

## CHAPTER 7: SHORELINE DESIGNATIONS

### Introduction

Shoreline Designations are intended to encourage uses and activities that will protect or enhance the present or desired character of a shoreline and allow appropriate uses consistent with local land use patterns. Okanogan County's original Shoreline Master Program (SMP) was adopted in 1976 and revised in 1987 (with amendments adopted in 1996). It used a classification system composed of four Shoreline Designations intended to accommodate different levels and types of development: "Natural", "Conservancy", "Rural", "Suburban", and "Urban." The existing Shoreline Master Programs in the County's municipalities, most adopted in 1991 and 1992, use the same four designations. (The exception is Winthrop, which uses High Intensity in place of Urban and Medium Intensity in place of Suburban). Legal descriptions are found in Appendix H.

The State's 2004 SMP guidelines recommend a new classification system to better reflect the most current scientific and technical information, planning concepts and to support requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA). This City and Town Regional Master Program used the State's new classification system as a starting point and tailored it to suit local conditions, local interests, and local land use planning. The result is a system that includes six Shoreline Designations intended for application to all shoreline areas within the incorporated areas and adopted Urban Growth or Future Service Areas of the municipalities in Okanogan County (except within the boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation).

The Shoreline Designation system in this Regional SMP is based on a combination of factors including ecological function and value, development and planning factors, and local interests. The designations reflect the combined results from the inventory, analysis and characterization described in Chapter 4 along with input gathered through the public participation process.

The assessment of ecological function and value was derived from the Shoreline Characterization prepared by ENTRIX, Inc., described in Chapter 4 of this SMP and incorporated as Appendix A.

Development and Planning factors are a function of:

- a. Development Patterns (parcel size and level of subdivision)
- b. Current land use
- c. Existing Building Setbacks and Number of Structures
- d. Public Access and Recreation
- e. Transportation/Circulation systems/facilities
- f. Current Comprehensive Plans and Zoning maps
- g. Local Knowledge (input from SAG and TAG + staff and consultants)
- h. Ownership Patterns
- i. Other built elements (Over-water Structures, levees, dikes)

This chapter describes the criteria used to assign Shoreline Designations to water bodies (the classification criteria), lists specific policies and regulations that apply to each designation, and

explains the rationale for each designation. Finally, the text describes the process used to assign designations to the shorelines in Okanogan County and the incorporated municipalities therein. Allowed uses and development standards for each designation follow in tabular form. The policies specific to each designation, along with relevant policies from Chapter 6 provide the basis for the uses and activities allowed in each shoreline designation. The development standards and criteria specify how and where permitted development can take place within each shoreline designation.

It is important to note that all lands within shoreline jurisdiction, regardless of designation, have inherent resource, ecological and economic value. Therefore, a natural tension exists between opportunities for protection and development. The SMA requires ecological functions and processes to be retained in all shoreline designations. Where changes in land use or development result in a loss of function and values, those losses must be mitigated.

## **Shoreline Designations**

This Cities and Towns Regional Shoreline Master Program establishes a system of six shoreline designations for all shoreline areas within the incorporated areas and adopted Urban Growth or Future Service areas within the cities and towns in Okanogan County with the exception of lands within the Colville Indian Reservation. The system was derived from the State's recommended classification system, tailored to reflect local conditions and serve local interests.

**Table 7-1**

DESIGNATION	Aquatic	Natural
ABBREVIATION	A	N
PURPOSE	Protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of areas waterward of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM).	Provide the highest level of protection to shoreline areas that are relatively free of human influence or that include intact or minimally degraded shoreline functions intolerant of human use.
DESIGNATION CRITERIA	All shorelines areas waterward of the OHWM of rivers, lakes and streams and associated wetlands shall be designated "Aquatic."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The shoreline is <i>ecologically intact</i> and therefore currently performing an important, irreplaceable function or ecosystem-wide process that could be damaged by development over time;</li> <li>• The shoreline is considered to represent ecosystems and geologic types that are of particular scientific and educational interest or are rare or fragile (for instance, an outcropping that contains fragile plant communities); or</li> <li>• The shoreline is unable to support new development or uses without significant adverse impacts to ecological functions or risk to human safety.</li> </ul> <p>Such shorelines include largely areas such as wetlands, unstable bluffs, islands, and ecologically intact shoreline habitats. Shorelines inside or outside incorporated municipalities and Urban Growth/Future Service Areas may be designated as "Natural."</p>

