

# Lake Cushman Shoreline Management Plan Update

Sept. 20, 2019

Presented by:

**Bret Forrester**

Wildlife and Lands Manager

**Wynnae Wright**

Shoreline and Lands Coordinator



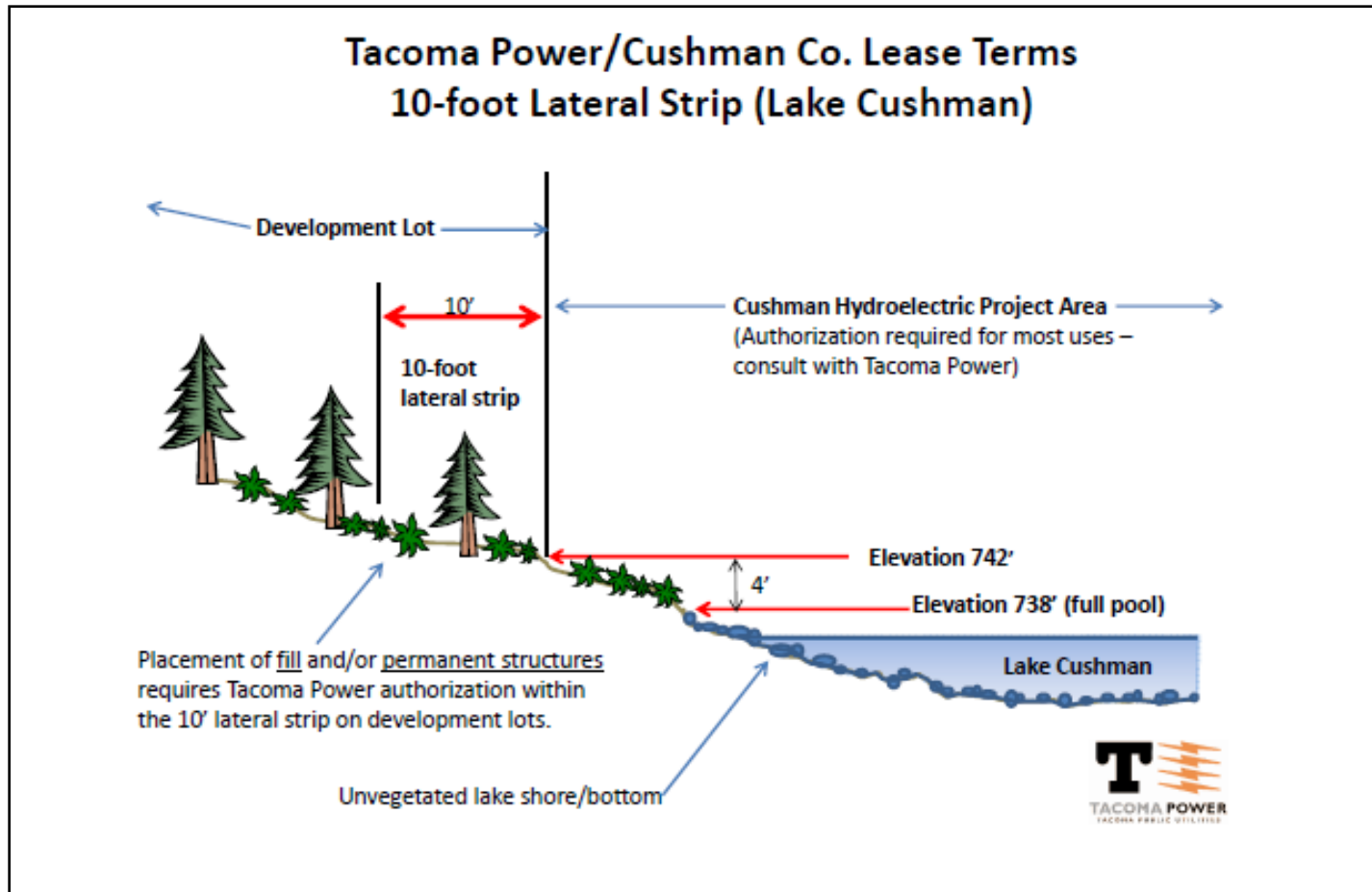
# Meeting Purpose

- **Share information** about Tacoma Power's Shoreline Management Plan update
- **Highlight key changes** being considered
- **Gather input** to consider with the Plan update
- **Answer questions**
- **Provide information** on how to submit comments



# Background

## Where does the Shoreline Management Plan apply?



# Background

Where does the Shoreline Management Plan apply?  
742 feet elevation



Low Bank Examples



# Background

Where does the Shoreline Management Plan apply?

