



KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

614 DIVISION STREET MS-36, PORT ORCHARD WASHINGTON 98366-4682
(360) 337-7181 FAX (360) 337-4925 HOME PAGE - www.kitsapgov.com/nr/

Kamuron D. Guroi, DIRECTOR

November 19, 2003

TO: Kitsap County Best Available Science Technical Review Committee

RE: Scenarios for Frequently Flooded Areas section of CAO (KCC 19.500)

Following is a summary of possible changes to the Frequently Flooded Areas chapter of the Critical Areas Ordinance, based on the November 12 committee discussion.

Options:

1. ***Introduce channel migration zone (CMZ) protection to the existing flood ordinance.*** Pierce County has identified portions of three large rivers for CMZ protection: the Puyallup, White and Carbon Rivers. While Kitsap County does not have rivers of that size, it is recognized that the larger county streams do contain CMZ's. These could be mapped using Lidar data, and existing studies such as the May and Peterson 2003 refugia report.
2. ***Provide further direction for new or replacement septic drainfields in flood hazard areas.*** Chapter 15.12.050(3) currently reads "New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into the systems and discharge from the systems into floodwaters." Discussions with Health District staff indicate that they rarely encounter such situations, and are not aware of any recently approved drainfields that have become inundated with surface waters in flood hazard areas. When areas are recognized to have at least seasonal saturation, the effluent is normally required to be pumped to drainfield at a higher elevation. Current state law requires that septic drainfields maintain 100 feet of separation from standing or flowing water.
3. ***Retain existing flood ordinance as amended by the Board of County Commissioners in October 2003 (Ordinance no. 310-2003).*** Discussion of CMZ's may also be addressed during the review of Section 300 of the CAO (Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas), scheduled for January 21 and February 4, 2004. As an alternative, any CMZ language could be incorporated into that portion of the CAO. *Note: Mike Gustavson's specific recommendations for language revisions will be taken under consideration.*

