

# SEPA<sup>1</sup> Environmental Checklist

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## Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

## Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use “not applicable” or “does not apply” only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

## Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

## Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance>

## A. Background

[Find help answering background questions<sup>2</sup>](#)

**1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

Kitsap County Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Periodic Update

**2. Name of applicant:**

Kitsap County

**3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

Colin Poff, Planning Supervisor

619 Division St. MS-36

Port Orchard, WA 98266

Phone: (360) 337-5777

Email: CPoff@kitsap.gov

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

February 1, 2024

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Kitsap County Department of Community Development

**6. Proposed timing of schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to propose a recommendation to the Department of Community Development for the amendments to Title 19, Critical Areas Ordinance. The Board will also hold a public hearing with the CAO Periodic Update revisions targeted to be adopted in September 2024.

**7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

This is a non-project action to complete the periodic update of the Critical Areas Ordinance (Kitsap County Title 19). No further activity is planned for this proposal.

**8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

N/A; this proposal includes a periodic update of the Critical Areas Ordinance (Kitsap County Title 19). Other relevant environmental information that has been prepared include:

- Best Available Science Summary – Prepared by DCG/Watershed dated May 31, 2023
- Consistency and Gap Analysis – Prepared by DCG/Watershed dated June 21, 2023

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<sup>2</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background>

- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for 2024 Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan Updated – dated December 2023
- 2017 Critical Areas Ordinance Update Best Available Science Summary
- 2017 Critical Areas Ordinance Update SEPA Checklist submitted April 20, 2017
- 2017 Critical Areas Ordinance Update SEPA DNS dated April 27, 2017
- WDFW Riparian Management Guidance Technical Memo – Prepared by DCG/Watershed Dated December 8, 2023.
- Frequently Flood Areas Technical Memo – Prepared by DCG/Watershed October 12, 2023

**9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

This is a non-project action. Any current property specific development applications will be vested under the current policies and regulations of the Critical Areas Ordinance.

**10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

The Kitsap County Board of County Commissioners must approve the revisions of this Ordinance prior to adoption.

**11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)**

The County proposes to amend Title 19, Critical Areas Ordinance, to comply with their periodic update requirement. The proposed amendments are the result of best available science pursuant to WAC 365-190-080(2), updated state guidance, and changes in state law.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

Unincorporated Kitsap County.

## **B.Environmental Elements**

### **1. Earth**

[Find help answering earth questions<sup>3</sup>](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth)

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<sup>3</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth>

**a. General description of the site:**

Unincorporated Kitsap County contains flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes and mountainous areas.

**Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:**

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Kitsap County contains a variety of terrain, including steep and unstable slopes.

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Silt, sand, clay, loam, and peat are typical soils found throughout the County.

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Unincorporated Kitsap County includes mapped steep and unstable slopes, as well as areas at risk of liquefaction.

**e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include filling, excavation, or grading activities will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include clearing or construction activities will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals will be reviewed for compliance with all applicable policies and regulations.

**h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. As such, no measures to reduce or control erosion are required. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

## 2. Air

[Find help answering air questions](#)<sup>4</sup>

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include emissions to the air will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Any off-site sources of emissions or odor will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action. As such, no measures to reduce or control emissions are required. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

## 3. Water

[Find help answering water questions](#)<sup>5</sup>

- a. **Surface:**

[Find help answering surface water questions](#)<sup>6</sup>

1. **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Unincorporated Kitsap County contains many streams, saltwater bodies, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

2. **Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Development applications will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable codes and regulations.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air>

<sup>5</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water>

<sup>6</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water>

- 3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include fill or dredge material will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- 4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include surface water withdrawals or diversions will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- 5. Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Portions of unincorporated Kitsap County are located within a 100-year floodplain and shoreline flood hazard areas.

- 6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include discharges of waste materials will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**b. Ground:**

[Find help answering ground water questions](#)<sup>7</sup>

- 1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

N/A; this is a non-project action, which will not withdraw groundwater. Future development proposals that include groundwater withdrawn from a well will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- 2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

N/A; this is a non-project action, which would not discharge any waste material into the ground from septic tanks. Future development will be reviewed for discharge of waste material into the ground on an individual basis.