742 feet elevation



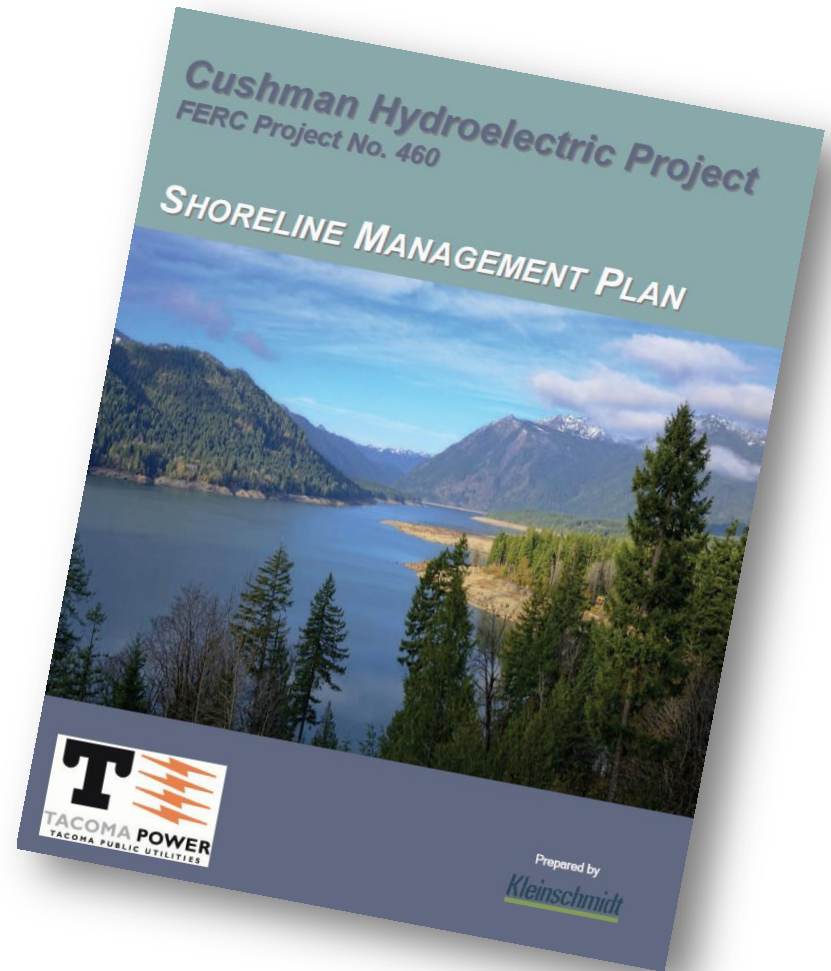
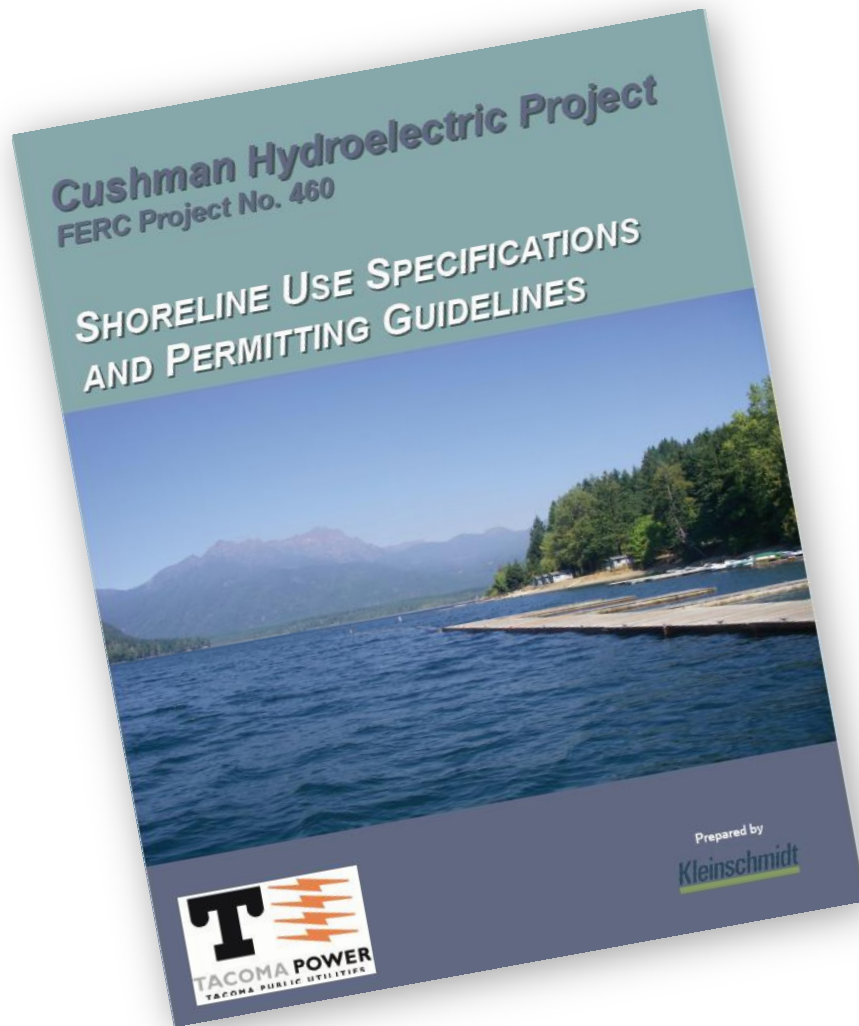
High Bank Examples

