



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Local Services and Land Use Committee**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	5, 6, 7	Name:	Erin Auzins Jenny Ngo Jake Tracy
Proposed No.:	2023-0438 2023-0439 2023-0440	Date:	February 21, 2024

SUBJECT

A discussion of the 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan. Today's meeting will include a staff briefing on Chapters 5 and 6 of the Comprehensive Plan.

SUMMARY

The 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan (2024 KCCP) is the first opportunity where the entire Plan will be open for review and update since 2016. Additionally, it will also serve as the Growth Management Act (GMA) mandated periodic review and update. The Executive transmitted the Executive's Recommended 2024 KCCP to the Council on December 7, 2023, and the Council has referred the 2024 KCCP to the Local Services and Land Use (LSLU) Committee.

Review of the 2024 KCCP will be led by the LSLU Chair, consistent with past updates, and will include Committee briefings on the substance of the Executive's Recommended 2024 KCCP, analysis by policy staff of each substantive change, public outreach, development of a LSLU Chair's striking amendment, line amendments by LSLU Committee members, and a vote in LSLU in June 2024. Full Council adoption is expected in December 2024, after a formal public hearing on November 19, 2024.

Today' staff presentation will cover:

- Chapter 5: Environment; and
- Chapter 6: Shorelines.

BACKGROUND

King County Comprehensive Planning. The King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) is the guiding policy document for land use and development regulations in unincorporated King County. The King County Code (K.C.C.) allows for amendments to the KCCP on an annual, midpoint, or ten-year update schedule.¹ The ten-year update is on the same timeline as the GMA mandated review and update. The entire KCCP, and associated implementing regulations, is open for substantive revision, subject to limitations in the GMA, VISION 2050, the Countywide Planning Policies, KCCP policies, and the King County Code.

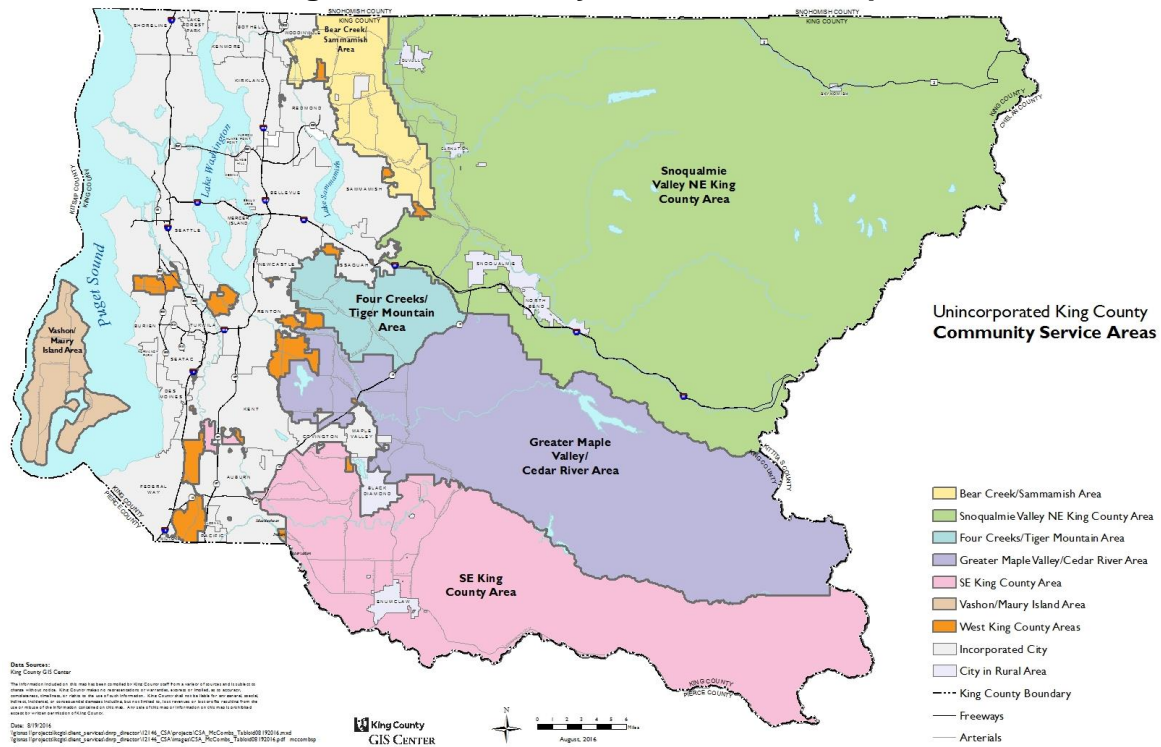
Scoping Motion. K.C.C. 20.18.060 requires the County to approve a scope of work for the ten-year KCCP update, known as the scoping motion. The scoping motion establishes the baseline issues that the County proposes to consider in the development of the 2024 KCCP; additional issues beyond what is in the scope of work may also be addressed in the ten-year update. The Council approved the scoping motion, as well as the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) work program and public participation plan, as part of Motion 16142 in June 2022. The scope of work included three focus areas: Pro-Equity, Housing, and Climate Change and the Environment. It also adopted a General category to cover other required and priority items for the County.

SEPA Environmental Impact Statement. The SEPA review for the 2024 KCCP includes an environmental impact statement (EIS), which includes alternatives analysis based on the scope of work and other potential amendment concepts. The Executive issued a Draft EIS concurrent with transmittal of the 2024 KCCP to the Council on December 7, 2023. The public comment period on the Draft EIS closed on January 31, 2024. A Final EIS will be developed based on any comments received, and the Committee-Recommended version of the 2024 KCCP and any new amendment concepts to be considered by the Council before final adoption. Amendment concepts raised after publication of the Draft EIS must be within the scope of the alternatives analyzed in the Draft EIS, otherwise a supplemental EIS may be required.

Subarea Planning. As part of the 2016 KCCP, the Council included Workplan Action #1, Implementation of the Community Service Area (CSA) Subarea Planning Program. As part of this Workplan Action item, the County will conduct subarea planning using the geography of the six rural CSAs, and the five remaining large urban unincorporated potential annexation areas (PAAs), as shown in the map in Chapter 11 of the 2024 KCCP and in Figure 1 of this staff report.

¹ K.C.C. 20.18.030, including changes proposed with the 2024 KCCP.

Figure 1. Community Services Area Map



Since the implementation of the Subarea Planning Program in 2016, three subarea plans have been adopted: Vashon-Maury Island in 2017, Skyway-West Hill in 2022, and North Highline in 2022. The Executive's proposed Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County (SVNE) subarea plan will be taken up concurrently with the 2024 KCCP and the remaining subarea plans will later be taken up in the following order: Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River CSA, Fairwood PAA, Bear Creek/Sammamish CSA, Southeast King County CSA, Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain CSA, East Renton PAA, and Federal Way PAA.

2020 Changes to the Subarea Planning Program. As part of the 2020 KCCP, policy and code changes were made regarding the Subarea Planning Program. Generally, the changes required that subarea plans: be developed based on an established scope of work, use equity impact tools and resources in plan development, have more robust community engagement, and be monitored through performance measures and evaluation. K.C.C. 2.16.055.B. requires the Department of Local Services (DLS), in coordination with the regional planning unit and the Councilmember office representing the geography, to manage the CSA subarea planning program, and requires that each subarea plan:

- Be consistent with the KCCP;
- Be based on a scope of work established with the community;
- Establish a long-range vision and policies that implement that vision, but that are not redundant to the KCCP;
- Establish performance metrics and monitoring;
- Use the tools and resources of the Executive's Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice (OERSJ) throughout development, implementation and monitoring,

including for community engagement and incorporating the findings of an equity impact analysis;

- Review existing policies (primarily from Chapter 11) of the KCCP and retain/transfer those that are still applicable;
- Review land use designations and zoning classifications, including special district overlays (SDOs) and property-specific (P-suffix) development conditions, and amend as necessary; and
- Incorporate the community needs list required to be developed simultaneously.

Community Needs List. As part of the 2020 KCCP, the Council established a Community Needs List (CNL) for each of the CSA geographies in the subarea planning program. Each CNL is intended to be consistent with its respective subarea plan by identifying potential services, programs, facilities, and improvements that respond to community-identified needs. Development of the CNLs, including community engagement, must use tools from the County’s Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice (formerly OESJ). CNLs are required to be submitted with transmittal of the applicable subarea plan, and with each county budget, via ordinance.

Council Review Process. LSLU will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from January through June 2024, and is expected to make a recommendation to the full Council at its June 5, 2024, committee meeting. Each committee meeting will be dedicated to specific chapters of the 2024 KCCP. This approach allows for detailed review of each chapter but will not provide time in Committee to revisit most issues discussed in earlier meetings. The Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County (SVNE) Subarea Plan will be briefed at the beginning of the Committee review process, and then heard with the striking amendment at the end of the Committee review process.

The schedule takes into account a number of factors, including the EIS process; LSLU Committee meeting dates; public comments; lead time to analyze and produce amendments; minimum noticing timeframes; and the state deadline for adoption. The schedule assumes one meeting solely for briefing the striking amendment and one meeting to vote on the underlying ordinance, the striking amendment, and all line amendments.

Special LSLU Evening Meetings. The Committee is expected to hold five special evening LSLU meetings on the 2024 KCCP and Draft EIS. The dates, locations, and the focus of each special evening meeting are provided in the following table. The remaining evening meetings will only allow for in person public comment. If KCTV determines that remote participation and livestreaming capabilities are feasible at other locations, these options will be provided.

Meeting Date/Time	Location	Focus
Thursday, January 18, 2024 Doors open: 6:00pm Meeting starts: 6:30pm	County Council Chambers 516 Third Ave, Room 1200 Seattle	Hearing on Draft EIS
Thursday, February 8, 2024 Doors open: 6:00pm Meeting starts: 6:30pm	Covington City Hall 16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100 Covington	KCCP Overview

Thursday, March 7, 2024 Doors open: 6:00pm Meeting starts: 6:30pm	Riverview Educational Service Center 15510 1st Ave NE Duvall	Snoqualmie Valley / NE King County Subarea Plan
Thursday, April 4, 2024 Doors open: 5:00pm Meeting starts: 5:30pm	Vashon Center for the Arts 19600 Vashon Hwy SW Vashon	Map changes, Shoreline code changes
Thursday, May 16, 2024 Doors open: 6:00pm Meeting starts: 6:30pm	Skyway VFW 7421 S 126th St Seattle	Committee Striking Amendment

These locations were chosen based on the location of significant map amendments and issues of interest, and to provide geographic distribution of the meetings. The first meeting on January 18th was primarily to hear verbal public comment on the Draft EIS. Comments on the KCCP will be accepted at each evening meeting. The final evening meeting on May 16th will be focused on the Committee Chair's striking amendment.

Evening meetings are expected to include: a welcome/open house at the beginning, followed by Councilmember remarks, a staff presentation, and public comment. The majority of the meeting will be dedicated to receiving public comment. Materials to share information and obtain written comment will be prepared and provided at the meeting.

Chair Striking Amendment. The Committee Chair is expected to sponsor and lead development of the Committee striking amendment. Policy staff will prepare analysis and potential options that will be distributed to all Committee members' offices for their consideration in advance of the amendment request deadline.

Regular briefings for district staff will be provided, and policy staff will be available to brief Councilmembers individually.

Amendment deadlines. The review schedule, Attachment 1 to this staff report, includes the established amendment deadlines. The attached schedule also includes the amendment deadlines for full Council.

Key Committee review dates include:

Date	Deadline
March 29	Amendment requests for Striking Amendment due – Except for Critical Area Regulations
April 5	Substantive direction deadline for Striking Amendment – Except for Critical Area Regulations
April 12	Amendment requests for Striking Amendment due – Critical Area Regulations
April 19	Substantive direction deadline for Striking Amendment – Critical Area Regulations
May 14	Striking Amendment released
May 22	Line amendment direction due
May 31	Public line amendments released

ANALYSIS

Executive Transmittal. The Executive transmittal of the 2024 KCCP follows 18 months of work by the Executive, including, in part, public issuance of an early concepts document, an interbranch review by Council staff at two stages, a Public Review Draft with a public comment period, and an interdepartmental review of the plan by Executive staff. There are 3 proposed ordinances in the Executive's transmittal to the Council.

- 1) Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440 would make changes to development and other implementing regulations and adopt the 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan, as well as the associated appendices (Housing, Transportation, Capital Facilities and Utilities, Regional Trails, Growth Targets). The transmittal also includes the following:
 - Changes to the Vashon-Maury Island Subarea Plan and associated zoning map conditions;
 - Proposed land use designation and zoning map amendments;
 - I-207 matrices and Plain Language Summary;
 - Equity Analysis; and
 - Other supporting materials (i.e. Public Participation Summary, area zoning and land use studies, code studies, best available science summary²).
- 2) Proposed Ordinance 2023-0439 would adopt the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan with subarea-specific development regulations and map amendments, as well as a Fall City residential study.
- 3) Proposed Ordinance 2023-0438 would adopt updated Countywide Planning Policies.

How the Analysis Section is Organized. As noted previously, each committee meeting will be dedicated to specific chapters of the 2024 KCCP. The analysis in this staff report focuses on the following items in the 2024 KCCP:

- 2024 KCCP (PO 2023-0440):
 - Chapter 5: Environment; and
 - Chapter 6: Shorelines.

Analysis of other chapters in the Executive's Recommended 2024 KCCP will be provided at subsequent LSLU meetings, as noted in the schedule attached to the staff report. Staff analysis of each component includes identification of each change and discussion of any policy issues or inconsistencies with adopted policies and plans.

One continuous theme throughout the KCCP chapters is a significant reduction in the amount of lead-in text, and reorganization with and across chapters to better group topics. The staff analysis will not address those, except when they represent a substantive change.

² The required best available science and critical area regulations update will be transmitted to the Council on March 1, 2024, for the Council to incorporate into the LSLU striking amendment.

2024 KCCP Chapter 5: Environment³

Chapter 5 of the KCCP describes and includes policies related to the natural environment, climate change and greenhouse gas emission reduction, air quality, land and water resources (including biodiversity, stormwater, upland areas, aquatic resources, salmon recovery, flood hazard management, and hazardous waste), geologically hazardous areas, planning for disasters, and monitoring and adaptive management.

Key themes in the Executive's Transmittal for Chapter 5 include policy changes addressing:

- Climate equity and engagement with frontline communities;
- Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP) and climate change impact and resiliency;
- Regional stormwater planning;
- Greenhouse gas emission reduction goals;
- Energy use reduction, including phasing out fossil fuel use;
- Extreme heat impacts;
- Wildfire risk and smoke impacts;
- Protection of mature and old-growth forests and forest health;
- Fish passage;
- Organics reuse;
- Land conservation; and
- Lake water quality.

Attachment 3 to this staff report provides the staff analysis on the Executive's transmittal, including some additional policy changes that could be made to further clarify or streamline the Executive's transmittal. At today's meeting, policy staff will brief the new policy and substantive policy changes.

It should also be noted that policies in Chapter 5 address critical areas. The Executive is anticipating transmitting additional changes in Chapter 5 as part of the best available science/critical area regulation changes package, on March 1, 2024. Those changes will be briefed in Committee at the May 1, 2024, LSLU meeting.

2024 KCCP Chapter 6: Shorelines⁴

Chapter 6 of the KCCP describes and includes policies regarding the shoreline jurisdiction, general policy goals, shoreline element goals, relationship to other laws, environmental designations, environmental protection, shoreline use and modification, and administration.

³ Attachment 2 to this Staff Report

⁴ Attachment 4 to this Staff Report

Attachment 5 to this staff report provides the staff analysis on the Executive's transmittal, including some additional policy changes that could be made to further clarify or streamline the Executive's transmittal.

While there are no new or substantive changes to existing policies proposed in Chapter 6, there are some changes related to shoreline stabilization that policy staff will brief at today's meeting.

Chapter 6 also addresses critical areas in the shoreline jurisdiction. The Executive is anticipating transmitting additional changes in Chapter 6 as part of the best available science/critical area regulation changes package, on March 1, 2024. Those changes will be briefed in Committee at the May 1, 2024 LSLU meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council's Review Schedule for 2024 KCCP, updated January 29, 2024
2. Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440 – Chapter 5 of the KCCP
3. Council staff analysis of Chapter 5
4. Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440 – Chapter 6 of the KCCP
5. Council staff analysis of Chapter 6

INVITED

- Lauren Smith, Director of Regional Planning Unit, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
- Chris Jensen, Comprehensive Planning Manager, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

LINKS

All materials of the transmitted 2024 KCCP, as well as additional information about the Council's review of the proposal, can be found at:
kingcounty.gov/CouncilCompPlan

Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440 – 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan

- Attachment A – 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan
- Attachment B – Capital Facilities and Utilities
- Attachment C – Housing Needs Assessment
- Attachment D – Transportation
- Attachment E – Transportation Needs Report
- Attachment F – Regional Trail Needs Report
- Attachment G – Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area
- Attachment H – Vashon-Maury Island Subarea Plan Amendments
- Attachment I – Land Use and Zoning Map Amendments

Supporting Materials

- Transmittal Letter
- Fiscal Note

- Summary of Proposed Ordinance
- Policy I-207 Analysis Matrix
- Equity Analysis
- Area Land Use and Zoning Studies
- Middle Housing Code Study
- Vashon-Maury Island P-Suffix Conditions Report
- Vashon Rural Town Affordable Housing Special District Overlay Final Evaluation
- Update on Best Available Science Critical Area Ordinance Review
- Public Participation Summary

Proposed Ordinance 2023-0439 – Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan

- Attachment A – Supplemental Changes to the Comprehensive Plan
- Attachment B – Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan
- Attachment C – Land Use and Zoning Map Amendments
- Attachment D – Fall City Moratorium Report

Supporting Materials

- Transmittal Letter
- Fiscal Note
- Summary of Proposed Ordinance
- Policy I-207 Analysis Matrix

Proposed Ordinance 2023-0438 – Countywide Planning Policy Update

- Attachment A – GMPC Motion 23-4 Relating to the Four-to-One Program

Supporting Materials

- Transmittal Letter
- Fiscal Note

2024 King County Comprehensive Plan

Proposed Ordinance 2023-0438, 2023-0439, 2023-0440

King County Council Committee Review and Adoption Schedule

As of January 29, 2024 - subject to change

Date	Event
December 7, 2023	Executive Recommended Plan Transmitted
December 12	Referral to Local Services and Land Use (LSLU) Committee
January 17 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview, Schedule, Process - Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan - Vashon-Maury Island Subarea Plan changes - Chapter 11: Community Service Area Subarea Planning - Map Amendments - Equity Analysis Summary - Equity Work Group Presentation <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
January 18 6:30pm Council Chambers	LSLU Special Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Hearing on Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Public Comment on Executive's Recommended Plan <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
February 7 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 1: Regional Growth Management Planning - Chapter 2: Urban Communities - Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area Appendix <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
February 8 6:30pm Covington City Hall	LSLU Special Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Comment on Executive's Recommended Plan <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
February 21 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 5: Environment - Chapter 6: Shorelines <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
March 6 9:30am Council Chambers Joint Meeting with Health and Human Services Committee	LSLU Committee - Briefing 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter 4: Housing and Human Services - Housing Needs Assessment Appendix <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
March 7 6:30pm Riverview Educational Center, Duvall	LSLU Special Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Comment on Executive's Recommended Plan <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - In-Person only</i>

Color key:

Gray: Executive actions

Blue: Public Hearing or Action dates

White: Regular Committee Meetings

Red: Amendment deadlines

Yellow: Special Committee Meetings

Green: SEPA actions

Date	Event
March 20 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 5 - Chapter 3: Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
March 29	Amendment requests for Striking Amendment due - Except for Critical Area Regulations
April 3 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 6 - Chapter 7: Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources - Regional Trails Needs Report Appendix - Chapter 8: Transportation - Transportation Appendix - Transportation Needs Report Appendix <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
April 4 5:30pm Vashon Center for the Arts	LSLU Special Committee Meeting - Public Comment on Executive's Recommended Plan <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - In-Person only</i>
April 5	Substantive direction deadline for Striking Amendment - Except for Critical Area Regulations
April 12	Amendment requests for Striking Amendment due - Critical Area Regulations
April 17 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 7 - Chapter 9: Services, Facilities, and Utilities - Capital Facilities and Utilities Appendix - Chapter 10: Economic Development <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
April 19	Substantive direction deadline for Striking Amendment - Critical Area Regulations
May 1 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee - Briefing 8 - Chapter 12: Implementation, Amendments, and Evaluation - Development Regulations - Four-to-One Program <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
May 14	Striking Amendment released
May 15 9:30am Council Chambers	LSLU Committee Briefing - Briefing on the Striking Amendment <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
May 16 6:30pm Skyway VFW	LSLU Special Committee Meeting - Public Comment on Committee Striking Amendment <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - In-Person only</i>
May 22	Line amendment direction due
May 31	Public Line Amendments released
June 5 9:30am Council Chambers	Local Services and Land Use Committee - Review and consideration of striking and line amendments - Vote on Committee recommendation <i>Opportunity for Public Comment - Remote and In-Person</i>
June 14	Council amendment concept deadline for FEIS and public hearing notice
June 21	Substitute Ordinance, Public Hearing Notice concepts, to Exec for FEIS

Color key:

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Green: SEPA actions

Date	Event
September 19 to ~Thanksgiving (November 28)	Budget Standdown
October 14 to 18 October 21 to 25	Public Hearing Notice Prepared by Council staff Public Hearing Notice Issued
October 4	Substantive direction needed on Striking Amendment
October 28	Striking Amendment distributed to Councilmembers
November 1	Line amendment direction due
November 12	Public Amendments released
November 6 November 6 to 13	FEIS Issued - last possible date for hearing on November 19 7 day waiting period for FEIS
November 19 1:30pm Council Chambers	Public Hearing at full Council <i>Opportunity for Public Testimony - Remote and In-Person</i>
December 3 1:30pm Council Chambers	Possible vote at full Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of amendments • Vote on final adoption of proposed 2022 King County Comprehensive Plan Update
December 10 1:30pm Council Chambers	Back up vote if 1-week courtesy delay

For more information on the Council's Review of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan, please visit the website: <https://kingcounty.gov/CouncilCompPlan>.

Color key:

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CHAPTER 5 ENVIRONMENT

The environment in King County includes a rich and valuable array of natural resources ranging from marine and freshwater environments, to highly urbanized areas, lower density rural areas, highly productive farm and forest land, to nearly pristine landscapes in the foothills of the Cascades. The policies in this chapter protect that environment, ensure its effective management, and support its restoration where needed ~~((, and support the Strategic Plan’s goal of a healthy environment))~~.

King County residents depend on sound policies not only to protect public health and safety, but also to preserve quality of life for future generations. King County is committed to pursuing partnerships, cost-effective strategies, and best management practices to address climate change and optimize the long-term protection and restoration of the environment within available resources. These ~~((policies))~~ policies guide King County’s environmental development regulations as well as incentives, education, and stewardship programs in unincorporated King County.

8
9

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan – ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD

10 One of the central tenets of the Growth Management Act, the Countywide Planning Policies, and King County’s
 11 Comprehensive Plan is that new growth be focused within designated urban areas with the aim of protecting
 12 ~~((resource lands(-))forestry, agriculture, and mining((-)))~~ lands and reducing development pressure on the Rural
 13 Area and Natural Resource Lands. ~~((At the same time, (-)))~~ The Growth Management Act also requires that each
 14 city and county in Washington State identify, designate and protect critical areas found in their local
 15 environment. Critical areas, as defined by the Growth Management Act, include wetlands, areas with a critical
 16 recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently
 17 flooded areas, and geologic hazard areas. Achieving development goals must be integrated with protecting
 18 critical area functions and values. ~~((Individuals))~~ Solutions can be tailored by following the guidance of
 19 comprehensive plan policies that recognize both critical area protection and the need to reduce urban sprawl.

20
 21 All parts of the county—from densely developed urban areas, to farm and forest land, to the Rural Area—have a
 22 role to play and a common interest in environmental protection. Responsibility for environmental protection
 23 cannot fall on one geographic area or ~~((category of people))~~ community alone. ~~((Tools for environmental~~
 24 ~~protection, for all residents whether in the Urban Area, Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands, include buying~~
 25 ~~locally grown produce at a Farmers Market, taking care to avoid polluted discharges to stormwater drainage~~
 26 ~~systems, riding the bus, investing in natural resource programs like those offered by the King Conservation~~
 27 ~~District, complying with stormwater standards, controlling invasive plants, protecting forest cover, and ensuring~~
 28 ~~development minimizes flood risk.))~~

29
 30 For the urban ~~((residents))~~ area, environmental protection occurs through different means, including investing in
 31 wastewater treatment and stormwater improvements, protecting greenbelts and other remnants of native
 32 habitats, adding new public open space – especially in historically underserved communities, and ~~((living))~~
 33 concentrating development in densely developed areas. For the ~~((r))~~ Rural ~~((residents))~~ Area and Natural
 34 Resource Lands, it means protecting aquifers used for drinking water, using development practices that slowly
 35 infiltrate stormwater, and ~~((using best management practices to protect))~~ protecting water quality and habitat for
 36 fish and wildlife. On farm~~((-))~~lands, forest~~((-))~~lands, and lands in the Rural Area, stewardship and technical
 37 assistance provides opportunities for supporting long-term resource use while protecting the environment.

38
 39 Climate change is already having severe and wide-ranging impacts on public health, safety, and welfare; the
 40 economy; and the environment. Climate change in the Pacific Northwest is projected to continue to bring more
 41 severe weather events including extreme heat events, wildfires, storms and droughts, decreased water supply for
 42 people and fish, and changes in habitat and species distribution. King County is a leader in taking steps to
 43 reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance climate equity, and to prepare for the impacts of climate change.

44
 45 ~~((One of the most significant environmental issues facing King County during the past decade was))~~ Salmon
 46 recovery continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing the Puget Sound Region, despite significant
 47 investment in habitat protection and restoration by cities, counties, Indian tribes, state agencies, conservation
 48 districts, and nonprofits over more than twenty years since the listing of Chinook salmon and bull trout as

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan – ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD

49 threatened under the Endangered Species Act. ~~((Since 2000, the region has seen))~~ There has been unprecedented
 50 cooperation between local governments, residents, Indian tribes, conservation districts, non((-)profit groups, and
 51 federal and state fisheries managers to develop watershed-based Water Resource Inventory Area plans for
 52 salmon conservation. These plans form the basis for the federal recovery plan for Chinook salmon. Watershed
 53 partners are continuing to work together to implement and monitor these plans through Water Resource
 54 Inventory Area Forums. Southern Resident Orca, which are dependent on Chinook salmon as a food source,
 55 were listed as endangered in 2005.

56
 57 ~~((King County has taken significant steps to increase protections for Chinook and other salmon species and
 58 improve habitat through changes in daily operations (such as maintenance of county roads and parks), increased
 59 open space protection, tax incentives, updated development regulations, and construction of habitat restoration
 60 projects. The lessons learned and relationships developed through cooperative planning in response to the
 61 Chinook salmon and bull trout listings should help to inform King County's response to new listings, and bolster
 62 efforts to prevent future species listings.))~~

63
 64 Individual species protections under the Endangered Species Act continue to play an important role. At the
 65 same time, both nationally and internationally, many governments are initiating multi-species approaches aimed
 66 at conserving biodiversity. Biodiversity refers not only to plants and animals but also to their habitats and the
 67 interactions among species and habitats.

68
 69 Protection of biodiversity in all its forms and across all landscapes is critical to continued prosperity and quality
 70 of life in King County. In fisheries, forestry, and agriculture, the value of biodiversity to sustaining long-term
 71 productivity has been demonstrated in region after region. ~~((With the impending effects of climate change,
 72 maintaining biodiversity will be critical to the resilience of resource-based activities and to many social and
 73 ecological systems. The continued increase in King County's population and the projected effects of climate
 74 change make conservation a difficult but urgent task.))~~ The protection and restoration of biodiversity and of a
 75 full range of supporting habitats is important to King County. King County ~~((will))~~ incorporates these
 76 considerations in its operations and practices, ranging from its utility functions (such as wastewater, solid waste,
 77 and stormwater management) to its regulatory and general government practices.

78
 79 ~~((State and federal agencies are undertaking biodiversity initiatives. The Washington Biodiversity Council was
 80 created by the Governor in 2004, in part, with the aim of refocusing state conservation efforts from the species
 81 level to the ecosystem level. In 2009, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife released Landscape
 82 Planning for Washington's Wildlife: Managing for Biodiversity in Developing Areas. The goal of this document
 83 is to provide information to planners and others that can be used to minimize the impacts of development on fish
 84 and wildlife and to conserve biodiversity.~~

85
 86 ~~The U.S. Forest Service also integrates biodiversity principles into its land management practices.~~
 87 ~~Internationally, Local Governments for Sustainability's Local Action for Biodiversity Project convenes local~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan – ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD

88 governments from around the world, including King County, to establish strategies for the conservation of urban
89 biodiversity.

90

91 Climate change has the potential for severe and wide ranging impacts on public health, safety, and welfare; the
92 economy; and the environment. Climate change in the Pacific Northwest is projected to bring more severe
93 weather events including heat events, winter storms and summer droughts, decreased water supplies for people
94 and fish, and changes in habitat and species distribution. King County is a leader in taking steps to reduce
95 greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to climate change.

96

97 New approaches for stormwater management known as Low Impact Development, are providing additional
98 options for stormwater management, especially in site development. Low Impact Development Best
99 Management Practices can mimic the natural functions of soil and forest cover in slowing and filtering
100 stormwater runoff by infiltrating or dispersing stormwater onsite, or by capturing and reusing it. Used
101 exclusively, or in conjunction with a comprehensive stormwater management program of structural controls and
102 other best management practices, Low Impact Development Best Management Practices can reduce
103 environmental impacts from stormwater runoff. Low Impact Development techniques also work in tandem with
104 other strategies such as retaining forest cover, preserving native plants and preserving native soil.

105

106 These techniques help to meet other objectives such as retention of canopy cover, protection of riparian habitat
107 and preservation of native soils that help protect biodiversity, improve air quality, and protect the ecological
108 functions of the landscape and surface waters. These approaches help create a more sustainable environment and
109 create a better quality of life for King County residents.))

110

111 Untreated stormwater runoff remains the largest source of pollution to Puget Sound. Stormwater management
112 requirements and practices continue to evolve, with greater emphasis on low impact development and green
113 stormwater infrastructure that can mimic the natural functions of soil and forest cover in slowing and filtering
114 stormwater runoff by infiltrating or dispersing stormwater onsite, or by capturing and reusing it. Modifying
115 stormwater facilities, or building new ones in previously developed areas, is very expensive. The County
116 continues to develop, apply, and update evidence-based tools to identify and prioritize actions to achieve the best
117 outcomes for reducing pollution to Puget Sound.

118

119 The County also partners with cities, Indian tribes, other counties, and nonprofits to identify where projects like
120 “stormwater parks” can provide the greatest environmental benefit while increasing access to open space in
121 historically underserved areas. Stormwater parks offer promise for reducing pollutants at a basin-wide scale
122 while providing access to new green space. These multi-benefit facilities can be designed to remove pollutants
123 like nutrients, heavy metals, and many organic pollutants, including polychlorinated biphenyls including
124 persistent bio-accumulative toxics, sometime referred to as, “forever chemicals.” Such stormwater parks, if
125 located strategically, could treat billions of gallons of stormwater a year, significantly reducing stormwater
126 pollution reaching receiving water bodies, which would in turn improve outcomes for fish consumption and orca

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127 health. In making decisions about where to site stormwater parks, King County focuses on communities
 128 experiencing the greatest water pollution and having the least access to open space.

129

130 Environmental initiatives during the past decade have underscored the need for monitoring changes in the
 131 environment and the effectiveness of the County's efforts to protect it. Monitoring and performance
 132 measurement help local governments to target limited resources on existing and emerging environmental
 133 problems, determine whether actions are having their intended effect, promote accountability, and adapt
 134 approaches to environmental management. ~~((The Department of Natural Resources and Parks assesses
 135 environmental conditions with a variety of monitoring programs. The results are presented in the environmental
 136 indicator section of KingStat and are used to develop appropriate county responses and provide an opportunity
 137 to collaborate and partner with other organizations in making improvements.))~~

138

139 This chapter reflects the overarching goal of the Countywide Planning Policies to protect, restore and enhance
 140 the quality of the natural environment in King County for future generations. ~~((This chapter has been updated to
 141 integrate county strategies for protection of land, air, and water; to emphasize implementation of salmon
 142 recovery plans; to reflect increased emphasis on climate change and biodiversity; and to support monitoring and
 143 adaptive management.))~~ Policies in this chapter promote implementation of strategies and goals from multiple
 144 recent plans and initiatives, including the Strategic Climate Action Plan, the Land Conservation Initiative, the
 145 30-year Forest Plan, increasing focus on restoring fish passage, and the Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic
 146 Plan. These policies guide King County's environmental regulations and incentives, education and stewardship
 147 programs in unincorporated King County.

148

149 ~~((I.))~~ **Natural Environment and Regulatory Context**

150 ~~((A.))~~ **Integrated Approach**

151 Environmental protection efforts need to be integrated across species, habitats, ecosystems, and landscapes.
 152 Efforts to reduce flooding or protect water quality and habitat cannot work successfully in isolation from
 153 management of land use across the larger contributing landscape. Efforts to protect one particular species or
 154 resource type could be detrimental to another if such efforts are not considered in an ecosystem context.
 155 Protection and restoration of natural ecosystem processes provide the best opportunity to conserve native
 156 species.

