

Appendix D: Development Permit Guidelines

**Section 515 – Guidelines for the Steep Slope Development Permit Area**

- A. Development and alteration of land will be planned to avoid intrusion into and minimize the impact on the Steep Slope DPA.
- B. The removal of vegetation and impact to tree root zones will be minimized.
- C. The placement of fill, disturbance to the soil, undercutting and blasting will be minimized.
- D. Development should minimize alterations to steep slopes and the development should be designed to reflect the site rather than altering the site to reflect the development.
- E. Changes in hydrology will be minimized.
- F. Runoff from the development will not destabilize or cause damage to the subject property or neighbouring properties.
- G. Development will be designed to avoid erosion and sedimentation.
- H. Erosion control measures and temporary fencing may be required during and after construction.
- I. The planting of native vegetation in both disturbed and undisturbed areas may be required to reduce the risk of erosion and improve slope stability.
- J. Heavy machinery cannot be used in circumstances where or when it might cause erosion or destabilize the slope.
- K. The clustering of buildings and structures on less steep areas is encouraged and setbacks may be varied to accommodate this.
- L. Variances to allow the siting of buildings and structures outside the Steep Slope DPA will be considered.
- M. Over-steep driveways and sharp switchbacks are discouraged and will be minimized.
- N. Shared driveways may be required where they will minimize the disturbance to steep slopes.
- O. Large, single-plane retaining walls are discouraged and landscaping should follow the natural contours of the land.
- P. As a condition of the issuance of a development permit, compliance with any or all conditions recommended in a report by a QP will be considered by the CRD and may be included in development permit.

**Section 525 – Guidelines for the Steep Slope Development Permit Area**

- A. Development or alteration of land will be planned to avoid intrusion into and minimize the impact on the Shoreline Protection DPA.
- B. Alteration of natural shorelines will be avoided.
- C. Erosion and sedimentation will be avoided.
- D. The removal of vegetation and impact to tree root zones will be minimized.
- E. Changes in natural shoreline processes will be minimized.
- F. The use of fill, disturbance to the soil and blasting will be minimized.
- G. Non-structural and soft armouring are the preferred type of works for shore protection and where this approach is not possible, riprap and stone revetment is preferred over single-plane seawalls.
- H. A Qualified Professional (QP) must design any shore protection devices or works.
- I. Proposed development that may have the potential to adversely affect fish habitat will require the review and approval by appropriate federal and provincial agencies prior to the issuance of a development permit.
- J. Setbacks for buildings and structures will consider the current risk from storms and flooding as well as minimum elevation guidelines established by the CRD or other public authority with respect to the potential risk from erosion and coastal flooding associated with climate change and sea level rise.
- K. Variances to allow the siting of buildings and structures outside the Shoreline Protection DPA will be considered.
- L. Compliance with the conditions or recommendations in a report by a QP will be considered by the CRD and may be included in a development permit.
- M. The planting of native vegetation may be required to reduce the risk of erosion, restore the natural ecology, revegetate disturbed areas, improve water quality and ensure the stability of slopes and banks.
- N. Erosion control measures and fencing may be required during and after construction.
- O. Machinery working in this environmentally sensitive area may be required to use biofuels instead of fossil fuels.
- P. To avoid disturbance of the upland and foreshore areas for a purpose referred to in Section 491(1)(e) of the LGA, heavy machinery may be required to be barged to the site.
- Q. Construction may be restricted to certain times of the year to avoid storm seasons, unusually high or low tides and sensitive life-cycle times for wildlife such as nesting or migrating.
- R. Where possible, vegetation and natural resources such as anchored logs and riparian plantings on protected shorelines, should be incorporated into shore protection works.