# Background

- The Cushman Hydroelectric Project **operates under a license** issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- FERC required us to implement a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) and **make updates when necessary**
- SMPs **provide consistency and keep our shorelines clean and safe**
- SMPs are **reviewed every six years** to see where they can be improved
- **This is the first review since our SMP was implemented**



# SMP and SUSPG Revisions



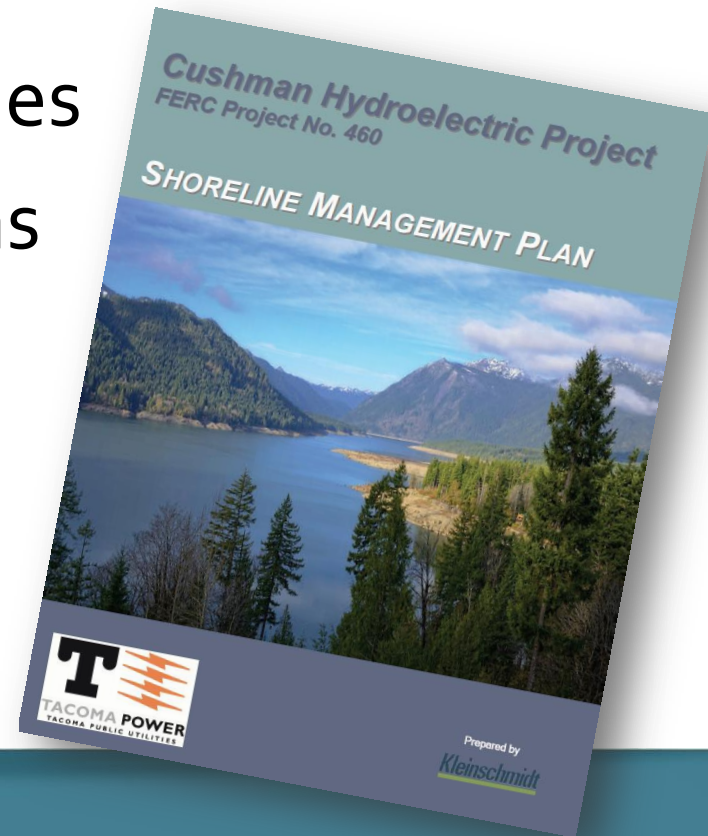






# It's Time For an Update! Why?

- Better alignment with Mason County regulations
- Address new situations and clarify language of existing ones
- Remove impractical conditions
- Improve layout and format
- **Improve permitting process**



# What Has Been Accomplished?

- Obtained initial community feedback on scope of update and changes (Dec. 2017)
- Completed review of Mason County SMP alignment
- Staff review of proposed changes - in process
- Draft proposed changes for stakeholder review