157

158 Likewise, the tools King County uses to protect the environment—incentives, regulations, changes in
 159 ~~((e))~~ County operations, planning, capital projects, land acquisition, education, stewardship, and monitoring—
 160 also need to be integrated. For example, the regulatory buffers placed around wetlands need to consider
 161 changing conditions in the watershed around the wetland, including natural hydrological processes. These
 162 conditions are influenced by land use, stormwater runoff management, clearing and grading requirements, and
 163 protection of forest cover and open space. Incentives, education, and technical assistance programs also must

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164 work hand-in-hand so that land((-)owners can access a seamless set of programs that work together to
165 accomplish environmental protection and restoration.

166

167 As part of the ((2004)) 10-year Comprehensive Plan update process, King County ((updated)) updates its critical
168 areas, stormwater runoff management, and clearing and grading regulations consistent with Growth
169 Management Act requirements to ((include)) use best available science and address no net loss of the functions
170 and values of critical areas and demonstrate “special consideration” given to conservation and protection of
171 anadromous fish species. These regulations are functionally interrelated, with the standards for protection of
172 wetlands, aquatic areas, and wildlife areas also working in tandem with ((landscape-level)) standards for
173 stormwater management, water quality, and clearing and grading, as well as programs for land conservation.

174

175 Habitat conditions vary throughout unincorporated King County, with higher quality habitat generally found in
176 less developed areas of the county. However, both urban and rural habitats play a critical role for various species
177 and during different life stages. The environmental protections the ((e))County uses should consider
178 development patterns, habitat conditions, and the roles played by different geographic and ecologic areas. A
179 geographic and watershed-based approach to planning, stewardship, and environmental protection
180 acknowledges that different areas of King County may have different environmental and resource values and
181 face different levels of development pressure. Therefore, methods of protecting critical areas that respect those
182 distinctions must continue to evolve to balance the protection of the environment with the need to reduce urban
183 sprawl and preserve the County's quality of life.

184

185 ((In 2004, the county strengthened)) The County offers a variety of incentives ((available to)) for land((-)owners
186 ((through its Public Benefit Rating System, a)) to promote environmental stewardship and restoration and
187 enhancement of ecosystems. These include tax incentive programs through which landowners can receive
188 reduced property taxes in exchange for commitments to protect open space and natural resources((~~However,~~
189 ~~incentives are not just limited to tax incentives, but can include~~)), market-based programs for permanent land
190 protection and regulatory flexibility (((e.g., alternatives to fixed-width buffers)) such as the Transfer of
191 Development Rights program and fee-in-lieu compensatory mitigation program), ((streamlined permit
192 processing, reduced permit fees,)) and free or low-cost technical assistance. ((Additionally, the King County
193 Strategic Plan, released in 2010 and updated in 2015 through Motion 14317, has a healthy environment goal to
194 preserve open space and rural character while addressing climate change.))

195

196 **E-101** In addition to its regulatory authority, King County should use incentives to
197 protect and restore the natural environment whenever practicable. Incentives
198 ((shall)) should be monitored and periodically reviewed to determine their
199 effectiveness ((in terms of)) at protecting and restoring natural resources.

200

201 **E-102** King County should take a regional role in promoting and supporting
202 environmental stewardship through direct education, coordinating of educational

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203 efforts, and establishing partnerships with other entities that share similar
204 environmental concerns and stewardship opportunities.

205

206 **E-102a** King County ~~((will))~~ **shall** consider environmental justice and climate ~~((justice))~~
207 equity impacts and disparities in its planning, projects and services to assess
208 and mitigate unintended impacts on frontline communities and to ensure
209 solutions that enhance conditions for people and the environment.

210

211 King County coordinates many programs internally as well as with other agencies and governments. The
212 cooperative development and implementation of watershed-based salmon recovery plans over the last decade has
213 brought together local governments, federal and state agencies, residents, and interest groups. Continued
214 collaboration at the watershed level is critical for successful implementation of these habitat-focused plans.
215 Indian ~~((F))~~tribes with treaty reserved fishing rights and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
216 co-manage harvest and hatchery actions. Working closely with these co-managers is essential to ensure that
217 watershed-based salmon recovery strategies effectively integrate habitat, harvest, and hatchery actions.

218

219 King County works closely with federal and state agencies, cities, and other counties to try to integrate and
220 streamline compliance with federal mandates, including the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered
221 Species Act. In doing so, multiple benefits can be achieved. For example, in some cases mandated monitoring
222 for Clean Water Act compliance can provide useful information to support salmon conservation efforts.

223

224 King County also participates in ~~((F))~~the Puget Sound Partnership ~~((was created by the Washington State~~
225 ~~Legislature and Governor in July 2007 to achieve the recovery of the Puget Sound ecosystem by the year 2020.~~
226 ~~The Partnership's goal is))~~, which works to coordinate and significantly strengthen the federal, state, local, and
227 private efforts undertaken to date to protect and restore the health of Puget Sound and its watersheds.
228 ~~((Additional discussion of King County's participation in the Puget Sound Partnership is found later in this~~
229 ~~chapter.~~

230

231 ~~King County also works closely with federal and state agencies, cities, and other counties to try to integrate and~~
232 ~~streamline compliance with federal mandates, including the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered~~
233 ~~Species Act. In doing so, multiple benefits can be achieved. For example, in some cases mandated monitoring~~
234 ~~for Clean Water Act compliance can provide useful information to support salmon conservation efforts.))~~

235

236 **E-103** King County should coordinate with local jurisdictions, universities, federal and
237 state agencies, Indian tribes, special interest groups, special districts,
238 businesses, and residents to implement, monitor, and update Water Resource
239 Inventory Area salmon recovery plans for all areas of King County.

240

241 **E-104** Development of environmental regulations, restoration, and mitigation projects,
242 and incentive and stewardship programs should be coordinated with local

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243 jurisdictions, federal and state agencies, Indian tribes, special interest groups,
 244 and residents when conserving and restoring the natural environment consistent
 245 with Urban Growth Area, Rural Area, and designated Natural Resource Land
 246 goals.

247

248 King County ~~((will))~~ uses existing and updated subarea and functional plans and Water Resource Inventory Area
 249 salmon recovery plans to ~~((provide guidance to))~~ guide programs, regulations and incentives to protect and
 250 restore environmental quality. Two key plans developed by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 251 establish goals and strategies to ensure protection and enhancement of the environment to create ecological
 252 integrity and ensure benefits of a healthy environment accrue to all King County residents:

- 253 • **Land Conservation Initiative:** Calls for a series of accelerated actions to close gaps in equitable access
 254 to open space and to protect King County's last, most important natural lands and urban green spaces
 255 before increasing land prices and development pressure foreclose opportunities for conservation. The
 256 regional collaboration between King County, cities, businesses, farmers, environmental partners, and
 257 other key partners outlines a strategy to save money and achieve conservation results more quickly.
- 258 • **Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan:** Recommends 30-year (through 2050), outcome-based
 259 goals, measures and strategies for six interrelated goal areas: healthy forests and more greenspaces;
 260 cleaner, controlled stormwater runoff; reduced toxics and fecal pathogens; functional river floodplains;
 261 better habitat for fish; and resilient marine shorelines.

262

263 **E-105** Environmental quality and important ecological functions shall be protected and
 264 hazards to health and property shall be minimized through development reviews
 265 and implementation of land use plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon
 266 recovery plans, the Strategic Climate Action Plan, stormwater management plans
 267 and programs, flood hazard management plans, environmental monitoring
 268 programs, and park ~~((master))~~ management plans, as well as focused ongoing
 269 efforts such as the fish passage restoration program, Land Conservation
 270 Initiative, 30-Year Forest Plan, and Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan.
 271 Implementation of ((T))these plans and programs ((shall)) should also encourage
 272 stewardship and restoration of critical areas as defined in the Growth
 273 Management Act, ((and include)) such as including an adaptive management
 274 approach.

275

276 The State Environmental Policy Act requires King County to consider the environmental impacts of proposed
 277 actions ~~((that may have a significant adverse environmental impact))~~. Over the years, King County has adopted
 278 development regulations that address many of the impacts that are likely to occur as a result of development. In
 279 many cases, King County's regulations adequately address environmental impacts and development proposals
 280 do not require additional mitigation under the State Environmental Policy Act. However, there may be certain
 281 development proposals or unusual circumstances not contemplated by the development regulations that require
 282 further mitigation under the State Environmental Policy Act. This principle is articulated in King County Code

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283 Chapter 20.44. The presence of a species listed as endangered or threatened by the federal government is an
284 example of such an unusual circumstance.

285

286 **E-107 Regulations to prevent unmitigated significant adverse environmental impacts**
287 **should be based on the importance and sensitivity of the resource.**

288

289 **E-108 King County may exercise its substantive authority under the State**
290 **Environmental Policy Act to condition or deny proposed actions ((in order)) to**
291 **mitigate associated individual or cumulative impacts such as significant habitat**
292 **modification or degradation that may actually kill, injure, or harm listed**
293 **threatened or endangered species by significantly impairing essential behavioral**
294 **patterns, including breeding, feeding, spawning, rearing, migrating, or sheltering.**

295

296 **E-109 King County should promote efficient provision of utilities and public services by**
297 **exempting minor activities from its critical areas regulations, if the agency has an**
298 **approved best management practice plan approved by King County, and the plan**
299 **ensures that proposed projects that may affect habitat of listed species be**
300 **carried out in a manner that protects the resource or mitigates adverse impacts.**

301

302 **~~(B-)~~ Policy and Regulatory Context**

303 **~~(1-)~~ Endangered Species Act**

304 ~~((In March 1998, The National Marine Fisheries Service proposed to list the Puget Sound Chinook salmon as~~
305 ~~"threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. This Chinook population was officially listed in March 1999.~~
306 ~~The listing of Chinook as threatened triggered a requirement for consultations with the National Marine~~
307 ~~Fisheries Service on any activity requiring a federal permit, relying on federal funds, or being sponsored by a~~
308 ~~federal agency.~~

309

310 ~~Since that listing, several other aquatic species present in King County have been listed as threatened, including~~
311 ~~two additional salmonids: bull trout in November 1999, and steelhead in May 2007. Coho salmon are~~
312 ~~considered a Species of Concern. Puget Sound's southern resident Orca, which rely almost solely on Chinook~~
313 ~~salmon as a food source, were also listed under the Endangered Species Act as endangered in November 2005.))~~

314 Over the last twenty years, several species connected to King County's streams and rivers have become listed
315 under the Endangered Species Act. Threatened species include Chinook salmon , bull trout , and steelhead, and
316 Southern Resident killer whales are listed as endangered. The listing of Chinook salmon and Southern Resident
317 killer whales are related to one another, as Southern Resident killer whales rely heavily on Chinook as a primary
318 food source. The listings trigger requirements for consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service on
319 any activity requiring a federal permit, relying on federal funds, or being sponsored by a federal agency.

320 The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have also issued rules describing
321 regulations deemed necessary to conserve Puget Sound Chinook and steelhead, as well as other threatened West

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322 Coast salmonids. ~~((These rules, commonly referred to as “4(d) rules,” legally establish the protective measures~~
 323 ~~that are necessary to provide for conservation of a listed species. These rules also make it a violation of the~~
 324 ~~Endangered Species Act for any person, government, or other entity to “take” a threatened species. Prohibited~~
 325 ~~“take” under the Endangered Species Act includes harm through significant habitat modification or degradation~~
 326 ~~where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including~~
 327 ~~breeding, feeding, spawning, rearing, migrating or sheltering.~~

328

329 ~~The 4(d) rule for Chinook and steelhead also establishes conditions or limits under which certain categories of~~
 330 ~~activities that may result in “take” may be conducted. King County takes actions under the conditions~~
 331 ~~established for two categories of activity: routine road maintenance and habitat restoration projects funded by the~~
 332 ~~State Salmon Recovery Funding Board.))~~

333

334 Final Endangered Species Act Recovery Plans have been developed for Puget Sound Chinook (2007) ~~((and)),~~
 335 ~~bull trout (((2004)) 2015), and Puget Sound steelhead (2019).~~ A final Recovery Plan for Orca whales was
 336 published in 2008. These plans describe recovery goals for the species, specific measures to address the factors
 337 that are limiting the health of the species, and timeframes and cost estimates for recovery measures.

338 Conservation actions identified in Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans for King County
 339 watersheds are now being implemented subject to available funding and are anticipated to contribute
 340 significantly to the achievement of recovery goals for these species and their eventual removal from the
 341 Endangered Species list.

342

343 **~~((2.))~~ Clean Water Act**

344

345 The Clean Water Act requires that all states protect and restore their waters to beneficial uses. This is
 346 accomplished through the development of a permitting framework called the National Pollutant Discharge
 347 Elimination System (NPDES) Permit program. Authority for administering the NPDES Program has been
 348 delegated by the Environmental Protection Agency to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology),
 349 and King County holds a number of NPDES general permits for various specified activities.

350

351 For instance, the County must comply with permit conditions that cover ongoing construction site activities,
 352 industrial activities, and stormwater runoff discharges from the municipal stormwater system. Since 1995,
 353 Ecology has issued a NPDES Phase I Municipal Stormwater permit to King County, authorizing stormwater
 354 discharges from the County’s municipal separate stormwater sewer system.

355

356 ~~((The current permit, set to expire July 31, 2018, contains prescriptive requirements for discovering, controlling~~
 357 ~~and monitoring pollutants in municipal stormwater, as well as stormwater control design standards for site~~
 358 ~~development, public education and outreach, mapping, and operating and maintaining municipal stormwater~~
 359 ~~infrastructure.))~~

360

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361 The County complies with the current Phase I municipal NPDES stormwater permit by implementing the
 362 County's stormwater management program plan ~~((that can be found at the following website:
 363 [http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)
 364 [reports.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)~~

365
 366))_The implementation of the County's plan is reported to Ecology by submitting an annual report. The annual
 367 report documents compliance with permit requirements over the preceding year and the stormwater
 368 management plan outlines compliance activities for the upcoming year. ~~((The most current annual report can be
 369 found here:~~

370 [http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)
 371 [reports.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)))

372

373 **Water Quality Standards and Total Maximum Daily Loads**

374

375 When a particular water body falls short of state surface water quality standards Ecology must impose a Total
 376 Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). A TMDL is developed to restore beneficial uses to the water body by reducing
 377 or eliminating pollutants. In addition to the actions found in the County's stormwater management plan, the
 378 Permit also contains requirements for the County to implement actions that address four impaired water bodies.
 379 The Bear-Evans watershed, Issaquah Creek, and the Puyallup/White watershed are impaired by elevated levels
 380 of fecal coliform~~((, and)).~~ The Lower White River has a TMDL for elevated pH and Cottage Lake is impaired
 381 by elevated levels of total phosphorous. The actions to counteract these elevated levels of pollution include:
 382 animal waste education and collection stations at municipal parks, and inventorying and inspecting commercial
 383 animal handling facilities. King County's Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program also conducts
 384 field screening for pollution sources by designating high priority areas, and conducting bacteria sampling and
 385 monitoring.

386

387 In addition to the TMDLs found in the Permit, several others have been approved within King County:
 388 the Snoqualmie River, Little Bear Creek, Lake Fenwick, Lake Sawyer, the Duwamish River, Lower Green
 389 River, Pipers Creek, North Creek, Newaukum Creek, Puyallup River, White River, and Fauntleroy Creek. King
 390 County TMDLs under development or pending approval by the Environmental Protection Agency include
 391 Green River and Newaukum Creek, White and Puyallup Rivers, and Soos Creek. ~~((A list of these Water Quality
 392 Improvement Projects in King County can be found at:~~

393 <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/TMDLsbyCounty/king.html>.)

394

395 **E-110 Surface waters designated by the state as Water Quality Impaired under the**
 396 **Clean Water Act (water bodies included in Category 5 of the Water Quality**
 397 **Assessment) shall be improved through monitoring, source controls, best**
 398 **management practices, enforcement of existing codes, and, where applicable,**

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399 implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load plans. The water quality of other
400 water bodies shall be protected or improved through these same measures.

401

402 ~~((E-111 King County shall evaluate development proposals subject to drainage review in
403 unincorporated King County to assess whether the proposed actions are likely to
404 cause or contribute to violations of Washington State water quality standards in
405 receiving waters for individual pollutants of concern and identify mitigation or
406 requirements to avoid the impacts when appropriate.))~~

407

408 There are certain actions that can be used to help moderate water quality. Such actions may include maintaining
409 and increasing connections between surface waters and shallow groundwater or hyporheic flow, promoting
410 riparian vegetation and stormwater structural retrofitting using infiltration techniques including ((L))low
411 ((H))impact ((D))development techniques, and increasing the physical complexity of river channels.

412

413 **E-112** When environmental monitoring, testing, or reliable data indicates human
414 activities have caused impaired water quality, such as increased water
415 temperature, fecal contamination, low oxygen, excess nutrients, metals, or other
416 contaminants, King County shall take actions ~~((which will))~~ that help moderate
417 those impairments.

418

419 **~~((3.))~~ Growth Management Act and Critical Areas Protection**

420 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires that each city and county in Washington State identify, designate, and
421 protect critical areas found in their local environment. Critical areas, as defined in the Growth Management
422 Act, include wetlands, areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, fish and wildlife
423 habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas and geologically hazardous areas.))~~ This chapter establishes
424 policies for designating and protecting critical areas in King County. King County Code Title 21A provides the
425 regulatory framework for these policies.

426

427 ~~((The Growth Management Act also requires local governments to include the best available science in
428 developing policies and development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas, and to give
429 special consideration to the conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous
430 (fish that spawn in freshwater and spend part of their lifecycle in salt water) fisheries.))~~

431

432 **E-112a** The protection of lands where development would pose hazards to health and
433 safety, property, important ecological functions or environmental quality shall be
434 achieved through acquisition, enhancement, incentive programs, and appropriate
435 regulations. The following critical areas are particularly susceptible and shall be
436 protected in King County:

437

- a. Floodways of 100-year floodplains;

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476 Sound was revised in 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2018, focusing on three Strategic Initiatives: protecting and restoring
477 habitat, preventing pollution from stormwater, and recovering shellfish beds.))

478

479 **E-113 King County should actively participate in updating and implementing the Puget**
480 **Sound Partnership’s Action Agenda, through the Puyallup-White River, South**
481 **Central Action Area Caucus Group ((and)), Snohomish-Stillaguamish, and West**
482 **Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery Local Integrating Organizations,**
483 **consistent with King County goals.**

484

485 **E-114 King County should collaborate with other watershed forum partners to ensure**
486 **that recommendations of watershed-based salmon recovery plans, goals for**
487 **regional stormwater controls, and goals for human and community health for**
488 **King County are integrated with the Puget Sound Partnership recommendations.**

489

490 ~~((The Puget Sound Partnership maintains a Strategic Science Plan and Biennial Science Work Plan which~~
491 ~~provide an overall framework for development and coordination of specific science activities necessary to~~
492 ~~support Puget Sound ecosystem protection and restoration under the Partnership’s Action Agenda. The Puget~~
493 ~~Sound Partnership also organizes the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program, a collaborative effort to~~
494 ~~improve communication and data sharing among the many monitoring programs operating in Puget Sound,~~
495 ~~with the goal of assessing progress towards recovery of the health of the Sound. King County actively~~
496 ~~participates in the Ecosystem Monitoring Program.))~~

497

498 **E-115 King County should identify opportunities for coordinating its existing**
499 **monitoring programs with monitoring and assessment work conducted through**
500 **Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program, the Puget Sound Partnership’s**
501 **Strategic Science Plan, and the Puget Sound Partnership’s Biennial Science**
502 **Work Plan.**

503

504 **((6.)) Noxious Weeds**

505 ~~((Left uncontrolled, n))~~Noxious weeds can significantly impact public and private land use in the County. Left
506 uncontrolled, noxious weeds will ultimately undermine many of the County’s environmental goals and
507 initiatives including: the Local Food Initiative, salmon habitat restoration projects, and the Land Conservation
508 Initiative. The State Noxious Weed Control Law (Chapter 17.10 Revised Code of Washington ~~((17.10))~~)
509 establishes all property owners’ responsibility for preventing and controlling the spread of noxious weeds.
510 Because plants grow without regard to property lines or political jurisdictions, everyone’s cooperation is needed
511 – city gardeners, government land agencies, foresters, and farmers all have a role to play. The key to successful
512 noxious weed control is effective engagement and participation of landowners and communities in the
513 stewardship of their lands. ~~((The law spells out these responsibilities and creates the government infrastructure~~
514 ~~needed to educate residents and implement regulatory processes.))~~

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515
 516 E-115a King County shall ~~((exercise its authority under Revised Code of Washington~~
 517 ~~17.10 to))~~:
 518 ~~((4))~~ a. ~~((establish a))~~ **Work with the King ((e))County ((n))noxious ((w))Weed**
 519 **((e))Control ((b))Board to provide public oversight and direction of the**
 520 **County's Noxious Weed Control Program;**
 521 ~~((2))~~ b. ~~((i))~~ **Implement a program of activities that minimizes the impacts of**
 522 **noxious weeds to the environment, economy, recreation, and public**
 523 **health within the ((C))county; and**
 524 **c. Adopt regulations to ensure control of noxious weeds and weeds of**
 525 **concern as identified by the Noxious Weed Control Board.**
 526

527 ~~((H.))~~ Climate Change

528 Climate change is one of the paramount environmental and economic challenges for this generation. Human
 529 caused sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide and methane, are causing unprecedented
 530 and severe changes in global and local climate systems. This is the consensus view of the world's leading
 531 scientists, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the U.S. National Academy of
 532 Sciences.
 533

534 King County faces significant environmental and economic challenges stemming from climate change, including
 535 stressed and rapidly changing ecosystems, costly impacts on public and private property, and increasing public
 536 health risks related to wildfire smoke, extreme heat waves, and changes in infectious disease. The impacts of a
 537 changing climate will be experienced differently by King County residents, influenced by factors such as income,
 538 age, health, and location. These changes can act as a threat multiplier that creates complex challenges,
 539 particularly for frontline communities affected by historical and current inequities who have limited resources to
 540 adapt.
 541

542 Effective and equitable climate action requires a significant commitment on the part of King County to reduce
 543 greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for climate change impacts, and build sustainable and resilient frontline
 544 communities.
 545

546 King County's ~~((2015))~~ Strategic Climate Action Plan, ~~((which was adopted))~~ updated every five years and
 547 approved by the King County Council ((through Motion 14449)), is King County's comprehensive legislative
 548 and policy plan for equitable climate action. ((It provides the blueprint for county decision-makers, employees,
 549 and the general public to learn about the County's climate change commitments.)) The Strategic Climate Action
 550 Plan outlines King County's priorities and commitments for climate action, integrating climate change and
 551 climate equity into all areas of County operations and in the County's work with cities, partners, communities,
 552 and residents. A subset of the policies and commitments from the Strategic Climate Action Plan are also

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553 reflected in this section of the Comprehensive Plan. ((To learn more about the Strategic Climate Action Plan:
554 <http://www.kingcounty.gov/climate>.

555
556 Impacts from climate change have the potential to dramatically impact ecosystems, agriculture, economy,
557 biodiversity, and public health and safety in myriad and interrelated ways. Impacts of a changing climate will be
558 experienced differently by King County residents, influenced by factors such as income, age, health, and
559 location. However, by working collaboratively to develop and implement strategies to prevent, respond to, and
560 prepare for climate change, King County has many opportunities to address broader inequities. Sustaining
561 quality of life and the environment requires a significant commitment on the part of King County to both
562 reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the primary driver of human caused climate change, and preparing for
563 climate change impacts in an ever-changing and increasingly dynamic landscape.))

564

565 **E-200 The 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans, should guide the planning,**
566 **development, and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction goals and actions,**
567 **equitable and community-driven climate solutions, and policies and actions that reduce**
568 **climate change vulnerabilities and increase climate resilience.**

569

570 **((Climate Change Science and Impacts**

571 Human caused sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide and methane, are causing
572 unprecedented and severe changes in global and local climate systems. This is the consensus view of the world's
573 leading scientists, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the US National Academy of
574 Sciences.

575

576 In King County, decreasing mountain snowpack, increasing flooding, and rising sea levels are evidence that the
577 climate system is changing. While many factors affect the climate system and natural environment, scientists
578 have attributed many changes in significant part to recent increases in atmospheric greenhouse gas
579 concentrations. The County faces significant environmental and economic challenges stemming from climate
580 change, including stressed and rapidly changing ecosystems, costly impacts on public and private property, and
581 new public health risks resulting from worsening air and water quality (e.g., toxic algal blooms), additional heat
582 related impacts, and increased exposure to infectious disease.))

583

584 **King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

585 Climate change over the last century has been caused primarily ((from)) by increasing greenhouse gas emissions
586 such as methane, carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide. Human activities, such as the use of fossil fuels and land
587 conversion, are the main cause of these emissions. King County is committed to ((reduce the)) reducing
588 greenhouse gas emissions of its operations and ((support)) to supporting broader efforts to reduce countywide
589 emissions.

590

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591 **~~((Government Operations~~**

592 ~~King County government operations create greenhouse gas emissions.)) Major ((government)) sources of~~
593 ~~greenhouse gas emissions from government operations~~ are associated with combustion of diesel and gasoline for
594 transit buses and fleet vehicles, methane from landfills, electricity usage, and fossil fuel in buildings and for
595 wastewater treatment, and emissions from the production, use, and disposal of government purchased goods and
596 services.

597

598 ~~((King County is making progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from county operations, with emissions~~
599 ~~from energy related non-transit sources decreasing 14% between 2007 and 2014. During this time emissions~~
600 ~~directly associated with vehicles and transit service increased by six percent, primarily due to increased use of~~
601 ~~biodiesel and increased transit service.~~

602

603 **Countywide**

604 ~~Within King County's geography))~~ At the countywide community scale, the largest contributors to greenhouse
605 gas emissions are ((primarily caused by)) fossil fuel use (((gasoline and diesel) for transportation and to a lesser
606 but significant extent to heat buildings (natural gas and heating oil))) for building energy and transportation,
607 followed to a lesser extent by land use, refrigerants, waste, and wastewater. In King County, overall greenhouse
608 gas emissions increased by 11 percent from 2007 to 2019; however, per capita emissions declined by seven
609 percent during the same time period. The most substantial drivers for an increase in emissions were population
610 growth, higher greenhouse gas emissions, electricity, and increased aviation emissions. The largest contributors
611 to decreasing emissions have been increased efficiency of passenger vehicles (decreased emissions per mile) and
612 more efficient electricity use by households and commercial entities. Additional significant emissions are
613 associated with consumption in King County, but these sources do not necessarily occur within its geographic
614 borders. These emissions are created through the production, transport, sale, use, and disposal of ~~((imported))~~
615 purchased goods and services ((such as food and electronics)).

616

617 **~~((Preparing for Climate Change Impacts~~**

618 ~~Even if all human sources of greenhouse gas emissions ceased today, global and regional temperatures would~~
619 ~~continue to increase for several decades. Therefore, King County must be proactive in preparing for local~~
620 ~~climate change impacts. For King County, this includes preparing for more frequent and severe flooding and~~
621 ~~droughts, developing recycled water sources, working with farm and forest owners to address climate change~~
622 ~~impacts, planning for effects of climate change on human health, taking steps to improve the resiliency of the~~
623 ~~natural and built environments, and ensuring that the County can continue to provide services such as transit,~~
624 ~~wastewater treatment, and flood protection.~~

625

626 **~~E-201 ————— King County should participate in and support appropriate local, regional and~~**
627 **~~national efforts and organizations focused on reducing greenhouse gas~~**
628 **~~emissions and preparing for climate change impacts.))~~**

629

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630 **Status of King County Climate Change Efforts**

631 King County ~~((has a long record of))~~ is committed to innovation, leadership, and investment in reducing
632 greenhouse gas emissions, prioritizing climate equity, and preparing for the impacts of climate change.
633 Consideration of climate change impacts and opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
634 are deeply embedded throughout the work plans and capital investments of ~~((e))~~ County departments and lines of
635 business. ~~((Since 2010, the investments in energy efficiency and changes in operations have reduced building
636 energy use and costs by over \$3 million annually.~~

637

638 ~~King County Metro has pioneered the use of hybrid bus technology is on track to have an all hybrid or electric
639 bus fleet by 2018. As of 2015, the county is now producing renewable energy equivalent to 57% of its
640 government operational energy needs. However, to make significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and
641 ensure that the built and natural environment are resilient in the face of a changing climate, even bolder action
642 and stronger collaboration with cities, businesses, and county residents is required.)~~

643

644 The following ~~((sections of this section highlight and))~~ subsections include climate related policies, which are
645 consistent with key ~~((2015))~~ Strategic Climate Action Plan ~~((policies and commitments))~~ goals, strategies, and
646 priority actions.

647

648 **~~((A.))~~ Assessment**

649 ~~King County has completed periodic inventories and assessments of greenhouse gas emissions associated with
650 government operations as well as emissions associated with all resident and business activity in the county since
651 2000. These assessments have provided valuable data to inform actions that will reduce greenhouse gas
652 emissions as well as to monitor progress toward meeting emissions reduction targets.~~

653

654 **~~E-202~~ King County shall assess and publicly report on:**

- 655 **~~a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas
656 emissions associated with county operations;~~**
- 657 **~~b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident,
658 business, and other local government activities; and~~**
- 659 **~~c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct local
660 sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated
661 with local consumption.~~**

662

663 **~~E-203~~ King County shall collaborate to set transparent standards to account for the net
664 energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of government actions such as
665 constructing transportation infrastructure and providing services such as
666 recycling and transit and shall assess and publically report these impacts as
667 practicable.**

668

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669 ~~E-204~~ ~~King County shall collaborate with experts in the field of climate change,~~
670 ~~including scientists at the University of Washington’s Climate Impacts Group, to~~
671 ~~monitor, assess and publicly share information about the impacts of climate~~
672 ~~change in King County.))~~

674 **~~((B.)) Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions~~**

675 King County is ~~((leading by example in))~~ reducing operational sources of greenhouse gas emissions through
676 efforts such as:

- 677 • ~~((Green building and sustainable development practices that reduce emissions of capital facilities projects;~~
- 678 ~~• Purchasing and maintenance practices that reduce emissions associated with the production, use and~~
679 ~~disposal of goods and services;~~
- 680 ~~• Modifying operations of county buildings and facilities that reduce emissions and resource demand;~~
- 681 ~~• Purchasing and efficiently using alternative vehicles such as electric powered vanpools ((and hybrid)), cars,~~
682 ~~and buses;~~
- 683 ~~• Improving energy efficiency and producing renewable energy sources at King County’s wastewater~~
684 ~~treatment and solid waste disposal facilities; and~~
- 685 • ~~Protecting forested areas, encouraging, and supporting active stewardship, and undertaking tree planting~~
686 ~~and restoration projects that enhance biological carbon sequestration))~~
- 687 • Increasing the efficiency of County vehicle fleets and minimizing their greenhouse gas emissions;
- 688 • Reducing energy use in County facilities, making investments to reduce building fossil fuel use, and
689 producing more renewable energy;
- 690 • Building, maintaining, and operating County facilities consistent with the highest green building and
691 sustainable building practices
- 692 • Minimizing operational resource use, maximizing reuse and recycling, and choosing products and services
693 with low environmental and carbon impacts; and
- 694 • Managing and restoring County-owned parks, natural lands, and farmlands to maximize biological carbon
695 storage and increase climate resilience.

696
697 King County is also supporting emissions reductions at the broader countywide scale through ~~((sustainable land~~
698 ~~use policies, transportation infrastructure, and through the provision of important services such as recycling and~~
699 ~~transit, including actions and policies))~~ efforts such as:

- 700 • ~~((Land use designations and zoning that influence the pattern and density of development and the level~~
701 ~~of reliance on single occupancy vehicles;~~

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- 702 • ~~Use of voluntary tools such as Transfer of Development Rights to reduce development density on Rural~~
703 ~~Area and Natural Resource Lands;~~
- 704 • ~~Building codes and facilities standards that can influence the types of building materials and future~~
705 ~~energy demands;~~
- 706 • ~~Promoting the use of transit and non-motorized travel modes to decrease vehicle miles traveled; and~~
- 707 • ~~Protecting Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands from further development through acquisition of fee~~
708 ~~title or conservation easements to redirect future growth to urban areas to reduce emissions related to~~
709 ~~transportation and new development))~~
- 710 • Reducing passenger car trips and vehicle emissions by sustaining and increasing transit services,
711 focusing development into urban areas and centers, supporting equitable pricing of vehicle usage, and
712 supporting clean fuels and electric vehicles;
- 713 • Reducing energy and fossil fuel use in the built environment and increasing the use of clean energy
714 supplies and technologies by partnering do develop efficiency programs and supporting converting oil,
715 natural gas, and propane-heated homes to clean sources;
- 716 • Reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions associated with new construction, additions,
717 retrofits, and remodels in all buildings in King County by working with partners to advance state green
718 building code amendments, updating building codes in unincorporated King County, and improving
719 commercial energy code;
- 720 • Achieving a circular economy, whereby waste is minimized through prevention, reuse, recycling, and
721 materials staying in use longer by spurring and supporting new recycled markets, implementing a
722 regional organics plan, prioritizing food waste reduction strategies, and recycling improvements at
723 County-owned transfer stations; and
- 724 • Protecting high-value forests and farmlands, expanding the total area of forest cover and actively farmed
725 lands, and restoring health, vitality, and resilience of forest and farmlands by implementing the Land
726 Conservation Initiative, Rural Forest Carbon Program, and ensuring that strategies to reduce emissions
727 and increase carbon sequestration are included in farm and forest stewardship plans.
- 728
- 729 King County is committed to actions and solutions that reduce emissions and prevent and repair harms to
730 frontline communities. To learn more about how the County is committed to advancing climate equity, see
731 additional details in the "Advancing Climate Equity" subsection of this section. Many actions that reduce
732 greenhouse gas emissions result in additional benefits, such as saving energy and fuel costs, improving health,
733 and minimizing other types of air and water pollution. For example, walkable, transit-oriented communities
734 have been shown to have significantly below average ((per capita)) greenhouse gas emissions while at the same
735 time saving residents money, supporting healthier lifestyles, and creating stronger communities.
- 736

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737 In some cases, ((e))County actions are direct sources of greenhouse gas emissions, but when considered at a
 738 broader scale have a net emissions reduction benefit. For example, ((providing public transportation results in
 739 significant direct greenhouse gas emissions, primarily from combusting diesel. At the same time,)) the
 740 greenhouse gas emissions avoided by providing public transit service ((offsets these direct operational emissions
 741 by more than three times by decreasing)) from decreased driving, providing traffic congestion relief, and
 742 supporting walkable, efficient land use are three times greater than direct emissions from operating public transit
 743 service itself. As this example shows, there are sometimes complex considerations that need to be taken into
 744 account in making decisions about greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies.

