

**CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE UPDATE- Best Available Science Review****Frequently Flooded Areas**

- Kitsap County's CAO (Title 19) adopts by reference **KCC Title 15** (Flood Hazard Areas) to meet the requirements of this Frequently Flooded Areas section. Title 15 was recently updated in 2015 to meet the latest requirements regarding designation and mapping (FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps) and channel migration zones, as well as standards for habitat protection. **Recommendation:** *No substantial changes are proposed at this time. A minor update to Title 15 will be needed prior to adoption of the CAO (Title 19), but will be a minor update to change definitions per FEMA requirements.*

*Legislative Changes*

- In the 2010 update, WAC 365-190-110 was added to address and amend prior regulations on frequently flooded areas. A few considerations were added when designating and classifying frequently flooded areas, the most applicable being that jurisdictions should now consider areas that have the potential for "greater surface runoff caused by increasing impervious surfaces."
- In 2010, WAC 365-190-030 amended the definition of frequently flooded areas to include "areas subject to flooding due to high ground water" such as "areas where high ground water forms ponds on the ground surface."  
**Recommendation:** *Change to definition.*