**(We are here!)**

## Underline: new language

Teacoma Power Utilities - Lake Cochman				
Proposed Revisions: Shoreline Use Specifications and Permitting Guidelines (SUSPG)				
Public Meeting - September 26, 2019				
SUSPG Section	Existing SUSPG Language	Proposed SUSPG Language Revision	Alignment with Mason County Shoreline Master Program	Rationale of Proposed Revision
Standard Terms List	<i>Rearin nesting: nesting language</i>	<i>Adrian and definition: Boat lift. An in-water structure used to launch and retrieve a single watercraft suspended from the water's surface. A boat lift is generally a mechanical device that can be raised and lowered and may be placed in the water near a shoreline. A boat lift may be designed either to hoist a motorized watercraft, or floatation. A boat lift is to be differentiated from a float or crane used for the launching or hoisting of vessels. Boat lift with nacelles are considered covered moorage. Prohibited nearshore structure.</i>	✓	Added definition to provide clarity.  Relies on County definition, and enhances clarity communication and usefulness of SMP documents.  Relies on Mason County Shoreline Master Program 1750 section.
Standard Terms List	<i>Rearin nesting: nesting language</i>	<i>Adrian and definition: Log boom (pipe) a logjacking and/or anchoring at OHV or watercraft of OHV. Prohibited nearshore structure.</i>	✓	Clarified prohibited structure.  Added definition to provide clarity.  Enhances clear communication and usefulness of SMP documents.
Standard Terms List	<i>Rearing wall: Bulkhead. A constructed or installed structure built or employed to retain a vertical wall or near vertical wall, or a wall of earth. The earth behind the wall may be either the natural embankment or the backfill material placed adjacent to the retaining wall.</i>	<i>Separate term and add definition: Bulkhead. A retaining wall, structure constructed at or near OHV, to retain a single vertical wall or wall of earth. The earth behind the wall may be either the natural embankment or the backfill material placed adjacent to the retaining wall. A constructed or installed artificial wall constructed at stable grade wherever landward of OHV when the retaining structure is bulkhead and vertical based on a vertical face of earth. The earth behind the wall may be either the natural embankment or the backfill material placed adjacent to the retaining wall.</i>	✓	Added definition to provide clarity.  Revised definition to provide clarity.  Relies on County definition, and enhances clear communication and usefulness of SMP documents.
Standard Terms List	<i>Rearin nesting: nesting language</i>	<i>Adrian and definition: Construction fence. The rigid temporary Teacoma Power fence to shorelines fences and their construction to permit construction activities on Teacoma Power property. Construction fences will not be used until all regulatory permits are in place. All work above the shoreline construction fence must be completed and approved by Teacoma Power, and the regulatory agencies prior to removal of the Teacoma Power Fence.</i>	✓	Added definition to provide clarity.  Relies on County construction process steps and clarifies that Teacoma Power permit will not be issued until permitted construction and Teacoma Power shoreline are complete.  Clarify permitting process and permit process.
Section 1 Introduction	<i>APR</i>	<i>Revised language throughout Section 1 to emphasize that a comprehensive water-dependent use is the purpose of Teacoma Power's shoreline permitting program.</i>	✓	Support Teacoma Power operational, environmental, recreation, and aesthetic goals.  Emphasize Cochman Project's primary purposes and FERC's jurisdiction.
Section 1 Introduction	<i>Eligible Activities for Shoreline Use Permit are: 1) new or replacement of proposed adjacent to Teacoma Power's shoreline lands as identified on the Shoreline Management Classification (SMP) map; 2) new or replacement of proposed adjacent to Teacoma Power's shoreline lands with private water rights within the Cochman Project. Teacoma Power has the authority to authorize any withdrawal or consumption use of the Project waters. Teacoma Power may authorize the construction or placement of structures for the withdrawal of water on Project Lands once a proposed project either the necessary rights, authorizations, and permits from the state, or water body, have been obtained.</i>	<i>Revised APR: 1) New construction of eligible lands does not create new eligible lands.</i>	✓	Clarify that only those lands that existed at the time of approval of the APR are eligible for SMP's.
Section 2.7 Water Withdrawals from Project		<i>Rearin nesting: nesting language</i>	✓	Support Teacoma Power operational and environmental goals.  Emphasize Cochman Project's primary purposes and FERC's jurisdiction.  Protect Teacoma Power's proprietary and water rights.  Support Teacoma Power goal.

Table 1: Allowed/Prohibited Stocking Sources, Uses, and Activities					
Stocking Use/Activity	Stocking Classification			Resource Management	Approval of Proposed Project
	***	**	*		
<b>Bog River - community</b>					
Boat Ramp - public	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
Boat Ramp - private	Allowed	Allowed	Consented		
Boat Ramp - community	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - single family	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - multiple family	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - public	Allowed	Consented	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - private	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - commercial	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - for use as a marina	Consented	Allowed	Consented		
Dock/Fleet - for use only with all-sport vessels	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
<b>FISHWATER/SAVY/ARLINGTON</b>					
Boat Ramp (for use only with all-sport vessels)	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
Boat Ramp (for use as a marina)	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
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Boat Ramp (for use only with all-sport vessels)	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
Boat Ramp (for use as a marina)	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
<b>Moose River - community</b>					
Boat Ramp - public	Allowed	Allowed	Consented		Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
Boat Ramp - private	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Boat Ramp - community	Allowed	Allowed	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - single family	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - multiple family	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - public	Allowed	Consented	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - private	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - commercial	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - for use as a marina	Consented	Allowed	Consented		
Dock/Fleet - for use only with all-sport vessels	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
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Boat Ramp (for use only with all-sport vessels)	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
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Dock/Fleet - public	Allowed	Consented	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - private	Consented	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - commercial	Consented	Allowed	Prohibited		
Dock/Fleet - for use as a marina	Consented	Allowed	Consented		
<b>Vegetation Modification</b>					
Allowed	Consented	Consented	Consented	Prohibited	Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
<b>Wetland</b>					
Allowed	Consented	Consented	Consented	Prohibited	Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
<b>Wetland</b>					
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Allowed	Consented	Consented	Consented	Prohibited	Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
<b>Wetland</b>					
Allowed	Consented	Consented	Consented	Prohibited	Align with language in Appendix B Section 1
<b>Wetland</b>					
Allowed	Consented	Consented			