745
 746 Policies related to King County efforts to reduce operational and countywide greenhouse gas emissions are
 747 presented below. Policies related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation strategies for agriculture
 748 and forestry can be found in Chapter 3((:)), Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. Policies related to
 749 reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from transit and fleet vehicles can be found in Chapter 8((:)),
 750 Transportation. Policies related to water supply, use of recycled water, and energy can be found in Chapter
 751 9((:)), Services, Facilities, and Utilities. Policies related to green building and sustainable development can be
 752 found in Chapter 9((:)), Services, Facilities, and Utilities (as related to government operations), and Chapter
 753 10((:)), Economic Development (as related to private development).

754

Government Operations

755
 756 **((E-205)) E-201** King County shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ~~((all facets of))~~ its
 757 operations and actions, including but limited to those associated with
 758 construction and management of ((e))County-owned facilities, infrastructure
 759 development, transportation, and environmental protection programs to achieve
 760 the emissions reductions targets set in ((E-206)) E-202 and to work towards the
 761 carbon neutral goal in F-215b.

762

763 **((E-206)) E-202** King County shall reduce total greenhouse gas emissions from government
 764 operations, compared to a 2007 baseline by at least ((25%)) 50 percent by ((2020))
 765 2025 and ((50%)) 80 percent by 2030.

766

767 **((E-206a)) E-203** King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks, including the
 768 Wastewater Treatment Division, Solid Waste Division, Parks and Recreation
 769 Division, and Water and Land Resource Division, ((shall)) should achieve, at a
 770 minimum, net carbon neutrality ((for its operations by 2017)) on an annual basis.

771

772 **((E-206b)) E-204** King County's Wastewater Treatment Division and Solid Waste Division ((shall))
 773 should each independently achieve carbon-neutral operations by 2025.

774

775 **((E-207)) E-205** King County shall ~~((develop and))~~ continue to implement an operational "social
 776 cost of carbon." The social cost of carbon should be used in life-cycle

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777 assessments and decision making related to County operations, including for
778 purchase of vehicles, buses and fuels, for facility construction and resource
779 efficiency projects, and for related technology investments. ~~((King County
780 should also pursue using the cost of carbon to inform broader County planning
781 and decision making.))~~

782
783 ~~((E-208) King County shall maximize the creation of resources from waste products from
784 county operations such as gases produced by wastewater treatment and solid
785 waste disposal in a manner that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and
786 produces renewable energy.))~~

787
788 **((E-209)) E-207** King County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to evaluate its own maintenance and
789 operations practices, including procurement, for opportunities to reduce its own
790 emissions or emissions produced in the manufacturing of products.

791
792 **Countywide**

793 ~~((In 2014,))~~ King County and 39 King County cities ~~((came together to develop))~~ have shared, countywide
794 greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. ~~((In July 2014, targets were unanimously))~~ These targets are
795 adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies by the King County Growth Management Planning Council. The
796 formal adoption of a shared, community scale greenhouse gas emissions target by local governments is relatively
797 unusual in the U.S., and provides a strong foundation and guidepost for community-scale efforts to reduce
798 greenhouse gas emissions. The shared targets are near- and long-term, ambitious and achievable, and consistent
799 with what climate science says needs to be done ~~((in order))~~ to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. ~~((The~~
800 adopted targets are significantly more ambitious than Washington State's greenhouse gas emissions reduction
801 requirements (Revised Code of Washington 47.01.440).))

802
803 **((E-210)) E-209** King County shall ~~((collaborate)),~~ independently and in collaboration with ((its))
804 cities((,)) and other partners, ((to reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas
805 emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80%
806 by 2050)) adopt and implement policies and programs to achieve a target of
807 reducing countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007
808 baseline, by 50 percent by 2030, 75 percent by 2040, and 95 percent, including
809 net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other strategies, by 2050.
810 King County shall evaluate and update these targets over time in consideration
811 of the latest international climate science and statewide targets aiming to limit
812 the most severe impacts of climate change and keep global warming under 1.5
813 degrees Celsius.

814
815 ~~((E-212) King County will work with its cities and other partners to establish a greenhouse~~
816 ~~gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County~~

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817 ~~jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide~~
818 ~~targets.))~~

819

820 Renewable energy technology, such as solar power, has the potential for replacing a significant share of King
821 County's energy portfolio. Renewable energy technologies that have the benefit of zero or very low levels of
822 greenhouse gas emissions should be encouraged. Renewable energy production should consider other potential
823 benefits and uses of renewable available resources; for example, King County should prioritize the use of
824 potentially wasted edible food to reduce hunger over its use for renewable energy. The renewable energy
825 technology industry is evolving, and no single technology is guaranteed to fit all the county's alternative energy
826 needs. King County should provide flexibility in its policies and regulations to adapt to the changing
827 circumstances.

828

829 **((E-213)) E-210** King County should ensure that its land use policies, development and building
830 regulations, technical assistance programs, and incentive programs support and
831 encourage the use of viable renewable energy, energy efficiency, and fossil fuel
832 reduction and transition technologies that ((have)) produce zero or minimal
833 greenhouse gas emissions, while considering equity and racial and social justice
834 siting impacts.

835

836 **E-211** King County shall develop and implement building and energy codes that reduce
837 energy use and phase out fossil fuel use in the built environment within King
838 County's jurisdiction.

839

840 **E-212** King County shall support:
841 a. Stronger Washington State building and energy codes and policies that
842 reduce energy use, reduce the embodied carbon of materials, phase out
843 fossil fuel use, and support deployment of electric vehicles and clean
844 energy; and
845 b. Increased state resources for local code development and
846 implementation.

847

848 **E-213** King County should work with other local building officials and staff, as well as
849 community partners and the building industry, to effectively implement energy
850 and building codes that reduce energy use and embodied carbon of materials
851 and phase out fossil fuel use.

852

853 **E-214** King County shall develop and implement countywide community-scale built
854 environment programs and policies that:
855 a. Reduce energy use, increase the use of renewable energy, and phase
856 out the use of fossil fuels, such as: energy loan, residential efficiency

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857 retrofits; and fossil fuel reduction and transition incentives and
 858 programs; and
 859 b. Prioritize access and affordability of solutions for frontline communities,
 860 especially for low-income, senior, and renter households.

862 **((E-214)) E-215** King County, through its Comprehensive Plan policies and development
 863 regulations, should promote healthy community designs that enable ~~((walking,~~
 864 ~~bicycling,))~~ **active transportation** and public transit use, thereby reducing
 865 greenhouse gas emissions and regional air pollution.

866 **((New Development**

868 ~~Nearly every new development results in new sources of greenhouse house gas emissions. These include~~
 869 ~~emissions from construction and land development, emissions created from producing and transporting building~~
 870 ~~materials, energy used in operating buildings and structures, and transportation associated with the development.~~
 871 ~~Although the emissions associated with construction occur today, the emissions associated with energy and~~
 872 ~~transportation will occur over the life of the development, which may extend for 50 years or more. This means~~
 873 ~~that decisions made today about development will have an effect on climate change far into the future.~~

874 **E-215** ~~King County shall evaluate proposed actions subject to the State Environmental~~
 875 ~~Policy Act for their greenhouse gas emissions. King County may exercise its~~
 876 ~~substantive authority under the State Environmental Policy Act to condition or~~
 877 ~~deny proposed actions in order to mitigate associated individual or cumulative~~
 878 ~~impacts to global warming. In exercising its authority under this policy, King~~
 879 ~~County should consider project types that are presumed to be not significant in~~
 880 ~~generating greenhouse gas emissions and do not require review for their~~
 881 ~~greenhouse gas emissions. (Any standards related to consideration of~~
 882 ~~greenhouse gas emissions through the State Environmental Policy Act process~~
 883 ~~shall be subject to Council review and adoption by ordinance.))~~

884 **Assessment**

887 King County has completed periodic inventories and assessments of greenhouse gas emissions associated with
 888 government operations, as well as emissions associated with all resident and business activity in the county since
 889 2000. These assessments have provided valuable data to inform actions that will reduce greenhouse gas
 890 emissions, as well as to monitor progress toward meeting emissions reduction targets.

891 **((E-202)) E-216** King County shall ~~((assess and publicly report on:~~
 892 ~~a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas~~
 893 ~~emissions associated with county operations;~~
 894 ~~b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident,~~
 895 ~~business, and other local government activities; and~~
 896

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- 897 ~~c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct local~~
 898 ~~sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated~~
 899 ~~with local consumption));~~
 900 a. Assess and publicly report on countywide greenhouse gas emissions
 901 associated with resident, business, and local government buildings,
 902 vehicles, and solid waste at least every two years;
 903 b. Update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that
 904 quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions and
 905 emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years;
 906 and
 907 c. Develop city-specific emissions inventories and data, in partnership with
 908 cities.
 909

910 **((E-203)) E-217**

911 ~~King County ((shall collaborate to set transparent standards to account for the~~
 912 ~~net energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of government actions such~~
 913 ~~as constructing transportation infrastructure and providing services such as~~
 914 ~~recycling and transit and shall)) should assess and ((publically)) publicly report
 915 on ((these impacts as practicable)) the net energy and net greenhouse gas
 916 impacts of the County providing services, such as recycling and public transit,
 917 and constructing infrastructure, using best practice accounting standards.
 918~~

919 **Advancing Climate Equity**

920 King County recognizes that climate change can have disproportionate impacts on frontline communities due to
 921 existing and historic racial, social, environmental, and economic inequities. These inequities create barriers to
 922 frontline community participation in decision-making processes. Climate equity ensures the just distribution of
 923 climate protection efforts and alleviates the unequal burdens created by climate change through an equitable
 924 division of accountability, benefits, and opportunities. Addressing climate change and social inequities
 925 simultaneously requires bold action to prioritize equity, develop co-benefit solutions (solutions for people and for
 926 climate stabilization) in partnership with frontline communities, and to address climate change as a threat
 927 multiplier to other social issues, including systemic racism.
 928

929 As King County transitions away from an extractive fossil fuel-based economy toward a more resilient,
 930 equitable, and sustainable one, it is critical that the County's solutions benefit frontline communities and avoid
 931 leaving people behind. This approach requires addressing the root causes of climate vulnerability which often
 932 overlap and compound impacts. By intentionally investing in and partnering with frontline communities, the
 933 County can center and integrate community-driven climate solutions. The County is addressing climate equity
 934 by working with frontline communities to:

- 935 • Plan for and invest in long-term partnerships that build capacity in frontline communities; Black,

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- 936 Indigenous, and other People of Color populations; and among youth:
- 937 • Build the knowledge base of community leaders and community-based organizations regarding
 - 938 climate change impacts on frontline communities;
 - 939 • Invest in and supporting green jobs pathways that advance sustainability and living wage career
 - 940 opportunities for frontline communities;
 - 941 • Partner with and investing in frontline communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from
 - 942 emergency events and climate-related health impacts;
 - 943 • Invest in strengthening local, culturally relevant food systems and food security for populations at
 - 944 risk of food insecurity;
 - 945 • Support, align, and elevate actions and strategies advancing affordable and climate-resilient
 - 946 housing in frontline communities, including anti-displacement strategies;
 - 947 • Support and invest in reducing energy burden, and increasing access to and resources for
 - 948 transitioning to sustainable and energy efficient systems; and
 - 949 • Prioritize community-driven mobility development and climate resilient transit infrastructure.

950

951 Climate equity is anchored within the Environment chapter. As an intersectional issue, it is also reflected across

952 other parts of the Comprehensive Plan, including: the Guiding Principles in Chapter 1, Regional Growth

953 Management Planning; Chapter 3, Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands; Chapter 4, Housing and Human

954 Services; Chapter 7, Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources; Chapter 8, Transportation; and Chapter 10,

955 Economic Development.

956

957 **E-218 King County shall prioritize and support ongoing partnerships with frontline**

958 **communities in co-development and implementation of County climate planning,**

959 **policies, and programs.**

960

961 **E-219 King County shall invest in and enable culturally and linguistically contextualized**

962 **climate change education that builds frontline communities' capacity to engage**

963 **on climate change impacts and solutions.**

964

965 **E-220 King County shall invest in climate solutions that result in equitable outcomes**

966 **that benefit frontline communities by:**

- 967 **a. Centering and funding access and pathways to living wage green jobs**
- 968 **and careers for frontline communities, including youth and Black,**
- 969 **Indigenous, and other People of Color populations;**
- 970 **b. Providing frontline communities with resources and support to respond**
- 971 **to extreme weather events and public health emergencies through**
- 972 **culturally relevant strategies and avenues;**

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- 973 **c. Supporting a just food economy that increases affordability and access**
 974 **to healthy foods;**
 975 **d. Addressing housing insecurities intensified by climate change through**
 976 **programs and resources expanding frontline community access to**
 977 **climate-resilient housing and anti-displacement strategies;**
 978 **e. Prioritizing an affordable transition to renewable energy infrastructure**
 979 **and utility assistance; and**
 980 **f. Expanding public transportation mobility access and climate-resilient**
 981 **infrastructure for frontline communities in greatest need of public**
 982 **transit.**
 983

984 **((C.)) Preparing for Climate Change Impacts**

985 Climate change impacts are here and now((; in the last century, sea level in Seattle has risen by eight inches and
 986 average annual temperatures in the Pacific Northwest have increased 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit)). Average annual
 987 air temperature is increasing, heavy rain events are getting heavier, the region is experiencing a long-term decline
 988 in snow and ice in the Cascades and Olympic mountains, sea level is rising, and ocean chemistry is changing in
 989 ways that are harmful to local marine species like shellfish and salmon. These changes can have significant
 990 consequences. More than 30 deaths in King County were attributable to a record-setting June 2021 heat wave
 991 that saw temperatures reach 108 degrees Fahrenheit or higher in the County. While greenhouse gas emissions
 992 must be reduced to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, impacts are projected through the end of the
 993 century or longer, even if global and local greenhouse gas emissions are drastically cut. To ensure that County
 994 residents are prepared for and able to effectively adapt to climate change impacts, ((F))the County is integrating
 995 climate change preparedness into:

- 996 • Operations and maintenance of infrastructure, programs, and natural resources;
 997 • Provision of public services;
 998 • Policies and regulation; and
 999 • Partnerships with other local governments, community groups and businesses.

1000

1001 **Overarching Climate Change Preparedness Goals**

1002 ~~**((E-215a) King County will collaborate with local cities, residents, and other partners to**~~
 1003 ~~**prepare for the effects of climate change on the environment, human health,**~~
 1004 ~~**public safety, and the economy.))**~~

1005

1006 **E-221 King County shall take actions that equitably reduce climate change**
 1007 **vulnerabilities and increase the resilience of King County residents,**
 1008 **communities, natural systems, and the built environment by:**

- 1009 **a. Integrating and accounting for climate impacts in policies, plans, practices,**
 1010 **and procedures, and implementing climate-resilient decisions;**

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- 1052 landslides, into emergency management planning and programs.
- 1053
- 1054 **((E-223)) E-226** King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on habitat for
1055 salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range conservation plans and
1056 prioritizing habitat protection and restoration actions.
- 1057
- 1058 **((E-224)) E-227** To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species, King County
1059 should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of floodplains to improve the
1060 resilience of major rivers to changing flow regimes and temperatures; the
1061 protection and restoration of riparian vegetation and mature and old-growth
1062 forests to reduce warming in cold water systems, of wetlands to reduce drought
1063 and flooding, and of connections between different habitats to maintain current
1064 seasonal migration; and facilitate migration opportunities for species whose
1065 ranges shift in latitude and altitude.
- 1066
- 1067 **Building Technical Capacity**
- 1068 King County is committed to using best available science and technical information to inform its climate
1069 preparedness work. This includes drawing on existing climate change research and technical studies conducted
1070 by other agencies and organizations, as well as directly funding and/or conducting new studies and technical
1071 assessments. This also includes building internal staff capacity and expertise to apply current data and science to
1072 preparedness activities.
- 1073
- 1074 **((E-204)) E-228** King County shall collaborate with experts in the field of climate change,
1075 including scientists at the University of Washington’s Climate Impacts Group, or
1076 successor groups, to monitor, assess, and publicly share information about the
1077 impacts of climate change in King County.
- 1078
- 1079 **((E-215e)) E-229** King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state and federal
1080 agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed, science-based estimates of
1081 the magnitude and timing of climate change, including impacts on air
1082 temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, forest health
1083 and wildfire, public health river flooding, sea level rise, biodiversity (including
1084 fish and wildlife), and ocean acidification ~~((in King County))~~.
- 1085
- 1086 **~~((E-215bbb))~~ E-230** King County shall assess the best available sea level rise projections ~~((two~~
1087 ~~years))~~ prior to each ~~((eight))~~ 10-year update((,)) and shall ~~((incorporate the~~
1088 ~~projections into))~~ update relevant risk assessments and policies in the
1089 Comprehensive Plan, where appropriate.
- 1090
- 1091 **((E-220)) E-231** King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change impacts on
1092 natural resources that its resource programs are designed to protect, such as

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1093 open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and water quality and
1094 treatment, ~~((in order))~~ to assess and improve the efficacy of existing strategies
1095 and commitments.

1096

1097 **Prioritizing Health and Equity**

1098 Grounding King County’s climate preparedness work in climate and health equity, with a focus on vulnerable
1099 populations, will help ensure that County efforts help address disproportionate impacts.

1100

1101 **((E-218)) E-232** King County shall ~~((apply its Equity Impact Review process))~~ use equity impact
1102 reviews to help prioritize investments in making infrastructure, natural resources,
1103 and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

1104

1105 **((E-225)) E-233** Through land use and transportation actions, King County should work to reduce
1106 ~~((air quality and))~~ climate change ~~((related))~~ health inequities ~~((and))~~ related to the
1107 exposure of vulnerable populations to poor air quality and extreme weather
1108 events.

1109

1110 **((E-226)) E-234** King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts public health
1111 messages related to the health implications of climate change, particularly in
1112 urban communities, and the benefits of actions ~~((, such as using alternative~~
1113 ~~transportation options that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions,~~
1114 ~~improve air quality, and improve public health))~~ that can reduce climate impacts
1115 on health.

1116

1117 **Preparedness Coordination with Partners**

1118 Collaborations and partnerships are critical to preparing for the complex challenges of climate change.
1119 Strengthening collaborations and partnerships between the County and other jurisdictions and organizations
1120 provides opportunities to align preparedness activities, leverage limited resources, share lessons learned, stay
1121 informed of issues relevant to King County’s climate preparedness efforts, and develop equitable approaches
1122 to reducing impacts that match the scale of the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change.

1123

1124 **((E-215a)) E-235** King County ~~((will))~~ shall collaborate with local cities, residents, and other
1125 partners to prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change on the
1126 environment, natural resources, human health, public safety, infrastructure, and
1127 the economy.

1128

1129 **((E-215c)** ~~King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state and federal~~
1130 ~~agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed, science-based estimates of~~
1131 ~~the magnitude and timing of climate change impacts on air temperatures and~~
1132 ~~heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, river flooding, sea level rise,~~

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1133 ~~fish and wildlife, and ocean acidification in King County.)~~

1134

1135 ~~((E-215d)) E-236~~ King County ~~((should)) shall~~ share information on climate change impacts and
1136 collaborate on approaches to improving ~~((resiliency of)) infrastructure resilience,~~
1137 disaster preparedness, and public engagement with ~~((local))~~ cities and other
1138 partners to ~~((make the best use of limited resources and))~~ more efficiently and
1139 effectively engage King County residents.

1140

1141 ~~((Public Services)) Outreach, Engagement, and Education~~

1142 Successfully preparing for and adapting to climate change requires building a shared understanding of how
1143 climate change is affecting King County, how the County is actively working to reduce climate impacts and
1144 build resilience, and what individuals and communities can do to reduce climate risks. This includes outreach
1145 and engagement work to King County staff, residents, and businesses.

1146

1147 ~~E-237~~ King County should implement and support equitable outreach, engagement, and
1148 technical assistance related to reducing climate risks. This should include
1149 providing information on climate change impacts in King County, local efforts to
1150 address climate change, and actions that individuals and communities can take
1151 to reduce climate risks.

1152

1153 ~~((E-216))~~ ~~King County shall integrate observed and projected climate change impacts,~~
1154 ~~including severe weather, flooding, drought, fire, and landslides, into emergency~~
1155 ~~management planning and programs.~~

1156

1157 ~~E-217~~ ~~King County will work with its cities and other partners to formulate and~~
1158 ~~implement climate change adaptation strategies that address the impacts of~~
1159 ~~climate change to public health and safety, the economy, public and private~~
1160 ~~infrastructure, water resources, and habitat.~~

1161

1162 ~~E-218~~ ~~King County shall apply its Equity Impact Review process to help prioritize~~
1163 ~~investments in making infrastructure, natural resources, and communities more~~
1164 ~~resilient to the impacts of climate change.~~

1165

1166 ~~County Infrastructure and Operations~~

1167 ~~E-219~~ ~~King County shall integrate estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate~~
1168 ~~change impacts into capital project planning, siting, design, and construction~~
1169 ~~and also implement infrastructure operation and maintenance programs that~~
1170 ~~consider full life-cycle costs and climate change impacts in asset management.~~

1171

1172 ~~Natural Environment~~

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1173 ~~E-220~~ ~~King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change impacts on~~
1174 ~~natural resources that its resource programs are designed to protect, such as~~
1175 ~~open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and water quality and~~
1176 ~~treatment, in order to assess and improve the efficacy of existing strategies and~~
1177 ~~commitments.~~

1179 ~~E-222~~ ~~King County should collaborate with climate scientists in order to increase~~
1180 ~~knowledge of current and projected climate change impacts to biodiversity.~~

1182 ~~E-223~~ ~~King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on habitat for~~
1183 ~~salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range conservation plans and~~
1184 ~~prioritizing habitat protection and restoration actions.~~

1186 ~~E-224~~ ~~To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species, King County~~
1187 ~~should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of floodplains to improve the~~
1188 ~~resilience of major rivers to changing flow regimes and temperatures; the~~
1189 ~~protection and restoration of riparian vegetation to reduce warming in cold water~~
1190 ~~systems, of wetlands to reduce drought and flooding, and of connections~~
1191 ~~between different habitats to maintain current seasonal migration; and facilitate~~
1192 ~~migration opportunities for species whose ranges shift in latitude and altitude.~~

1194 **Public Health**

1195 ~~Vulnerable populations are often defined as groups whose unique needs may not be fully integrated into planning~~
1196 ~~for disaster response. These populations include, but are not limited to, those who are physically or mentally~~
1197 ~~disabled, blind, deaf, hard of hearing, cognitively impaired, or mobility challenged. Also included in this group~~
1198 ~~are those who are non-English (or not fluent) speakers, geographically or culturally isolated, medically or~~
1199 ~~chemically dependent, homeless, frail elderly and children. Public Health—Seattle & King County has~~
1200 ~~established a Vulnerable Population Action Team (The Community Resilience + Equity Program) to address the~~
1201 ~~needs of this population.~~

1203 ~~E-225~~ ~~Through land use and transportation actions, King County should work to reduce~~
1204 ~~air quality and climate change related health inequities and the exposure of~~
1205 ~~vulnerable populations to poor air quality and extreme weather events.~~

1207 ~~E-226~~ ~~King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts public health~~
1208 ~~messages related to the health implications of climate change, particularly in~~
1209 ~~urban communities, and the benefits of actions, such as using alternative~~
1210 ~~transportation options that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions,~~
1211 ~~improve air quality, and improve public health.))~~

1212

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1213 **~~((D-))~~ Collaboration with Others**

1214 King County recognizes that ~~((the))~~ climate change ~~((challenge))~~ is worldwide in its scope, ~~((and that))~~ with far
1215 reaching consequences to the environment and to ~~((humankind's))~~ quality of life ~~((may result if this issue is not~~
1216 ~~addressed effectively)).~~ ~~((King))~~ While the County's actions are important ~~((contributors to addressing this issue;~~
1217 ~~however, its))~~ contributions, the global nature ~~((will))~~ requires cooperation across local, regional, state and
1218 international boundaries. King County can play important roles in collaborating with others ~~((on solutions,~~
1219 ~~especially))~~ through community outreach, education, advocacy, monitoring, and information sharing with other
1220 ~~((local))~~ governments and universities.

1221

1222 **~~((E-204))~~ E-238** King County ~~((should))~~ shall participate in and support appropriate local, regional
1223 and national efforts and organizations focused on reducing greenhouse gas
1224 emissions, advancing climate equity, and preparing for climate change impacts.

1225

1226 **~~((E-227))~~ E-239** King County shall support~~((s))~~ a comprehensive federal, regional and state
1227 science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon pollution and other
1228 greenhouse gas emissions. A portion of revenue from these policies should
1229 support local greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts, such as funding for
1230 transit service, energy efficiency and fossil fuel reduction projects, and forest
1231 protection and restoration initiatives; efforts that advance climate equity and
1232 frontline community investments; and climate preparedness and resilience
1233 efforts. King County shall also support~~((s))~~ renewable energy standards for
1234 electricity production and vehicle efficiency performance standards.

1235

1236 **~~((E-228))~~ E-240** King County ~~((should))~~ shall advocate for federal, regional and state initiatives
1237 and grant and loan programs that support local investments in projects and
1238 programs, such as community solar, fossil fuel reduction, ~~((and))~~ energy
1239 efficiency retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, climate equity, and
1240 ~~((prepare))~~ preparedness strategies for climate change impacts.

1241

1242 **~~((E-229))~~ E-241** King County shall work with ~~((the business community))~~ relevant industry sector
1243 partners to support efforts that reduce energy and fossil fuel use and
1244 greenhouse gas emissions, ~~((and to promote King County and the Puget Sound~~
1245 ~~region as a center for green manufacturing))~~ as well as promoting locally
1246 recognized high growth sectors identified in the Green Jobs Strategy, such as
1247 green manufacturing, construction, transportation, and professional services in
1248 King County and the Puget Sound. The ~~((e))~~County shall also work with
1249 community groups, consumers, and the retail sector to promote the consumption
1250 ~~((of green-manufactured products))~~ and adoption of products and services
1251 supporting reduced energy use and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

1252

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1253 ~~((H.))~~ **Air Quality**

1254 ~~((A.))~~ **Overview**

1255 ~~((Clean air, free of pollutants, is essential for the day-to-day quality of life and long-term health of county
1256 residents. King County has shown critical leadership in forging solutions to air pollution and will continue to do
1257 so well into the future.))~~

1258
1259 King County works ~~((for clean air))~~ to ensure clean and healthy air in partnership with the Puget Sound Clean
1260 Air Agency, which ~~((has))~~ serves as the lead air quality regulatory and monitoring ~~((responsibilities))~~ agency for
1261 the region in accordance with the Clean Air Act. ~~((Underlying drivers of the Clean Air Act include protecting
1262 public health, reducing property damage, and generally protecting the environment. Because air quality impacts
1263 water quality, a better understanding is needed regarding the input of pollutants via air transport from both local
1264 and distant sources.~~

1265
1266))The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency is the lead agency responsible for monitoring and regulating ~~((six
1267))~~criteria air pollutants~~((“ using standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency. The six “criteria” air
1268 pollutants are:~~

- 1269 • ~~—~~ Fine particulate matter (dust, soot, smoke);
- 1270 • ~~—~~ Ground level ozone (smog);
- 1271 • ~~—~~ Carbon monoxide (gas primarily from vehicle exhaust);
- 1272 • ~~—~~ Sulfur dioxide (gas primarily from industrial processes like smelters, paper mills, and power plants);
- 1273 • ~~—~~ Oxides of nitrogen; and
- 1274 • ~~—~~ Lead.)) ~~((fine particulate matter, ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur oxide, oxides of nitrogen, and lead).~~

1275
1276 The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency also focuses on reducing harmful air toxics that come ~~((primarily))~~ from
1277 wood smoke and diesel burning~~((, as well as))~~ and greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane from
1278 landfills. ~~((The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency is also responsible for regulating))~~ They also regulate air
1279 pollution emissions ((of air pollution)), such as asbestos and gasoline vapors, from businesses. King County
1280 coordinates with Puget Sound Clean Air Agency on regional air quality data and on related community plans
1281 and projects.

1282
1283 Efforts to address climate change and improve air quality are strongly linked. For example, conversion from
1284 conventional to ~~((hybrid))~~ electric buses and fleet vehicles ~~((not only helps to))~~ reduces greenhouse gas
1285 emissions~~((, but also reduces))~~ and emissions of fine particulate(s) matter that can be harmful to public health.
1286 Similarly, in indoor settings, conversion from gas to electric stoves and furnaces reduces indoor and outdoor
1287 pollution. Additionally, a likely impact of climate change on air quality is an increase in fine particulate matter

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1288 from more wildfires and wildfire smoke episodes that can impact regional air quality and increase ground-level
1289 ozone because higher temperatures enhance the conversion of precursors into ground-level ozone. Ozone and
1290 fine particulate matter can exacerbate health conditions such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,
1291 and heart disease, and generally reduce respiratory system functioning. Because of these linkages, there is
1292 significant overlap ((with)) between this section and the climate change section of this chapter. ((Section II,
1293 subpart B of this chapter relates to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These strategies usually concurrently
1294 reduce other types of air pollution. Section II, subpart C of this chapter describes the linkages between climate
1295 change and health impacts, including policies related to minimizing health inequities among vulnerable
1296 populations more negatively impacted by climate change and air pollution.
1297

1298 ~~B-))~~ **Ozone, Fine Particulate and Toxics**

1299 Reducing criteria pollutants ((will)) continue to be a primary focus for King County. The ozone strategy
1300 identified by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency for the central Puget Sound region focuses on reducing volatile
1301 organic compounds, which are precursors to ozone formation. Emission of volatile organic compounds results
1302 mostly from vehicles, as well as to a significant degree from household chemicals and paint evaporation.
1303

1304 In addition to ozone, fine particulate((s)) matter (dust, soot, and smoke) also represent a serious health threat.
1305 Health studies have shown a significant association between exposure to fine ((particulates)) particulate matter and
1306 premature death from heart or lung disease. Fine ((particulates)) particulate matter can aggravate heart and lung
1307 diseases and have been linked to effects such as: cardiovascular symptoms; cardiac arrhythmias; heart attacks;
1308 respiratory symptoms; asthma attacks; and bronchitis. These effects can result in increased hospital admissions,
1309 emergency room visits, absences from school or work, and restricted activity days. Individuals that may be
1310 particularly sensitive to fine ((particulates)) particulate matter exposure include people with heart or lung disease,
1311 older adults, and children. Diesel emissions are one of the county's largest sources of fine particulate matter
1312 emissions. ((King County's participation in the ultra-low sulfur diesel program, known as "Diesel Solutions,"
1313 has made tremendous strides in cleaning up King County Metro's fine particulate emissions.)) Indoor burning
1314 and outdoor burning are a major source of fine particulate((s)) matter, especially during winter months.
1315

1316 Contributions of fine particulate matter from wildfire smoke are also a growing concern. Climate change is
1317 contributing to an increase in the frequency of large wildfires in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. As
1318 a result, King County is seeing more days in summer with degraded air quality. For example, in 2020, King
1319 County experienced 14 days of air quality unhealthy for sensitive groups to hazardous air quality from fires near
1320 Portland, Oregon. In 2022, King County experienced more than 30 days with moderate to very unhealthy air
1321 quality due to smoke from the Bolt Creek fire near Skykomish. Public Health has partnered with community-
1322 based organizations to develop outreach materials on wildfire smoke hazards, to distribute box fans and air filters
1323 for indoor air filtration, and to set up HEPA air filtration units for homeless service providers, small businesses,
1324 childcare providers, and schools.
1325

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1326 As a large county with a mix of urban, Rural Area, and Natural Resource Lands uses, King County will
 1327 continue to face risks from air ~~((toxics))~~ pollution that can be toxic to people, pets, and wildlife. Examples of
 1328 ~~((air toxics))~~ toxins that may be present in air pollution include benzene, formaldehyde, mercury, and dioxins.
 1329 The air quality impact of ~~((toxics))~~ these toxins cannot be evaluated in isolation. Their greatest health risk comes
 1330 from their combined effect. ~~((National air toxics assessment data indicate that air toxics risks in the Puget Sound~~
 1331 ~~region are in the top five percent in the nation.))~~ The Environmental Protection Agency and its regulatory
 1332 partners at the state and local level identify steps to reduce toxic air pollutants and provide important health
 1333 protections~~((:))~~ by reducing toxic emissions from industrial sources; reducing emissions from vehicles and
 1334 engines through stringent emission standards and cleaner burning gasoline; and addressing indoor air pollution
 1335 through voluntary programs.

1336
 1337 Local air monitoring data done by the Washington State Department of Ecology indicates that diesel exhaust
 1338 and wood smoke are key contributors to ~~((toxics))~~ air pollution toxins.

