

RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

Recreation is the refreshment of body and mind through forms of play, amusement or relaxation. Water-related recreation accounts for a very high proportion of all recreational activity in the Pacific Northwest. The recreational experience may be passive such as hiking, photography, viewing, hunting and fishing. It may also be active and include facilities for more intensive uses such as parks, campgrounds, golf courses and other outdoor recreation areas. This section applies to both publicly and privately owned shoreline facilities intended for use by the public or a private club, group, association or individual

POLICIES

1. Give priority to developments which provide recreational uses and other improvements facilitating shoreline public access, including views and scenic areas.
2. Strongly encourage the linkage of shoreline parks and public access points through the use of linear access. Many types of connections can be used such as hiking paths, bicycle trails and/or scenic drives.
3. Carefully consider the total effect the development of a recreational site will have on the environmental quality and natural resources of an area.
4. Insure that recreational development provides for the preservation and enhancement of scenic views and vistas and for the buffering of recreation development from adjacent private property.
5. Avoid wasteful use of the limited supply of recreational shoreline areas by locating parking areas inland away from the immediate edge of the water and recreational beaches. Safe access should be provided by walkways or other methods.
6. Prohibit the use of motorized vehicles on beaches, dunes and fragile shoreline resources.
7. Encourage a variety of recreational facilities which will satisfy the diversity of demands from groups in nearby populated centers. Recreational development should consider these needs, demands and special opportunities as well as public transit access and access for the physically impaired, where planned or available.
8. Allow intensive recreational developments only where sewage disposal and vector control can be accomplished to meet public health standards without adversely altering the natural features attractive for recreational use.
9. Protect water quality and minimize surface runoff from recreational facilities.

REGULATIONS

General

1. Recreation facilities shall be designed to take maximum advantage of and enhance the natural character of the shoreline area.
2. The following regulations shall apply to artificial marine life habitats:

- a. Habitats shall not interfere with surface navigation;
 - b. Habitats shall be constructed of long lasting non-polluting materials and moored so as to remain in their original location even under adverse current or wave action;
 - c. Habitats may not be installed on publicly owned submerged land without permission of the administering governmental agency.
3. Motor vehicle use, to include two- and three-wheeled vehicles, shall not be permitted on beaches, dunes, or fragile shoreline areas EXCEPT as necessary for official maintenance or the preservation of public health and safety.

Natural Environment

1. Very low intensity recreation uses, such as passive viewpoints, trails, or limited camping and picnic facilities, shall be permitted in the Natural Environment, subject to the following regulations:
 - a. Roads and parking, picnic and camping facilities (including restrooms) shall not be located on the shoreline. Trail access should be provided to link upland facilities to the shoreline.
 - b. Golf courses, playing fields, and other large areas devoted to athletic activities will not be permitted on natural shorelines;
 - c. Use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers is prohibited;
 - d. Landscaping must, where possible, use indigenous, self-maintaining vegetation.

Conservancy Environment

1. Low intensity recreational uses shall be permitted in the Conservancy Environment, subject to the following regulations:
 - a. A recreation facility or structure which changes or detracts from the character of the Conservancy Environment (by building design, construction technique, or intensity of use that is attracted) shall be prohibited;
 - b. Parking and roads shall be set back 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark. Trail access should be provided to link upland facilities to the shoreline;
 - c. Golf courses, playing fields, and other large areas devoted to athletic activities will not be permitted.

Rural Environment

1. Recreation uses shall be permitted in the Rural Environment subject to the General Regulations.
2. Golf courses, playing fields, and other large areas devoted to athletic activities shall be allowed as a conditional use in rural areas except that they shall be prohibited in lands designated as resource lands in county comprehensive plans.

Suburban Environment

1. Recreation uses shall be permitted in the Suburban Environment subject to the General Regulations.

Urban Environment

1. Recreation uses shall be permitted in the Urban Environment subject to the General Regulations.