**Table 7-1, continued**

<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>Urban Conservancy</b>	<b>Shoreline Recreation</b>
<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>UC</b>	<b>SREC</b>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Protect and restore ecological functions of open space, floodplains, and other sensitive lands within incorporated municipalities or Urban Growth/Future Service Areas, while allowing a variety of compatible uses.	To accommodate mixed-use recreation-oriented development that is consistent with the goals and purpose of the Shoreline Management Act; and to provide appropriate public access and recreational uses, especially where those uses are part of a master-planned system and support healthy physical activity.
<b>DESIGNATION CRITERIA</b>	<p>Areas within Urban Growth/Future Service Areas that are suitable and planned primarily for public development that is compatible with maintaining or restoring the ecological functions of the area, and are not generally suitable for water-dependent uses, if any of the following characteristics apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are suitable for water-related or water-enjoyment uses;</li> <li>• They are publically-owned open space, flood plain or other critical areas that may be suited for low levels of development associated with water-related or water-enjoyment uses but are unsuitable for high intensity development;</li> <li>• They have potential for ecological restoration; or</li> <li>• They retain important ecological functions (such as riparian or wetland habitat, buffers, stormwater and wastewater abatement, and open space) even though partially developed.</li> </ul>	Assigned to shoreline areas that support or are planned for mixed-use recreation oriented development. The designation is intended to provide flexibility for water oriented mixed-use planned or clustered development with varying densities.

**Table 7-1, continued**

<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>Shoreline Residential</b>	<b>High Intensity</b>
<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>SRES</b>	<b>HI</b>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To accommodate residential development and appurtenant structures that are consistent with the goals and purpose of the Shoreline Management Act; and to provide appropriate public access and recreational uses.	Provide for high-intensity water-oriented commercial, transportation, and industrial uses while protecting existing ecological functions and restoring ecological functions in areas that have been previously degraded and are planned for such uses.
<b>DESIGNATION CRITERIA</b>	Assigned to shoreline areas within incorporated municipalities or Urban Growth/Future Service Areas that support a predominance of single-family residential development with some duplex and multi-family, are platted for residential development, or are planned for residential development exceeding 1 dwelling unit per acre.	Shoreline areas within incorporated municipalities and Urban Growth/Future Service Areas shall be designated “High Intensity” if they currently support high-intensity uses related to commerce, transportation, or navigation; or are suitable or planned for high-intensity water-oriented uses, including multi-family residential development.

Parallel environments may be used where appropriate—for example, to accommodate resource protection close to the ordinary-high-water-mark (OHWM) and development farther from the OHWM. Where parallel environments exist, developments and uses allowed in one of the environments should not be inconsistent with achieving the purposes of the other. The width of each environment may vary depending on the type, extent, and value of the resource to be protected; in all cases the environment closest to the shore shall extend at least to the closest boundary line, easement line and/or 15 feet inland from the OHWM. For future shoreline amendments in all cases the designation closest to the shore shall maintain a structural setback/vegetation conservation area at least as wide as the minimum width allowed by the current Ecology approved shoreline designation. Any applicant proposing widths less than this shall provide the local government an analysis in compliance with WAC 173-26-201.

## ***Policies for Designations***

### **Aquatic (A) Designation**

1. Developments within the Aquatic Designation should be compatible with the adjoining upland designation.
2. Diverse opportunities for public access to the water should be encouraged and developed where such access is compatible with the existing shoreline and water uses and environment.
3. Over-water structures should be allowed only for water-dependent uses, public access, or ecological restoration. The size of such structures should be limited to the minimum

necessary to support the structure's intended use. Structures that are not water-dependent should be prohibited.