~~Strikethrough: removed~~

*Italics*: comments

(...): additional language

✓ : County alignment\*



# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

### Plan Change

#### Standard Terms List

Construction license: The legal instrument Tacoma Power issues to shoreline lessees and their contractor(s) to permit construction activities on Tacoma Power properties. Construction licenses will not be issued until all regulatory permits are in place. All work allowed under the construction license must be completed and approved by Tacoma Power and the regulatory agencies prior to issuance of a Shoreline Use Permit.

### Why?

- Added definition to provide clarity.
- Relies on County construction process steps and clarifies that Tacoma Power permit will not be issued until permitted construction and Tacoma Power inspection are complete.
- Clarify permitting process.

# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

### Plan Change

### Why?

#### Introduction

Eligible Applicants for Shoreline Use Permits are: 1. owners/lessees of property adjacent to Tacoma Power's shoreline lands as identified on the Shoreline Management Classification (SMC) maps. 1.1. Future subdivision of eligible lots does not create new eligibility.

Clarifies that only those lots which existed at the time of approval of initial SMP are eligible for SUP's.

#### Campfires

*Move section from Exempt Activities to Permittable Shoreline Uses.*  
Tacoma Power ~~allows~~ will permit small recreational campfires no more than three feet in diameter in approved fire rings within the "A", "B", and ~~Resource Management~~ shoreline classifications. Campfires must not be ~~are~~ prohibited below the high water line of the lake, in hike-in camp areas, and in Resource Management classification. All campfires must comply with any burn bans may be in effect.

Align with State law, U.S. Forest Service guidance, and all regulatory burn bans when in effect.

# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

Plan Change	Why?
<p><b>Prior Existing Uses</b></p> <p>(...) <del>Permitted</del> Prior Existing Uses become subject to the most current permitting criteria established under the SMP when the use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Requires replacement (either voluntary or due to natural disaster).</li><li>2. <del>Changes ownership</del></li><li>3. Undergoes substantive modification (greater than 50 percent of replacement in footprint or value of <del>all</del> <u>any</u> individual structures including pilings, landings, decking area, etc., based on Tacoma Power's estimate). The degree of construction complexity and effort factors into value estimate.</li><li>4. Undergoes successive, small modifications that cumulatively exceed 50 percent replacement in footprint or value within a five-year period.</li></ol>	<p>Recognizes that change of ownership should not trigger removal or reconfiguration of structures that would otherwise be eligible for permitting as a Prior Existing Use.</p>



# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

Plan Change	Why?
<p><b>Prohibited Activities</b></p> <p>Tacoma Power provides the following list of prohibited structures, uses, and activities within the Project Boundary for guidance purposes; it is not an exhaustive or complete list. If a proposed use is not listed in Table 45.1 of the SMP and is not listed in this section, it is assumed prohibited unless otherwise confirmed by Tacoma Power. <u>This list of prohibited activities does not apply to prior existing uses that are subject to a valid shoreline use permit issued by Tacoma Power and subject to the conditions of Section 4.4 "Prior Existing Uses" (...)</u></p>	<p>Clarifies difference between prohibited activities and those that have been authorized as Prior Existing Uses.</p> <p>Maintains consistency with changes to Prior Existing Use language.</p>
<p><b>Processing Fees and Permit Terms</b></p> <p><del>Prior Existing Use Permits cannot be transferred to new owners without the uses complying with current shoreline use requirements.</del></p>	<p>Maintains consistency with changes to Prior Existing Use language.</p>

# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

### Plan Change

*Add term and definition:*

Skirting: Solid barrier built around in-water structures which prevent the natural flow of water and wildlife.

#### **Design (Private/Single Family Docks)**

Tacoma Power prohibits the following design features and uses: (...) Skirting around docks. Features other than skirting designed to block large woody debris from becoming entangled under shoreline structures will only be considered if designed to allow free movement of fish and wildlife under and through the structure.

