

# Shoreline stabilization



Island County

Shoreline Master Program Update

January 30, 2012

# Agenda

1. Introduction - 10 minutes
  - Shoreline stabilization defined
  - Existing regulations and SMP guidelines
  - Extent of stabilization in Island County
2. Presentation- marine shoreline stabilization issues and solutions – 30 minutes
3. Full group Q&A and discussion

# Goals for today's workshop

Provide information on stabilization issues

Collect community input on:

- Policy changes needed for the SMP update
- How to address SMP guidelines in regulations

# Shoreline Stabilization

- Structures or modifications for the purpose of retarding shore erosion from wave or current action, protecting channels and harbors from wave action, encouraging deposition of beach materials, preventing shoreline overflow and retaining uplands.
- Includes bulkheads, seawalls, dikes, revetments, breakwaters, jetties, groins, gabions, and soft shore modifications.

# Island County Regulations

## ICC 17.05.240

### Stabilization:

- Shall not be considered an outright permitted use
- Shall be permitted only when necessary for protection of legally established structures and/or public improvements
- Shall not adversely impact the property of others

# SMP Requirements

State guidelines (WAC 173-26-231)

Structural stabilization to protect existing structures allowed only if:

- There is conclusive evidence, documented by geotechnical analysis, that the existing structure is in danger from shoreline erosion caused by tidal action, currents, or waves
- The stabilization structure will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions

# SMP Requirements

State guidelines (WAC 173-26-231)

In danger means:

- There is a significant possibility that such a structure will be damaged within three years as a result of shoreline erosion in the absence of such hard armoring measures, or
- Where waiting until the need is that immediate, would foreclose the opportunity to use measures that avoid impacts on ecological functions.

# What we've heard

- More stabilization is likely to be desired to protect existing structures from sea level rise
- County should not be expected to pay to protect properties from shoreline flooding
- Puget Sound Partnership has set a goal of reducing extent of shoreline armoring

# Map 13 from SMP inventory

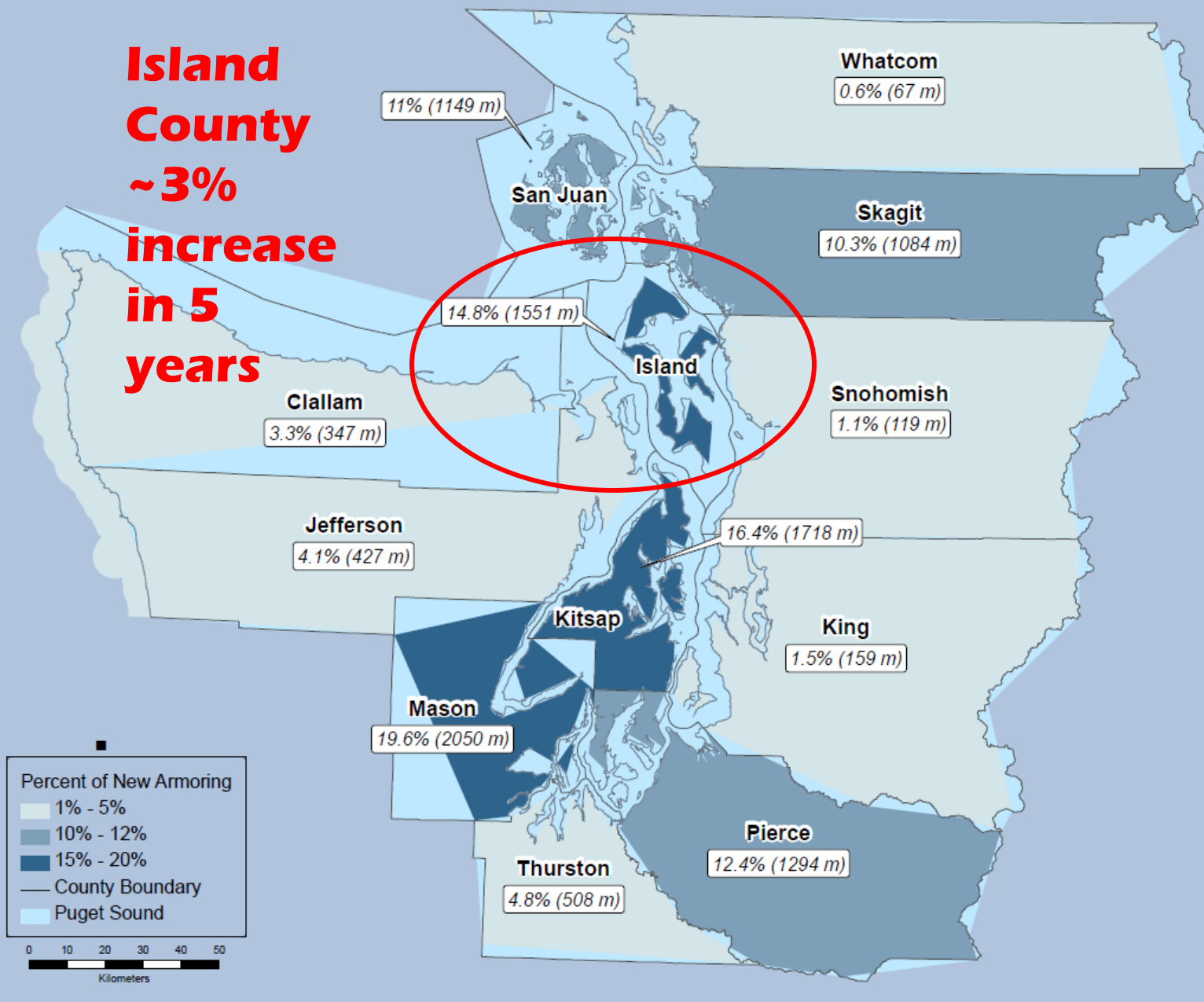
Shoreline Armoring,  
Breakwaters, Jetties,  
and Tidegates