1339
 1340 ~~((In 2002, King County Metro became the first transit agency in the United States to test articulated hybrid-diesel~~
 1341 ~~electric buses. King County Metro currently owns 214 articulated hybrid buses, the largest such fleet in the~~
 1342 ~~nation. A National Renewable Energy Laboratory study found articulated hybrids provide a 30% reduction in~~
 1343 ~~greenhouse gases and are 40% more reliable than diesel fueled articulated buses.))~~ The U.S. Environmental
 1344 Protection Agency has adopted increasingly stringent air pollution standards for heavy-duty vehicles, which has
 1345 significantly reduced air pollution. In 2020, Metro retired the last of its diesel-only fleet vehicles; the entire bus
 1346 fleet is now either diesel electric hybrid or zero-emission. Metro has continued its efforts to reduce air pollution
 1347 and greenhouse gas emissions and has committed to transitioning to a fully zero emission bus fleet by 2035. As
 1348 of 2023, Metro operates a fleet of more than 1,300 buses, comprised of approximately 1,145 diesel-electric
 1349 hybrids, 174 zero emission trolleys, and 45 zero emission battery electric buses.

1350
 1351 ~~((Wood smoke is a leading contributor to air toxics. King County will examine proposals to curtail the impacts~~
 1352 ~~of woodstove burning and land-clearing practices in rural parts of the county.))~~

1353
 1354 The focus of King County air quality improvement efforts is to engage in projects and changed practices ~~((to))~~
 1355 that reduce county emissions, reduce the impacts of poor air quality on health (particularly for frontline
 1356 communities), and promote policies that incorporate consideration of air quality impacts. Motorized vehicle and
 1357 other fuel burning engine-related emissions are the primary source of ozone, fine particulate matter, ~~((toxics))~~
 1358 toxins, and greenhouse gas emissions in King County and therefore should be a primary focus for emissions
 1359 reduction.

1360
 1361 **E-301 King County should support initiatives that reduce air pollution emissions due to**
 1362 **indoor and outdoor wood burning consistent with the actions of Puget Sound**
 1363 **Clean Air Agency to control this source of ~~((public health threat))~~ health impacts.**

1364

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1365 **E-302** King County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to actively develop partnerships with the
1366 Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, local jurisdictions, the state, and public, private,
1367 and ~~((not-for-profit))~~ nonprofit groups to promote programs, ~~((and))~~ policies, and
1368 code changes that reduce emissions and health impacts of ozone, wildfire
1369 smoke, fine particulates, toxics, and greenhouse gases, particularly for those
1370 populations already experiencing health disparities linked to air quality.

1371
1372 **E-303** King County should encourage the use of methods to improve indoor air quality
1373 and reduce smoke infiltration into indoor environments during wildfire smoke
1374 events, particularly for populations already experiencing health disparities, such
1375 as air filtration technologies and other mechanisms that reduce the level of
1376 wildfire smoke that can make its way into indoor environments.

1377
1378 ((More detailed policies related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality can be found in
1379 Section II of this chapter, Chapter 8: Transportation, and Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities.))
1380

1381 ~~((IV.))~~ Land and Water Resources

1382 ~~((A.))~~ Conserving King County's Biodiversity

1383 It is King County's goal to conserve fish and wildlife resources in the county and to maintain countywide
1384 biodiversity. This goal may be achieved through implementation of several broad policy directions that form an
1385 integrated vision for the future. Each of the pieces is necessary for the whole to be successful. The policy
1386 objectives are to: (1) initiate multi-species, biodiversity management approaches, (2) integrate biodiversity
1387 conservation goals and climate change planning into new and existing developments and habitat restoration
1388 programs, (3) identify and protect fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, (4) connect the fish and wildlife
1389 habitat conservation areas and other important conservation areas and protected lands through a habitat network
1390 system, (5) include working farmland and forestland within the larger conservation landscape, and (6) provide
1391 education and incentive opportunities to engage residents. ~~((Incentives can include, but are not limited to, tax
1392 incentives, regulatory flexibility (e.g., alternatives to fixed width buffers), streamlined permit processing, reduced
1393 permit fees, and free or low cost technical assistance.))~~ Conservation of biodiversity is necessary if benefits
1394 including important ecosystem services such as clean water, natural flood control, agricultural and timber
1395 production, climate ~~((regulation))~~ change adaptation, and pollination currently enjoyed and relied upon by
1396 residents of the county are to be available for future generations.

1397

1398 ~~((1.))~~ **Biodiversity**

1399 Because of its size, topography, and geology, the diversity of landscapes and habitats in King County is
1400 dramatic. From the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound, alpine areas to lowland bogs, King County possesses
1401 an astonishing array of habitats and species. Approximately 220 species of breeding and non-breeding birds are

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1402 usually seen on an annual basis in King County. Based on an analysis by the State of Washington, 69 species of
 1403 mammals, 12 species of amphibians, and 8 species of reptiles are thought to be breeding in the county. About 50
 1404 species of native fish (and 20 species of introduced fish) are found in the freshwater streams, rivers, ponds, and
 1405 lakes of King County. In the county’s marine environment, over 200 species of fish, some 500 species of
 1406 invertebrate animals, and eight species of marine mammals can be found. A total of 1,249 (383 introduced)
 1407 species of vascular plants have been identified in the county. The diversity of geography combined with King
 1408 County’s history of land use has shaped the biodiversity of the past and present and will continue affecting it into
 1409 the future.

1410

1411 King County defines biodiversity as the variety of living organisms considered at all levels, from genetic diversity
 1412 through species, to higher taxonomic levels, including the variety of habitats, ecosystems, and landscapes in
 1413 which the species are found. ~~((The Washington Biodiversity Conservation Strategy provides another working~~
 1414 ~~definition:)) Biodiversity is the full range of life in all its forms, including the habitats in which ~~((they))~~ species
 1415 live, the ways species interact with each other and their environment, and the natural processes (such as
 1416 flooding) that support those interactions.~~

1417

1418 The biggest threats to biodiversity in King County visible today are climate change and habitat loss and
 1419 fragmentation from development~~((, invasive plant and animal species, and climate change)).~~

1420

1421 **E-401 King County shall strive to conserve the native diversity of species and habitats**
 1422 **in the county.**

1423

1424 **E-402 In the Urban Growth Area, King County shall strive to maintain a quality**
 1425 **environment that includes fish and wildlife habitats that support the greatest**
 1426 **diversity of native species consistent with Growth Management Act-mandated**
 1427 **population density objectives. In areas outside the Urban Growth Area, the**
 1428 **~~((e))~~County should strive to maintain, protect, and recover ecological processes,**
 1429 **native landscapes, ecosystems, and habitats that can support viable populations**
 1430 **of native species. This should be accomplished through coordinated**
 1431 **conservation planning and collaborative implementation.**

1432

1433 **E-403 King County should develop a biodiversity conservation framework and**
 1434 **conservation strategy to achieve the goals of maintaining and recovering native**
 1435 **biodiversity. ~~((This framework should be coordinated with the Washington~~**
 1436 **Biodiversity Conservation Strategy where applicable.) King County should**
 1437 **collaborate with other governments and private and nonprofit organizations on**
 1438 **the creation and implementation of this strategy.**

1439

1440 ~~**((E-404 King County should collaborate with other governments and private and**~~
 1441 ~~**non-profit organizations to establish a bioinventory, an assessment and**~~

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1442 ~~monitoring program, and a database of species currently using King County to~~
1443 ~~provide baseline and continuing information on wildlife population trends in the~~
1444 ~~county.))~~

1445

1446 ~~**((2.)) Climate Change and Biodiversity**~~

1447 ~~The effects of climate change on native biodiversity in the Pacific Northwest are likely to be serious, but as yet~~
1448 ~~are largely unpredictable. In King County, some effects already are apparent as average temperatures over the~~
1449 ~~last decade have increased slowly but steadily, especially in winter. For many native species, e))Climate change~~
1450 ~~((will present)) brings added stresses ((to)) for many native species and ecosystems ((and populations)), including~~
1451 ~~changes in distribution and availability of food, cover, and breeding habitat. Changes in temperature can alter~~
1452 ~~productivity and growth rates or cause direct mortality, particularly for salmon, and trigger invasions of~~
1453 ~~non-native species. The range and seasonal presence of some species will shift, and ((it is likely that)) the timing~~
1454 ~~of when some species are in certain habitats won't match ((with)) the availability of their food sources. Some~~
1455 ~~species will go extinct locally, and new species will move into the area. Finally, changing lake and ocean~~
1456 ~~temperatures may have devastating impacts on the base of food web.~~

1457

1458 ~~The effects of climate change are ((only)) beginning to be observed and understood in the county and ((are~~
1459 ~~presumed to)) will increase over time. In the face of climate change, biodiversity conservation may be of critical~~
1460 ~~importance for buffering the effects of rising temperatures on regional ecosystems, damping the rates of~~
1461 ~~ecological change, and reducing the potential for sudden, extreme changes in the environment.~~

1462

1463 **E-405 King County should evaluate a range of projected future climate scenarios based**
1464 **on best available science to help ensure that biodiversity conservation efforts are**
1465 **able to meet their objectives in a changing climate.**

1466

1467 ~~**((3.)) Biodiversity Conservation Approaches**~~

1468 ~~This section provides guidance for biodiversity management of the county's natural resources. The following~~
1469 ~~concepts and principles are based on current approaches to conservation biology, restoration ecology, and~~
1470 ~~climate science ((combined with input from the new Washington State Climate Change Response Strategy)).~~

1471

1472 ~~**((a.)) Landscape Context**~~

1473 ~~Natural resource protection occurs within an ecological context. Environmental management should consider~~
1474 ~~not only the immediate site but also the spatial and temporal context that surrounds it. In terms of spatial~~
1475 ~~context, different activities will require consideration of different scales—from small sub-basins of a few square~~
1476 ~~miles to watersheds and ecosystems that contain many hundreds or thousands of square miles. For example,~~
1477 ~~watershed boundaries are useful ways to define ecological planning units for resource protection of aquatic~~
1478 ~~systems whereas large-scale vegetation communities may be more useful for terrestrial systems.~~

1479

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1480 In terms of temporal contexts, habitat conditions and populations can fluctuate over long time periods. It may
1481 take decades to see the results of habitat restoration projects and other environmental management actions on
1482 populations, and in the interim climate change and possibly major events such as flooding will also impact the
1483 trajectory of restoration actions.

1484
1485 There is no single scale appropriate for all planning and management of conservation activities. Management
1486 within the context of a landscape helps to ensure the actions in one area will not be undone or rendered
1487 unsustainable by conditions in the surrounding watershed or ecoregion. Conservation efforts designed to protect
1488 only one species could have an unintended, detrimental effect on others. Ecological communities consist of
1489 multiple species often that interact in the same geographical area.

1490

1491 **E-406 King County’s conservation efforts should be integrated across multiple**
1492 **landscape scales, species, and ecological communities.**

1493

1494 **E-407 Distribution, spatial structure, and diversity of native wildlife and plant**
1495 **populations should be taken into account when planning restoration activities,**
1496 **acquiring land, and designing, planning, and managing parks.**

1497

1498 **E-408 King County should carry out conservation planning efforts in close**
1499 **collaboration with other local governments, Indian tribes, state and federal**
1500 **governments, land((-)owners, community groups, and other conservation**
1501 **planning ((stakeholders)) partners.**

1502

1503 (~~“Ecoregions” are land areas that contain a geographically unique set of species, communities, and~~
1504 ~~environmental conditions. Washington is a highly diverse state, with portions of nine ecoregions located within~~
1505 ~~its boundaries. Three ecoregions cover parts of King County: the Puget Lowland Ecoregion in the western half~~
1506 ~~of the county, the North Cascades Ecoregion in the northeastern and east central portion, and the Cascades~~
1507 ~~Ecoregion in the southeastern portion of the county.~~

1508

1509 ~~Ecoregions are the largest units of biodiversity in King County, and this scale is appropriate for broader natural~~
1510 ~~resources planning and management. More localized habitats and species can be identified within these~~
1511 ~~ecoregions, and can inform actions at the watershed and even property specific level. Funding for landscape~~
1512 ~~evaluations ((of this nature)) is extremely limited and will typically require grant funds. The County should take~~
1513 ~~advantage of opportunities that may arise to collaborate with other ecoregional planning efforts.~~

1514

1515 ~~**E-409 King County should develop a countywide landscape characterization system**~~
1516 ~~**based on ecoregions as a key tool for assessing, protecting, and recovering**~~
1517 ~~**biodiversity.**~~

1518

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1519 **b-)) Habitat connectivity**

1520 Protecting and enhancing habitat connectivity is a critical action for maintaining ecosystem integrity and
1521 resilience, particularly in the face of climate change. However, funding for such evaluations is extremely limited.
1522 Protection of isolated blocks of habitat is critical but not enough to adequately protect wildlife in King County.
1523 Critical wildlife habitats and refuges also need to be connected across the landscape through a system of habitat
1524 corridors, or networks.

1525

1526 relocated from "Wildlife Habitat Network" subsection below, with edits

1527 The King County Wildlife Habitat Network was designed to help reduce the effects of fragmentation by linking
1528 diverse habitats through the developed and developing landscape. The network is intended to facilitate animal
1529 dispersal by connecting isolated critical areas, segments, open space, and wooded areas on adjacent properties.
1530 The corridors tend to follow riparian areas and streams ~~((corridors))~~ across the lowlands and the upland plateau
1531 to the east and southeast of Lake Washington into the foothills. The Wildlife Habitat Network is mapped on the
1532 "Wildlife Network and Public Ownership Map."

1533

1534 How wide the corridors within the network should be is related to requirements of target wildlife species, length
1535 of network segment and other important characteristics within the network. Wider corridors will be required for
1536 larger species if the distance between refuges is great or if multiple uses, such as public access and trails, are
1537 desired. Because it may not be possible to protect wide corridors in the Urban Growth Area, it may not be
1538 possible to accommodate larger wildlife species in all areas. Networks will address some of the problems of
1539 habitat fragmentation for smaller species within the Urban Growth Area.

1540

1541 Open spaces set aside during subdivision of land should be located to make connections with larger offsite
1542 systems. This approach will also benefit other open space goals.

1543

1544 **E-410 Habitat networks for threatened, endangered and Species of Local Importance,**
1545 **as listed in this chapter, shall be designated and mapped. Habitat networks for**
1546 **other priority species in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands should be**
1547 **identified, designated and mapped using ecoregion information about the county**
1548 **and its resources and should be coordinated with state and federal ecosystem**
1549 **mapping efforts as appropriate.**

1550

1551 ~~((As mentioned above, protecting and enhancing habitat connectivity is critical for maintaining ecosystem
1552 integrity and resilience. Functional habitat connectivity is the degree to which a given species can easily move
1553 between habitat areas. Because individual species respond to the landscape, functional connectivity depends on
1554 both the features in the landscape and how particular species respond to that landscape. Focal species are used to
1555 identify important linkages between habitat areas that will be suitable for a variety of species.))~~

1556

1557 **E-411 King County should ~~((conduct an analysis to identify areas critical for functional~~**
1558 **habitat connectivity. ~~This assessment should be coordinated with state and~~**

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1559 **federal mapping efforts as appropriate)) map habitat connectivity corridors and**
 1560 **biodiversity areas to protect wildlife populations in a changing climate. Areas**
 1561 **identified by this analysis ((as being critical for functional habitat connectivity))**
 1562 **should be prioritized by King County, and in collaboration with Indian tribes, the**
 1563 **state, cities, and other landowners, for land conservation and restoration actions**
 1564 **and programs.**

1565
 1566 In planning for climate change, it will be increasingly important to provide for habitat connectivity not only
 1567 across jurisdictional boundaries, but also across a range of environmental gradients. ~~((As the “Washington State~~
 1568 ~~Integrated Climate Change Response Strategy” explains:)) Habitat connectivity is ((expected)) anticipated to~~
 1569 ~~allow species and ecosystems to ((better withstand)) adapt to a changing climate ((change)) by allowing ((them))~~
 1570 ~~species to follow changes in climate across the landscape and maintain critical ecological processes such as~~
 1571 ~~dispersal and gene flow. ((In general, it is much costlier and more difficult to restore connectivity than to~~
 1572 ~~maintain existing connectivity, yet ongoing development rapidly removes this opportunity. Planning for habitat~~
 1573 ~~connectivity in the near term will be far more economical the sooner it is implemented.))~~

1574
 1575 King County’s Fish Passage Restoration Program is an example of prioritizing investments in habitat restoration
 1576 with a focus on restoring habitat connectivity. The program has surveyed more than 3,000 potential blockages to
 1577 salmon migration up streams and prioritized 50 barrier locations where restoration of fish passage would open
 1578 half of historically connected habitat blocked by County-owned barriers. The County-owned barriers occur
 1579 mixed with fish passage barriers owned by other municipalities and landowners. Coordination with other barrier
 1580 owners to address nearby barriers will maximize the habitat benefits of restoring fish passage in county
 1581 waterways.

1582
 1583 **E-412 King County should work with adjacent jurisdictions, state and federal**
 1584 **governments, Indian tribes, and landowners during development of land use**
 1585 **plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, fish passage**
 1586 **plans, and site development reviews to identify and protect habitat networks at**
 1587 **jurisdictional and property boundaries.**

1588
 1589 **E-412a King County should work with non-governmental organizations and regulatory**
 1590 **agencies to accelerate removal of barriers to fish passage and should:**
 1591 **a. Seek opportunities to accelerate permitting and project implementation;**
 1592 **b. Explore all mechanisms available to remove barriers and restore salmon**
 1593 **access to the most and highest quality habitat as quickly as possible;**
 1594 **and**
 1595 **c. Aggressively seek funding for projects to remove barriers.**

1596
 1597 Additional medium- and long-term strategies identified in the “Washington State Integrated Climate Change
 1598 Response Strategy” that are appropriate for the County to consider when planning for connectivity include:

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- 1599 • Identifying and designating areas most suitable for core habitat and connectivity in view of a changing
1600 climate.
- 1601 • Protecting and restoring areas most suitable for current core habitat, likely future core habitat, and
1602 connections between them.
- 1603 • Protecting and re-establishing connectivity of rivers and their floodplains.
- 1604 • Adjusting the size and boundaries of conservation areas (parks and natural areas) to accommodate
1605 anticipated shifts in habitat and species' ranges.
- 1606 • Adjusting land use designations in important connectivity areas (for example, allowable density).
- 1607 • Facilitating inland migration of marine shoreline habitats.

1608

1609 Connectivity is addressed further below, as the Wildlife Habitat Network is a designated Fish and Wildlife
1610 Habitat Conservation Area.

1611

1612 **((e-)) Ecosystem Resilience and Natural Processes**

1613 Ecosystems and habitats suitable for particular species communities are the result of various geologic,
1614 hydrologic, climatic, and biologic processes. Where habitat forming processes are intact, ecosystems and their
1615 inhabitants are more likely to persist in the face of environmental variation and disturbances made worse by
1616 climate change, including disease, invasive species, wildfire, flooding, and drought.

1617

1618 ~~((Further, reducing vulnerability of systems to large scale disturbances including disease, invasive species,
1619 catastrophic fire, flooding, and drought is best accomplished by supporting resilience, which is the ability of a
1620 system to return to its former state after a disturbance. When an ecosystem is resilient, that system with its
1621 species communities is better able to bounce back following disturbance or change with ecological functions and
1622 processes still intact. In addition, current efforts such as the Washington State Department of Ecology's
1623 Watershed Characterization analysis can be used to inform decisions and direct resources for regarding land
1624 protection and restoration efforts with maximum ecological benefit.))~~

1625

1626 **E-413 King County's efforts to restore and maintain biodiversity should place priority
1627 on protecting and restoring ecological processes that create and sustain habitats
1628 and species diversity and support climate change resilience.**

1629

1630 ~~**((E-414 When acquiring land for habitat protection, efforts should be made to protect and
1631 restore areas of each habitat type most likely to be resistant to and enhance
1632 resilience to climate change.))**~~

1633

1634 "Structural diversity" is an accepted scientific term whose meaning varies depending on the ecosystem. For
1635 example, ~~((in))~~ in a forest, structural diversity means the combination of tree species, tree height classes, and

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1636 legacy components (snags, logs); the more of each of these there are, the greater the forest structural diversity.
 1637 Structural diversity of a river or stream means the degree of sinuosity (meaning curviness of the river and more is
 1638 better) combined with both native riparian habitat and natural in-stream structure, which includes downed
 1639 wood, various-sized substrate, and a combination of pools, riffles, and glides. "Landscape diversity" means the
 1640 size, shape, and connectivity of different ecosystems across a large area; a mosaic of heterogeneous land cover
 1641 types and vegetation types; assemblages of different ecosystems.

1642

1643 **E-415 King County should conserve areas where conditions support dynamic**
 1644 **ecological processes that sustain important ecosystem and habitat functions and**
 1645 **values, and promote structural and landscape diversity.**

1646

1647 **((d-)) Decisions in the Face of Uncertainty**

1648 ~~((Both))~~ Historical, current, and ~~((historical))~~ projected information on habitat conditions, including climate, and
 1649 species distribution can inform ecologists and decision-makers about environmental management decisions.
 1650 However, decision-makers do not always have access to complete information.

1651

1652 **E-416 King County should use a mixture of information on historic, current, and**
 1653 **projected future conditions to provide context for managing public hazards and**
 1654 **protecting and restoring habitat.**

1655

1656 **E-417 King County should take precautionary action informed by best available science**
 1657 **where there is a significant risk of damage to the environment. Precautionary**
 1658 **action should be coupled with monitoring and adaptive management.**

1659

1660 **((e-)) Rare Ecosystems, Habitats, and Species**

1661 Rare or sensitive habitats and species are at a greater risk of extinction than those that are widespread and
 1662 abundant and therefore should be a high priority for conservation. ~~((An important secondary benefit of~~
 1663 protecting habitat for rare, e)) Endemic species are those that are ((())native to a particular geographic area and
 1664 found nowhere else. If the habitat where endemic species live is damaged or lost, the species would cease to
 1665 exist. ((, or k)) Keystone species are those ((a species)) that ((is)) has a disproportionately large effect on its
 1666 natural environment relative to its abundance and are central to the survival of a multitude of other species((
 1667 species is that habitat for many other species is protected as well. For example, the most effective way to protect
 1668 and enhance native salmonid populations is through protection of those river and stream channels, riparian
 1669 corridors, lakes, wetlands, groundwater, headwaters, and watersheds that provide or impact spawning and
 1670 rearing habitat, food resources, and fish passage. Protecting these resources also enhances protection of habitat
 1671 for other species.)) Keystone species may have habitat regulating functions, such as sea stars, or they have
 1672 habitat forming functions, such as North American beavers.

1673

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1674 **E-418** King County should assess the relative scarcity and sensitivity of different land
1675 types, habitats, and resources, the role of these land types, habitats, and
1676 resources in supporting sensitive species, and the level of threat to these land
1677 types, habitats, and resources in terms of habitat modifications that would likely
1678 reduce populations of sensitive species.

1680 **E-419** King County should give special consideration to protection of rare, endemic,
1681 and keystone species when identifying and prioritizing land areas for protection
1682 through acquisition, conservation easements, and incentive programs.

1684 **E-420** King County should incorporate climate change projections into new species
1685 protection plans and shall revise older species protection plans when feasible or
1686 when conducting ((eight)) 10-year updates to incorporate projected impacts from
1687 climate change.

1689 Rare ecosystems, habitats, and species are also addressed in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas
1690 section below.

1692 **~~((F))~~ Integrated Land and Water Management and Planning**

1693 In the past, aquatic and terrestrial habitats and species have often been managed independently of each other.
1694 Effective conservation and resource management of aquatic and terrestrial systems requires coordinated planning
1695 among departments with authority over development regulations and guidelines, wastewater treatment,
1696 stormwater management, flood hazard management, groundwater protection, transportation planning and road
1697 building, water quality, natural resource management, agriculture, and fish and wildlife conservation. Effective
1698 conservation planning must include the interests of private landowners as well.

1699 Coordinated planning and management can improve understanding of cumulative effects on terrestrial and
1700 aquatic systems, and can allow for a systems-based approach to avoiding or mitigating for adverse effects and
1701 improving habitat functions and value over time.

1704 **E-421** Terrestrial and aquatic habitats should be conserved and enhanced to protect
1705 and improve conditions for fish and wildlife.

1707 **E-422** King County's land use and park planning, regulatory, and operational functions
1708 related to environmental protection, public safety, and equity should be closely
1709 coordinated across departments and with other applicable agencies and
1710 organizations to achieve an ecosystem-based approach.

1711

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1712 **~~((g-))~~ Habitat and Development**

1713 A key element in local wildlife conservation is the integration of wildlife and habitats into developments of all
1714 types. Wildlife protection does not have to be at odds with many types of development. Urban multifamily
1715 projects, industrial developments, new school facilities and rural open space projects all provide opportunities to
1716 enhance wildlife ~~((amenities))~~ habitat quality and connectivity. Residential developers and businesses have been
1717 able to use wildlife in marketing strategies to attract more potential homeowners, renters, and quality employees.

1718
1719 Techniques such as minimizing clearing during site preparation, using native plant species in required buffers,
1720 landscaping, using bridges and wildlife-specific crossings rather than culverts to cross streams and innovative site
1721 design can be used to promote wildlife presence and connectivity and minimize ~~((problems))~~ conflicts with
1722 ~~((nuisance))~~ wildlife. Other plan elements, such as open space, road system design and housing density, also
1723 have related impacts on the remaining wildlife values that must be considered.

1724
1725 Benefits to wildlife are enhanced if screening and landscaping is composed of native vegetation. Retention of
1726 natural vegetation can provide wildlife and aesthetic benefits often at a lower cost than non-native or constructed
1727 options.

1728

1729 **E-423 New development, erosion control projects, and restoration of stream banks,**
1730 **lakes, shorelines, and wetlands should, where possible, incorporate native plant**
1731 **communities into the site plan, both through preservation of existing native**
1732 **plants and addition of new native plants. Introductions of non-native invasive**
1733 **plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species should be avoided in terrestrial,**
1734 **freshwater, and marine environs.**

1735

1736 **E-424 King County shall steward public lands well and shall integrate fish and wildlife**
1737 **habitat considerations into capital improvement projects whenever feasible. Fish**
1738 **and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas should be protected and, where**
1739 **possible, enhanced as part of capital improvement projects.**

1740

1741 Standard buffers for streams and wetlands will not always adequately protect wildlife resources that utilize those
1742 sensitive areas. Areas with critical wildlife resources may need larger buffers to protect the resource.

1743

1744 **E-425 To protect or improve adjacent wetlands and aquatic habitats, stream and**
1745 **wetland buffer requirements may be increased to protect King County species of**
1746 **Local Importance and their habitats, as appropriate. Whenever possible, density**
1747 **transfers, clustering, and buffer averaging should be allowed.**

1748

1749 **~~((h-))~~ Non-Native Species**

1750 Non-native species are often invasive because they did not evolve as part of the ecosystem and therefore do not
1751 have natural controls or competition. These species may be terrestrial, freshwater, or marine. Invasive species

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1752 can create costly maintenance problems for both public and private landowners. Noxious and invasive weeds
 1753 and animal species pose threats to the environmental health of all landscapes in King County, including natural,
 1754 agricultural, wildlife, wetland, stream, and recreational areas. Weeds spread in a variety of ways, including the
 1755 transport of seeds or plant parts by vehicles boats, shoes, clothing, and animals (including pets, livestock,
 1756 wildlife, birds, and insects), in soil, gravel and other landscaping and building materials, down watercourses and
 1757 in floods, by wind, and occasionally through deliberate introduction by people. They alter ecosystems through
 1758 disrupting food chains, out-competing native species, and reducing habitat for native wildlife. Invasive species,
 1759 including weeds, are widely recognized as having a significant negative impact on wildlife biodiversity. Invasive
 1760 plants can also increase the risk of forest fire by acting as an accelerant for fire (when extremely flammable)
 1761 and/or by acting as ladder fuels that carry a fire from ground level to the crown of trees.

1762
 1763 King County offers technical assistance with identification and removal of non-native plants ~~((through programs,~~
 1764 ~~including Forest Stewardship and Natureescaping)).~~ The ~~((e))~~County also partners with volunteer groups to
 1765 remove invasive plants from open space and natural areas. Some non-native species are classified as “noxious”
 1766 weeds. The King County Noxious Weed Control Program provides many services to county residents,
 1767 including: educational materials and workshops, current information on control and eradication of noxious
 1768 weeds, support to volunteer and land~~((-))~~owner groups, and annual road-side surveys. In addition, the Noxious
 1769 Weed Control Program implements the State Weed Law ~~((Revised Code of Washington e))~~Chapter 17.10
 1770 Revised Code of Washington) in the county, which requires all landowners to eradicate Class A noxious weeds
 1771 and control designated Class B and ~~((e))~~County-selected Class C noxious weeds on their properties.

1772
 1773 The State Weed Law applies to both private and public lands (except for federal and Indian tribal lands). King
 1774 County manages approximately ~~((4,420))~~ 4,400 parcels of public land totaling over 36,000 acres. King County
 1775 also owns or manages approximately 1,500 linear miles of roads and right of way. These lands are managed by
 1776 multiple ~~((e))~~County agencies, including the King County Departments of Natural Resources, ~~((Transportation))~~
 1777 Local Services, and Executive Services. Since weed infestations can spread from property to property, on both
 1778 public and private lands, it is critical that the ~~((e))~~County have a coordinated strategy for controlling noxious and
 1779 invasive weeds on ~~((e))~~County-owned and managed lands.

1780
 1781 ~~**((E-426 ————— Introductions of non-native, invasive plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species**~~
 1782 ~~**should be avoided in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environs.))**~~

1783
 1784 **E-427 King County should promote and restore native plant communities where**
 1785 **sustainable, feasible, and appropriate to the site and surrounding ecological**
 1786 **context and should incorporate climate change considerations into planting**
 1787 **design, including:**
 1788 **a. Encouraging management and control of nonnative invasive plants,**
 1789 **including aquatic plants;**
 1790 **b. Using environmentally sound methods of vegetation control to control**
 1791 **noxious weeds;**

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1832 ((Additional text and policies related to monitoring and adaptive management can be found at the end of this
1833 chapter.

1834 **4.) Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas**

1835 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation, according to the state’s definition, means land management for
1836 maintaining populations of species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution so that the
1837 habitat available is sufficient to support viable populations over the long term and isolated subpopulations are
1838 not created. This definition does not mean that all individuals of all species at all times must be maintained, but
1839 it does mean not degrading or reducing populations or habitats so that they are no longer viable over the long
1840 term. Additionally, it should be recognized that geographic distributions will shift with climate change.

1841

1842 King County’s fish and wildlife policies and regulations have been informed by current state fish and wildlife
1843 guidance, recommendations, and requirements. The Growth Management Act directs local jurisdictions to
1844 designate and protect critical areas, including Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas. Fish and Wildlife
1845 Habitat Conservation Areas are designated with the intent to ensure the conservation of individual species
1846 recognized as declining or imperiled as well as protect and connect specific areas of habitat deemed important.
1847 This approach of protecting individual species and their habitat comprises one of the five major objectives
1848 described above for protecting the county’s biodiversity. Because biodiversity encompasses a variety of levels,
1849 from genes to ecosystems, and occurs at multiple spatial scales, a wider approach beyond single-species
1850 management is necessary to conserve biodiversity in King County. Additionally, most fish and wildlife species
1851 are not confined to small portions of the landscape; rather, they move about for feeding, breeding, rearing young,
1852 and interacting with other members of their species to ~~((insure))~~ ensure adequate genetic exchange and
1853 population viability.

1854

1855 Federal laws have been enacted over the past century to protect a wide range of species. In addition to the
1856 Endangered Species Act, other federal laws include the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Migratory Bird
1857 Treaty Act. Individuals of Endangered Species Act -listed species, marine mammals, and migratory birds in
1858 King County are protected under the provisions of these laws.

1859

1860 ~~((In order to))~~ To build a robust approach to biodiversity conservation, especially in view of a changing climate,
1861 individual species and habitat protections must be integrated with a landscape-scale approach to fostering and
1862 protecting resilient and diverse ecosystems. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas occur on both
1863 publicly and privately owned lands. Designating these areas is an important part of land use planning for
1864 appropriate development densities, the ((u))Urban ((g))Growth ((a))Area ((boundaries)) boundary, open space
1865 corridors, incentive-based land conservation and stewardship programs, and acquisition planning. The policies
1866 in this section are intended to fulfill federal and state requirements for protection of specific species and habitats
1867 while implementing landscape-based approaches to conserve native biodiversity in the long term. Protection
1868 measures designed to help maintain populations of certain species may necessarily include protecting the habitat
1869 where those species have a primary association with the protected area such as spawning or breeding, and also
1870 for rearing young, resting, roosting, feeding, foraging, and migrating.

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1871

1872 **E-432**

King County shall designate the following areas as Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas:

1873

1874

a. **Areas with which federal or state listed endangered, threatened or sensitive species have a primary association;**

1875

1876

b. **Habitats of Local Importance and ((H))habitats for Species of Local Importance;**

1877

1878

c. **Wildlife habitat networks designated by the ((e))County;**

1879

d. **Commercial and recreational shellfish areas;**

1880

e. **Kelp and eelgrass beds;**

1881

f. **Herring, smelt, and sand lance spawning areas;**

1882

g. **Riparian ((corridors)) areas; and**

1883

h. **State aquatic reserves.**

1884

1885 **E-433**

King County should map Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas. King County shall protect Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas through measures such as regulations, incentives, capital projects, or purchase((, as appropriate)).