**c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):**

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<sup>7</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater>

- 1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. No runoff would result directly from this proposal. Future development proposals will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- 2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action, which would not generate waste materials into the ground or surface waters. Future development will be reviewed for waste materials entering ground or surface waters on an individual basis.

- 3. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action, which would not alter drainage patterns. Future development will be reviewed for impacts on drainage patterns on an individual basis.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action. When future development proposals are submitted, any water-related impacts created during clearing and construction activities will be mitigated in compliance with the County's stormwater regulations and the most recent Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW), where applicable.

## 4. Plants

[Find help answering plants questions](#)

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other**
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other**
- shrubs**
- grass**
- pasture**
- crop or grain**
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.**
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other**
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other**
- other types of vegetation**

N/A; this is a non-project action. A variety of vegetation is found within Kitsap County, including deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, grass, herbs, wet soil plants, and aquatic vegetation.

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

N/A, this is a non-project action. When a specific development proposal is submitted, the kind and amount of vegetation to be removed or altered will depend on County requirements.

**c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. The following are listed as threatened or endangered plant species within Kitsap County:

Species	Federal Status	State Status
<b>Plants</b>		
Golden Paintbrush	Threatened	
Marsh (or Swamp) Sandwort	Endangered	

Sources: US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Electronic Reference; WDFW 2008 (updated 2022), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Electronic Reference

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations, including requirements to preserve or revegetate with native plant species to achieve no net loss of critical area functions and values.

**e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Several types of noxious weeds and/or invasive species can be found within Kitsap County.

## 5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions](#)<sup>8</sup>

**a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Examples include:

- **Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:**
- **Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:**
- **Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:**

A variety of birds, mammals, and fish are known to have habitat within unincorporated Pacific County.

<sup>8</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals>



**b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. The following are listed as threatened, endangered, or candidate species within Kitsap County:

Species	Federal Status	State Status
<b>Fish</b>		
Chinook Salmon (Puget Sound Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU))	Threatened	
Chum Salmon (Hood Canal summer-run ESU)	Threatened	
Steelhead trout (Puget Sound DPS)	Threatened	Candidate
Bull Trout (Coastal/Puget Sound ESU)	Threatened	Candidate
Bocaccio, Rockfish (Puget Sound/Georgia Basin DPS)	Endangered	
River Lamprey		Candidate
<b>Marine Mammals</b>		
Humpback Whale	Endangered	Endangered
Killer Whale (Southern Resident Distinct Population Segment (DPS))	Endangered	Endangered
Sperm Whale	Endangered	Endangered
Gray Whale	Endangered	Sensitive
Harbor Porpoise		Candidate
<b>Birds</b>		
Marbled Murrelet	Threatened	Endangered
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Threatened	Endangered
Common Loon		Sensitive
Tufted Puffin		Endangered
Western Grebe		Candidate
Northern Spotted Owl*	Threatened	Endangered
<b>Non-Marine Mammals</b>		
Keen's Myotis (formerly Keen's)		Candidate
Townsend's Big-eared Bat		Candidate
<b>Reptiles</b>		
Western Pond Turtle	Petitioned for Federal Listing	Endangered
<b>Invertebrates</b>		
Pinto Abalone		Endangered
<b>Insects</b>		

Western Bumble Bee	Petitioned for Federal Listing	Candidate
Puget Blue (Butterfly)		Candidate
Monarch Butterfly**	Candidate	
<b>Amphibians</b>		
Western Toad		Candidate

Sources: US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Electronic Reference; WDFW 2008 (updated 2022), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Electronic Reference

\*Mapped for Kitsap County by USFWS but not by WDFW Priority Habitats and Species Listings

\*\* Not included in WDFW Priority Habitats and Species Listings

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Kitsap County is located within the Pacific Flyway migration route utilized by waterfowl migrating north into Alaska and northern Canada. The Pacific Flyway extends from Mexico to Canada and Alaska.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations, including requirements to maintain wildlife populations and habitat to achieve no net loss of critical area functions and values.

