

## **7. Plan Implementation**

### **Introduction**

The components of the Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan include the following elements: land-use, natural resources, environment, shorelines, and transportation. Each element includes a brief introduction to the topic, a description of current and future conditions, and policy recommendations aimed towards achieving the goal of sustainable growth on Guemes Island. The document also contains a series of maps to illustrate the issues. The Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan, as adopted by the Skagit County Board of Commissioners, is a legal document and serves to guide public and private land use decisions.

### **Plan Implementation**

Following adoption of the plan, the approved policies assigned to the county, other agencies, and the island community will begin to incorporate the plan's direction into their actions and decisions. Most of the recommendations are policy changes to supplement the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan. These amendments will provide guidance to the county and other agencies on issues affecting Guemes Island. By contrast, regulations are required actions that become part of the County Code. Ordinarily plans will go through the official adoption process before regulations are written. Code changes that are based on the policy recommendations will be drafted for public review and proposed to the County Commissioners following plan approval. To assist in plan implementation, *Appendix F* identifies the lead entity for each recommendation and where it can be found in the plan.

### **Consistency Between the Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan and the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan**

The Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan needs to be consistent with the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan (SCCP). Overall, it strives to reflect the elements of the SCCP that relate to Guemes Island, while the policies conform to the purpose and intent of the SCCP goals. In accordance with the GMA, the sub-area plan must be consistent with the SCCP. If there are inconsistencies, modifications would need to be made to either the sub-area plan or the comprehensive plan through an amendment process.

### **Amendment Process**

Amendments to the Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan may be necessitated by annual amendments to the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan or by adoption or amendment of a county shoreline master program.

In addition, the Guemes Island Sub-Area Plan will be reviewed and, if necessary, amended once every seven years, after the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan Update has been completed.

## **Policy Recommendations**

It is part of the vision of the Guemes Island Sub-Area planning process that islanders have a voice in the implementation of the sub-area plan. To that end, the following recommendations are intended to provide meaningful public involvement in implementation decisions. Definitions follow the Skagit County Code.

- 7.1** A permanent Guemes Island Advisory Committee (GIAC) will be formed to provide communications between Guemes Island property owners/residents and government agencies regarding the sub-area plan. GIAC will consist of nine members, elected by Guemes Island property owners and residents, and will serve in accordance with the State law RCW 36.70.060.070 which governs the actions of planning advisory committees.
- 7.2** GIAC will monitor implementation of the approved sub-area plan and initiate studies and other actions related to plan implementation.
- 7.3** GIAC shall be notified of any State or County proposal to change zoning or property classifications on Guemes Island.
- 7.4** GIAC will hold public meetings to gather input on resolving problems or proposed changes and submit comments on behalf of the island. GIAC would also represent the island if an appeal is warranted.
- 7.5** Public Notice
  - 7.5.1** All public notices affecting Guemes Island, including planning policy or public service changes, development proposals, variances, conditional use proposals, and capital facilities projects, shall be posted in the Skagit Valley Herald. Additionally, the County shall notify the Evening Star and/or other widely-read island media. [CCP13A-1.6]
  - 7.5.2.** Notification should be accompanied by the County press release for posting.

## References

### General

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### Environment

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## Transportation

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