4. Multiple-use of over-water facilities should be encouraged.
5. Under-water uses should be designed, developed, operated and mitigated with the least possible impact to the aquatic environment and should show that there is no feasible above water alternatives.
6. Aquaculture should be allowed where the use can be undertaken without interfering with surface navigation, public access, or shoreline ecological functions.
7. Hydroelectric projects of regional or statewide significance (including development of new hydroelectric projects, renovation of existing hydroelectric facilities, and operation of existing hydroelectric projects) should be allowed where impacts to surface navigation, public access, shoreline ecological functions, and the visual quality of the shoreline area can be adequately mitigated.
8. Fishing and other recreational uses of the water should be protected against competing uses that would interfere with recreation.
9. All developments and activities using navigable water bodies under the jurisdiction of this SMP should be located and designed to minimize interference with surface navigation. Hydroelectric projects licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should provide for portage consistent with project operations, safety, and security of the project facilities.
10. All developments and activities using water bodies under the jurisdiction of this SMP should be located and designed to minimize adverse visual impacts and to allow for the safe passage of fish and animals (consistent with federal and state agency approved recovery plans), particularly those whose life cycles are dependent on such migration. Hydroelectric projects licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should address visual impacts and fish and wildlife passage while at the same time providing for project operations, safety, and security of the project facilities.
11. Uses and modifications should be designed and managed to prevent degradation of water quality and alteration of natural hydrographic conditions.
12. Abandoned and neglected structures that cause adverse visual impacts or are a hazard to public health, safety, or welfare should be removed or restored to a usable condition consistent with the provisions of this master program.
13. Activities that substantially degrade priority habitats should not be allowed. Where such activities are necessary to achieve the objectives of the Shoreline Management Act, RCW 90.58.020, their impacts should be mitigated to provide a net gain of critical ecological functions.
14. Shoreline modifications should be considered only when they serve to protect or enhance a significant, unique, or highly valued feature that might otherwise be degraded or destroyed. Exceptions may be made for hydroelectric projects licensed by the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission. Such projects should be located and designed to minimize impacts to shoreline functions and values.

15. Shoreline jurisdictional areas within the Aquatic Designation shall not be used for calculating land area for the purposes of subdivision and short subdivision.

### **Natural (N) Designation**

1. Physical alterations, including shoreline modifications, should only be considered when they serve to protect or enhance a significant, unique, or highly-valued feature that might otherwise be degraded or destroyed.
2. Limited access should be permitted for scientific, historical, cultural, educational, and low-intensity water-oriented recreational purposes, provided that no significant adverse impact on the area will result.
3. A conditional use permit should be required for any non-exempt use or activity.
4. Any use that would substantially degrade the ecological functions or natural character of the shoreline, including new development or vegetation removal that would reduce the capability of vegetation to perform normal ecological functions, should be prohibited.
5. The following uses should not be allowed in areas designated “Natural”: residential uses; commercial uses; industrial uses; mining; agriculture; non-water-oriented recreation; golf courses; and roads, utility corridors, and parking areas that can be located elsewhere.
6. Restoration of degraded shorelines should be encouraged.

### **Shoreline Recreation (SRec) Designation**

1. The following uses should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Shoreline Recreation”, where consistent with local comprehensive plans and development regulations, provided that the use is consistent with maintaining or restoring the ecological functions of the area: residential development; public access and recreational uses; water-oriented mixed-use development; master-planned resorts, and other development consistent with preservation of low-density recreation-oriented character.
2. Dedication and improvement of public access to shorelines should be required for all new uses, with the exception of residential developments of four lots or fewer, including development by public entities (including local governments, state agencies, and public utility districts). Where a master-planned public access system, such as a lakeshore trail system, exists or is planned, participation in the system and provision of facilities that promote physical activity should be encouraged.
3. All multi-family and multi-lot residential developments should provide joint-use community recreational facilities.
4. Docks, boat ramps, boat lifts, and other boating facilities serving individual single-family residences should be prohibited. Where boating facilities are allowed, community facilities should be required.