*Add to prohibited design features:*

Exposed rebar, new concrete float rests, exposed styrofoam, tires used as bumpers or floats.

### Why?

Conforms to County ordinance and supports Tacoma Power operational and environmental goals.

Align with Mason County Ordinance 17.50.320 (B)1(j) and (B)2(f)(ii) Repair and Replacement, and Docks and Unattached Floats.

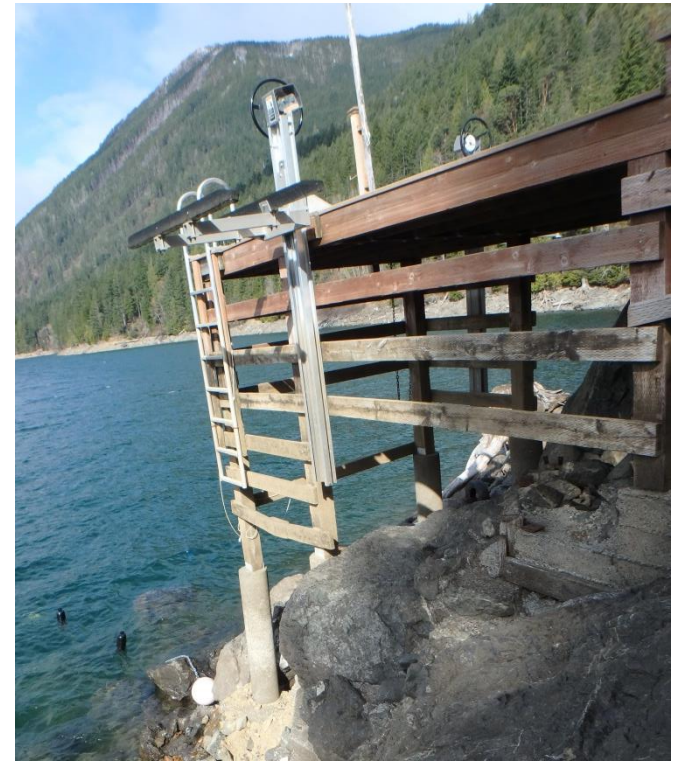
Addresses common design issues.

# Plan Update

## Example: Skirting vs. Blocking



**Skirting** = Solid barrier.  
Restricts natural water  
and fish movement.



**Blocking** = Allows for  
natural water and fish  
movement while blocking  
large woody debris.



# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

Plan Change	Why?
<p><b>Flotation</b></p> <p><u>New materials used for flotation must conform to regulatory agency requirements.</u> <del>Pursuant to WDFW requirements, flotation for structures must be enclosed and contained to prevent the break-up or loss of flotation material into the water. Open celled, bead board type polystyrene is susceptible to damage from fish and wildlife, is damaged by wind and wave action easily, presents an ingestion hazard to wildlife, and creates litter and other aesthetic nuisances. To protect the environmental values within the Cushman Project, open celled, bead board type polystyrene is not an approved flotation material for docks. (...) Floats must be designed to prevent flotation from becoming abraded or damaged by the lakebed. If float rests are used, Tacoma prefers they be attached to the floating docks. Float rests shall not extend beyond the dock footprint.</del></p>	<p>Conforms to County ordinance and supports Tacoma Power operational and environmental goals.</p> <p>Align with Mason County Ordinance 17.50.320 (B)2(f)(viii)(b) Floats.</p> <p>Addresses common design issues.</p>

# Plan Update

**Example:**

**Float rests extending beyond footprint of float**



# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

Plan Change	Why?
<p><b>Shoreline Stabilization Measures</b></p> <p><i>Revise Section 4.0 to clarify: <u>shoreline stabilization measures may be allowed to protect existing permitted structures and may not be permitted to protect existing structures which do not conform to current Tacoma Power SMP requirements.</u></i></p> <p><i>Revise to state: <u>shoreline stabilization measures shall be the minimum size and footprint required to serve the intended purpose.</u></i></p> <p><i>Revise Section 4.1 to clarify the following: <u>only one new bulkhead toe repair (footing replacement) is permitted in certain cases; when removal of existing bulkheads being replaced is required; that replacement of failed bulkheads is permitted in the same size/dimension and shall not encroach further waterward; and that any changes to location, size or dimensions shall be subject to "new bulkhead" requirements.</u></i></p>	<p>Tacoma Power proposes to extensively revise SUSPG Appendix B Section 4 to conform to Mason County ordinance and regulations.</p> <p>Requirements specific to Tacoma Power goals and policies are retained in specific instances as needed.</p> <p>Align with Mason County Ordinance 17.50.340 (A) and (B).</p>



# Plan Update

## Example: Bulkhead toe repair



2018/04/18



# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

### Plan Change

#### Mooring Buoys

(...) Tacoma Power will only consider allowing private mooring buoys on Lake Cushman within the “A” or “B” shoreline classification. At Lake Cushman, Tacoma Power will consider private buoys under the following circumstances: 1. When a mooring buoy is in lieu of a dock; ~~2. When an existing dock does not adequately accommodate boat mooring;~~ 2. When associated with a Public or Community recreation site. Tacoma Power will review Permit applications on a case by case to determine if they qualify for a buoy. (...)