**e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)<sup>9</sup>

**a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Future development proposals and their energy needs will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Future development proposals and their impacts to adjacent properties will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. As such, no measures to for emergency conservation are required. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

<sup>9</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou>

## 7. Environmental health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)<sup>10</sup>

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

2. **Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. No measures are required to reduce or control environmental health hazards for this proposal.

### b. Noise

1. **What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

2. **What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site)?**

N/A, this is a non-project action.

3. **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

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<sup>10</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health>

N/A, this is a non-project action. No measures are required to reduce or control noise impacts for this proposal.

## 8. Land and shoreline use

[Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)<sup>11</sup>

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

The proposal is a non-project action. Land uses within Kitsap County consist of a variety of types of land use including residential, commercial, recreational, industrial, multi-family, public institutional uses, and vacant land.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- 1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Zoning classifications in unincorporated Kitsap County include:

- Forest Resource Lands;
- Mineral Resource Overlay;
- Rural Wooded;
- Rural Protection;
- Rural Residential;
- Urban Restricted;
- Greenbelt;
- Urban Low Residential;
- Urban Cluster Residential;
- Urban Medium Residential;

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<sup>11</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use>

- Urban High Residential;
- Regional Center;
- Low Intensity Commercial;
- Urban Village Center;
- Commercial;
- Neighborhood Commercial;
- Rural Commercial;
- Business Park;
- Business Center;
- Rural Industrial;
- Park; and
- Industrial.

Kitsap County also has several Limited Areas of More Intense Rural Development (LAMIRDs). The Keyport Rural Village LAMIRD includes Keyport Village Commercial, Keyport Village Low Residential and Keyport Village Residential zoning classifications.

Manchester Rural Village LAMIRD includes Manchester Village Commercial, Manchester Village Low Residential, and Manchester Village Residential zoning classifications.

Port Gamble Rural Historic Town LAMIRD includes Rural Historic Town Commercial, Rural Historic Town Residential, and Rural Historic Town Waterfront zoning classifications.

Suquamish Rural Village LAMIRD includes Suquamish Village Commercial, Suquamish Village Low Residential, and Suquamish Village Residential zoning classifications.

Other LAMIRDs include Rural Employment Center and Twelve Trees Employment Center zoning classifications.

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Unincorporated Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan designations include:

- Rural Residential
- Rural Protection
- Rural Wooded
- Forest Resource Lands
- Mineral Resource Overlay
- Urban Low-Density Residential

- Urban Medium-Density Residential
- Urban High-Density Residential
- Urban High-Density Commercial
- Urban Low-Density Commercial
- Rural Commercial
- Urban Industrial
- Rural Industrial
- Public Facilities

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. The Kitsap County Shoreline Master Program includes the following shoreline environmental designations:

- Natural
- Rural Conservancy
- Shoreline Residential
- Urban Conservancy
- High Intensity
- Aquatic

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

N/A, this is a non-project action. Portions of unincorporated Kitsap County include the critical areas of wetlands, streams, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas, and/or geologically hazardous areas.

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. As of April 2023, estimated County population was 283,200.

Source: Office of Financial Management, April 1, 2023 Population of cities, towns and counties  
[https://ofm.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/dataresearch/pop/april1/ofm\\_april1\\_population\\_final.pdf](https://ofm.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/dataresearch/pop/april1/ofm_april1_population_final.pdf)

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

N/A; this is a non-project action that would not displace any people.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.**

N/A; this is a non-project action. No measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts are required for this proposal.

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

**m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

## 9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions](#)<sup>12</sup>

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

## 10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)<sup>13</sup>

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Future development proposals that include construction of structures will be required to comply with the height restrictions contained within the applicable Zoning classification.

- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action. All future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with the applicable policies and regulations.

## 11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions](#)<sup>14</sup>

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

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<sup>12</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing>

<sup>13</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics>

<sup>14</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare>

N/A; this is a non-project action.