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

~~((The Washington Administrative Code guidelines suggest considering waters of the state, wetlands, salmonid~~

1891

~~habitat (which includes marine nearshore areas), and riparian ecosystems when designating fish and wildlife~~

1892

~~habitat conservation areas. All of these areas and their associated buffers are highly valuable wildlife habitat, and~~

1893

~~they serve many other functions as well. Protections for these areas are addressed more broadly in other~~

1894

~~provisions of this chapter.~~

1895

a-)) Federal and State Listed Endangered, Threatened, Sensitive Species

1896

The importance of designating seasonal ranges and habitat elements where federal and state listed endangered,

1897

threatened and sensitive species have a primary association is that these areas, if altered, may reduce the

1898

likelihood that the species will survive over the long term. The state recommends that King County and other

1899

local jurisdictions identify and classify these areas.

1900

1901

1902

Habitats for species that have been identified as endangered, threatened, or sensitive by the state or federal government shall not be degraded or reduced in size and should be conserved.

1903

1904

1905

1906

((b-)) Species and Habitats of Local Importance

1907

Federal and state listings of species as endangered or threatened often encompass relatively large geographic

1908

areas. More localized declines of species within King County may not be captured by state and federal listings.

1909

For example, local monitoring data indicate the extinction of the ((Early)) Lake Sammamish Kokanee Early run,

1910

((likely)) possible extinction or significant decline of the ((Middle)) Lake ((Sammamish)) Washington Kokanee

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1911 ~~((salmon)) Middle run, and a significant decline in the ((Late)) Lake Sammamish Kokanee ((salmon)) Late~~
 1912 ~~run((s)). ((In 2000, a petition to list just the Early run was filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but by~~
 1913 ~~2003 the run went extinct without any federal action to prevent that result. In 2007, a second petition was filed~~
 1914 ~~to list all remaining Lake Sammamish kokanee. This petition led to an official review of the population's status~~
 1915 ~~by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.~~
 1916
 1917 ~~On September 30, 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that kokanee and sockeye throughout the~~
 1918 ~~Pacific Northwest should be considered together in their listing determination and therefore declined to list this~~
 1919 ~~unique kokanee population. However,)) King County and its partners believe((s)) the conservation of local native~~
 1920 ~~kokanee salmon and its watershed habitat to be important to the quality of life and natural heritage of the~~
 1921 ~~region's residents. Towards that end the County maintains strong collaborative relationships with the watershed~~
 1922 ~~cities, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State~~
 1923 ~~Parks, the Muckleshoot Tribe, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Trout Unlimited, Long Live the Kings, and additional~~
 1924 ~~governmental and non-governmental organizations, schools, watershed residents, and other key contributors.~~
 1925 ~~Together these partners work to: improve kokanee salmon habitat, including Lake Sammamish, tributary~~
 1926 ~~streams, and contributing watershed areas; conduct research((,)); educate local residents and businesses((,)); and~~
 1927 ~~support an artificial propagation program at the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery and the Long Live the Kings~~
 1928 ~~hatcheries to increase the viability of the kokanee population.~~
 1929
 1930 King County defines Species of Local Importance as those species that are of local concern primarily because of
 1931 their population status or their sensitivity to habitat manipulation. The ((e))County takes into consideration
 1932 native species named as priority species by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; anadromous
 1933 salmonids; aquatic species whose populations are particularly vulnerable to changes in water quality and
 1934 quantity; species whose habitat or mobility is limited (local populations of species that are immobile or have very
 1935 limited habitat); and species that can be directly impacted by King County (for example, where road projects or
 1936 other infrastructure development can impact habitat; where the ((e))County may acquire, protect, or restore
 1937 certain habitat types). King County Species of Local Importance are identified so that they and their habitats
 1938 may be considered during land use planning and protected during project implementation and development.
 1939 Habitats for Species of Local Importance are designated as a type of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation
 1940 Area and are covered by policies and regulations designed to protect those areas. However, individual animals
 1941 or plants may also be at risk of injury from development or during construction or other changes to the landscape
 1942 and may require additional measures to protect them from injury. For example, freshwater mussels may be
 1943 protected from an instream project by relocating individual animals so they are not injured or killed during
 1944 construction. Or, a rare individual plant may require the protection of an area of land because the plant cannot
 1945 be relocated.
 1946
 1947 **E-435 King County designates the following to be Species of Local Importance:**
 1948 **a. Salmonids and other anadromous fish – Kokanee salmon, Sockeye/red**
 1949 **salmon, Chum salmon, Coho/silver salmon, Pink salmon, Coastal**

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- 1950 resident/searun cutthroat trout, Rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, and Pacific
1951 lamprey;
- 1952 b. Native Freshwater Mussels – Western pearlshell mussel, Oregon and
1953 western floater, and western ridge mussel;
- 1954 c. Shellfish – Dungeness crab, Pandalid shrimp, Geoduck clam, and Pacific
1955 oyster;
- 1956 d. Marine Fish – White sturgeon, Pacific herring, Longfin smelt, Surfsmelt,
1957 Lingcod, Pacific sand lance, English sole, and Rock sole;
- 1958 e. Birds – Western grebe, American bittern, Great blue heron, Brant,
1959 Harlequin duck, Wood duck, Hooded merganser, Barrow’s goldeneye,
1960 Common goldeneye, Cinnamon teal, Tundra swan, Trumpeter swan, Surf
1961 scoter, White-winged scoter, Black scoter, Osprey, Western screech-owl,
1962 Sooty grouse, Band-tailed pigeon, Belted kingfisher, Hairy woodpecker,
1963 Olive-sided flycatcher, Western meadowlark, Cassin’s finch, and Purple
1964 finch;
- 1965 f. Mammals – American marten, mink, Columbian black-tailed deer, Elk in
1966 their historic range, mountain goat, Pika, roosting concentrations of
1967 Big-brown bat and Myotis bats;
- 1968 g. Amphibians – Red-legged frog;
- 1969 h. Reptiles – Western fence lizard;
- 1970 i. Rare Plants – bristly sedge; Canadian St. John’s-wort; clubmoss
1971 cassiope; Oregon goldenaster; toothed wood fern; Vancouver
1972 ground-cone; and white-top aster; and
- 1973 j. High-quality ecological communities - Douglas-fir - Pacific Madrone /
1974 Salal; Douglas-fir - Western Hemlock / Swordfern; Forested Sphagnum
1975 Bog PTN, Low Elevation Freshwater Wetland PTN, North Pacific
1976 Herbaceous Bald and Bluff, Red Alder Forest; Western
1977 Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Bog Labrador-tea / Sphagnum Spp.;
1978 Western Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Devil’s-club / Swordfern;
1979 Western Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Sphagnum Spp.; Western
1980 Hemlock / Swordfern – Foamflower; Western Redcedar- Western
1981 Hemlock / Skunkcabbage; and Willow Spp. Shrubland [Provisional]).

1982

1983 **E-436 King County shall protect Species of Local Importance through measures such**
1984 **as regulations, incentives, capital projects, or purchase, as appropriate.**

1985
1986 Caves, cliffs, and talus (a sloping mass of rocky fragments at the base of a cliff) occupy a very small percent of the
1987 total land area, yet they are disproportionately important as wildlife habitats. The same is true for
1988 sphagnum-dominated peat bogs, Oregon white oak woodlands, herbaceous balds, Westside prairie, old((-)
1989 growth forest, and snag-rich areas, which have all declined as a result of development. Each of these habitats
1990 concentrates and supports a unique plant and animal community. Plant associations adjacent to caves, cliff, and

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1991 talus are important because they help stabilize light and wind patterns, and as with snag-rich areas, they provide
 1992 perches for raptors. Caves, cliffs, talus, Oregon white oak woodlands, herbaceous balds, Westside prairie, and
 1993 sphagnum-dominated peat bogs are fragile environments that can be easily destroyed, but cannot be easily
 1994 restored

1995

1996 **E-437 King County shall designate the following to be Habitats of Local Importance:**

- 1997 a. **Caves;**
 1998 b. **Cliffs;**
 1999 c. **Talus;**
 2000 d. **Old-growth forest;**
 2001 e. **Sphagnum-dominated peat bogs; and**
 2002 f. **Snag-rich areas.**

2003

2004 The federal and state governments also designate “candidate” species. In the context of the Endangered Species
 2005 Act, candidate means any species being considered for listing as an endangered or a threatened species but not
 2006 yet the subject of a proposed rule. Lists of federal candidate species are updated annually. Review of these lists
 2007 and the supporting assessments can provide valuable information about threats to species found within King
 2008 County and can help the county to be proactive in preparing for potential future listings.

2009

2010 **E-438 King County should review federal and state candidate listings for information**
 2011 **about candidate species that are under consideration for listing as an**
 2012 **endangered or threatened species and found in King County. King County shall**
 2013 **protect habitat for candidate species, as listed by the Washington Department of**
 2014 **Fish and Wildlife or a federal agency. Information regarding candidate species**
 2015 **should be used to inform King County’s long-term wildlife conservation and**
 2016 **planning efforts.**

2017

2018 **E-439 King County shall review fish and wildlife surveys and assessments with local**
 2019 **application to King County and consider additional habitat protections where**
 2020 **warranted. Habitat protection should be accomplished through incentives,**
 2021 **cooperative planning, education, habitat acquisition, habitat restoration, or other**
 2022 **appropriate actions based on best available science.**

2023

2024 **E-440 King County should regularly review the Washington Department of Fish and**
 2025 **Wildlife’s list of Priority Species and other scientific information on species of**
 2026 **local importance, and evaluate whether any species should be added to or**
 2027 **deleted from the lists in policies E-435 and E-437. Any additions or deletions**
 2028 **((should)) may be made through the annual update.**

2029

2030 **E-441 Development proposals shall be assessed for the presence of King County**
 2031 **Species of Local Importance. A comprehensive assessment should follow a**

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2032 **standard procedure or guidelines and shall occur one time during the**
 2033 **development review process.**

2034

2035 In accordance with new statutory requirements, as described in Chapter 9, Services, Facilities, and Utilities, the
 2036 Department of Ecology has established a Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee in all five
 2037 Watershed Resource Inventory Areas located either entirely or partially within King County. King County is
 2038 participating in the Ecology process of developing a flow restoration strategy for each of the Watershed Resource
 2039 Inventory Areas to mitigate the consumptive use of new permit-exempt wells drilled in the next 20 years. ~~((The~~
 2040 ~~flow restoration strategies are anticipated to be recommended by 2021-))~~ Ecology has adopted streamflow
 2041 restoration plans for Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (the Green/Duwamish Watershed), and Water Resource
 2042 Inventory Area 10 (the White/Puyallup Watershed). The streamflow restoration committees for Water
 2043 Resource Inventory Area 7 (the Snohomish/Snoqualmie/Skykomish Watershed), Water Resource Inventory
 2044 Area 8 (Cedar/Sammamish Watershed), and Water Resource Inventory Area 15 (Kitsap) did not did not reach
 2045 agreement by all members to complete their planning process. Ecology has completed these plans and forwarded
 2046 them to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for technical review after which they may amend and adopt the
 2047 plans. Ecology will initiate rulemaking within six months of plan adoption.

2048

2049 Salmon are particularly important because of their significance to local and regional character, Indian tribes, salt
 2050 and freshwater ecosystems, and recreational and commercial fisheries. A growing number of salmon stocks
 2051 within King County and other areas of Puget Sound are in a serious state of decline. Three salmonid species
 2052 present within King County have been listed under the Endangered Species Act, several others have significant
 2053 potential for listing, and the salmon-dependent Orca whale has been listed as endangered.

2054

2055 The protection and restoration of river and stream channels, riparian ~~((corridors))~~ areas, lakes, wetlands,
 2056 headwaters and watersheds, and marine nearshore habitats that provide or impact spawning and rearing habitat,
 2057 food resources, and fish passage is essential to the conservation of native fish populations. Intermittent streams
 2058 also can be critical to native fish populations.

2059

2060 Hatcheries and other artificial propagation facilities that are properly managed to protect the abundance,
 2061 productivity, genetic diversity, and spatial distribution of native salmon may contribute in the near term to both
 2062 maintaining sustainable salmon stocks and harvest opportunities while habitat protection and restoration
 2063 measures for salmon are implemented.

2064

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2065 **E-442** King County should conserve and restore salmonid habitats by ensuring that
 2066 land use and facility plans (transportation, water, sewer, electricity, gas) include
 2067 riparian and stream habitat conservation measures developed by the ((c))County,
 2068 cities, Indian tribes, service providers, and state and federal agencies. Project
 2069 review of development proposals within basins that contain hatcheries and other
 2070 artificial propagation facilities that are managed to protect the abundance,
 2071 productivity, genetic diversity, and spatial distribution of native salmon and
 2072 provide harvest opportunities should consider significant adverse impacts to
 2073 those facilities.

2074
 2075 **~~((c.)) Wildlife Habitat Network~~**

2076 ~~The King County Wildlife Habitat Network was designed to help reduce the effects of fragmentation by linking~~
 2077 ~~diverse habitats through the developed and developing landscape. The network is intended to facilitate animal~~
 2078 ~~dispersal by connecting isolated critical areas, segments, open space, and wooded areas on adjacent properties.~~
 2079 ~~The corridors tend to follow riparian and stream corridors across the lowlands and the upland plateau to the east~~
 2080 ~~and southeast of Lake Washington into the foothills. The Wildlife Habitat Network is mapped on the “Wildlife~~
 2081 ~~Network and Public Ownership Map.”~~
 2082

2083 **5.) Conservation Incentives and Education**

2084 King County offers landowner technical assistance for protection of fish and wildlife habitat through programs
 2085 including Forest Stewardship, Noxious Weed Control, ~~((the GoNative web site,))~~ and assistance for native plant
 2086 restoration and landscaping. Other organizations, including King Conservation District, Natural Resource
 2087 Conservation Service, Washington State University Extension, and Washington Department of Fish and
 2088 Wildlife’s Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Program offer support to landowners to enhance fish and wildlife
 2089 habitat. Landowners can also receive property tax reductions through the King County Public Benefit Rating
 2090 System in exchange for protecting and improving habitat.
 2091

2092 **E-443** King County should promote voluntary wildlife habitat enhancement projects by
 2093 private individuals and businesses through educational, active stewardship, and
 2094 incentive programs.
 2095

2096 **E-444** King County should partner with community associations, realtors, community
 2097 groups, and other agencies to conduct targeted outreach to potential and new
 2098 property owners about fish and wildlife habitat education and forestry education
 2099 and incentive programs, particularly in Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands
 2100 in the county.
 2101

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2102 **((B.)) Stormwater Quality**

2103 Rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and groundwater must be protected from the adverse impacts of development
 2104 and land use change to continue functioning in a beneficial manner. Because development both increases runoff
 2105 from storms and reduces streamflows in dry months by limiting infiltration, control of the rate, volume, and
 2106 quality of stormwater runoff is critical. Unmitigated stormwater runoff can cause erosion, sedimentation and
 2107 flooding with resulting adverse impacts on water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, property and human safety.
 2108 In addition, stormwater runoff can carry pollutants, such as oil, heavy metals, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides
 2109 ~~((and))~~ animal wastes, dust from tire wear that is lethal to Coho salmon, naturally occurring nutrients at
 2110 problematic levels, and toxins and contaminants of emerging concern into waters. Sedimentation from soil
 2111 disturbed by clearing, grading, farming and logging can reduce river or stream channel capacity, fill lakes and
 2112 wetlands, and smother aquatic life and habitat.

2113
 2114 King County stormwater management encompasses a wide range of strategies that ~~((integrate proven, traditional~~
 2115 ~~approaches with new and innovative concepts,))~~ include maintenance of more traditional, "gray" infrastructure
 2116 such as stormwater ponds, and encourage more "green" approaches, such as low impact development practices
 2117 intended to manage stormwater runoff onsite, reducing discharges of pollutants in stormwater runoff, and
 2118 mimicking natural hydrology.

2119
 2120 King County's stormwater management strategies include but are not limited to: encouraging an approach to site
 2121 development that includes clustering or smart growth, minimizes impervious surfaces, and maximizes the
 2122 amount of native plants and soils; using education and social marketing to increase the public's awareness of
 2123 water quality issues and encourage behaviors that support water quality; providing incentives for private
 2124 landowners to install green stormwater infrastructure; improving pollution source control by legislating product
 2125 or material restrictions; improving business practices by educating business owners and operators about pollution
 2126 generating activities and best management practices to mitigate them; and constructing and maintaining an
 2127 stormwater infrastructure system that controls, conveys and treats stormwater runoff. Examples of these
 2128 programs include the recently launched RainScapes Green Stormwater Infrastructure Incentive for private
 2129 landowners program, and the first ever King County Stormwater Retrofit Prioritization Framework, which will
 2130 strategically prioritize King County's work in basins where actions can achieve the greatest benefit to regional
 2131 water quality.

2132
 2133 The County applies evidence-based tools like the Water Quality Benefit Evaluation Tool and Stormwater
 2134 Retrofit Prioritization Framework to evaluate where water quality investments will bring the greatest benefits,
 2135 with a focus on communities most impacted by water pollution. The County also conducts research on best
 2136 management practices for treating contaminants of concern and is conducting research on sources of "forever
 2137 chemicals" to inform efforts to control pollution at its source.

2138

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2139 Together these strategies will reduce pollution and flow impacts of stormwater runoff on King County’s surface
2140 and ground waters.

2141

2142 As required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit,
2143 King County ~~((is making))~~ has made low impact development the preferred and commonly used approach to site
2144 development. As a result of using the low impact development approach, an increasing number of stormwater
2145 management best management practices including, but not limited to, rain gardens, dispersion, permeable
2146 driveways and walkways, vegetated roofs, and the capture and reuse of rainwater, will be constructed on private
2147 property and will rely on private maintenance for their continuing function.

2148

2149 ~~((In addition to the stormwater strategies discussed above, as well as those discussed in Chapter 8:
2150 Transportation, effective stormwater management will require a basin or sub-basin approach that identifies areas
2151 that were built out under old or nonexistent stormwater design standards. Basins where deficiencies in flow
2152 control or water quality are identified would be prioritized to correct those deficiencies. These retrofits could
2153 include upgrades to existing stormwater management structures or the placement of new ones, including onsite
2154 low impact development best management practices like bioretention or raingardens, or the replacement of
2155 impervious pavement with permeable.~~

2156

2157 ~~Achieving the goals of contemporary stormwater management may require improvements to best management
2158 practices and encouraging or requiring the use of different products. Approaches could include using green
2159 products, implementing new land development approaches such as cluster housing, and, in some areas, the
2160 setting aside of land and its dedication to riparian habitat, and maintaining natural vegetation.))~~

2161

2162 The Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit also requires King County to address impacts caused by stormwater
2163 discharges from areas of existing development; including runoff from highways, streets, and roads that were built
2164 under old or nonexistent stormwater design standards. Modifying stormwater facilities, or building new ones in
2165 previously developed areas, is very expensive. The County is developing strategies using evidenced-based tools
2166 to identify and prioritize actions to achieve the best outcomes for reducing pollution to Puget Sound. The
2167 County is partnering with cities, Indian tribes, counties, and nonprofits to identifying where projects like
2168 “stormwater parks” can provide the greatest environmental benefit while increasing access to open space in
2169 historically underserved areas.

2170

2171 **E-445 Stormwater runoff shall be managed through a variety of methods, with the goal**
2172 **of protecting surface water quality, in-stream flows, and aquatic habitat;**
2173 **promoting groundwater recharge while protecting groundwater quality; reducing**
2174 **the risk of flooding; protecting public safety and properties; and enhancing the**
2175 **viability of agricultural lands.**

2176

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- 2177 **E-446** King County should:
- 2178 a. ~~_____~~ ((e)) Evaluate the need for product or material restrictions because of
- 2179 water quality impacts;
- 2180 b. Ensure the use of a data- and science-driven approach to identify and
- 2181 reduce the use of contaminants of emerging concern;
- 2182 c. Seek changes to state regulations and permits that incentivize regional
- 2183 stormwater investments where they will achieve the best outcomes for
- 2184 pollution reduction; and
- 2185 d. Continue to support regional collaborative stormwater management
- 2186 approaches, including consideration of incentives for regional
- 2187 collaboration and identification of supplemental funding sources for
- 2188 collaborative stormwater management in the region.
- 2189

2190 **~~((C.)) Upland Areas~~**

2191 **~~((1.)) Forest Cover~~**

2192 King County recognizes the value of trees and forests in both rural and urban communities for benefits such as

2193 improving air and water quality and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat. Forests absorb and slowly release

2194 rainwater to streams and aquifers, filter runoff, store carbon, and provide food, shade, and cover for wildlife. In

2195 doing so, they help to prevent flooding and erosion, reduce stormwater runoff and increase infiltration, protect

2196 drinking water, ~~((and))~~ support fish and wildlife and their habitat, and provide recreational opportunities and

2197 health benefits to communities. ~~((Therefore, it is important that regulations protecting critical areas like wetlands~~

2198 ~~take into consideration both regulations and incentive programs intended to conserve forest cover in upland~~

2199 ~~areas.))~~ Forested headwaters in upper reaches of watersheds can be especially important for preventing flooding,

2200 improving water quality, and protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat, given the presence of large areas of

2201 with relatively low levels of development. Forests in rural King County are also relied upon for recreation and

2202 resource use, including harvest and firewood collection and cultivation of special forest products categorized as

2203 edibles, florals, and medicinals. The King County 30-Year Forest Plan provides goals and strategies for the

2204 management of forests in the county to maintain and enhance these benefits. Another strategy for managing

2205 forest health is through development of Forest Stewardship Plans, which provide mechanisms for tailoring

2206 regulations and best management practices for forest management to individual properties. Completion of one

2207 of these plans can also qualify landowners for tax incentive programs and streamlined permitting. ~~((The~~

2208 ~~retention or restoration of forest cover and native vegetation also reduces stormwater runoff and maximizes~~

2209 ~~natural infiltration processes, thus reducing the need for additional stormwater management.))~~

2210

- 2211 **E-447** ~~((King County recognizes that conserving and restoring headwater and upland~~
- 2212 ~~forest cover is important for preventing flooding, improving water quality, and~~
- 2213 ~~protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat.))~~ The central role that forests
- 2214 ~~((ever))~~ play~~((s))~~ in supporting hydrologic and other ecological processes

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2215 should be reflected in ~~((policies and programs addressing))~~ stormwater
2216 management, flooding, wildlife, and open space policies and programs.

2217
2218 **E-448** King County’s critical areas and clearing and grading regulations should provide
2219 for activities compatible with long-term forest use, including use of recreational
2220 trails, firewood collection, forest fire ~~((prevention))~~ risk reduction, forest
2221 management, and control of invasive plants.

2222
2223 **E-449** King County shall promote retention of forest cover and significant trees using a
2224 mix of regulations, incentives, and technical assistance.

2225
2226 **E-449a** King County should identify and implement strategies that optimize ecological,
2227 social, and economic benefits of establishing and maintaining large blocks of
2228 forest, particularly in upper watershed areas and along major river corridors.

2229 These approaches should:

- 2230 a. Promote establishment of a broad mix of native tree species and age
2231 classes, including eventual establishment of forests with old growth
2232 characteristics in areas prioritized as having high conservation value;
2233 and
2234 b. Consider the effect of conservation acquisitions on the viability of the
2235 timber resource economy in King County.

2236

2237 **((2.)) Soils and Organics**

2238 Soils play a critical role in the natural environment. The benefits of healthy soils include: (1) keeping
2239 disease-causing organisms in check, (2) moderating stormwater runoff, (3) filtering, binding, and biodegrading
2240 pollutants, (4) recycling and storing nutrients, and (5) serving as the basis for forest and agricultural fertility.
2241 More recently, the carbon storage properties of soils have been recognized as a major climate-moderating
2242 influence. The properties of a healthy soil are similar to those of a sponge, faucet, and filter. They soak up and
2243 store water, naturally regulate the flow of water, and bind and degrade pollutants. The presence of millions of
2244 macro and microorganisms in soil creates a vibrant soil culture where organic material is consumed and air and
2245 water are retained. Nutrients are made available to plants to allow healthy root growth and oxygen generation.

2246

2247 It is common for healthy native soils to be removed during land development. Even when soils are not removed,
2248 development and other human activity often cause soil compaction, removal, and erosion of healthy, native
2249 soils. Fewer organisms are present in disturbed soils. The resulting decrease in organic matter inhibits the soil’s
2250 ability to hold water, which increases stormwater runoff. In addition, plants cannot thrive in disturbed soils
2251 because of the lack of nutrients. This, in turn, causes people to use more chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and
2252 water to induce plant growth. The combination of increased stormwater runoff and increased fertilizer and
2253 pesticide use results in greater water pollution downstream.

2254

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2255 Increasing the organic content in disturbed soils can help restore their environmental function. Composted
 2256 organic materials that might be used include yard debris, food and wood wastes, soiled paper, biochar, biosolids
 2257 and/or livestock wastes, but not others, such as fly ash from industrial smokestacks. Benefits of incorporating
 2258 composted organic materials in soils include: improving stream habitat, supporting healthier plants, reducing
 2259 stormwater runoff, and closing the recycling loop for organic materials. The transformation of degraded soils to
 2260 enhance their ability to uptake and store carbon may be the one of the most effective actions that can be taken to
 2261 mitigate the near-term effects of climate change.

2262
 2263 It is preferable to leave native soil and vegetation in place as much as possible so that it can continue to function
 2264 as a natural sponge and filter, minimizing erosion and stormwater runoff. Where soil is disturbed or removed,
 2265 soil function can be improved by providing soil with adequate depth and organic matter content.

2266
 2267 ~~((E-450) Site development practices should minimize soil disturbance and maximize
 2268 retention of native vegetation and soils. Where soil disturbance is unavoidable,
 2269 native soils should be stockpiled on-site and reused on-site in accordance with
 2270 best management practices to the maximum extent practicable.~~

2271
 2272 ~~E-451 King County shall require the use of organic matter to restore disturbed soils on
 2273 site developments.~~

2274
 2275 ~~Salmon play an important role in sustaining the productivity of soils in riparian and floodplain areas. Salmon
 2276 mature in saltwater environments and then spawn and die in their original spawning streams. In doing so,
 2277 salmon transport nutrients back to watersheds that eventually become available to vegetation.~~

2278
 2279 ~~E-452 The role of salmon in transferring nutrients and maintaining the productivity of
 2280 riparian and floodplain soils should be incorporated in the development of
 2281 salmon and soil conservation plans.)~~

2282
 2283 Organics comprise a large portion of the waste generated by King County residences, businesses and farms. This
 2284 organic waste stream requires significant solid waste, farm management, and wastewater treatment resources.
 2285 Many of these “waste materials” (yard debris, food and wood waste, soiled paper, biosolids, and agricultural
 2286 livestock wastes), can be minimized, recycled, and reused to provide numerous uses that are beneficial to the
 2287 environment and the economy.

2288
 2289 King County has a long history of resource conservation and waste reduction and recycling. Programs have
 2290 successfully captured organic materials for beneficial use such as yard debris, residential food waste, and
 2291 biosolids applications to farms, forests and composting. However, large volumes of organic waste continue to be
 2292 disposed of in the landfill. Significant volumes of livestock waste generated in the suburbs, Rural Areas and
 2293 Natural Resource Lands are inadequately managed, which can adversely impact water quality and fish habitat.

2294

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2295 Although efforts are underway to increase the amount of organic materials that are recycled, the region still lacks
 2296 the capacity to process all of these materials. Along with its efforts to promote beneficial use of these products,
 2297 King County is working with organic material processors and others to try and increase the processing capacity
 2298 in the region through advancement of the Re+ program, which focuses on actions to minimize King County's
 2299 environmental footprint, create more green jobs, divert waste from the landfill, and ensure everyone in King
 2300 County has equitable access to efficient waste services.

2301

2302 **E-453 King County should implement programs to improve availability and markets for**
 2303 **organic materials for soils that have been disturbed by new and existing**
 2304 **developments.**

2305

2306 ~~**((E-454 King County shall regard the region's organic waste materials as resources**~~
 2307 ~~**which should be reused as much as possible, and minimize the disposal of such**~~
 2308 ~~**materials.))**~~

2309

2310 **E-455 King County shall work with regional ((stakeholders)) partners to ensure a viable**
 2311 **and safe organics recycling infrastructure that allows for yard, food, wood,**
 2312 **biosolids, manure and other organic wastes to be turned into resources**
 2313 **benefiting climate change, soil health, water quality, and maximizing landfill**
 2314 **diversion, consistent with the County's zero waste of resources and Re+ goals.**

2315

2316 King County seeks to divert as much material as possible from disposal to reduce overall costs of solid waste
 2317 management, conserve resources, protect the environment, and strengthen the county's economy (see Chapter
 2318 9((:)), Services, Facilities, and Utilities((, F-266))). In many cases, organic materials can be recycled into a
 2319 beneficial, highly valued resource helping to meet these diversion goals. Beneficial uses of organic materials
 2320 include, but are not limited to, the following: soil amendment, mulch, erosion control, and even energy
 2321 production.

2322

2323 King County recognizes that in most cases, the best management method for yard debris and livestock wastes is
 2324 to compost it on the property where it is generated. Examples of residential onsite yard debris management
 2325 techniques include grasscycling (leaving the grass on the lawn when it is cut) and backyard composting.

2326

2327 **E-456 King County shall promote, encourage, and require, where appropriate, the**
 2328 **beneficial use and reuse of organic materials and minimize their disposal,**
 2329 **including but not limited to their use in the following activities: agriculture and**
 2330 **silviculture; road, park and other public project development; site development**
 2331 **and new construction; restoration and remediation of disturbed soils; nursery**
 2332 **and sod production; and landscaping. For these purposes, organic materials do**
 2333 **not include fly ash.**

2334

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2335 **E-457** King County agencies shall use compost and recycled organic products, ((such
2336 as ~~compost,~~)) whenever feasible, and promote the application of ((organic
2337 material)) compost to compensate for historic losses of organic content in soil
2338 caused by human actions, including development, landscaping agricultural
2339 practices, and resource extraction.

2341 **E-458** King County ((will)) shall seek to enhance soil quality((,)) and protect water
2342 quality and biodiversity across the landscape by developing policies, programs,
2343 and incentives that support the goal of no net loss of organic material.

2344
2345 Biosolids are the nutrient rich organic product from the wastewater treatment process which can be recycled as a
2346 soil amendment. At King County’s wastewater treatment plant, solids are removed from the wastewater and
2347 treated in large digesters where the organic solids are stabilized, reducing the volume by half. After digestion, a
2348 portion of water is removed, leaving the semisolid material ready for recycling.

2349
2350 The Biosolids Management Program's mission is to safely and sustainably return carbon and nutrients to the
2351 land through the use of biosolids. The Biosolids Management Program pursues environmental stewardship
2352 through diverse public-private partnerships. One hundred percent of county biosolids are beneficially used
2353 through the forestry and agriculture programs. ((A portion of the County’s biosolids are composted as a Class A
2354 product.))

2355
2356 **E-459** King County supports and should explore ways to beneficially use biosolids
2357 locally, whenever feasible.

2358
2359 On-farm composting as a method of managing livestock waste and other organic waste materials is ((becoming))
2360 an important waste management strategy for farmers. Benefits of on-farm composting include:

- 2361 • Additional revenue from the sale of compost;
- 2362 • Reduced costs for water, fertilizers and pesticides, due to reduced water usage and reduced reliance on
2363 fertilizers and pesticides;
- 2364 • Reduced impacts to surface waters; and
- 2365 • Increased crop yields.

2366
2367 ((King County’s Livestock Management Ordinance, adopted in December 1993, sets manure management
2368 standards in order to minimize impacts to water quality by preventing farm wastes from contaminating the
2369 region’s watersheds. The Livestock Management Ordinance)) Regulations for managing livestock encourage((s))
2370 farmers to implement farm plans in collaboration with the King Conservation District to protect and enhance
2371 natural resources, including water quality. The King Conservation District provides technical assistance and
2372 education to agricultural landowners on how to implement best management practices, which include manure

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2373 storage facilities and pasture renovation, as well as stream and wetland buffer fencing ((and clean water
2374 diversion)). The resulting farm plans can include provisions for onsite and offsite management of livestock
2375 wastes and strategies to integrate processing livestock wastes with other organic waste materials. These strategies
2376 should be consistent with the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, including but not
2377 limited to on-farm composting and land application of processed yard debris. Farm plans that address livestock
2378 waste management further compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act and other federal and state
2379 mandates regarding water quality.

2380

2381 **E-460 King County shall promote livestock waste management that keeps waste out of**
2382 **stormwater runoff and from infiltration to groundwater, and enhances soil health**
2383 **by methods such as combining livestock waste with other plant and animal**
2384 **waste material for incorporation into crop soils.**

2385

2386 **~~((D-))~~ Aquatic Resources**

2387 King County's aquatic resources include rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, groundwater, and the marine waters of
2388 Puget Sound. These resources provide many beneficial functions, including fish and wildlife habitat; food
2389 supplies; flood risk reduction; water supply for agricultural, commercial, domestic and industrial use; energy
2390 production; transportation; recreational opportunities; and scenic beauty.

2391

2392 ~~((In order to))~~To preserve and enhance aquatic resources in King County, they must be managed as an integrated
2393 system together with terrestrial resources, and not as distinct and separate elements. The hydrologic cycle (the
2394 occurrence, distribution and circulation of water in the environment) is the common link among aquatic
2395 resources and describes their interdependence.