Add: To accommodate boat mooring during low reservoir levels, Tacoma Power will allow one "mooring buoy alternative" per eligible development lot. A mooring buoy alternative consists of a permanent anchor, anchor chain, removable non-floating line, and optional small line recovery float. See attached diagrams.

### Why?

Supports Tacoma Power operational goals while accommodating lots that have boat access only. Removes ambiguous language. Clarifies the buoy alternative by describing it in a new section of SUSPG Appendix B. This differs from Mason County's Ordinance 17.50.320 (B)3(e) regarding regulation of mooring buoys.

A 2-page diagram will be added to the SUSPG with more details on mooring buoy alternatives.

# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

Plan Change	Why?
<b>Floating Booms</b> <i>Retain existing language.</i> <i>Add: <u>Floating booms may also be permitted when associated with boat-in only lots.</u></i>	Enhances clear communication and usefulness of SMP documents.  Clarifies SMP intent.
<b>Fee Schedule</b> STRUCTURAL BULKHEAD: \$750 application fee <del>/\$100 annual fee</del> —NON-STRUCTURAL BULKHEAD: \$300 application fee <del>/\$50 annual fee</del>	Not feasible for Tacoma Power to bill on an annual basis. Application fee will be due at time of application.  Note: Tacoma Power is not currently charging re-application fees while we work toward bringing all shoreline uses and structures under permit.

# Plan Update

## Key Highlights

### Plan Change

### Why?

#### **Stairways and Walkways**

Located landward of OHW: Tacoma Power allows stairways or walkways that are freestanding or incorporated into a permissible path to provide walking access to the OHW line of the reservoir. To maintain the natural aesthetic of the Project reservoirs, Tacoma Power requires that such structures be constructed of dry laid stone, wood, or wood with loose stone, gravel or wood chips.

Located waterward of OHW: Tacoma Power may permit stairs and landings waterward of OHW if necessary for pedestrian access to the shoreline or shoreline structures due to site limitations. Surface area of stairs and landings will count towards maximum overwater coverage limits.

Applicable to all stairways and walkways: All stairs and landings shall be the minimum size and footprint required to serve the intended purpose while meeting regulatory requirements.

Recognizes challenges of steep terrain in some locations, while conforming to County ordinance and supporting Tacoma Power aesthetic and public use goals.

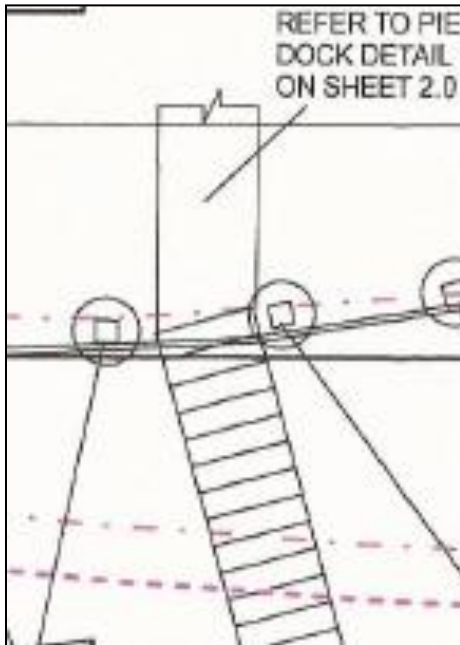
Align with Mason County Ordinance 8.52.170 (E)4(k) Stairs, Upland.

Support Tacoma Power goals.

# Plan Update

## Example: Stairs Located Over Water

- Stairs initially proposed in-line with dock.
- Unstable slope led to redesign.
- Shortened fixed pier to maintain 300-square-foot limit.