~32 miles (16%)  
armored



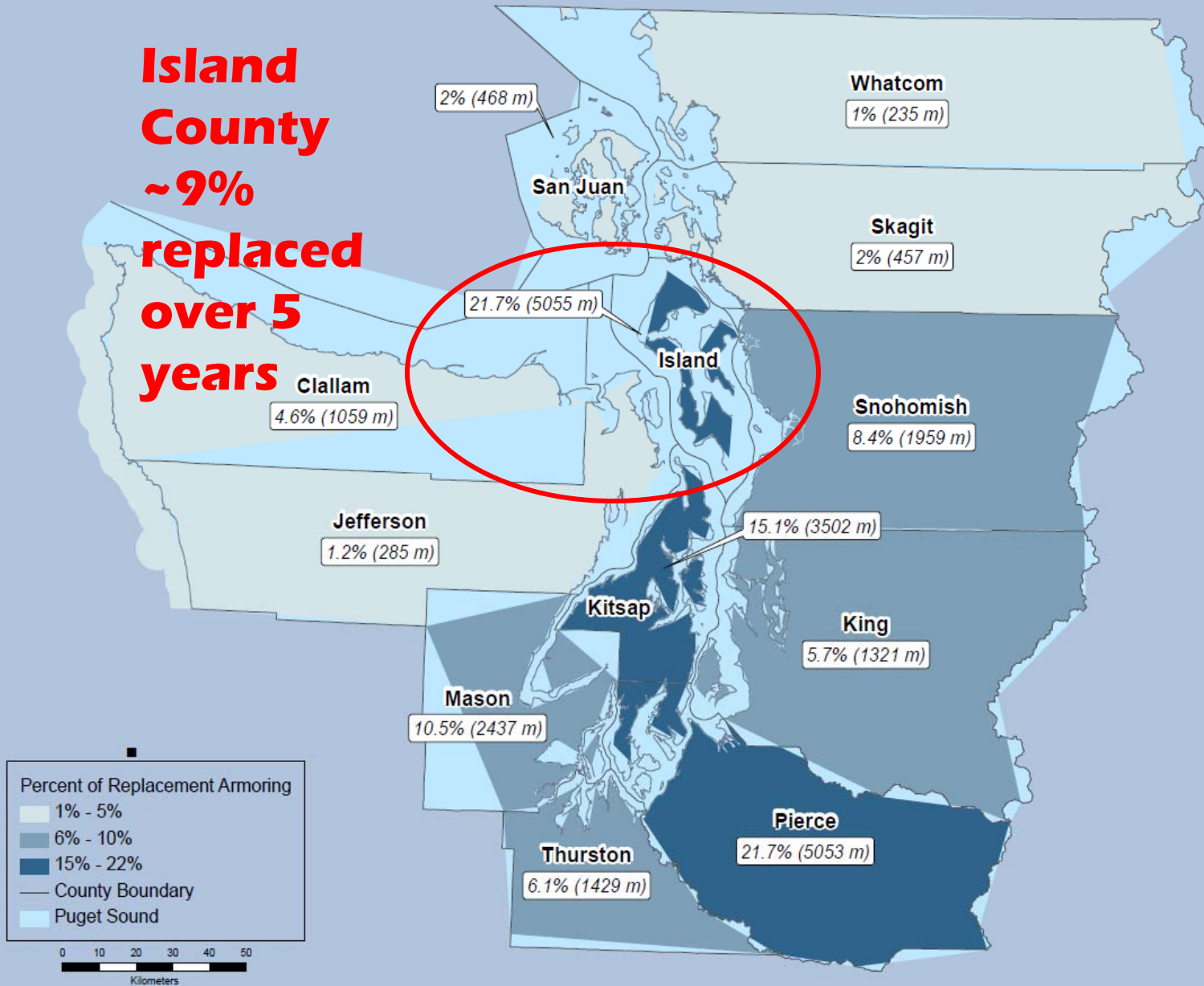
# New Shoreline Armoring by County 2005 -2010

**Island  
County  
~3%  
increase  
in 5  
years**



# Replacement Shoreline Armoring by County 2005 - 2010

**Island  
County  
~9%  
replaced  
over 5  
years**



# Next Steps

1. Compile and post summary of this workshop
2. Propose revisions to shoreline policies and regulations for public review
3. Prepare preliminary cumulative impacts analysis