2396

2397 Use and modification of water resources and the surrounding terrestrial environment affects how the hydrologic
2398 cycle functions and can cause unintended detrimental impacts such as flooding, low stream and river flows,
2399 reduced groundwater availability, erosion, degradation of water quality, loss of fish and wildlife habitat, and loss
2400 of archeological and traditional cultural resources that depend upon but do not damage natural resources. ~~((In~~
2401 ~~order to))~~To minimize adverse impacts on the water resources of King County and ensure the continued ability to
2402 receive the beneficial uses they provide, the ~~((e))~~County will need to promote responsible land and water
2403 resource planning and use. These beneficial uses include fish and wildlife habitat, flood risk reduction, water
2404 quality control, sediment transport, energy production, transportation; recreational opportunities, scenic beauty,
2405 and water supply for agricultural, municipal, and industrial purpose.

2406

2407 **E-461 King County shall use incentives, regulations, capital projects, open space**
2408 **acquisitions, public education and stewardship, and other programs ((like)) such**
2409 **as recycled water to manage its aquatic resources (Puget Sound, rivers, streams,**
2410 **lakes, freshwater and marine wetlands, and groundwater) and to protect and**

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2411 enhance their multiple beneficial uses. Use of water resources for one purpose
2412 should, to the fullest extent practicable, preserve opportunities for other uses.

2413
2414 **E-462** Development shall occur in a manner that supports continued ecological and
2415 hydrologic functioning of water resources and should not have a significant
2416 adverse impact on water quality or water quantity, or sediment transport, and
2417 should maintain base flows, natural water level fluctuations, unpolluted
2418 groundwater recharge in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas, and fish and wildlife
2419 habitat.

2420

2421 **~~(L)~~ Watersheds**

2422 A watershed is an area that drains to a common outlet or identifiable water body such as Puget Sound, a river,
2423 stream, lake, or wetland. There are six major watersheds in King County (Cedar/Lake Washington,
2424 Green/Duwamish, Puget Sound, South Fork Skykomish, Snoqualmie, and White) that, in turn, contain
2425 numerous smaller catchments and water bodies. Surface and ground waters are managed most effectively by
2426 understanding and considering potential problems and solutions for an entire watershed. Because watersheds
2427 frequently extend into several jurisdictions, effective restoration and preservation planning and implementation
2428 must be coordinated.

2429

2430 **E-463** King County shall integrate watershed plans with marine and freshwater surface
2431 water, flood hazard management, stormwater, groundwater, drinking water,
2432 wastewater, and recycled water planning, as well as federal and state Clean
2433 Water Act compliance and monitoring and assessment programs, to provide
2434 efficient water resource management.

2435

2436 **E-464** King County shall protect and should enhance surface waters, including streams,
2437 lakes, wetlands, and the marine waters and nearshore areas of Puget Sound, on a
2438 watershed basis by analyzing water quantity and quality problems and their
2439 impacts to beneficial uses, including fish and wildlife habitat, flood risk
2440 reduction, and erosion control. Conditions of and impacts to the downstream
2441 receiving marine beaches and waters of Puget Sound shall be included in
2442 watershed management efforts.

2443

2444 ~~((Over the past several years King County has been working cooperatively with many of the water utilities, local
2445 governments, state agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in the region to gather data and
2446 information to support a regional water supply planning process. (For more information and specific policies
2447 related to regional water supply planning, please see Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities). This
2448 cooperative work includes assessments of current and future water demands and supplies, potential climate
2449 change impacts on water, opportunities for use of recycled water, and potential improvements to steam flows.~~

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2450 ~~These cooperative efforts will provide valuable information to inform not only water supply planning but also~~
 2451 ~~salmon recovery planning and projects.))~~

2452

2453 **E-465 King County should use the information from local and regional water supply**
 2454 **planning processes to enhance the county’s water resource protection and**
 2455 **planning efforts, including implementation of Water Resource Inventory Area**
 2456 **salmon recovery plans.**

2457

2458 **E-466 As watershed plans are developed and implemented, zoning, regulations, and**
 2459 **incentive programs ((may)) should be developed, applied, and monitored so that**
 2460 **critical habitat in King County watersheds is capable of supporting sustainable**
 2461 **and fishable salmonid populations. Watershed-based plans should define how**
 2462 **the natural functions and values of watersheds critical to salmonids are**
 2463 **protected so that the quantity and quality of water and sediment entering the**
 2464 **streams, lakes, wetlands and rivers can support salmonid spawning, rearing,**
 2465 **resting, and migration.**

2466

2467 ~~**((E-467 Responsibility for the costs of watershed planning and project implementation,**~~
 2468 ~~**including water quality, groundwater protection, and fisheries habitat protection,**~~
 2469 ~~**should be shared between King County and other jurisdictions within a**~~
 2470 ~~**watershed.))**~~

2471

2472 King County contains a number of wetlands, floodplains, lakes and river and stream reaches that are important
 2473 to the viability of fish and wildlife populations and are therefore considered biological, social and economic
 2474 resources. Some resource areas, including Regionally Significant Resource Areas and Locally Significant
 2475 Resource Areas, were previously identified through ~~((basin plans))~~ watershed planning efforts and other resource
 2476 inventory efforts. Additional high-priority habitat areas have been identified through Water Resource Inventory
 2477 Area-salmon recovery plans, ~~((“Waterways 2000,” Cedar River Legacy Program, acquisition plans)),~~ the Land
 2478 Conservation Initiative, and through basin conditions maps used to establish protective buffers along wetlands
 2479 and streams under the Critical Areas Ordinance. Protection and restoration of connections between rivers and
 2480 their floodplains is increasingly recognized as a priority element of salmon recovery and climate resiliency
 2481 efforts. The Clean Water Healthy Habitat strategic plan includes a 30-year goal for restoring connected
 2482 floodplains with native vegetation. Additionally, criteria for the County's primary local land conservation
 2483 funding sources, Conservation Futures Tax, and King County Parks Levy, have been updated to help focus
 2484 investment in areas of the county that have historically been underserved with access to quality green space.

2485

2486 These areas contribute to the resource base of the entire Puget Sound region by virtue of exceptional species and
 2487 habitat diversity and abundance when compared to basins of similar size and structure elsewhere in the region.

2488 These areas may also support rare, endangered, or sensitive species, including Endangered Species Act-listed

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2489 salmonids. They also provide wetland, lake, and stream habitat that is important for wildlife and salmonid
2490 diversity and abundance within the basin.

2491

2492 **E-468 King County’s Shoreline Master Program, watershed management plans, Water**
2493 **Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, flood hazard management**
2494 **plans, master drainage plans, open space acquisition plans, and critical areas**
2495 **regulations should apply a tiered system of protection that affords a higher**
2496 **standard of protection for more significant resources.**

2497

2498 **E-469 ~~((A tiered system for protection of aquatic resources should be developed based~~**
2499 **~~on an assessment of basin conditions using Regionally Significant Resource~~**
2500 **~~Area and Locally Significant Resource Area designations, Water Resource~~**
2501 **~~Inventory Area Plans, habitat assessments completed for acquisitions plans, the~~**
2502 **~~Water Quality Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Loads, ongoing monitoring~~**
2503 **~~programs, and best available science.)) Through a coordinated approach of~~**
2504 **incentives and acquisitions, King County should prioritize, enhance, and protect**
2505 **a variety of ecosystems, including urban open space uplands, riparian areas,**
2506 **floodplains, and aquatic systems with the highest conservation value and those**
2507 **supporting equitable access to quality open space.**

2508

2509 **~~((2.)) Wetlands~~**

2510 Wetlands are valuable natural resources in King County. They include deep ponds, shallow marshes and
2511 swamps, wet meadows, and bogs. Wetlands comprise forested and scrub-shrub communities, emergent
2512 vegetation, and other lands supporting a prevalence of plants adapted to saturated soils and varying flooding
2513 regimes. Wetlands, with their highly diverse forms and diffuse distribution, can be particularly challenging to
2514 categorize and manage.

2515

2516 The federal and state governments also have roles in identifying and regulating certain types of wetlands and
2517 development activity. ~~((In order to))~~To streamline and synchronize regulatory standards for wetlands, the
2518 ~~((e))~~County relies on guidance from the Washington State Department of Ecology, U.S. Army Corps of
2519 Engineers Seattle District, and Environmental Protection Agency for wetland identification, delineation,
2520 categorization, and, where appropriate, mitigation.

2521

2522 ~~**((E-470) King County shall use current manuals and guidance from state and federal**~~
2523 ~~**governmental agencies and departments to identify, delineate, and categorize**~~
2524 ~~**wetlands and to establish mitigation requirements for wetlands.**~~

2525

2526 ~~**E-471 King County will apply the current scientifically accepted methodology for**~~
2527 ~~**wetland mitigation based on technical criteria and field indicators. Where**~~
2528 ~~**appropriate, King County should rely on publications and recommendations from**~~

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2529 ~~state and federal agencies to ensure King County-approved mitigation will be~~
 2530 ~~accepted by state and federal agencies with jurisdiction.~~

2531

2532 ~~Some wetlands are large and their physical boundaries as well as their functions and values extend beyond~~
 2533 ~~individual jurisdictional boundaries.~~

2534

2535 ~~**E-472 King County shall communicate and coordinate with other jurisdictions and**~~
 2536 ~~**tribes to establish uniform countywide wetlands policies that provide protection**~~
 2537 ~~**of both regionally and locally highly-rated wetlands.))**~~

2538

2539 Wetlands are productive biological systems, providing habitat for fish and wildlife. Wetlands also store flood
 2540 waters and control runoff, thereby reducing flooding, downstream erosion, and other damage. Further, wetlands
 2541 protect water quality by trapping sediments and absorbing pollutants. They allow rain and snowmelt to infiltrate
 2542 into aquifers, recharging them and potentially making that water available for human use. They discharge
 2543 groundwater, making it available to plants and animals. Wetlands store peak flows and discharge to streams in
 2544 dry periods, thus enabling fish and riparian animal populations to survive. They may serve as outdoor
 2545 classrooms for scientific study. Some are used for hiking, hunting, and fishing. These wetland functions and
 2546 values need consideration from a watershed perspective. Measures to protect wetland functions and values need
 2547 to be taken at both the site-specific and watershed scale. In the ~~((u))~~Urban ~~((g))~~Growth ~~((a))~~Area, land use
 2548 authority is often shared by multiple jurisdictions at the scale of a drainage basin. Similarly, efforts to protect
 2549 and restore wetlands may be sponsored by multiple parties, including local governments.

2550

2551 ~~**E-473 King County's overall goal for the protection of wetlands is no net loss of**~~
 2552 ~~**wetland functions and values within each drainage basin. Acquisition,**~~
 2553 ~~**enhancement, regulations, and incentive programs shall be used independently**~~
 2554 ~~**or in combination with one another to protect and enhance wetlands functions**~~
 2555 ~~**and values. Watershed management plans, including Water Resource Inventory**~~
 2556 ~~**Area plans, should be used to coordinate and inform priorities for acquisition,**~~
 2557 ~~**enhancement, regulations, and incentive programs within unincorporated King**~~
 2558 ~~**County to achieve the goal of no net loss of wetland functions and values within**~~
 2559 ~~**each drainage basin.**~~

2560

2561 Buffers are necessary but often insufficient to adequately protect wetland values and functions especially when
 2562 wetlands are small and the adjacent watershed large. Consequently, the location of development in addition to
 2563 its size is important in determining its impact on wetland functions and values.

2564

2565 The functions and values of a wetland will change as the surrounding land is altered by development and other
 2566 human activities, and as local conditions are influenced by climate change. Silviculture, agriculture, and
 2567 development-related changes in forest cover and impervious surface affect stormwater runoff patterns, flooding,
 2568 water quality, and wetland hydrology.

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2569

2570 **E-474** **Development adjacent to wetlands shall be sited such that wetland functions and**
 2571 **values are protected, an adequate buffer around the wetlands is provided, and**
 2572 **significant adverse impacts to wetlands are prevented.**

2573

2574 The diversity of plants and animals found in wetlands generally far exceeds that found in terrestrial habitats in
 2575 the Pacific Northwest. Habitat loss and fragmentation are considered the greatest threats to this native
 2576 biodiversity. Wetlands in the Urban Growth Area will experience the largest reduction in the distribution and
 2577 number of native animals and plants due to habitat loss and fragmentation. It is anticipated that climate change
 2578 will exacerbate the adverse effects of habitat loss and fragmentation by further reducing existing wetland habitat
 2579 and altering wetland hydroperiods thereby increasing the inter-habitat distances and potentially restricting the
 2580 dispersal and movement of plants and wildlife between favorable wetlands and habitats.

2581

2582 Protecting wetland biodiversity depends upon supporting the natural processes (including hydrology, nutrient
 2583 cycling, and natural disturbances) that shape wetland habitat, protecting wetlands functions and values from the
 2584 impacts of adjacent land uses, maintaining biological linkages, and preventing fragmentation of wetland habitats.
 2585 Small wetlands strategically located between other wetlands may provide important biological links or “stepping
 2586 stones” between other, higher quality wetlands. Wetlands adjacent to habitat networks also are especially
 2587 critical to wildlife because they allow individual animals to escape danger and populations to inter-disperse and
 2588 breed. Wetlands adjacent to habitat networks should receive special consideration in planning land use.

2589

2590 **E-475** **To improve adjacent wetlands and aquatic habitat, areas of native vegetation that**
 2591 **connect wetland complexes should be protected. Whenever effective, incentive**
 2592 **programs such as buffer averaging, density credit transfers, or appropriate**
 2593 **non-regulatory mechanisms shall be used for this purpose.**

2594

2595 Many wildlife species require access to both wetlands and adjacent terrestrial lands to support them at different
 2596 stages of their lives. For example, many amphibians breed in the water and need access to terrestrial habitat for
 2597 feeding and for shelter during the winter. Fixed-width buffers alone are unlikely to adequately address these
 2598 needs or entirely protect wetlands from surrounding human activity. Adjacent and accessible terrestrial habitat
 2599 may be too small or fragmented to provide core feeding, overwintering, and other habitat needs.

2600

2601 **E-476** **King County should identify upland areas of native vegetation that connect**
 2602 **wetlands to upland habitats and that connect upland habitats to each other. The**
 2603 **((e))County should seek protection of these areas through acquisition,**
 2604 **stewardship plans, and incentive programs such as the Public Benefit Rating**
 2605 **System and the Transfer of Development Rights Program.**

2606

2607 **E-477** **The unique hydrologic cycles, soil and water chemistries, and vegetation**
 2608 **communities of bogs and fens shall be protected through the use of incentives,**

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2609 acquisition, best management practices, and implementation of the King County
 2610 Surface Water Design Manual to control and/or treat stormwater within the
 2611 wetland watershed.
 2612

2613 **E-478** **Public access to wetlands for scientific, recreational, and traditional cultural use**
 2614 **is desirable, providing that public access trails are carefully sited, sensitive**
 2615 **habitats and species are protected, and hydrologic continuity is maintained.**
 2616

2617 **E-479** **Regulatory approaches for protecting wetland functions and values, including**
 2618 **the application of wetland buffers and the siting of off-site compensatory**
 2619 **mitigation, should consider intensity of surrounding land uses and basin**
 2620 **conditions. King County shall continue to review and evaluate wetland research**
 2621 **and implement changes in its wetland protection programs based on such**
 2622 **information.**
 2623

2624 **E-480** **Enhancement or restoration of degraded wetlands may be allowed to maintain or**
 2625 **improve wetland functions and values, provided that all wetland functions are**
 2626 **evaluated in a wetland management plan, and adequate monitoring, code**
 2627 **enforcement, and evaluation is provided and assured by responsible parties.**
 2628 **The enhancement or ((R))restoration ((or enhancement)) must result in a net**
 2629 **improvement to the functions and values of the wetland system. Within available**
 2630 **resources, King County should provide technical assistance to small property**
 2631 **owners as an incentive to encourage the enhancement or restoration ((or**
 2632 **enhancement)) of degraded wetlands.**
 2633

2634 **E-481** **Provided all wetland functions are evaluated, impact avoidance and minimization**
 2635 **sequencing is followed, affected significant functions are appropriately**
 2636 **mitigated, and mitigation sites are adequately monitored, alterations to wetlands**
 2637 **may be allowed to:**

2638 **a. Accomplish a public agency or utility development;**
 2639 **b. Provide necessary crossings for utilities, stormwater tightlines and**
 2640 **roads; or**
 2641 **c. Allow constitutionally mandated “reasonable use” of the property.**
 2642

2643 When adverse impacts cannot be avoided, compensatory mitigation may be allowed. This means wetland
 2644 enhancement, restoration, or creation to replace project-induced losses of wetland functions and values. The
 2645 ((e))County recognizes that, especially in the Urban Growth Area, allowing alteration of low-function wetlands
 2646 in exchange for compensatory mitigation that contributes to wetlands of higher functions and values within a
 2647 connected wetland system may achieve greater resource protection than simply preserving the low functioning
 2648 wetland.
 2649

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- 2650 **E-482** A small Category IV wetland that is less than 2,500 square feet and that is not
 2651 part of a wetland complex may be altered to move functions to another wetland
 2652 as part of an approved mitigation plan that is consistent with E-483 and E-484.
 2653
- 2654 **E-483** Wetland impacts should be avoided if possible, and minimized in all cases.
 2655 Where impacts cannot be avoided, they should be mitigated on site if the
 2656 proposed mitigation is ((feasible)) practical, ecologically appropriate, and likely
 2657 to continue providing equivalent or better biological functions in perpetuity.
 2658 Where on-site mitigation is not possible or appropriate, King County may
 2659 approve off-site mitigation.
 2660
- 2661 **E-484** Mitigation projects should contribute to an existing wetland system or restore an
 2662 area that was historically a wetland. Mitigation should only create new wetlands
 2663 after site monitoring indicates that hydrologic conditions exist to support a new
 2664 wetland. Mitigation sites should be strategically located to reduce habitat
 2665 fragmentation or to restore and enhance area-specific functions within a
 2666 watershed.
 2667
- 2668 **E-485** Land used for wetland mitigation should be preserved in perpetuity. Monitoring
 2669 and maintenance in conformance with King County standards should be
 2670 provided or paid for by the project proponent until the success of the site is
 2671 established. Long-term stewardship should occur at mitigation sites to ensure
 2672 sites continue to provide desired functions and values.
 2673
- 2674 Mitigation banks and in-lieu fee programs are forms of watershed-based compensatory mitigation, with the goal
 2675 of providing greater resource protection and benefit to the public. Both approaches can allow for the
 2676 consolidation of multiple, small mitigation projects into a large-scale wetland or wetland complex, resulting in
 2677 economies of scale in planning, implementation, and maintenance. Depending on their location and functions,
 2678 mitigation banks and projects constructed using in-lieu fee programs can result in wetlands of greater hydrologic,
 2679 chemical, and biological value because of their size and ecological context and the commitment to long-term
 2680 management. These mitigation approaches also provide applicants with a range of options for meeting their
 2681 off-site mitigation obligations.
 2682
- 2683 Mitigation banking allows compensatory mitigation to occur prior to the loss of existing wetlands and their
 2684 functions and values, thereby reducing “temporal” losses. Mitigation banking allows a project proponent to
 2685 mitigate for their impacts by contributing fees to a bank sponsor for the creation or restoration of the bank site.
 2686 In-lieu fee programs, such as King County’s Mitigation Reserves Program, allow an applicant to meet its off-site
 2687 wetland mitigation requirements through payment of a fee to King County or another authorized agent with the
 2688 capacity to design and construct, maintain, and monitor a successful mitigation project. Both types of programs
 2689 enable fees to be pooled so that larger projects can be constructed to offset impacts elsewhere in a watershed.

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2690

2691 Moreover, King County’s Mitigation Reserves Program enables such projects to be constructed on lands with
 2692 degraded wetlands or aquatic areas or lands with the potential to reestablish wetlands or aquatic areas that could
 2693 be restored or enhanced to benefit overall watershed functions. These Mitigation Reserve lands are managed for
 2694 long term ecological protection, so that the landscape and stream basin context support a successful
 2695 enhancement project. Such projects should be planned in a watershed context and may achieve multiple
 2696 ecological objectives, including meeting salmon conservation and other habitat protection objectives as well as
 2697 wetland enhancement needs.

2698

2699 **E-486 King County in partnership with other governmental entities and interested**
 2700 **parties should encourage the development and use of wetland mitigation banks**
 2701 **through which functioning wetlands or aquatic areas are enhanced, restored, or**
 2702 **created prior to the impacting of existing wetlands or aquatic areas. The**
 2703 **((e))County shall encourage establishment of such banks by established**
 2704 **government entities as well as by private, entrepreneurial enterprises.**

2705

2706 ~~((In 2008, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency jointly issued new~~
 2707 ~~federal rules (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230 and 33 Code of Federal Regulations Part 332) regarding~~
 2708 ~~compensatory mitigation for losses to functions and values of aquatic resources associated with unavoidable~~
 2709 ~~permitted impacts. These rules require implementation of mitigation in a watershed context and consideration of~~
 2710 ~~functional losses to resources from permitted impacts and functional gains at mitigation sites.))~~

2711

2712 King County ~~((revised its compensatory mitigation program in 2011 to comply with these new federal rules and~~
 2713 ~~is well positioned to become)) is a regional service provider for compensatory in-lieu fee mitigation – both to~~
 2714 ~~permittees in unincorporated King County and within cities ((when appropriate agreements are in place)). The~~
 2715 ~~((revised)) County's compensatory mitigation program((, authorized by state and federal agencies in 2012,))~~
 2716 offers private and public project proponents the opportunity to pay a fee to King County in lieu of completing
 2717 their own mitigation. These fees in turn will be used to implement mitigation projects, equitably applied among
 2718 larger- and smaller-scale developments, that address watershed needs as determined through analysis of best
 2719 available science.

2720

2721 In approving mitigation proposals, King County should consider the ecological context of the impacted wetland,
 2722 as well as the wetland impact acreage, functions, and values. Mitigation sites should be located in areas in which
 2723 the project will enhance ecological conditions of the watershed and should first replace or augment the functions
 2724 and values that are most important to the optimum functioning of the wetland being created, restored, or
 2725 enhanced. These functions and values may differ from those lost as a result of the impacting development
 2726 project. Wetland mitigation proposals should result in no net loss, and if possible, in an increase in overall
 2727 wetland functions and values within the watershed in which the impacted site is located.

2728

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2729 **E-487** King County should continue to implement and encourage use of its Mitigation
 2730 Reserves Program to provide a fee-based option for permit applicants to mitigate
 2731 for unavoidable impacts of permitted development on wetland and aquatic area
 2732 functions and values. The fee structure shall be based on the full costs of land
 2733 acquisition, site selection, design, construction, and long-term maintenance and
 2734 monitoring. Mitigation projects implemented through the Mitigation Reserves
 2735 Program should occur within a watershed context.
 2736

2737 **E-488** King County should be a regional service provider of compensatory mitigation
 2738 through the Mitigation Reserves Program by working with local cities, other
 2739 counties, and state agencies to establish partnerships for implementation of
 2740 inter-jurisdictional in-lieu fee mitigation.
 2741

2742 ~~((A large portion of western Washington farming occurs in lands that were once wetlands. Region-wide,
 2743 agricultural lands have been targeted as mitigation sites because the relative cost of land is low and the likelihood
 2744 of success in returning wetland functions is high. King County's Agricultural Production Districts that are
 2745 located in floodplains and the poorly drained Osceola soils of the Enumclaw Plateau are no exception. Unless
 2746 carefully sited and engineered, wetland mitigation projects can inadvertently raise water tables on adjacent
 2747 agricultural properties. King County has joined other counties in discouraging the use of productive farmland
 2748 for wetland mitigation, while working with farmers on wetland enhancement and restoration at a scale
 2749 appropriate to sustaining their farms.))~~

2750

2751 Through the King County Mitigation Reserves Program, ~~((restoration))~~ mitigation sites are selected ~~((and
 2752 pre-purchased in advance of))~~ to offset development related impacts. Selected sites, with wetland or aquatic area
 2753 preservation, enhancement, restoration, or creation potential, will be ~~((purchased))~~ protected in perpetuity as
 2754 open space and actively managed as mitigation sites ~~((and will be protected in perpetuity as open space))~~.
 2755 Mitigation projects implemented through the Mitigation Reserves Program will preserve, enhance, restore,
 2756 and/or create ecological functions at the site to compensate for wetland, stream, river, and/or buffer functions
 2757 and values lost during unavoidable impacts associated with permitted construction of projects at other locations.
 2758 Sites and projects through the Mitigation Reserves Program will occur where the projects will have sustainable
 2759 long-term benefits to aquatic resources in the watershed, ensuring projects at protected sites occur in places with
 2760 importance to ecological integrity of the watershed. King County's Mitigation Reserves Program ~~((has received
 2761 approval from))~~ is approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ~~((the))~~ Environmental Protection Agency,
 2762 ~~((and the))~~ Washington Department of Ecology, and various local, state, and federal agencies to ~~((serve as an
 2763 in-lieu fee program to mitigate))~~ provide mitigation for the impacts to wetlands and other aquatic resources
 2764 subject to local, state, and federal regulations.
 2765

2766 A large portion of western Washington farming occurs in lands that were once wetlands. Region-wide,
 2767 agricultural lands have been targeted as mitigation sites because the relative cost of land is low and the likelihood
 2768 of success in returning wetland functions is high. King County's Agricultural Production Districts that are

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2769 located in floodplains and the poorly drained Osceola soils of the Enumclaw Plateau are no exception. Unless
 2770 carefully sited and engineered, wetland mitigation projects can inadvertently raise water tables on adjacent
 2771 agricultural properties. King County has joined other counties in discouraging the use of productive farmland
 2772 for wetland mitigation, while working with farmers on wetland enhancement and restoration at a scale
 2773 appropriate to sustaining their farms.

2774

2775 **E-489 Wetland mitigation projects should avoid impacts to and prevent loss of farmable**
 2776 **land within Agricultural Production Districts. Creation of wetland mitigation**
 2777 **banks ((are)) shall not be allowed in the Agricultural Production Districts when**
 2778 **the purpose is to compensate for wetland impacts from development outside the**
 2779 **Agricultural Production Districts.**

2780

2781 **((3.)) Lakes**

2782 There are approximately 700 lakes in King County ranging in size from less than one acre to Lake Washington's
 2783 roughly 21,500 acres. These lakes provide habitat that is essential for various life stages of many species of fish
 2784 and wildlife, including salmonids, as well as recreational opportunities and scenic beauty. Watershed
 2785 ~~((D))development, shoreline alternation,~~ and stormwater runoff into lakes can alter their functioning and lead to
 2786 eutrophication (increases in nutrients), loss of ~~((shoreline))~~ habitat, and threats to human and ecosystem health.
 2787 Although sewage treatment has greatly reduced pollution in urban lakes like Lake Washington, stormwater
 2788 runoff polluted by oil, metals, sediments, pet waste, lawn fertilizers, and ~~((pesticides))~~ toxic chemicals can
 2789 threaten ~~((human health, aquatic life, and habitat. Construction of bulkheads and docks also has the potential to~~
 2790 impact habitat by altering shoreline vegetation and natural erosion patterns)) lake ecosystems and those who use
 2791 them.

2792

2793 King County conducts water quality monitoring assessment on lakes throughout ~~((King County, in some cases~~
 2794 supported by interlocal agreements with cities)) the county, including sediment quality, habitat, biotic resources,
 2795 and hydrology. ~~((Some of the earliest evidence of climate change includes temperature changes in regional lakes.~~
 2796 Changes in annual temperature cycles in King County's regional lakes, particularly Lake Sammamish, Lake
 2797 Union, and Lake Washington, provide some of the most accurate measures of climate change available locally.))
 2798 This monitoring supports restoration and protection of lakes in King County, as well as improves understanding
 2799 of climate change, watershed development, stormwater impacts, and swimming, fishing, and drinking water
 2800 uses.

2801

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2802 King County also conducts specialized monitoring assessments for public health and safety. During the summer
 2803 months, the ((e))County conducts regular monitoring at public swimming beaches and contaminate monitoring
 2804 of some fish species. When monitoring indicates a public health hazard, the County works collaboratively with
 2805 state agencies and local jurisdictions, and ((the)) information is provided to Public Health -- Seattle & King
 2806 County((, which can issue a temporary closure order. The Washington State Department of Health issues fish
 2807 and shellfish consumption advisories to protect human health. There are consumption advisories for a number of
 2808 species in Lake Washington. King County recently implemented a monitoring program to track the level of
 2809 select contaminants in some fish species in Lake Washington. These data are used to evaluate the potential for
 2810 both human health (through consumption) and ecological impacts)). This can result in public warnings,
 2811 consumption advisories, management recommendations, and a temporary closure order if necessary. King
 2812 County also offers technical response assistance to harmful algal bloom incidents.

2813

2814 **E-490** Lakes ~~((should))~~ shall be protected through management of lake watersheds and
 2815 shorelines. Lakes ((sensitive to nutrients shall)) should also be protected
 2816 through the management of nutrients that stimulate potentially harmful algae
 2817 blooms and aquatic plant growth. Where sufficient information is available,
 2818 measurable standards for lake quality should be set and management plans
 2819 established to meet the standards. Formation of lake management districts or
 2820 other financing mechanisms should be considered to provide the financial
 2821 resources necessary to support actions for protection of ((sensitive)) lakes.

2822

2823 **E-491** King County, in partnership with other governments and community groups,
 2824 should monitor and assess lake water and sediment quality, physical habitat,
 2825 ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology. Assessment should identify trends and
 2826 describe impacts on human and ecosystem health, aquatic life, and wildlife
 2827 habitat.

2828

2829 **E-491a** ~~((The e))~~ King County should collaborate with other ((affected)) jurisdictions,
 2830 Public Health - Seattle & King County((, the State Department of Health, and the
 2831 State Department of Ecology)), and state agencies to identify and address
 2832 pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem
 2833 health((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce
 2834 or remove these inputs)).

2835

2836 **E-492** Swimming beaches on lakes should be monitored for ~~((bacterial))~~ fecal
 2837 contamination and algal toxins. When data shows public health to be at risk,
 2838 Public Health - Seattle & King County should take appropriate action to address
 2839 public health risks.

2840

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2841 **((4.)) Groundwater Resources**

2842 Protecting groundwater is an important regional issue because groundwater provides approximately 30((%))
 2843 percent of the water used in King County and is the primary source of water in the Rural Areas geography. On
 2844 Vashon-Maury Island and in other sole-source aquifer areas, it is the only source of drinking water.

2845
 2846 The natural hydrologic system can be altered by development practices and overuse of the aquifer. The result
 2847 may be depletion of aquifers. Groundwater is also subject to contamination from human activity. Once a source
 2848 of groundwater is contaminated it may be lost forever. The cost of protection is considerably less than the cost of
 2849 remediation and replacement. Having accurate, up-to-date information on groundwater quality and quantity is
 2850 essential for managing this resource. Mapping risk could be achieved for a variety of pollutants or pollutant
 2851 classes by integrating groundwater protection level, distance to groundwater, soil type, pollutant mobility, and
 2852 land use information into a new map layer for each pollutant. Finally, public education (particularly for
 2853 individual well owners) and coordinated groundwater management efforts will help to protect this resource over
 2854 the long-run.

2855

2856 **E-493 King County shall identify and map areas in unincorporated King County that are**
 2857 **considered Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and sole-source aquifers. The**
 2858 **((e))County shall periodically update this map with new information from adopted**
 2859 **groundwater and wellhead protection studies and other relevant sources. King**
 2860 **County should develop and maintain map layers of groundwater risk level when**
 2861 **funding is available.**

2862

2863 **E-494 King County should protect the quality and quantity of groundwater countywide**
 2864 **by:**

- 2865 **a. Implementing adopted Groundwater Management Plans;**
- 2866 **b. Reviewing and implementing approved Wellhead Protection Programs in**
 2867 **conjunction with cities, state agencies and groundwater purveyors;**
- 2868 **c. Developing, with affected jurisdictions, best management practices for**
 2869 **development and for forestry, agriculture, and mining operations based**
 2870 **on adopted Groundwater Management Plans and Wellhead Protection**
 2871 **Programs. The goals of these practices should be to promote aquifer**
 2872 **recharge quality and to strive for no net reduction of recharge to**
 2873 **groundwater quantity;**
- 2874 **d. Refining regulations to protect Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and**
 2875 **well((-))head protection areas;**
- 2876 **e. Educating the public about Best Management Practices to protect**
 2877 **groundwater;**
- 2878 **f. Encouraging forest retention and active forest stewardship;**

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- 2879 g. Incorporating into its land use and water service decisions consideration
 2880 of potential impacts on groundwater quality and quantity, and the need
 2881 for long-term aquifer protection;
 2882 h. Coordinating groundwater management efforts with cities, water
 2883 districts, groundwater committees, and state and federal agencies;
 2884 i. Requiring the proper decommissioning of any well abandoned in the
 2885 process of connecting an existing water system to a Group A water
 2886 system; and
 2887 j. When funding is available, monitoring groundwater status and trends,
 2888 especially for the groundwater protection planning areas established by
 2889 King County, and evaluating the groundwater monitoring results, along
 2890 with groundwater monitoring performed by public water systems, plus
 2891 their annual quantities of groundwater pumped over the five((-)-year
 2892 period. Findings as an indicator of environmental quality should be
 2893 reported for each groundwater management area.
 2894
- 2895 **E-495** King County should protect groundwater recharge quantity and quality by
 2896 promoting low impact development and other methods that infiltrate stormwater
 2897 runoff where site conditions permit and where pollution source controls and
 2898 stormwater treatment can prevent potential groundwater contamination.
 2899
- 2900 **E-496** ~~((In making future zoning and land use decisions that are subject to~~
 2901 ~~environmental review,)) King County ((shall)) should periodically evaluate and
 2902 monitor groundwater policies, their implementation costs, and the impacts upon
 2903 the quantity and quality of groundwater. The depletion or degradation of aquifers
 2904 needed for potable water supplies should be avoided or mitigated, and the need
 2905 to plan and develop feasible and equivalent replacement sources to compensate
 2906 for the potential loss of water supplies should be considered.
 2907~~
- 2908 **E-497** King County should protect groundwater in the Rural Area by:
 2909 a. Preferring land uses that retain a high ratio of permeable to impermeable
 2910 surface area, and that maintain and/or augment the natural soil's
 2911 infiltration capacity and treatment capability for groundwater;
 2912 b. Evaluating impacts on groundwater, where appropriate, during review of
 2913 commercial, industrial and residential subdivision development projects
 2914 that are proposed to be located within critical aquifer recharge areas,
 2915 and, where appropriate, requiring mitigation for anticipated groundwater
 2916 impacts to domestic water supply resulting from these projects; and
 2917 c. Requiring standards for maximum vegetation clearing limits, impervious
 2918 surface limits, and, where appropriate, infiltration of surface water.
 2919

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2920 Climate change has the potential to impact future groundwater availability. Warmer temperatures in the Pacific
 2921 Northwest are projected to lead to greater demand for water in the summer and fall, while reduced snow pack
 2922 and associated stream flows could reduce seasonal groundwater recharge. Further analysis of the potential
 2923 impacts of climate change on groundwater supplies in King County is needed to understand and mitigate for
 2924 potential impacts.

