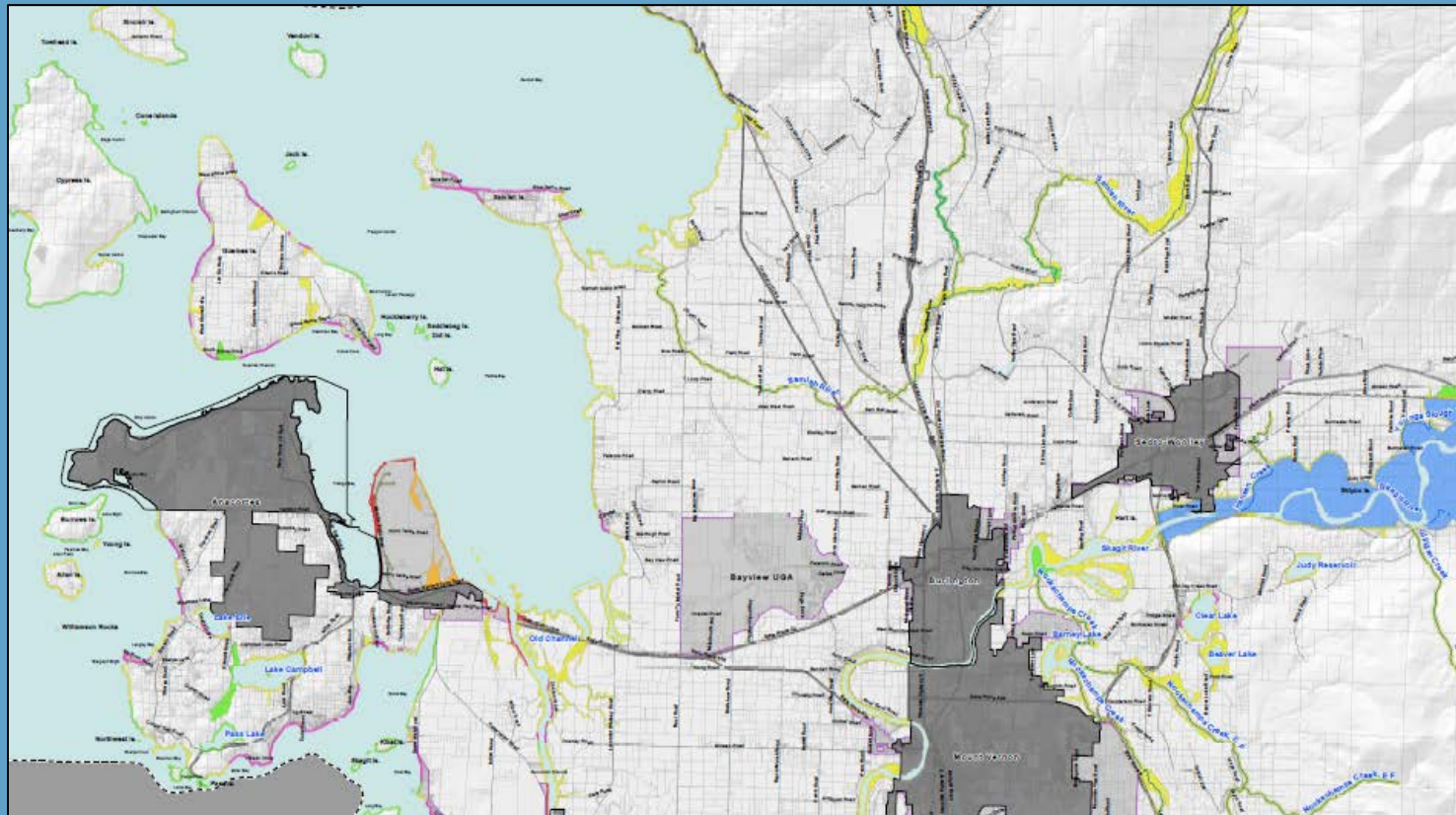
# Achieving No Net Loss of Ecological Functions



# Shoreline Environment Designations

Based upon:

- Criteria in the Guidelines
- Ecological condition per Inventory/Analysis
- Existing and planned land use