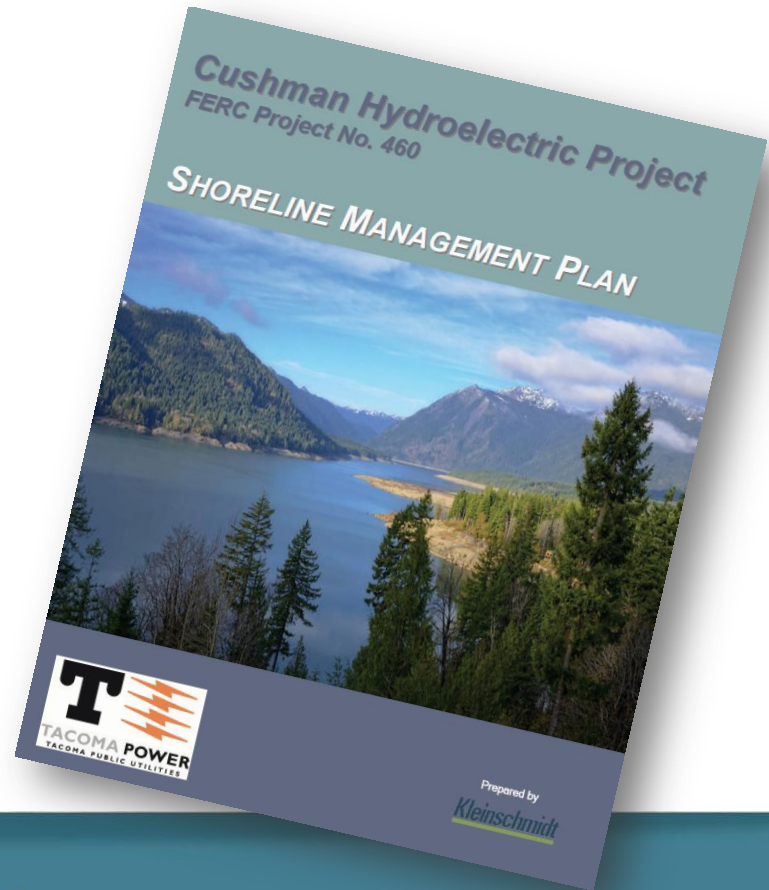
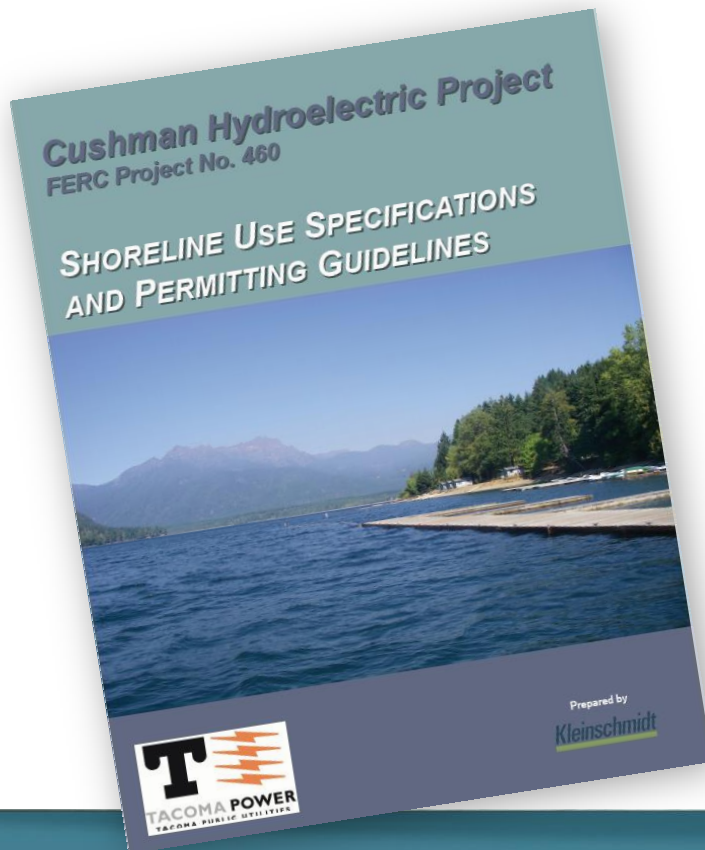


# Next Steps

- Gather community input and answer questions
- Make revisions
- Submit to TPU management for review and approval
- Submit to license oversight agencies for review (WDFW, USF&W, USFS, MC, Tribe)
- Update plan
- Submit SMP to FERC

# Learn More and Review Documents At:

## [MyTPU.org/cushmanshoreline](http://MyTPU.org/cushmanshoreline)



# Share Your Thoughts...

**1) Fill out a comment form today**

**2) Send the form later to:**

Tacoma Public Utilities

Attn: Wynnae Wright, Shoreline and Lands Coordinator

3628 S. 35<sup>th</sup> St., Tacoma, WA 98409

**3) Send an email to:**

[cushmanshoreline@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:cushmanshoreline@cityoftacoma.org)

**Please submit your comments by Nov. 1st**

# Questions?





# Thank you!