**c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

## 12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

**a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

N/A; this is a non-project action. Kitsap County has abundant recreational activities including ocean beaches, rivers, wildlife refuges, public parks, and other related activities.

**b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

N/A; this is a non-project action.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-project action. As such, no measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation or recreational opportunities are required.

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)<sup>15</sup>

**a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment. There are 24 places in Kitsap County listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including 10 places of National significance and three of Statewide significance.

**b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment and compliance with all applicable local, state and federal regulations, including state and federal historic preservation laws.

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<sup>15</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p>



- c. **Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

N/A, this is a non-project action, which would not result in impacts to cultural and historic resources. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment.

- d. **Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be reviewed for consistency will all applicable policies and regulations.

## 14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions](#)<sup>16</sup>

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment and will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

- b. **Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment and will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

- c. **Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be subject to site specific assessment and will be reviewed for consistency with all applicable policies and regulations.

- d. **Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action.

- e. **How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of**

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<sup>16</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation>

**the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

N/A; this is a non-projection action.

- f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be reviewed for consistency will all applicable policies and regulations.

## 15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions<sup>17</sup>](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development will be reviewed for consistency will all applicable policies and regulations.

## 16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions<sup>18</sup>](#)

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Utilities available within unincorporated Kitsap County include sewer, water, septic systems, electricity, propane, refuse service, & telephone/internet/cable.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

N/A; this is a non-projection action. Future development proposals will be reviewed for consistency all applicable policies and regulations.

## C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign<sup>19</sup>](#)

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<sup>17</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services>

<sup>18</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities>

<sup>19</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.



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**Type name of signee:** Colin Poff

**Position and agency/organization:** Kitsap County

**Date submitted:** March 8, 2024

## **D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions**

[Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet<sup>20</sup>](#)

**Do not** use this section for project actions.

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

**1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?**

The proposed amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 19) are not expected to increase discharges to water, emissions to air, production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances, or production of noise. The CAO regulates uses and development activities within identified critical areas, as required by the Growth Management Act, as well as critical area buffers or setbacks through implementation of policies and regulations designed to protect the functions and values of those critical areas.

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

The CAO is designed to avoid or reduce impacts to critical areas by following the no net loss principal. Additionally, options are provided to allow for enhancement to protections to further avoid or reduce impacts.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-d-non-project-actions>

**2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?**

The proposed amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance are not anticipated to negatively affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life. The amendments include increased protection standards based on best available science, updated state guidance, and changes in state law.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

The proposed amendments are intended to improve protection of critical areas, which plants, animals, and fish rely on for habitat. The amendments also include special consideration of the protection and conservation of anadromous fisheries.

**3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?**

The proposed amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance are not anticipated to deplete energy or natural resources.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

The proposed amendments include improved protection standards for critical areas. These increased standards are expected to preserve and protect natural resources.

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

The proposed amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance are based on best available science, updates to state guidance, and changes to state law. These amendments are intended to improve protection standards for environmentally sensitive (critical) areas. The county does not contain any designated wilderness or wild and scenic rivers and prime farmland is limited. The CAO does, however, exempt pre-existing, ongoing agricultural activities. The CAO does not directly regulate historical or cultural sites but does require documentation for compliance with other applicable laws and regulations.

- **Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

The proposed amendments are expected to reduce impacts to critical areas and related functions and values.

**5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?**

This non-project action does not allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans. The CAO is applied as an overlay to the Zoning Code, which regulates the allowed uses. The Critical Areas Ordinance is also being updated in tandem with the Comprehensive Plan update to ensure consistency.

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

Development will be required to comply with all other applicable policies and regulations to protect environmentally sensitive areas, including the Critical Areas Ordinance and Shoreline Master Program, where applicable.

**6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?**

Increased demands on transportation, utilities, or public services are not expected from this non-project action.

- **Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

Increased demands on transportation, utilities, or public services are not expected from this non-project action. Future development will be required to comply with all applicable policies and regulations.

**7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

This non-project action is not expected to be in conflict with any local, state or federal laws. The proposed amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance have been reviewed for compliance with local, state, and federal laws.