2925

2926 **E-498** King County should, in partnership with water utilities, ~~((evaluate the likely~~
 2927 ~~effects of)) work to ensure that climate change impacts on ((aquifer recharge and
 2928 ~~groundwater supplies and develop a strategy to mitigate potential impacts in~~
 2929 ~~coordination with other climate change initiatives)) groundwater are being
 2930 accounted for in water supply planning and management, such as by
 2931 a. Evaluating effects of climate change on aquifer recharge and
 2932 groundwater supplies; and
 2933 b. Developing strategies through climate change initiatives with cities,
 2934 water districts, groundwater committees, state and federal agencies, and
 2935 Indian tribes to mitigate impacts of climate change.
 2936~~~~

2937 **((5.)) Rivers, Streams and Floodplains**

2938 There are approximately ~~((3,100))~~ 6,400 miles of rivers ~~((and)),~~ streams, and creeks in King County and more
 2939 than ~~((52,000))~~ 59,000 acres of floodplains along rivers, streams, and marine shorelines. The river and stream
 2940 channels, the surrounding riparian (streamside) areas and upland areas, their floodplains all contribute to the
 2941 functioning and integrity of rivers and streams. Many rivers and streams provide habitat that is essential for
 2942 various life stages of many species of wildlife and fish, including salmonids.

2943

2944 Rivers, streams and floodplains are dynamic systems. When flood waters overtop banks, floodplains temporarily
 2945 store that water. Depending on the depth and flow, floods can dramatically alter river and stream courses,
 2946 creating new channels, eroding banks, and depositing sediment and gravel. Flooding and erosion can also
 2947 dislodge trees. These changes slow flood flows and help to support dynamic and complex habitat for fish and
 2948 wildlife. At the same time, they can create public safety issues for people living along and recreating in rivers.

2949

2950 In addition, public access to rivers and streams is both a requirement of the Shoreline Management Act and a
 2951 goal for King County to support the regional economy and provide recreational opportunities for the
 2952 community. People enjoy rivers and streams for the scenic and recreation values, including boating, floating,
 2953 swimming, fish and wildlife viewing, and fishing. Management of these systems needs to consider not only
 2954 habitat protection, but also public health and safety and opportunities for education and stewardship.

2955

2956 **E-498a** The existing flood storage and conveyance functions and ecological values of
 2957 floodplains, wetlands, and riparian ((corridors)) areas shall be protected, and

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2997 **E-499e To maintain and restore stream health, sources of uncontrolled stormwater flows**
 2998 **contributing to peak flows in small streams should be managed using on-site**
 2999 **structural or non-structural flow control techniques.**
 3000
 3001 Most streams in King County originate in either mountainous terrain or on rolling glacial uplands. These
 3002 streams often descend through steep, narrow ravines before reaching the floodplain. At the point where these
 3003 streams leave their ravines and flow onto the floodplain, the channel gradient (slope) and confinement decrease
 3004 quickly, dramatically reducing the streams' ability to carry sediment. These are areas of natural sediment
 3005 deposition and channel migration. The combination of sediment deposition and repeated channel migration
 3006 creates fan-shaped depositional features known as alluvial "fans."
 3007
 3008 During periods of heavy rainfall, streams often carry large sediment loads from upstream that deposit on
 3009 downstream alluvial fans. Landslides, beaver dam failures and other natural disturbances can create episodes of
 3010 particularly high rates of sediment production and delivery. In many stream systems, instances of heavy
 3011 sediment deposition may occur episodically with years or decades of apparent stability in the intervening periods.
 3012 In many instances, sediment production and tributary or stream flow rates are exacerbated by upland land use
 3013 conditions and associated stormwater effects.
 3014
 3015 Alluvial fans share many of the ecological attributes and land use risks associated with channel migration hazard
 3016 areas and landslide hazards, though they are unique in many respects. In a natural environment, alluvial fans
 3017 often provide some of the best available spawning habitat in a tributary stream, while also providing a source of
 3018 gravel for areas downstream. In some heavily altered streams, the alluvial fan may represent the only remaining
 3019 areas that are suitable for spawning. Alluvial fans can also form the highest ground available in the floodplain,
 3020 and have historically been used for construction of buildings (including farm buildings), roads and other
 3021 structures. Unfortunately, they are inherently unstable environments in which to build. During high flows
 3022 coupled with sediment deposition, a stream may jump its bank in the area of the alluvial fan, in some cases
 3023 damaging private property, disrupting agricultural activities, destroying culverts and road crossings, stranding
 3024 fish, and creating risks to public safety. Protecting buildings, roads, and crops on and along alluvial fans often
 3025 requires extensive, ongoing maintenance activities. Maintenance activities can have adverse effects on habitat,
 3026 and in some circumstances may not be permissible under state regulations.
 3027
 3028 ~~((The Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands chapter calls for alluvial fan pilot projects to test best~~
 3029 ~~management practices and innovative solutions for reducing hazards to agricultural landowners and protecting~~
 3030 ~~and restoring habitat.))~~
 3031
 3032 **E-499f King County should improve the management of alluvial fans by developing and**
 3033 **clarifying definitions of alluvial fans, mapping the locations of existing alluvial**
 3034 **fans, and developing appropriate management strategies. Strategies should**
 3035 **protect intact habitat ((and)), restore degraded habitat, and reduce threats to**
 3036 **public safety((, and accommodate)) in the context of existing land uses. Best**

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3037 **Available Science and ((F))findings from Alluvial Fan Management Pilot Projects**
 3038 **Reports should inform management strategies for alluvial fans, including**
 3039 **potential regulatory changes.**
 3040

3041 **((6.)) Puget Sound**

3042 There are approximately 110 miles of marine shoreline in King County, including 51 miles in unincorporated
 3043 areas. Shorelines provide important functions for maintaining a healthy ecosystem and also provide essential
 3044 habitat for a variety of important and listed species, including mammals, birds, fish, and invertebrates. In
 3045 addition to recreational opportunities, the marine nearshore environment provides essential habitat for a variety
 3046 of species including juvenile salmonids, forage fish, and several commercially important shellfish species. Kelp
 3047 and eelgrass populations are particularly important for providing food and habitat, especially for juvenile life
 3048 stages for a variety of key fish and invertebrate species. The intertidal area of marine beaches are the only
 3049 spawning habitats for Pacific sand lance and surf smelt, which form the base for much of the food chain in Puget
 3050 Sound and are highly susceptible to impacts from residential development of shoreline areas. Marine resources
 3051 and shorelines, especially embayments, are susceptible to impacts from water pollution, changes in upland
 3052 vegetation, alteration of natural bluff and beach erosion patterns, and alteration of nearshore substrates and
 3053 aquatic vegetation.

3054
 3055 The majority of marine waters within King County are subtidal waters, which provide important ecosystem
 3056 functions and essential habitat for a variety of important species, including marine mammals, birds, salmonids,
 3057 and other fish and invertebrates. Subtidal waters support geoduck, shrimp, and ~~((bottomfish))~~ commercial and
 3058 tribal fisheries ((as well as)), and also provide critical rearing habitats for salmonids and migratory pathways for
 3059 marine mammals ((and salmonids)). Resident killer whales are often observed in King County subtidal waters
 3060 feeding on salmonids, and Biggs' whales are often seen feeding on seals and sea lions. Adult life stages of many
 3061 species, such as rockfish and Dungeness crab, use subtidal waters extensively. In addition, subtidal waters
 3062 provide an important connection to Pacific Ocean waters as well as waters within other parts of Puget Sound.
 3063 Subtidal habitat is susceptible to impacts from water pollution, over-utilizing of biological resources, and climate
 3064 change.

3065
 3066 King County conducts water quality monitoring in marine offshore and nearshore areas throughout King
 3067 County as part of the Marine Monitoring Program. Nutrients, chlorophyll, and dissolved oxygen are measured
 3068 along with other physical and chemical parameters. Biological parameters, such as ~~((chlorophyll))~~ fecal indicator
 3069 bacteria and phytoplankton and zooplankton community structure are also assessed. Offshore sediment quality
 3070 is assessed in various subtidal areas and nearshore sediments are assessed throughout King County. The
 3071 Washington State Department of Health issues fish and shellfish consumption advisories to protect human
 3072 health. There are consumption advisories for a number of species within King County marine waters. King
 3073 County recently implemented a monitoring program to track the level of select contaminants in some species of
 3074 fish and shellfish in Elliott Bay and King County's marine waters. These data are used to evaluate the potential
 3075 for both human health (through consumption) and ecological impacts.

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3076

3077 King County's freshwater and saltwater environments are integrally linked. Water, sediments, and nutrients
3078 move from upland areas to Puget Sound. Many species, including salmon, spend critical periods of their lives in
3079 both fresh and salt water. Salmon migrating from saltwater to their spawning areas bring marine-derived
3080 nutrients back to the upland areas. Given the functional linkages between freshwater and saltwater
3081 environments, it is critical that planning and management be integrated.

3082

3083 **E-499g** King County should collaborate with ~~((the))~~ federal and state agencies,
3084 ~~((including))~~ the Puget Sound Partnership~~((s))~~, cities, Indian tribes, other
3085 counties, and universities to monitor and assess Puget Sound marine waters,
3086 nearshore areas, and embayments. Monitoring and assessment should:
3087 a. _____ Address water and sediment quality, bioaccumulation of chemicals,
3088 physical habitat, ~~((and))~~ biotic resources, and hydrology ~~((Assessment~~
3089 should)); and
3090 b. _____ Identify trends and describe impacts on human and ecosystem health
3091 and safety, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.

3092

3093 **E-499gg** ~~((The c))~~ King County should collaborate with other ~~((affected))~~ jurisdictions,
3094 ~~Public Health -- Seattle & King County, ((the State Department of Health, and the~~
3095 ~~State Department of Ecology)), and state agencies to identify and address~~
3096 pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem
3097 health~~((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce~~
3098 or remove these inputs)).

3099

3100 **E-499h** King County should protect and enhance the natural environment in those areas
3101 recommended or adopted as Aquatic Reserves by Washington State Department
3102 of Natural Resources. This should include participation in management planning
3103 for the aquatic reserves and working with willing landowners adjacent to the
3104 reserve on restoration and acquisition projects that enhance the natural
3105 environment.

3106

3107 **E-499hh** King County shall continue to support efforts of the Poverty Bay Shellfish
3108 Protection District to safeguard against threats to water quality that limit access
3109 to existing commercial shellfish harvesting areas.

3110

3111 **E-499hhh** King County should continue to support regional program and actions to monitor
3112 and address fecal pollution of King County lakes, streams, and beaches, such as
3113 the Pollution Identification and Control Program being run in collaboration with
3114 the King Conservation District and Public Health – Seattle & King County.

3115

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3116 Human waste contains high levels of nutrients and pathogens. These pollutants can enter Puget Sound marine
 3117 waters from a variety of pathways including combined sewer overflow outfalls, septic systems, stormwater
 3118 runoff, ships and boats, and rivers and streams. Nutrients are also present in treated wastewater effluent. Public
 3119 Health – Seattle & King County is responsible for assuring that onsite sewage systems in King County meet state
 3120 and local regulations. In addition, Public Health – Seattle & King County is required to identify areas where
 3121 marine water quality is threatened or impaired as a result of contamination from onsite sewage systems, to
 3122 designate these areas as Marine Recovery Areas, Public Health – Seattle & King County has developed a Marine
 3123 Recovery Areas plan for Vashon-Maury Island to identify failed septic systems within the Marine Recovery
 3124 Areas, and to assure that these systems are repaired and maintained.

3125

3126 The State Department of Health conducts shoreline surveys, which identifies pollution sources that may impact
 3127 water quality. Marine water sampling is to determine fecal coliform bacteria levels in the marine waters.
 3128 Shellfish growing areas are classified determining whether ~~((or not))~~ shellfish in the area can be harvested for
 3129 human consumption. Public Health – Seattle & King County, in partnership with Department of Natural
 3130 Resources and Parks and King Conservation District, has implemented the Quartermaster Pollution
 3131 Identification and Correction programs to address the fecal coliform discharges that ~~((caused the shellfish beds to
 3132 be prohibited from))~~ limit commercial harvesting.

3133

3134 The Marine Recovery Areas/Pollution Identification and Correction program has successfully returned portions
 3135 of Quartermaster Harbor to harvestable condition and is continuing work on Vashon-Maury Island to address
 3136 fecal coliform sources such as properties that have on-site sewage systems that pre-date regulatory oversight
 3137 systems or that have failing systems. In addition to Quartermaster Harbor, other ~~((King County))~~ commercial
 3138 shellfish beds that are listed as threatened or concerned in King County are East Passage and Colvos Passage on
 3139 Vashon, and Poverty Bay on the mainland.

3140

3141 Most landowners act as responsible managers of their septic systems and maintain them effectively. However,
 3142 those septic systems that are not maintained can fail, and impact the environment. The County and the State
 3143 should work with landowners by providing technical assistance and support to prevent failures, take action to
 3144 correct failing systems and address the associated problems.

3145

3146 **E-499i King County should work with landowners, other jurisdictions, the state**
 3147 **Department of Health, sewer districts, and the Puget Sound Partnership to**
 3148 **proactively address failing septic systems with a priority in environmentally**
 3149 **sensitive areas, including constrained shoreline environments.**

3150

3151 **~~((7-)) Beavers and Beaver Activity~~**

3152 Beaver ponds, created when beavers dam watercourses, provide a protective pool for a beaver lodge and
 3153 environmental benefits. They help retain stormwater runoff, trap sediment and pollutants, maintain stream flow
 3154 during summer, reduce downstream flooding and erosion, raise groundwater levels and help create diverse plant

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3155 and animal habitat. Beaver ponds also provide significant environmental benefits and functions for salmon
3156 rearing habitat, floodplain connectivity, wood inputs, increased complexity of aquatic systems, and biodiversity.

3157

3158 Beaver dams may also cause upstream flooding of roads, utilities, and both public and private property, and
3159 create the potential for downstream risk to public safety and infrastructure should dam failure occur. If a dam is
3160 harmed or removed, the beavers will typically repair the damage quickly, because their survival depends on
3161 having the entrance to their lodge underwater.

3162

3163 ~~((For over 150 years beavers and humans were able to coexist in King County, because beaver populations were~~
3164 ~~kept in balance through trapping and human development was confined to areas without large beaver~~
3165 ~~populations. However, as the urban and suburban areas of King County extended out into areas with an~~
3166 ~~abundance of beaver habitat and beaver populations increased, beavers have begun to come into greater conflict~~
3167 ~~with humans.~~

3168

3169 ~~These growing conflicts were exacerbated in 2000 with the passage of Initiative Measure 713 (I-713), a law that~~
3170 ~~prohibited the use of body-gripping traps with the exception of a Conibear trap in water, a padded leg hold trap,~~
3171 ~~or a non-strangling type foot snare, all of which require a special permit (see Revised Code of Washington~~
3172 ~~77.15.194). The results of these changes were that fewer beavers are being trapped and more beavers are~~
3173 ~~repopulating historic habitat.~~

3174

3175 ~~Fifteen years since I-713 went into effect, beavers continue to repopulate the water bodies of King County.~~
3176 ~~Non-lethal/engineered solutions (beaver deceivers and pond levelers) help control water levels of beaver ponds~~
3177 ~~and are part of the solution for co-existing with beavers. But these solutions are not always sufficient and will~~
3178 ~~likely become less and less feasible in terms of maintenance capacity as beaver populations continue to expand.))~~

3179

3180 **E-499ii King County supports the coexistence of beavers and people in rural King**
3181 **County. ~~((King County should prepare a beaver management strategy to guide a~~**
3182 **~~program on issues such as where and how beavers and humans can co-exist~~**
3183 **~~with or without engineered solutions and where beavers should be excluded or~~**
3184 **~~removed.))~~**

3185

3186 **~~((E.)) Watershed-Based Salmon Recovery~~**

3187 The protection and recovery of salmonid species that are listed under the Endangered Species Act and
3188 encompassed by Indian tribal treaty rights are and will continue to be a significant priority for King County. The
3189 listing of a species under the Endangered Species Act and decline of Indian tribal treaty right protected species
3190 are cause for great concern, because wild Pacific salmon have great environmental, cultural, economic,
3191 nutritional, recreational, and symbolic importance to local communities, in particular Indian tribal communities,
3192 in the entire Puget Sound region.

3193

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3194 It is King County's goal to ensure the recovery and maintenance of salmon populations to sustainable and
3195 harvestable levels, and to accrue the ecological, cultural, economic, and local food supply benefits that will be
3196 provided by healthy salmon stocks. King County ((will)) pursues salmon conservation strategies that sustain the
3197 region's vibrant economy. Successful restoration and maintenance of healthy salmon populations ((will))
3198 requires time, money and effort, and collaboration with federal, state, tribal and local governments, as well as
3199 businesses, environmental groups, and residents.

3200

3201 ~~((The increasing number and diversity of Endangered Species Act federally protected species in King County and
3202 around the Puget Sound calls for the development and implementation of species conservation actions that are
3203 embedded within a strategy that addresses natural resource management issues at the ecosystem scale. Although
3204 species are listed one at a time, managing them toward recovery and robust health that way increases the
3205 likelihood that conservation efforts will be incomplete, redundant, and more expensive.~~

3206

3207 ~~As a means to address salmonid listings and to sustain this precious resource for generations to come, l))~~Local
3208 governments in the Puget Sound region, in cooperation with state and tribal governments and other ((major
3209 stakeholders)) partners, have developed long-term salmon habitat conservation strategies at the Watershed
3210 Resource Inventory Area level. The boundaries of Water Resource Inventory Areas are defined under state
3211 regulations, and generally adhere to the watershed boundaries of major river or lake systems.

3212

3213 King County participated as an affected jurisdiction in the development Water Resource Inventory Area plans
3214 for Water Resource Inventory Area 8 (Cedar/Sammamish Watershed), Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (the
3215 Green/Duwamish Watershed), Water Resource Inventory Area 7 (the Snohomish/Snoqualmie/Skykomish
3216 Watershed), about half of which is in King County, and Water Resource Inventory Area 10 (the White/Puyallup
3217 Watershed), a small percentage of which is in King County. Additionally, King County has acted as a service
3218 provider at the direction of multi-jurisdictional forums for the development and implementation of the salmon
3219 recovery plans for Water Resource Inventory Areas 8 and 9, and for the King County portion of Water Resource
3220 Inventory Area 7.

3221

3222 **E-499j King County shall continue to participate in the Water Resource Inventory Area**
3223 **salmon recovery plan implementation efforts and in other regional efforts to**
3224 **recover salmon and the ecosystems they depend on, such as the Puget Sound**
3225 **Partnership. King County's participation in planning and implementation efforts**
3226 **shall be guided by the following principles:**

3227

3228 **a. Focus on federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks**
3229 **protected under Indian tribal treaty rights first, take an ecosystem**
3230 **approach to habitat management and seek to address management**
3231 **needs for other species over time;**

3232

3233 **b. Concurrently work on early actions, long-term projects and programs**
that will lead to improvements to, and information on, habitat conditions
in King County that can enable the recovery of endangered or threatened

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- 3234 salmonids, while maintaining the economic vitality and strength of the
3235 region;
- 3236 c. Address both King County’s growth management needs and habitat
3237 conservation needs;
- 3238 d. Use best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington
3239 Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925));
- 3240 e. Improve water quality, water quantity and channel characteristics;
- 3241 f. Coordinate with key decision-makers and ((stakeholders)) partners; and
- 3242 g. Develop, implement and evaluate actions within a watershed-based
3243 program of data collection and analysis that documents the level of
3244 effectiveness of specific actions and provides information for adaptation
3245 of salmon conservation and recovery strategies.
3246

3247 The Water Resource Inventory Area plans recommend an array of actions including the restoration, acquisition
3248 and preservation of landscapes, municipal programmatic activities, and public outreach and education. The
3249 plans suggest that programmatic activities for salmon habitat conservation can generally be accomplished with
3250 the following three tools: regulation, incentives, and education. Consequently, in addition to capital projects,
3251 local governments, including King County, will need to incorporate salmon recovery objectives and strategies
3252 into their normal operations, making best use of a wide range of their authorities and programs.
3253

3254 **E-499k King County should use the recommendations of approved Water Resource**
3255 **Inventory Area salmon recovery plans to inform the updates to development**
3256 **regulations as well as operations and capital planning for its floodplain**
3257 **management, fish passage, surface water management, transportation,**
3258 **wastewater treatment, parks, and open space programs.**
3259

3260 **E-499I King County should seek to support Water Resource Inventory Area salmon**
3261 **recovery plan goals of maintaining intact natural landscapes through:**

3262 a. Retaining low density land use designations such as Agriculture,
3263 Forestry and Rural Area designations;

3264 b. Promoting Current Use Taxation and other incentives;

3265 c. Promoting stewardship programs including development and
3266 implementation of Forest Plans, Farm Plans, and Rural Stewardship
3267 Plans;

3268 d. Promoting the use of ((L))low ((H))impact ((D))development methods; and

3269 e. Acquiring property or conservation easements in areas of high
3270 ecological importance with unique or otherwise significant habitat
3271 values.
3272

3273 Many of the ((e))County’s ((functional)) plans, programs and development regulations assist in the ((e))County’s
3274 effort to conserve and recover Endangered Species Act listed species. These include the code provisions

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3275 governing zoning, critical areas, clearing and grading, landscaping, and the shoreline master program. County
 3276 ((plans)) documents guiding operations and regulations include the Surface Water Design Manual, the ((f))Flood
 3277 ((h))Hazard ((m))Management ((p))Plan, and ((r))Regional ((w))Wastewater ((s))Services ((p))Plan. Finally the
 3278 ((e))County’s reliance on best management practices for vegetation management((,)); use of insecticides,
 3279 herbicides, and fungicides((,)); and pest management((, as well as for)); management of agricultural and forest
 3280 lands also play a crucial role in protecting Endangered Species Act listed species.

3281

3282 **E-499m** King County ((will)) shall monitor and evaluate programs and regulations to
 3283 determine their effectiveness in contributing to Endangered Species Act listed
 3284 species conservation and recovery, and ((will)) shall update and enhance
 3285 programs and plans as necessary. King County should amend regulations, plans
 3286 and best management practices to enhance their effectiveness in protecting and
 3287 restoring salmonid habitat, using a variety of resources, including best available
 3288 science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code
 3289 ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925)).

3290

3291 **E-499n** Through the Watershed Resource Inventory Area planning process, geographic
 3292 areas vital to the conservation and recovery of listed salmon species are
 3293 identified. King County ((will)) shall evaluate this information to determine
 3294 appropriate short and long-term strategies, including, but not limited to:
 3295 designation of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, development
 3296 regulations (special district overlays, zoning, etc.), acquisitions, facility
 3297 maintenance programs, and capital improvement projects.

3298

3299 **E-499o** King County may use its authority under the Growth Management Act, including
 3300 its authority to designate and protect critical areas, such as fish and wildlife
 3301 habitat conservation areas, to preserve and protect key habitat for listed
 3302 salmonid species by developing and implementing development regulations and
 3303 nonregulatory programs.

3304

3305 **E-499p** King County shall, in cooperation with the cities, ensure a no net loss of housing
 3306 capacity that preserves the ability to accommodate adopted growth targets, while
 3307 pursuing compliance with Endangered Species Act requirements. To achieve
 3308 this goal, densities shall be increased on buildable lands, consistent with H-110.

3309

3310 Local governments primarily have authority and influence over land use actions affecting habitat. However,
 3311 protecting and restoring habitat is just one piece of the salmon recovery puzzle. Management of fish harvest,
 3312 hatchery, hydropower, and water storage actions is also critical, and actions need to be coordinated with entities
 3313 having authority in these areas.

3314

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3315 **E-499q King County should continue to take actions that ensure its habitat restoration**
 3316 **and protection actions are implemented as part of a watershed-based salmon**
 3317 **conservation strategy that integrates habitat actions with actions taken by**
 3318 **harvest and hatchery managers. Harvest and hatchery managers specifically**
 3319 **include Indian tribes with treaty-reserved fishing rights, the Washington**
 3320 **Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the**
 3321 **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appropriate venues for this coordination include**
 3322 **watershed plan implementation groups and other local or regional salmon**
 3323 **management entities that rely on actions by habitat, harvest, and hatchery**
 3324 **managers to achieve specific goals and objectives.**
 3325

3326 To ensure the long-term success of salmon recovery actions, King County will need to develop and implement a
 3327 program that provides for monitoring the effectiveness of recovery actions and the status and trends of priority
 3328 fish populations and habitat conditions. Both types of monitoring provide valuable information to redirect and
 3329 adapt salmonid recovery strategies and actions over time. ((Please-s))See the Monitoring and Adaptive
 3330 Management Section at the end of this chapter for policies related to this topic.
 3331

3332 **~~(F-)~~ Flood Hazard Management**

3333 Floodplains are lands adjacent to lakes, rivers and streams that are subject to periodic flooding. Floodplains
 3334 naturally store flood water, contribute to groundwater recharge, protect water quality and are valuable for
 3335 recreation, agriculture and fish and wildlife habitat. Floodplains also provide a deposition zone for sediments
 3336 mobilized by rivers and streams. Wetlands are often an integral part of floodplains.
 3337

3338 There are two primary types of flood hazards: inundation and channel migration. Inundation is defined as
 3339 floodwater and debris flowing through an area that is not normally under water. Such events can cause minor to
 3340 severe damage, depending on the velocity and depth of flows, the duration of the flood event, the quantity of logs
 3341 and other debris carried by flows, and the amount and type of development and personal property in the
 3342 floodwater's path. Floodplains are designated based on the predicted frequency of flooding for a particular area.
 3343 For example, a 100-year floodplain is a land area that has a one percent probability of experiencing flooding in
 3344 any given year. Inundation hazards can come from major rivers, smaller tributary streams, local stormwater
 3345 runoff, high lake levels, high groundwater levels, coastal storm surge, and tidal action.
 3346

3347 Channel migration results from erosion wears away of a riverbank by flowing water. Ongoing erosion of one
 3348 riverbank coupled with sediment deposition along the opposite bank results in the lateral movement or migration
 3349 of a channel across its floodplain. When this shift is abrupt it is called channel avulsion. Channel migration can
 3350 lead to flood and erosion damage to structures, farms, and critical infrastructure. At the same time, it is a natural
 3351 process that forms complex fish habitat by creating braided channels and causing trees to fall into rivers. Bank
 3352 stabilization actions to limit channel migration have negative impacts on channel processes and reduce salmonid
 3353 habitat quality and quantity. Channel migration hazard areas are designated based on geomorphic analyses and

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3354 review of historical channel migration patterns and rates, consistent with the King County Flood Hazard
3355 Management Plan and the Shoreline Management Act.

3356

3357 Development can reduce the floodplain's ability to store and convey floodwaters, thereby increasing the velocity
3358 and depth of floodwaters in other areas. In addition, floodplain development puts humans in harm's way and
3359 often occurs at the expense of important fish and wildlife habitat. King County has adopted the Flood Hazard
3360 Management Plan as a functional element of the King County Comprehensive Plan to detail regional policies,
3361 programs, and projects to reduce the risk to people and property from river flooding and channel migration in
3362 King County and to provide guidance for decisions related to land use and floodplain management activities.

3363

3364 **E-499qq** King County shall implement a comprehensive local floodplain management
3365 program that, consistent with the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan or
3366 successor plans; protects lives((,)); minimizes damage and disruption to
3367 infrastructure and critical facilities((,)); preserves and restores natural floodplain
3368 functions((,)); uses integrated approaches to provide multiple benefits; is
3369 resilient to climate change; supports floodplain management actions that benefit
3370 frontline communities; and ensures that new development does not put people in
3371 harm's way or cause adverse flooding impacts elsewhere((, consistent with the
3372 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan)).

3373

3374 **E-499qqq** King County shall continue to exceed the federal minimum standards stipulated
3375 by the National Flood Insurance Program for unincorporated areas to better
3376 protect public safety, reduce the risk of flood and channel migration hazards to
3377 existing public and private property, and prevent new at-risk development.

3378

3379 **E-499r** King County's floodplain land use and floodplain management activities shall be
3380 carried out in accordance with policies, programs and projects detailed in the
3381 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or successor plans.

3382

3383 **~~(G.)~~ Hazardous Waste**

3384 Throughout King County, businesses use and generate hazardous materials as part of their normal operations.
3385 There are numerous rules and requirements for the proper management of these materials and requirements can
3386 vary slightly by jurisdiction. Often the businesses will learn of these requirements after they have found out that
3387 they are not in compliance. To help mitigate the potential harmful effects to human health and the environment
3388 and to minimize the economic impacts to businesses that may generate hazardous chemicals, King County
3389 provides education and technical assistance to businesses on requirements for proper management and disposal
3390 of hazardous chemicals, as well as information on less toxic alternatives.

3391

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3392 Contacting businesses with information on proper hazardous waste disposal as early as possible in the business
3393 development phase can help to prevent improper disposal of hazardous waste and associated risks to public
3394 safety and the environment. Taking a preventative approach can also help to avoid costly code violations.

3395

3396 **E-499t King County should review new business permit and change of use applications**
3397 **for businesses that propose to use hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous**
3398 **waste as part of their operations. The ((e))County should offer to provide**
3399 **technical assistance related to hazardous waste disposal requirements, ((spill**
3400 **response;)) and non-toxic alternatives.**

3401

3402 **~~((V.))~~ Geologically Hazardous Areas**

3403 King County is located at a tectonically active convergent plate margin, which is characterized by dynamic
3404 geologic processes including active mountain building, abundant seismic activity and volcanism. In addition,
3405 the relatively recent glacial history has resulted in the creation of numerous steep and unstable hillsides
3406 throughout the county, many of which are prone to naturally occurring landslides. Snow avalanches are also a
3407 common occurrence in the Cascade Mountains in ((E))eastern King County.

3408

3409 Often times the result of these naturally occurring events can be beneficial to the environment, by providing
3410 gravel and woody debris in streams and rivers, and continuing the process of natural regeneration. Salmon need
3411 gravel for spawning and in-stream debris for cover and to provide shade and regulate temperature. King County
3412 must balance the positive benefits of these natural occurrences with any adverse impacts that pose a threat to
3413 public health and safety. The ((e))County must also strike a balance between allowing naturally occurring
3414 landslides and erosion, and the need to prevent the unnatural acceleration of landslides and erosion due to
3415 development activities.

3416

3417 Coal mines have created additional areas of subsidence and instability in addition to those ((which)) that occur
3418 naturally. When human activity occurs in areas subject to such active geologic processes, the potential
3419 consequences to life, property and environmental integrity can be enormous. If geologic processes are
3420 recognized and appropriately addressed in the course of development activities, adverse consequences can be
3421 substantially reduced if not completely eliminated.

3422

3423 **~~((A.))~~ Erosion Hazard Areas**

3424 Virtually any area in King County can experience soil erosion if subjected to inappropriate grading and
3425 construction practices. The ((US)) United States Department of Agriculture's ((Soil)) Natural Resources
3426 Conservation Service has identified certain soil types in King County as being especially subject to erosion, if
3427 disturbed. These Erosion Hazard Areas may not be well suited to high-density developments and intensive land
3428 uses because of the sensitivity of these soils to disturbance.

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3429

3430 ~~((E-501 ————— Grading and construction activities shall implement erosion control best~~
3431 ~~management practices and other development controls as necessary to reduce~~
3432 ~~sediment and pollution discharge from construction sites to minimal levels.))~~

3433

3434 **E-502** Land uses permitted in Erosion Hazard Areas shall minimize soil disturbance and
3435 should maximize retention and replacement of native vegetative cover.

