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**COMMUNITY PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Joshua Cummings, Director

Creating Solutions for Our Future

MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Andrew Deffobis, Associate Planner
DATE: November 14, 2019
SUBJECT: **Best Available Science List for Shoreline Buffers**

This memo is in response to a request by the Planning Commission (PC) at its August 7, 2019 meeting to provide a list of best available science related to shoreline buffers. The following are scientific resources on shoreline buffers that were provided to the Planning Commission (PC) during its review of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update, or are referenced in documents provided to the PC.

This is not an exhaustive list of documents pertaining to buffer science. This information is intended to inform the PC as they continue to review the proposed SMP. Staff will continue to provide information to the PC as it is available.

Best Available Science Resources

Brennan, J., H. Culverwell, R. Gregg, and P. Granger, P.I. 2009. [Protection of marine riparian functions in Puget Sound, Washington](#). Washington Sea Grant. Prepared for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Bunten, D., R. Mraz., L. Driscoll., and A. Yahnke. 2016. [Wetland guidance for CAO updates – Western Washington Version](#). Washington State Department of Ecology Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program. Publication No. 16-06-001.

EnviroVision, Herrera Environmental, and Aquatic Habitats Guidelines Program. 2010. [Protecting nearshore habitat and functions in Puget Sound](#).

Federal Emergency Management Agency. 2013. [Floodplain Management and the Endangered Species Act – A Model Ordinance](#). Produced by FEMA – Region 10.

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Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team. 1993. [Forest Ecosystem Management: An Ecological, Economic, and Social Assessment](#).

Hruby, T. 2013. [Update on Wetland Buffers: The State of the Science, Final Report](#), October 2013. Washington State Department of Ecology Publication #13-06-11.

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks. Water and Land Resources Division. 2019. [Synthesis of Riparian Buffer Best Available Science: Informing Variable-Width Buffers in the Lower Snoqualmie Valley](#).

Kitsap County Department of Community Development. 2012. Technical Memorandum for Proposed Kitsap County SMP Buffers. *(Link provided on Planning Commission web page under November 20, 2019 meeting date.)*

Knutson, K.L., and V.L. Naef. 1997. [Management recommendations for Washington's priority habitats: riparian](#). Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

May, C.W., and G. Peterson. 2003. [Kitsap salmonid refugia report – Landscape assessment and conservation prioritization of freshwater and nearshore salmonid habitat in Kitsap County](#). Prepared for Kitsap County.

May, C.W. 2003. Stream-riparian ecosystems in the Puget Sound lowland eco-region: A review of best available science. Watershed Ecology, LLC. *(Link provided on Planning Commission web page under November 20, 2019 meeting date.)*

[Riparian Ecosystems, Volume 1: Science synthesis and management implications](#). 2018. Timothy Quinn, George Wilhere and Kirk Krueger, (Managing Editors). A Priority Habitat and Species Document of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia.

Washington Department of Ecology. 2017. [Shoreline Master Programs Handbook](#). Chapter 11 – Vegetation Conservation, Buffers and Setbacks. Publication No. 11-06-010.