5. The number of boating facilities allowed within the SRec designation on each water body should be limited to protect shoreline ecological resources and preserve the character of the shoreline area.
6. Mixed-use water-oriented recreational/residential developments should be encouraged in the SRec designation where such developments are consistent with zoning and comprehensive plan designations and can be accommodated without damage to shoreline ecological resources.
7. Standards for density or minimum frontage width, setbacks, lot coverage limitations, buffers, shoreline stabilization, vegetation conservation, critical areas protection, and water quality should be set to ensure that new development does not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions. Such standards should take into account the environmental limitations and sensitivity of the shoreline area, the level of infrastructure and other services available, and other comprehensive planning considerations.
8. Adequate public facilities and services should be required in conjunction with development in the SRec designation. Within Urban Growth/Future Service Areas, such development should be required to connect to municipal water and sewer utilities. Outside of Urban Growth/Future Service Areas, private community utility systems may be allowed. Concurrent development of transportation facilities, including facilities to promote physical activity, should be required.
9. Subdivision should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Shoreline Recreation.”

### **Urban Conservancy (UC) Designation**

1. Uses that preserve the natural character of the area or promote preservation of open space, floodplain, or sensitive lands, either directly or over the long term, should be the primary allowed uses. Uses that result in restoration of ecological functions should be allowed if the use is otherwise compatible with the purpose of the environment, the setting, and the local comprehensive plan and development regulations.
2. The following uses should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Urban Conservancy”, where consistent with local comprehensive plans and development regulations, provided that the use is consistent with maintaining or restoring the ecological functions of the area: aquaculture; low-intensity water-oriented commercial and industrial uses, where those uses already exist; water-dependent and water-enjoyment recreational facilities; residential development.
3. Mining and associated uses should be allowed on lands that are designated as “mineral resource lands” pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170 and WAC 365-190-070. Otherwise resource extraction should not be allowed.
4. Water-oriented uses should be given priority over non-water oriented uses.
5. Adjacent to navigable waters, water-dependent uses should be given the highest priority.
6. Opportunities for public access, including developed trails, overlooks and viewing platforms, etc..., to shorelines and water bodies should be encouraged for all

developments, including subdivisions, short subdivisions, planned unit developments, commercial uses, public services, and recreational uses.

7. Public or community access to shorelines and water bodies should be required for new subdivisions of more than four lots and for recreational uses, provided any adverse impacts can be mitigated.
8. Public access to shorelines and water bodies should be required for new commercial uses and public services where it can be accommodated without risk to public safety, provided any adverse impacts can be mitigated.
9. Public and private recreational facilities and uses that are compatible with residential uses should be encouraged, provided that no net loss of shoreline ecological resources will result.
10. Standards to ensure that new development does not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions or further degradation of shoreline values should be established for shoreline stabilization measures, vegetation conservation, and shoreline modifications.
11. Subdivision should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Urban Conservancy.”

### **Shoreline Residential (SRes) Designation**

1. The following uses should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Shoreline Residential”, where consistent with local comprehensive plans and development regulations, provided that the use is consistent with maintaining or restoring the ecological functions of the area: residential development (including both single and multi-family development); water-oriented commercial uses. .
2. Residential developments of more than four lots and all recreational developments should provide public access to shorelines and water bodies. Opportunities for public access to shorelines and water bodies should be encouraged for all other developments, including subdivisions, planned developments, commercial uses, and public services.
3. All multi-family and multi-lot residential developments should provide joint-use community recreational facilities.
4. Docks, boat ramps, boat lifts, and other boating facilities serving individual single-family residences should be prohibited. Where boating facilities are allowed, community facilities should be required.
5. Public and private recreational facilities and uses that are compatible with residential uses and with the applicable comprehensive plan and development regulations should be allowed.
6. Access (including transportation facilities and rights of way or easements), utilities, and public services should be available and adequate to serve any existing needs and planned future development.
7. Standards for density or minimum frontage width, setbacks, lot coverage limitations, buffers, shoreline stabilization, vegetation conservation, critical areas protection, and

