



## Executive Summary

---

**Issue Title:** 2024 Critical Areas Ordinance Update  
**Meeting Date:** January 17, 2023  
**Time Required:** 20 - 30 Minutes  
**Department:** Department of Community Development (DCD)  
**Attendees:** Colin Poff, Carla Lundgren

**Action Requested at This Meeting:** No action necessary – status update.

### **Background:**

The Kitsap County Community Development Department will review and update its Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) with adoption planned in December of 2024. The CAO was last updated in 2017, and will be updated in conjunction with the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update. Edits will be related to KCC Title 19.

The purpose of this project is to evaluate and modify the CAO per the schedule provided in RCW 36.70A.130.

Staff are briefing the Board of Commissioners on January 18, 2023 of this project. Staff has begun drafting the project work plan, compiling best available science (BAS) data, creating a public participation plan, and drafting a proposed project schedule. A summary of changes will likely be available for review in late 2023, prior to a Planning Commission work study. No public outreach has yet been conducted for this project.

### **Scope:**

The scope of this project is to make necessary updates to the Critical Area Ordinance KCC Title 19. The objectives of this project include:

- Compliance with State mandates
- Incorporation of any recent BAS or new information available since the last update in 2005 (limited amendments in 2007) (WAC365-195-915)
- Consideration and incorporation of any recent court or Growth Management Hearings Board decisions
- Receive technical guidance regarding each type of Critical Areas and update as needed. (*i.e. Wetlands, aquifers, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas, and geologically hazardous areas*)
- Integrate critical areas regulations with other County efforts including the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, Natural Resources as an Asset, and Monitoring Effectiveness
- Inclusion of code corrections or other amendments identified by staff while implementing the CAO

DCD will develop revisions based on suggestions that are received from internal staff, external stakeholders, project consultant (The Watershed Company), BAS data, and public comment.

**Next Steps:**

- January 18 - Board of County Commissioners Briefing