

From: Peter Gill
To: BBGUN1010@aol.com; Campbell, Doug; David New; Lance Clark; Nathan Ro...
Date: 5/3/2010 5:09 PM
Subject: BIAWC Meeting Follow up
Attachments: bb_implementation_tools_memo_task1_20100203.pdf

Thank you for meeting about development tools in Birch Bay. Your input is important as we move forward with this program. I have attached the implementation tools report that features successful programs from the west coast and how they may apply to the Birch Bay watershed.

Below is a link to our project web site.

<http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/naturalresources/specialprojects/birchbaywatershed-actionplan.jsp>

I will be in touch.

Peter Gill

From: Peter Gill
To: Lance Clark
Date: 4/12/2010 2:12 PM
Subject: Follow up on Birch Bay Critical Area and LID project
Attachments: action_plan_summary_20090702.pdf

Hi Lance, Below is some background information on the Birch Bay Low Impact Development project we talked about on Friday. Lets sit down and talk once you and your staff have a chance to have a look at some of the information. I have attached a handout that provides an overview of the project.

The Birch Bay Watershed Characterization and Watershed Planning Pilot Study prepared in 2007 represents a collaborative effort by local, state, and federal agencies to use watershed characterization techniques to guide future development in a manner that maintains—or preferably improves—the condition of wetland, stream, and terrestrial resources in the Birch Bay watershed.

Through this Pilot Study the extent of wetlands and streams in areas zoned for development has become apparent. There is a high potential for permitting problems as new housing is needed. Additionally, recent State shellfish harvesting closures in the Bay are an indication of non-point source pollution. Flooding problems identified in the 2007 Stormwater Plan are likely to get worse with a planned increase in impervious surface. With a Low Impact Development manual and an improved mitigation program, we have an opportunity to remedy some of these issues.

In considering approaches for implementation, Whatcom County is seeking to achieve the following three outcomes:

1. Low Impact Development Manual (including a mixture of regulations and voluntary or incentive based standards) that reflect unique sub-watershed conditions (to replace the current 'one size fits all' critical area and development standards);
2. Coordinated restoration and mitigation that are aligned with watershed goals; and
3. Customer service improvements related to permit predictability and usability of development standards (reducing burdens on property owners during the development review process).

Follow our link to the Birch Bay Action Plan from our web site for more information:

<http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/naturalresources/specialprojects.jsp>

Kind regards,

Peter Gill
Natural Resources Division
Whatcom County Planning & Development Services
322 N. Commercial Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
360-676-6907 x50263