water quality should be set to ensure that new development does not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions. Such standards should take into account the environmental limitations and sensitivity of the shoreline area, the level of infrastructure and other services available, and other comprehensive planning considerations.

8. Subdivision should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “Shoreline Residential.”

### **High Intensity (HI) Designation**

1. Although they are among the most heavily developed shoreline lands in Okanogan County, High Intensity lands retain resource value and present opportunities for protection and restoration.
2. Because shorelines are a finite resource and because high-intensity uses tend to preclude other shoreline uses, emphasis should be given to directing new development into areas that are already developed or where high-intensity uses can be developed consistent with this master program and the applicable Comprehensive Plan, and to uses requiring a shoreline location. Full utilization of existing high-intensity areas should be encouraged before further areas are designated as High Intensity.
3. Priority should be given to water-dependent, water-related, and water-enjoyment uses over other uses, with highest priority given to water-dependent uses. Uses that derive no benefit from a water location should require a shoreline conditional use permit.
4. Where consistent with other policies and with local comprehensive plans and development regulations, the following uses should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “High Intensity”, provided that the use is consistent with maintaining or restoring the ecological functions of the area: water-oriented commercial uses, transportation, navigation, and other high-intensity water-oriented uses, including multi-family residential development.
5. Visual public access should be required, where feasible.
6. Physical public access should be encouraged where it can be accommodated without risk to public safety.
7. Aesthetic objectives should be implemented by means such as sign control regulations; appropriate development siting, screening and architectural standards; and maintenance of natural vegetative buffers.
8. Implementation of local plans for acquisition or use through easements of land for permanent public access to the water in the High Intensity Environment should be encouraged.
9. In order to make maximum use of the available shoreline resources and to accommodate future water-oriented uses, the redevelopment and renewal of substandard, degraded, under-used, or obsolete urban shoreline areas should be encouraged.
10. Subdivision should be allowed in shoreline areas designated as “High Intensity.”

## Shoreline Designations Map

The *Shoreline Designations* maps for the cities and towns in Okanogan County shows the areas under the jurisdiction of the Cities and Towns Regional Master Program and the boundaries of the five shoreline designations. Shoreline areas within Urban Growth/Future Service Areas have been pre-designated—that is, the shoreline designations shown in Urban Growth/Future Service Areas are those that have been assigned by the city or town adopting this program.

The *Shoreline Designations* map shall be the official map of Shoreline Designations and is maintained by the City or Town and by the Department of Ecology. Any other copies, including copies that may be distributed either as part of this Shoreline Master Program or separately, shall be unofficial.

## Designation process

This section describes the process by which shoreline areas were designated during the development of this SMP. All shoreline areas, both within and outside of the incorporated municipalities, were designated following this process. In the future, new shorelines may be created, or existing shorelines may come under SMP jurisdiction. The SMP guidelines provide for automatic designation of shorelines that are not designated when the SMP is developed. The guidelines (WAC 173-26-211(2)(e)) state:

“The map and the master program should note that all areas within shoreline jurisdiction that are not mapped and/or designated are automatically assigned a "urban conservancy" designation if within a municipality or urban growth or future service area...until the shoreline can be re-designated through a master program amendment.”

Shorelines newly under the jurisdiction of this SMP will be designated “Urban Conservancy” as soon as they are created. They will then be mapped, and, once mapped, assessed using the designation criteria above. The assessment will determine whether the “Urban Conservancy” designation is appropriate or should be changed. Once the correct designation has been determined, the SMP will be amended to include the new shoreline areas.

