

**Marine Critical Area Protection
In Recently Completed Critical Areas Ordinances (or shoreline master programs)**

Jurisdiction	Marine Riparian Vegetation	Shoreline Armoring	Overwater structures	Comments
Bainbridge Island (Current)	Native vegetation zone in most shoreline classifications in SMP For Residential: Rural, Semi-Rural – 50 Feet Urban – 25 Feet Conservancy – 100 Feet Allows planting native or other approved species.	SMP 16.12.310 For new construction, need to demonstrate protection necessary. Need to demonstrate that non-structure protection is not feasible. Replacement in kind is allowed.	SMP – 16.12.340 (B)(4) ... sited and designed to minimize possible adverse impacts, including potential impacts on littoral drift, sand movement, water circulation and quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. Joint use is encouraged.	Shoreline Management Master Plan scheduled for update in 2011
King County CAO	115 Feet or 165 Feet Depending on development intensity	(draft SMP) New armoring only as necessary and fully mitigation of loss of function. Non-structure not feasible. In critical saltwater habitats, existing shoreline protection shall not be allowed to be replaced if the existing shoreline protection is resulting in the loss of ecological functions;	(draft SMP) Any dock, pier, moorage, float or launching facility located on marine waters shall conform to the United States Army Corps of Engineers General Permit RGP-6. E. Any dock, pier, moorage, float or launching facility proposal on marine waters must include an evaluation of the nearshore environment and the potential impact of the facility on that environment.	Current SMP is thirty years old. CAO was passed in 2004.
Snohomish County	150 Foot Buffer on all marine waters	Can not interfere with sediment movement. Non-structure if feasible.	CAO - P 25 - No treated or toxic material in contact with water. Avoid critical saltwater habitat Joint use required where feasible	Single Family Exception for construction and expansion (up to 50%) in buffers

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Whatcom County	150 Foot Buffer on all marine shorelines (habitat of local importance)	In CAO , combined with streambank stabilization – No loss of function and other standards.	In CAO No adverse impact to critical fish habitat. No net loss of intertidal or riparian habitat function.	
Kitsap County	100 Foot Buffer on most shorelines	CAO refers to standards in SMMP SMMP 22.28.250 Shore Protection Structure and bluff stabilization.	CAO refers to standards in SMMP SMMP 22.28.190 Piers and Floating docks	Shoreline Buffer managed the same as all other buffers.
Thurston County (Draft)	100 foot Marine Riparian Habitat Area plus 100 foot Marine Riparian Management Zone	In CAO, for marine must be consistent with SMMP. SMMP (Protect the integrity of the natural processes, prevent damage to agricultural lands, public roads and bridge, existing structures and areas of unique public interest) Replacement of existing shoreline stabilization shall be considered as new, except for as provided in SMMP (repair and replacement of existing protective device).	In CAO, non-toxic treated wood approved by county can be used. No fill or armoring allowed. At least 10 feet for eelgrass. No net adverse effect on salmonid and rearing areas or priority wildlife habitat. Replacement OK but in marine water minimize surface area over 13 to 13 feet of water.	
Interim Guide Recommendations	Recommends establishing a “marine riparian protection zone”. Recommends planting of native species. Provides table with ranges of buffers to protect functions.	Page III-27 (From Whatcom County SMMP) Includes recommendation that failing, harmful or unneeded armoring should be removed and area restored.	Page III-7 Recommends not allowing treated wood in overwater structures.	