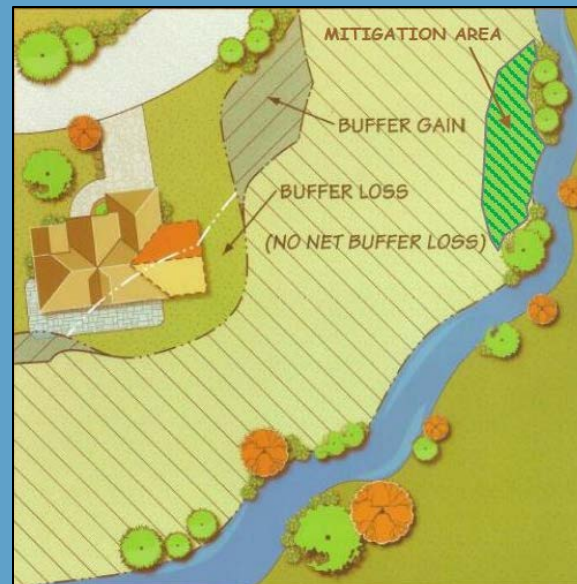


## Environment Designation\*

- High Intensity
- Natural
- Rural Conservancy
- Rural Conservancy - Skagit Floodway
- Shoreline Residential
- Urban Conservancy
- City Boundaries
- UGA Boundaries

# Key SMP Issues Addressed in 2016 PC draft

1. Non-conforming Uses/Structures
2. Overwater Structures (piers/docks)
3. Shoreline Armoring
4. Buffers and Setbacks
5. Vegetation Conservation
6. CAO integration

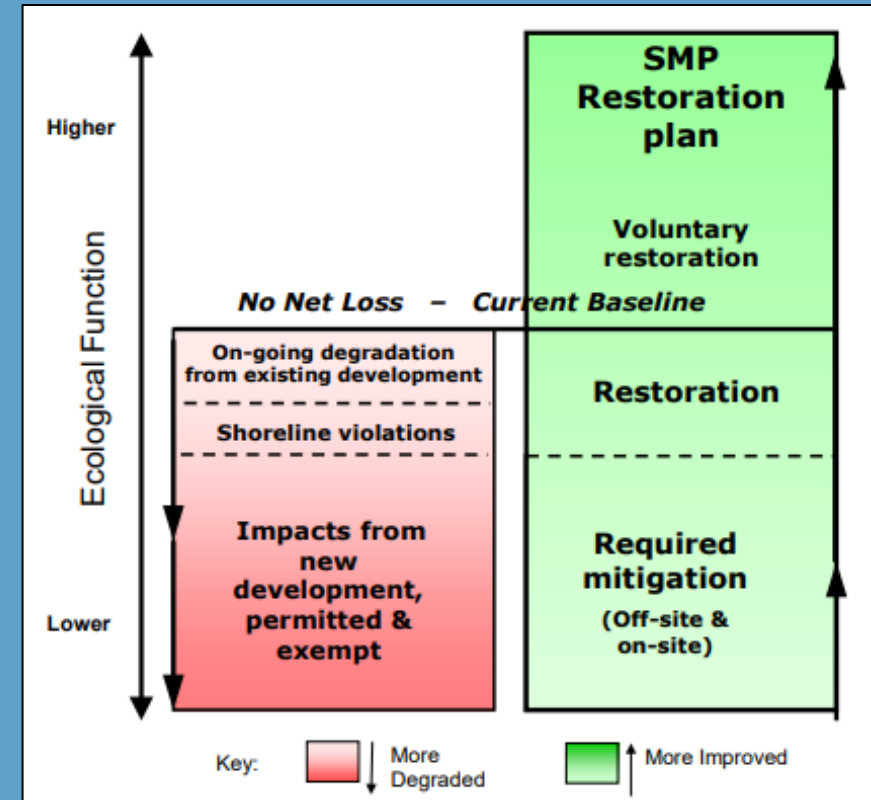


# What is an SMP periodic update?

1. The state requires all SMPs to be reviewed every eight years
2. Periodic review is intended to keep SMPs current with:
  - Amendments to state law (WAC, RCW)
    - *Consistency with Ecology's periodic review checklist*
  - Changes in local plans and regulations
    - *Consistency with Comp Plan and development regulations*
  - New or improved data and information
    - *Consistency with latest Ecology guidance, science, and other improvements to the SMP's overall use and function*

# The SMP periodic review will not:

1. Re-evaluate the ecological baseline which was established as part of the comprehensive update
2. Extensively assess no net loss criteria other than to ensure that any additional proposed amendments do not result in degradation of the baseline condition



# Anticipated Amendments to 2016 draft

- Elements from the periodic review
  - E.g. review of exemption thresholds, definitions, WAC consistency
- Formatting adjustments to align policy sections
- Addition of hyperlinks to improve electronic use
- Addresses Planning Commission recommendations in the recorded motion
- Addresses Ecology comments to address consistency with WAC requirements
- Integration of most current CAO
- Complete listing of waterbodies to be included



# Expected Timeline

- Complete draft of SMP amendments since 2016 (Jan 2021)
- Online Open House (Jan 2021)
- Planning Commission review and recommendation (Jan - Mar 2021)
- Public comment period and public hearing (Mar - Apr 2021)
- Local adoption of the SMP (May - Jun 2021)

*All dates are tentative*