The purpose of the designation process is to assign each shoreline designation an appropriate set of development standards and uses to prevent loss of shoreline function and protect navigation and public access while allowing for reasonable use of the city’s or town’s shorelines. The characterization process in Chapter 4 recognizes the range of habitats, physical formations, varying land uses, and development patterns throughout the shoreline area, and the designations are intended to reflect the existing diversity.

Shorelines in the cities and towns were designated using a five-step process. Each step can be a considered a sieve that narrows down options for designation based on the shoreline characterization (specifically, the scores derived from the ecosystem function analysis and the planning and development factors) described in Chapter 4.

### ***Step 1: Assign Preliminary Designation based on Ecological Characterization Score***

The first step of the designation process relied on assigning a preliminary designation based exclusively on the ecosystem function score from the characterization. The ecosystem function analysis produced a suite of scores that depicted shorelines ranging from high resources/high condition to low resources/low condition. The first step led to a preliminary designation of “Natural” for all reaches that exhibited high/high scores, and a “Conservancy” designation for all other combinations of resources and conditions scores. The purpose of this step was to identify and protect ecologically intact shorelines.

***Ecologically intact shorelines***, as used here, means those shoreline areas that retain the majority of their natural shoreline functions and values, as evidenced by the physical condition of the shoreline and presence of native flora and fauna. Such shorelines will generally have scored high along both the condition *and* resources axes in the AU characterization quadrant analysis. Generally, but not necessarily, ecologically intact shorelines are relatively free of structural shoreline modifications, structures, and intensive human uses. In riparian and lacustrine zones, they generally support native vegetation. The active channel and floodplains of ecologically intact shorelines of rivers should be able to support complex river dynamics such as channel migration, riparian recruitment, flooding, sediment transport and delivery, large woody debris deposition and recruitment, and aquatic and terrestrial habitat. Recognizing that there is a continuum of ecological conditions ranging from near-natural conditions to totally degraded and contaminated sites, the term “ecologically intact” is intended to describe those shoreline areas that provide valuable functions for the larger aquatic and terrestrial environments which could be lost or significantly reduced by human development. Shorelines that scored in the ecological function analysis were initially considered to be ecologically intact. Such shorelines were designated “Natural.” Other combinations of resource and condition scores were assigned to a preliminary “Conservancy” category as they represented environments that were not as robust as ecologically intact shorelines (although still be providing some level of function and value).

### ***Step 2: Assign National Forest Preliminary Designations***

This SMP is required to designate all shoreline areas within the unincorporated portions of the county, including publicly owned lands. (It is important to note that privately-owned lands within the Forest boundary, as well as Forest Service lands leased for private use, are subject to the provisions of this SMP.

The characterization analysis in Chapter 4 did not include water bodies wholly within the National Forest Boundaries. Therefore, shorelands owned and administered by the U.S. Forest Service were assigned a "Natural" designation when the shoreline area did not include any campgrounds or roads. Those portions of shorelines where roads or campgrounds do exist received a “Conservancy” designation. Shorelines owned and administered by the U.S. Forest Service were not further designated.

### ***Step 3: Evaluate Preliminary Designation against Current (1987) Designation***

The preliminary designations derived in Step 1 were further narrowed based on consistency with the existing shoreline designations (most municipalities adopted their own SMP's in 1990 and 1991). The designations that were in place when this SMP was adopted reflect a pattern of development along the shoreline that has developed based on regulations that have been in place for over 20 years. Therefore, areas that maintained a "Natural" or "Conservancy" designation over time were assumed to be consistent with 1991 designations. When this consistency was identified a match between current and preliminary designations occurred and the "Natural" or "Urban Conservancy" designation was applied.

To determine where a "match" occurred, a GIS layer of the current (1991) designations was overlaid with the preliminary designation derived in Step 1 to establish areas where the designation was consistent. The purpose of this step was to identify areas that, based on the quadrant score, would retain the same designation. Only one "Natural" designation resulted in a match. However, a number of "Conservancy" (now Urban Conservancy) designations were maintained.

### ***Step 4: Tabulate Possible Draft Designations based on Existing and Preliminary Designations***

The overlay process in Step 3 led to an array of possible combinations between the current and preliminary designations. To evaluate what designations were available for assignment, a table was created to narrow the decision process. That table shows an array of designation options based on ecological function score and the shoreline designation in place at the time this SMP was developed. The next step uses the designation criteria and planning factors to assign final draft designations.

### ***Step 5: Assign Draft Designation Based on Planning Factors and Criteria***

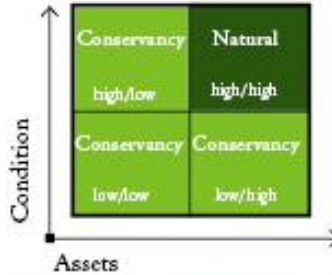
The final step in process for assigning draft shoreline designations required a review of the results of the initial four steps balanced against the functional score and various planning and land use issues. Each shoreline designation has a list of criteria required for assignment including factors such as ecological condition, existing and future land use, subdivision patterns, ownership, existing shoreline designation, etc... To arrive at final designations, the criteria were evaluated alongside the planning factors for consistency. Where conflicts existed between the selected designation and ecological function score, such conflicts were noted and considered in development of regulations for that designation.

## Okanogan County SMP Environmental Designation Process

developed by Highlands Associates

### STEP 1: ASSIGN PRELIMINARY DESIGNATION

Assign each Analysis Unit (AU) a preliminary designation of *Natural* or *Conservancy* based on ecological condition and asset score derived from the Characterization



### STEP 2: ASSIGN NATIONAL FOREST PRELIMINARY DESIGNATIONS

Assign AUs in National Forest a *Natural Designation* if inaccessible by roads,  
 Assign AUs in National Forest *Conservancy Designation* if roaded or partially developed

### STEP 3: EVALUATE PRELIMINARY DESIGNATIONS AGAINST CURRENT SMP

Overlay current SMP designations (1975) with new preliminary designations (step 1) and look for matches to see where new *Natural* or *Conservancy* AU fall. Retain designation if current SMP is the same as preliminary, ie no change in designation. Refer to STEP 4 if no match occurs. See examples below:



### STEP 4: ASSIGN POSSIBLE DRAFT DESIGNATION BASED ON ABOVE COMBINATIONS AS PER TABLE

CURRENT	PRELIMINARY	PRELIMINARY
	NATURAL	CONSERVANCY
NATURAL	match: Natural	Riverine, Conservancy
RURAL	Natural, Riverine, Rural Conservancy or Conservancy	Rural Conservancy, Riverine, Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, Shoreline Recreation
CONSERVANCY	Natural, Riverine or Conservancy	match: Conservancy
SUBURBAN	Urban Conservancy, Shoreline Residential	Urban Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, High Intensity
URBAN	Urban Conservancy	Urban Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, High Intensity

### STEP 5: FINALIZE DESIGNATION BASED ON REVIEW OF PLANNING FACTORS: existing land use patterns, zoning, or comp plan designation, flood plain extent, potential for channel migration, bank steepness, ownership

- Land use patterns: review level of subdivision, comp plan and sub-area land use designations, anticipated development (known applications or plats), number and type of structures in AU, setbacks, current uses (based on DOR use codes), and zoning (within UGAs).
- Flood plain extent: if river exhibits wide flood plain or channel migration is possible, assign Riverine, Natural, or Conservancy
- Bank Steepness: if river is incised and erosion potential low, assign Conservancy, Rural Conservancy, Shoreline Recreation or Shoreline Residential
- Ownership: if AU falls primarily in public ownership, including the PUD, assign Conservancy or Shoreline Recreation
- Criteria: check criteria of SMA Designations for consistency