3436

3437 **E-503** Slopes with a grade of 40((%)) percent or more shall not be developed unless the
3438 risks and adverse impacts associated with such development can be reduced to
3439 a non-significant level. ~~((No disturbance zones shall be designated where basin~~
3440 ~~plans identify the need to prevent erosion damages in areas that are extremely~~
3441 ~~sensitive to erosion impacts. Properly designed stormwater tightlines may be~~
3442 ~~allowed within designated no-disturbance zones.))~~

3443

3444 ~~((Vegetation is an important component of the natural environment. This general term refers to all plant life~~
3445 ~~growing at, below or above the soil surface. It includes trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses and aquatic plants.~~
3446 ~~Vegetation, especially forests, provides many significant ecological functions. Vegetation absorbs, filters and~~
3447 ~~slows surface water flow. This is particularly important over aquifer recharge areas. Native vegetation also~~
3448 ~~provides wildlife habitat to which native species are well adapted. Forests are key components in atmospheric~~
3449 ~~cycles; they absorb carbon dioxide, produce oxygen and filter particulate matter. Additionally, they absorb noise~~
3450 ~~and are aesthetically pleasing.~~

3451

3452 ~~Noxious weeds are nonnative invasive plants that pose a threat to health and safety, agriculture, wildlife,~~
3453 ~~wetlands and recreational areas. They tend to spread in areas that have been disturbed by urban development~~
3454 ~~and agriculture and are difficult to eradicate once they become established. Without natural predators, some~~
3455 ~~noxious weeds can displace native plant communities, reducing plant diversity. Invasive plants also decrease the~~
3456 ~~quality of wildlife habitats, reduce visual quality, and increase maintenance and production costs for natural~~
3457 ~~resource managers and farmers.~~

3458

3459 ~~**E-504 ————— King County should protect native plant communities by encouraging**~~
3460 ~~**management and control of nonnative invasive plants, including aquatic plants.**~~
3461 ~~**Environmentally sound methods of vegetation control should be used to control**~~
3462 ~~**noxious weeds.**~~

3463

3464 ~~**E-506 ————— The use of native plants should be encouraged in landscaping requirements and**~~
3465 ~~**erosion control projects, and in the restoration of stream banks, lakes,**~~
3466 ~~**shorelines, and wetlands.**~~

3467

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3468 ~~E-507~~ ~~_____ In response to watershed-based salmon conservation Water Resource Inventory~~
 3469 ~~Area plans and as part of King County’s continued basin planning and~~
 3470 ~~stewardship programs, King County may adopt vegetation retention goals for~~
 3471 ~~specific drainage basins. These goals should be consistent with R-334, as~~
 3472 ~~applicable. The county should adopt incentives and regulations to attain these~~
 3473 ~~goals, and the county should monitor their effectiveness.))~~
 3474

3475 **~~((B-))~~ Landslide Hazard Areas**

3476 Certain hillsides in King County are either naturally unstable or susceptible to instability when disturbed. These
 3477 hillsides contain slopes greater than 15(~~(%)~~) percent, are underlain by impermeable soils, and are subject to
 3478 seepage. They also include areas that have experienced landslides in the past.

3479
 3480 Many of the largest and most active landslides in King County are associated with the steep slopes adjacent to
 3481 river corridors or along marine shorelines where glacial strata are eroded and steepened. Areas undergoing rapid
 3482 undercutting due to stream bank erosion, wave action or human alteration of stormwater discharge are
 3483 potentially unstable and such areas may be prone to damaging landslides.

3484
 3485 Construction in areas susceptible to landslides is expensive and difficult. Landslides on such slopes following
 3486 development can result in enormous public and private costs and severe threats to human health and safety.
 3487 Such landslides can also cause severe natural resource damage.

3488
 3489 ~~((Partly in response to the 2014 State Route 530 Landslide,))~~ King County has undertaken an effort to refine
 3490 ~~((our))~~ its knowledge of landslide hazard areas using updated mapping methods. King County ~~((initiated a~~
 3491 ~~project in 2014 to map and characterize))~~ has mapped and characterized landslide hazard areas using the best
 3492 available Light Detection And Ranging imagery and recent geologic mapping to identify potential areas at risk of
 3493 landsliding. Known and potential landslide hazard areas can be indicated by the known presence of shallow
 3494 landslides, deep-seated slumps, debris fans and flows, rockfalls, avalanches, unstable and over-steepened slopes
 3495 along river and stream channels, long runout presence or potential. ~~((The results of this work will be))~~ This
 3496 mapping is used to inform future planning, outreach, and regulatory decisions.

3497
 3498 **E-507a** **King County should work with partner jurisdictions to ~~((maintain a))~~ periodically**
 3499 **review and update the map and inventory of known and potential landslide**
 3500 **hazard areas in unincorporated King County ~~((that is based upon the best~~**
 3501 **available information)) consistent with best available science and current data.**
 3502 **This information ~~((will))~~ shall be used to inform future planning and guide**
 3503 **development regulations.**

3504
 3505 **E-507b** **King County should make landslide hazards information readily available to the**
 3506 **public ~~((in order))~~ to improve the general understanding of landslides and their**

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3507 associated hazards. This may include making information available on a public
3508 website and providing outreach and assistance to current and prospective
3509 property owners and developers.

3510
3511 **E-508** Landslide hazard areas shall not be developed unless the risks and adverse
3512 impacts associated with such development are eliminated or minimized so that
3513 they are at a non-significant level. Development proposed in areas affected by
3514 landslide hazards shall be adequately reviewed and mitigated as needed to
3515 eliminate or minimize risk to the development as well as to ensure the
3516 development does not increase landslide or erosion hazards that would
3517 adversely impact adjacent properties or natural resources.

3518
3519 **E-508a** King County shall consider landslide hazards and related flooding hazards in the
3520 context of hazard communication, operational preparedness and emergency
3521 response.

3522

3523 **~~((C.)) Seismic Hazard Areas~~**

3524 ~~King County is an earthquake-prone region subject to ground shaking, seismically induced landslide and~~
3525 ~~liquefaction of soil. Areas with low density soils are likely to experience greater damage from earthquakes.~~

3526

3527 ~~**E-509** In areas with severe seismic hazards, special building design and construction~~
3528 ~~measures should be used to minimize the risk of structural damage, fire and~~
3529 ~~injury to occupants and to prevent post-seismic collapse.~~

3530

3531 **~~D.)) Volcanic Hazard Areas~~**

3532 King County is located in a region characterized by active volcanism. The volcanic hazard that poses the
3533 greatest risk to safety and wellbeing of county residents would be from a lahar (volcanic mudflow) originating on
3534 ~~((Mt.)) Mount~~ Rainier and flowing down the White River valley (possibly overflowing into the lower Green
3535 River Valley). Ongoing investigations by the ~~((U.S.)) United States~~ Geological Survey continue to clarify the
3536 nature of this hazard. Current information provides the basis for taking steps to mitigate that risk.

3537

3538 **E-510** King County should work with the U.S. Geological Survey to identify lahar hazard
3539 areas and shall work with local governments to assess the risk to county
3540 residents from lahars and to implement appropriate emergency planning and
3541 implement appropriate development standards.

3542

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3543 **((E.)) Coal Mine Hazard Areas**

3544 King County has a long and varied history of underground and surface coal mining. Some coal mining was
3545 conducted by large, well-capitalized mining companies that used methods such as detailed underground and
3546 surface mapping and protection of surface improvements. Other mines were small operations or re-mining
3547 operations that sought to maximize coal extraction with less regard for surface impacts or mapping. Some
3548 intensively developed areas of King County are located over abandoned underground coal workings, including
3549 Talbot Hill and the north Benson Hill of Renton, the Spring Glen area around Cascade Vista, East Fairwood,
3550 Black Diamond, southwest Issaquah, and the Newcastle/Coal Creek area.

3551
3552 The greatest dangers to people, wildlife and surface facilities typically exist around mine portals, timber chutes,
3553 air shafts, and workings which have collapsed to the surface. Other areas were deep mined by “room and pillar”
3554 mining techniques in which “pillars” of coal were left to provide support for the mining of adjacent “rooms.”
3555 Once abandoned, pillars would collapse and rooms of mined-out coal would fill with collapsed roof material,
3556 coal debris and water. Regional downwarping of these areas was generally not observable and usually happened
3557 in the early years following mining of a section. Deep mined areas with a high ratio of overburden/cover-to-void
3558 usually present no hazards for surface development. However, areas with low overburden/cover-to-void ratio
3559 present higher risks and may require more advanced investigations and construction techniques for development.
3560 Mine portals, timber chutes, airshafts, and workings which have collapsed to the surface require the greatest need
3561 for detailed engineering studies to ensure that these sites are safe for new, productive use.

3562
3563 **E-511 King County ((will)) shall encourage efforts by public and private property**
3564 **owners and the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement to return**
3565 **lands to their highest productive use by safely minimizing or eliminating coal**
3566 **mine hazards.**

3567
3568 **E-512 King County shall require all development proposals potentially subject to coal**
3569 **mine hazards to assess the mine-related hazards, including risks to structures,**
3570 **improvements, occupants and public health and safety.**

3571
3572 **E-513 King County shall allow development within coal mine hazard areas if the**
3573 **proposal includes appropriate mitigation for identified, mine-related hazards**
3574 **using best available engineering practices and if the development is in**
3575 **compliance with all other local, state, and federal requirements.**

3576
3577 ~~**((E-514 King County shall require all landowners proposing new development in coal**~~
3578 ~~**mine hazard areas to document the potential hazard on the title of the parcel or**~~
3579 ~~**parcels being developed. This notice may include reference to any available**~~
3580 ~~**technical studies or detailed hazard delineations.))**~~

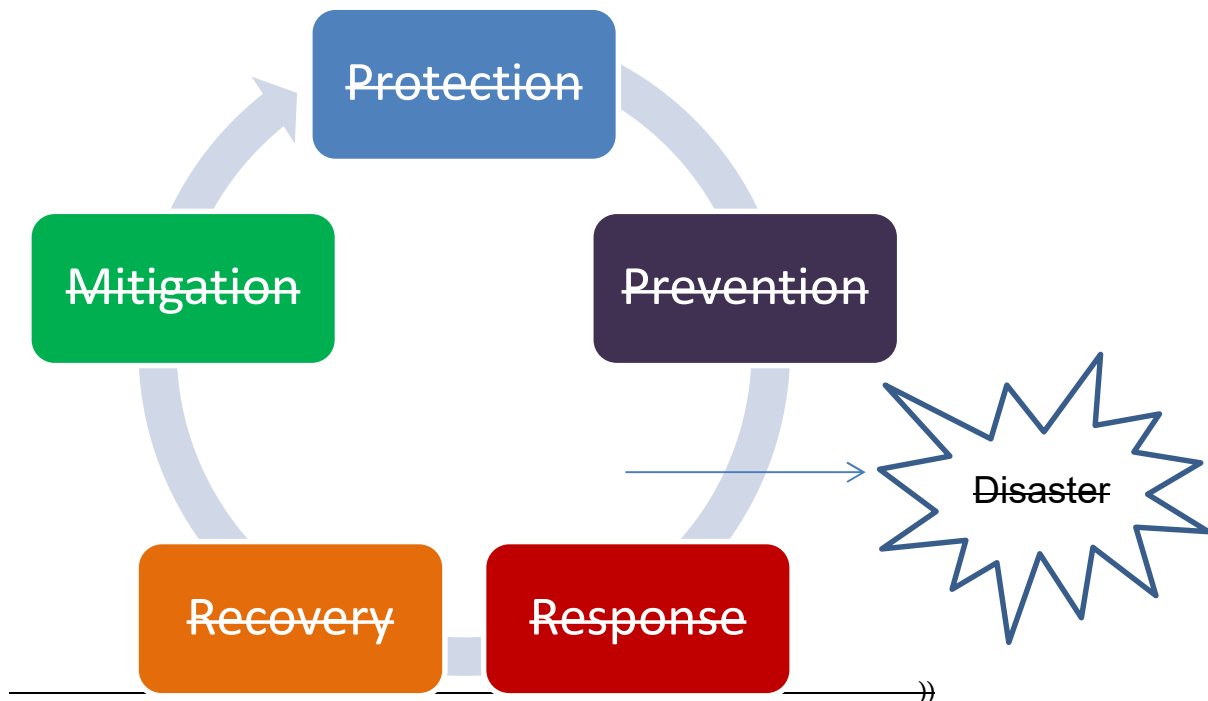
3581

3582 ~~((VI.))~~ **Planning for Disasters**

3583 King County has an active planning program, that goes beyond the land use and supporting services planning,
 3584 that occurs through the Comprehensive Plan. Based on the five phases of emergency management (protection,
 3585 prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation). ~~((F))~~this work takes into account mitigation of hazard impacts
 3586 prior to disasters, as well as the rebuilding of communities following a disaster. ~~((The following diagram~~
 3587 ~~illustrates the facets of planning for disasters.~~

3588
 3589

~~Figure: Resilient King County Planning Model~~



3590
 3591

3592 King County is susceptible to multiple hazards including earthquakes, flooding, and landslides. ~~((Based on the~~
 3593 ~~five phases of emergency management (depicted above), t))~~The process of mitigation allows the ~~((e))~~County to
 3594 build more resilient communities by assessing vulnerabilities~~((,))~~ and ~~((taking))~~ take sustained action to
 3595 permanently eliminate or reduce risk to future disasters. These actions can inform land use planning, such as in
 3596 ~~((the C))~~critical ~~((A))~~areas ~~((Ordinance))~~ regulations.

3597
 3598
 3599
 3600
 3601

When a disaster does occur, the process of recovery allows the ~~((e))~~County to review the Comprehensive Plan and its core principles, develop a recovery strategy by engaging the community, and rebuild the community in a way that sustains physical, emotional, social, and economic well-being.

3602 **E-601**
 3603
 3604

King County shall ~~((incorporate into))~~ consider high priority strategies and actions identified in the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, or successor plans, in its land use and transportation planning, economic

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3605 development efforts, and natural resource management ~~((the most promising~~
 3606 ~~actions))~~ to reduce impacts from natural hazards, such as earthquake, flooding,
 3607 and landslide risk.
 3608

3609 ~~((VII.))~~ **Monitoring and Adaptive Management**

3610 King County’s environment is constantly changing in response to land and water management actions that are
 3611 within its control, as well as climate cycles and geologic processes that are beyond human control. The
 3612 ~~((e))~~County makes significant investments in projects, programs, and policy implementation to help ensure that
 3613 its environment supports a range of ecological, cultural, and economic values that are fundamental to the
 3614 region’s quality of life.

3615
 3616 King County’s policies, regulations, and actions to protect and restore the environment need to be assessed on an
 3617 ongoing basis to ensure that they are having the intended effect, and that they are responding to changing
 3618 conditions. Efforts to protect the environment ~~((will also need to reflect))~~ requires continuous improvements in
 3619 knowledge about the natural environment and how human ~~((activity impacts))~~ activities affect ecological
 3620 systems~~((, and uncertainties about ecological and biological processes)).~~

3621
 3622 Assessing the effectiveness of specific and cumulative actions requires data collected within rigorous monitoring
 3623 programs. Monitoring provides essential information to track: (1) changes in the natural and built environment,
 3624 (2) implementation of planned and required actions (like construction of wetland mitigation projects), and (3)
 3625 effectiveness of environmental protection actions. Monitoring information ~~((can support))~~ is essential to
 3626 supporting a formal Adaptive Management program to modify policies, goals, and management decisions as
 3627 necessary, and inform regulatory change.

3628
 3629 Adaptive management can be used to help ~~((insure))~~ ensure that projects, programs, and policies are moving the
 3630 county toward its environmental goals over time. Adaptive Management is defined as the process of making
 3631 hypotheses of management outcomes, collecting data relevant to those hypotheses, and then using monitoring
 3632 data to inform changes to policies and actions to better achieve intended goals. Adaptive management concepts
 3633 are often applied in programs intended to address complex natural resource management problems, for example
 3634 in Water Resource Inventory Area plans for salmon recovery or in Habitat Conservation Plans to comply with
 3635 the Endangered Species Act. The Washington Administrative Code calls for local governments to use
 3636 monitoring and adaptive management to address uncertainties in best available science for protecting critical
 3637 areas like wetlands.

3638
 3639 King County conducts a diverse array of monitoring activities, ~~((ranging from project-specific))~~ including permit-
 3640 required monitoring of Capital Improvement Projects and legally required monitoring of municipal wastewater
 3641 and stormwater discharges in compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ~~((permit~~
 3642 ~~requirements, to))~~. Effectiveness monitoring is used to evaluate projects and programs to improve project

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3643 designs and ecosystem management activities. Ambient monitoring is performed watershed-wide ((ambient
 3644 monitoring of)), encompassing groundwater, rivers, streams, lakes, and marine waters of Puget Sound to the
 3645 extent that funding allows. For example, King County maintains a continuous water quality monitoring
 3646 program for freshwater streams, rivers, lakes, and marine waters. This long-term monitoring program informs
 3647 the County's understanding of changes in water quality over time ((including those caused by climate change,
 3648 and contributes to)) allowing for the identification of emerging pollution issues and sources of water pollution.
 3649 ((The monitoring program also allows the quantification of water quality and aquatic habitat improvements.))
 3650 The status and trends information provided by long-term monitoring programs allows for better understanding of
 3651 how systems are responding to pressures like climate change and human impacts The data collected by these
 3652 programs additionally provides the necessary baseline information for many scientific studies conducted in King
 3653 County wetlands, lakes, streams, and marine waters by ((e))County scientists, as well as scientists at universities
 3654 and state and federal agencies.

3655
 3656 Financial resources for environmental protection programs, including monitoring, are limited((—Because
 3657 baseline monitoring does not result in an actual project “on the ground,” and often is not mandated, it may)) and
 3658 generally do not compete well with other priorities for limited funding. However, investments in monitoring will
 3659 provide essential information for evaluating the effectiveness of current actions and guiding future policy
 3660 decisions, priorities, and investments. To make the most efficient use of limited resources, it is critical that the
 3661 ((e))County look for opportunities to coordinate its data collection and dissemination efforts so that they can
 3662 meet as many information needs as possible. The ((e))County should also partner with entities conducting
 3663 monitoring, including other governments and universities.

3664
 3665 When data are collected, it is important that its usefulness is maximized. “Metadata” is background information
 3666 on data, and is necessary to facilitate the understanding, use, storage, sharing, and management of data. For
 3667 example, metadata can describe how a particular data set was collected, provide definitions for types of data, and
 3668 describe the reliability of the data.

3669 **E-701** **King County should conduct a comprehensive and coordinated program of**
 3670 **environmental monitoring and assessment to track long-term changes in climate**
 3671 **((e.g.)) such as precipitation((,)) and temperature), water quality and quantity,**
 3672 **toxics in fish and shellfish, land use, land cover and aquatic and terrestrial**
 3673 **habitat, natural resource conditions, and biological resources as well as the**
 3674 **effectiveness of policies, programs, regulations, capital improvement projects,**
 3675 **and stormwater treatment facility design. This monitoring program should be**
 3676 **coordinated with other jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, Indian tribes,**
 3677 **and universities to ensure the most efficient and effective use of monitoring data.**
 3678
 3679

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3680 **E-702** King County should seek to develop and maintain a publicly accessible,
3681 geo-spatial database on environmental conditions to inform policy decisions,
3682 support technical collaboration, and inform the public. All King County
3683 monitoring data should be supported by metadata.

3684
3685 **E-703** King County should establish a decision-support system suitable for adaptive
3686 management that uses data from its environmental monitoring programs.
3687

3688 **((A-)) Performance Measurement((7)) and Performance Management ((and**
3689 **KingStat))**

3690 Like adaptive management in realm of science, performance management includes collecting data, analyzing
3691 data to inform decision-making, and making programmatic course corrections based on this analysis.

3692
3693 King County reports to the public both community-level conditions and agency performance measures.
3694 Monitoring data referenced in this chapter serves as a core element of helping elected officials and the public stay
3695 informed about the state of the environment and the effectiveness of agency programs.

3696
3697 ~~((The executive's KingStat program is using environmental monitoring data to assess environmental conditions,~~
3698 ~~develop appropriate county responses, and provide an opportunity to collaborate and partner with other~~
3699 ~~organizations in making improvements. With respect to environmental conditions, data used in KingStat~~
3700 ~~includes marine water, freshwater, terrestrial habitat, fish and wildlife, atmosphere, and resource consumption.))~~

3701
3702 **E-704** King County should continue to collect data on key natural resource
3703 management and environmental parameters for use in ~~((KingStat, King County's~~
3704 ~~Strategic Plan implementation goals and objectives, and other)) environmental~~
3705 ~~benchmarking programs. Findings should be reported to the public, partner~~
3706 ~~agencies, and decision-makers. The information collected should be used to~~
3707 ~~inform decisions about policies, work program priorities and resource allocation.~~

3708
3709 **((B-)) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Compliance**

3710 King County operates under a number of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits, including a
3711 general Phase I Municipal Stormwater permit, and a number of general Industrial and Sand and Gravel
3712 Stormwater permits for Transit, Solid Waste and Roads facilities. There are individual wastewater permits for
3713 wastewater treatment plants and a solid waste management facility. King County also is issued construction
3714 stormwater permits for capital projects involving land disturbance. Complying with these permits is a high
3715 priority for King County as part of its strategy for protecting ground and surface water quality.

3716

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3717 **E-705 King County shall fully comply with the monitoring requirements in its National**
 3718 **Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, including seeking compliance**
 3719 **strategies that are cost-effective and useful.**
 3720

3721 **~~((C-))~~ Water Resource Inventory Areas Salmon Recovery Plan**
 3722 **Implementation**

3723 The Puget Sound region has responded commendably to the listing of Puget Sound Chinook. In King County,
 3724 more than 40 jurisdictions have joined together to cooperatively lead salmon recovery in the ~~((C))~~ county's
 3725 watersheds. In the ~~((10))~~ 17 years since the plans were adopted (2006-~~((2015))~~ 2022), King County has
 3726 implemented ~~((65))~~ 80 priority salmon restoration capital projects within its jurisdiction ~~((and has initiated work~~
 3727 ~~on an additional 33))~~ in addition to dozens of small habitat projects, such riparian restoration on private lands.
 3728 King County has identified nearly 100 additional capital projects for future implementation. ~~((In))~~ Since 2011,
 3729 NMFS has conducted ~~((a))~~ several five-year assessments of progress to implement the Puget Sound Salmon
 3730 Recovery Plan. The assessments have repeatedly concluded that good habitat projects are being implemented
 3731 across Puget Sound, but that the pace of salmon recovery implementation is too slow primarily due to
 3732 insufficient funding. This is true in King County, as well; though, in recent years King County has developed
 3733 significant additional sources of local revenue to advance restoration. ~~((The salmon recovery plans for the~~
 3734 ~~Snoqualmie portion of WRIA 7, WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 hit their ten year mark in 2015-))~~ King County has
 3735 renewed interlocal agreements with its ~~((43))~~ 44 jurisdictional partners to continue to fund salmon recovery
 3736 coordination in those watersheds ~~((for the next decade))~~ through at least 2025, with the expectation of renewal
 3737 for another 10 years beyond that date.

3738
 3739 Key conclusions and recommendations from the five-year assessments ~~((completed in 2011))~~ include:

- 3740 • Habitat continues to decline, and the region needs to increase its scrutiny of the sources of habitat
 3741 decline and the tools used to protect habitat sites and ecosystem process.
- 3742 • Habitat protection needs improvement, and salmon recovery lead entities and regional groups should
 3743 advocate for stronger regulatory programs to protect habitat.
- 3744 • While extensive habitat work has taken place across King County and in the broader Puget Sound,
 3745 funding has fallen well short of the need as identified in the work plans that have been developed in
 3746 each watershed. Moreover, most sources only fund on-the-ground projects rather than the staffing that
 3747 is needed to plan and coordinate overall recovery efforts.
- 3748 • ~~((Adaptive Management Plans are not completed: A process should be established to recognize~~
 3749 ~~changes that are being made to Recovery Plan strategies as implementation proceeds-))~~

3750
 3751 Although Water Resource Inventory Area plans are Chinook salmon-focused, they are expected to also provide
 3752 the basis for recovery planning for other listed aquatic species, including Orcas, steelhead and bull trout.
 3753

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3754 **E-706** King County should work with other Water Resource Inventory Area salmon
3755 recovery plan partners to establish a program (framework and methodology) for
3756 monitoring project specific and cumulative effectiveness of King County
3757 salmonid recovery actions. This program should include data collection and
3758 analysis and should provide information to guide an adaptive management
3759 approach to salmonid recovery.

3760
3761 **E-707** King County shall continue to coordinate with other governments, agencies,
3762 Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations and others to develop and
3763 implement regional and watershed-based Monitoring and Adaptive Management
3764 programs focused on achieving salmon recovery goals. The programs shall
3765 continue to include monitoring of salmon populations and habitat status and
3766 trends over time in order for the ((e))County and its partners in salmon recovery
3767 to be able to access the overall trajectory of salmon recovery efforts.

3768

3769 **~~((D-))~~ Effectiveness of Critical Areas Regulations**

3770 Under the Growth Management Act, all counties and cities are required to periodically review their
3771 comprehensive plans and development regulations, including critical area regulations, for consistency with the
3772 Growth Management Act. Growth Management Act also requires local governments to include best available
3773 science in the development of land use policies and regulations to protect the functions and values of critical
3774 areas. Washington State Department of Commerce procedural criteria for adoption of comprehensive plans and
3775 development regulations provide direction on how local governments should include best available science in
3776 their critical area regulations ((Washington Administrative Code)) Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative
3777 Code). The procedural criteria call for the use of a precautionary approach, in which development and land use
3778 activities are strictly limited until the uncertainty is sufficiently resolved, where the science is uncertain.

3779

3780 Coupled with this precautionary approach should be an adaptive management program that allows for changes
3781 to regulations as new information comes in to address uncertainties. ((The a))Adaptive management program is
3782 dependent upon a monitoring program that is designed to obtain the information needed to determine the
3783 effectiveness of regulations.

3784

3785 **E-708** King County should implement a framework for effectiveness monitoring of
3786 critical areas regulations, and use monitoring data to inform the future review
3787 and updates of its critical areas policies and regulations.

3788

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
E-101 In addition to its regulatory authority, King County should use incentives to protect and restore the natural environment whenever practicable. Incentives ((shall) <u>should</u>) be monitored and periodically reviewed to determine their effectiveness ((in terms of) <u>at protecting and restoring</u> natural resources.	Substantive change	To reflect current practice policy goals. This occurs when the County has available resources, in consideration of various regulatory priorities, but cannot always do it. For example, the County is reviewing the critical area regulations, including incentives, as part of the 2024 update; but this does not include globally looking at all incentives code. Other edits for clarity, consistent with existing intent	None; reflects current practice	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy is weakened by changing "shall" to "should." If Councilmembers wish to retain "shall" language, Executive staff state that they would need to implement a formal monitoring and review scheme. Executive staff narrative states that there are not available resources for this.
E-102a King County ((will) <u>shall</u>) consider environmental justice and climate ((justice) <u>equity</u>) impacts and disparities in its planning, projects and services <u>to assess and mitigate unintended impacts on frontline communities and to ensure solutions that enhance conditions for people and the environment.</u>	Substantive change	Additional updates to advance equity goals Clarifying edits to reflect that current terminology and that "will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen	Reductions in inequities for priority populations	Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan Strategic Climate Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthens policy by requiring mitigation and solutions that enhance conditions for frontline communities, not just "consideration" of impacts. This is a policy choice.
E-103 King County should coordinate with local jurisdictions, universities, federal and state agencies, <u>Indian</u> tribes, special interest groups, special districts, businesses, and residents to implement, monitor, and update Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans for all areas of King County.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-104 Development of environmental regulations, restoration, and mitigation projects, and incentive and stewardship programs should be coordinated with local jurisdictions, federal and state agencies, <u>Indian</u> tribes, special interest groups, and residents when conserving and restoring the natural environment consistent with Urban Growth Area, Rural Area, and designated Natural Resource Land goals.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-105 Environmental quality and important ecological functions shall be protected and hazards to health and property shall be minimized through development reviews and implementation of land use plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, <u>the Strategic Climate Action Plan</u> , stormwater management plans and programs, flood hazard management plans, environmental monitoring programs, and park ((master) <u>management</u>) plans, <u>as well as focused ongoing efforts such as the fish passage restoration program, Land Conservation Initiative, 30-Year Forest Plan, and Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan.</u> Implementation of ((T)) <u>these plans and programs</u> ((shall) <u>should</u>) also encourage stewardship and restoration of critical areas as defined in the Growth Management Act, ((and include) <u>such as including</u> an adaptive management approach.	Substantive change	To ensure that that environmental protection and hazard reduction strategies also include these additional initiatives, consistent with existing practice and policy intent Clarifies that not all existing or added plans/initiatives also encourage stewardship and restoration	More plans and initiatives work to protect ecological functions and minimize health and property hazards, resulting in improved environmental outcomes	Strategic Climate Action Plan Land Conservation Initiative 30-Year Forest Plan Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SCAP is only adopted by motion. Including it in a "shall" policy elevates it to the level of a requirement, which is a policy choice. The 30-Year Forest Management Plan and Clean Water Healthy Habitat plan are Executive initiatives that have not been Council adopted. Including them in the Comprehensive Plan, particularly in a "shall" policy, elevates them to County policy documents, without the Council weighing in on the underlying policies in the plans. Typically these agency-level plans are not named in the Comprehensive

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
						Plan. References to them could be removed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The last sentence changes from "shall" to "should," weakening the policy regarding stewardship and restoration of critical areas.
Policy E-108	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-110 Surface waters designated by the state as Water Quality Impaired under the Clean Water Act (water bodies included in Category 5 of the Water Quality Assessment) shall be improved through monitoring, source controls, best management practices, enforcement of existing codes, and, where applicable, implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load plans. The water quality of other water bodies shall be protected or improved through these same measures.	Policy Staff Flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy only states what is already required by law. It could be removed
((E-111 King County shall evaluate development proposals subject to drainage review in unincorporated King County to assess whether the proposed actions are likely to cause or contribute to violations of Washington State water quality standards in receiving waters for individual pollutants of concern and identify mitigation or requirements to avoid the impacts when appropriate.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	These are requirements in the Surface Water Design Manual and does not need to be a policy.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-112 When environmental monitoring, testing, or reliable data indicates human activities have caused impaired water quality, such as increased water temperature, fecal contamination, low oxygen, excess nutrients, metals, or other contaminants, King County shall take actions ((which will)) that help moderate those impairments.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy only states what is already required by law. It could be removed.
Policy E-112a						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-113 King County should actively participate in updating and implementing the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda, through the <u>Puyallup-White River, South Central Action Area Caucus Group ((and)), Snohomish-Stillaguamish, and West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery Local Integrating Organizations</u> , consistent with King County goals.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Updates to current context	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-114 King County should collaborate with other watershed forum partners to ensure that recommendations of watershed-based salmon recovery plans, <u>goals for regional stormwater controls, and goals for human and community health</u> for King County are integrated with the Puget Sound Partnership recommendations.	Substantive change	To further support current and planned regional stormwater and health planning goals and efforts, including the Stormwater Summit series	Improved outcomes for stormwater management and human health	Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Regional Stormwater Investment Planning Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The goals added here do not necessarily come from watershed forum partners. Executive staff indicate that the underlying language could be retained and a new policy could be added for clarity.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
E-115a King County shall ((exercise its authority under Revised Code of Washington 17.10 to)) : ((4)) a. ((establish a)) Work with the King ((e)) County ((n)) noxious ((w)) Weed ((e)) Control ((b)) Board to provide public oversight and direction of the County's Noxious Weed Control Program; and ((2)) b. ((i)) Implement a program of activities that minimizes the impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, economy, recreation, and public health within the ((G)) county; and c. Adopt regulations to ensure control of noxious weeds and weeds of concern as identified by the Noxious Weed Control Board.	Substantive Change	Updates for clarity and to reflect current context and practice, including existing implementing regulations in K.C.C. Title 21A	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This would require the County to adopt regulations to ensure control of noxious weeds. Executive staff state that the County's Noxious Weed Control Board already adopts regulations, but only the Council has authority to adopt regulations for the County. "Adopt rules" would be more consistent with the Noxious Weed Control Board's role.
E-200 The 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans, should guide the planning, development, and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction goals and actions, equitable and community-driven climate solutions, and policies and actions that reduce climate change vulnerabilities and increase climate resilience.	New policy	Supports the role of the Strategic Climate Action Plan in guiding climate action across the County, consistent with new Growth Management Act climate change planning goal	Ensures integrity of climate action in greenhouse gas goals, the application of climate equity, and the planning and implementation of resilience efforts for all County communities, with emphasis on frontline communities.	Strategic Climate Action Plan 2023 House Bill 1181	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified. As the 2020 SCAP is adopted by motion, including it as a "should" policy is consistent with existing Council action.
((E-205)) E-201 King County shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ((all facets of)) its operations and actions, including but limited to those associated with construction and management of ((e)) County-owned facilities, infrastructure development, transportation, and environmental protection programs to achieve the emissions reductions targets set in ((E-206)) E-202 and to work towards the carbon neutral goal in F-215b.	Substantive Change	Edits for clarity, and to reflect policy number changes	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantive typo "including but limited to" that should be corrected to align with Executive intent
((E-206)) E-202 King County shall reduce total greenhouse gas emissions from government operations, compared to a 2007 baseline by at least ((25%)) 50 percent by ((2020)) 2025 and ((50%)) 80 percent by 2030.	Substantive change	Strengthens targets to be consistent with Strategic Climate Action Plan	Accelerated actions supporting reduction in greenhouse gas reductions	Strategic Climate Action Plan County operational greenhouse gas goal and GHG 2 performance measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Existing regulations in K.C.C. Title 18 Anticipated resource need: Yes Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets consistent with the 2020 SCAP. However, as the SCAP is only adopted by motion, this "shall" policy raises those targets to the level of requirements. According to the recently transmitted SCAP report, as of 2022, operational emissions have decreased by 30% below 2007 levels but it is not clear the decrease can be sustained as a portion of the decrease is attributable to reduced transit service in the wake of the pandemic. While Executive staff indicate they have identified actions to try to meet the 2025 target, it is unclear if it is achievable given existing staffing and budget constraints, especially since it will be 2025 when the Comp Plan is effective.

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((E-206a)) E-203 King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks, including the Wastewater Treatment Division, Solid Waste Division, Parks and Recreation Division, and Water and Land Resource Division, ((shall)) should achieve, <u>at a minimum, net carbon neutrality ((for its operations by 2017)) on an annual basis.</u>	Substantive change	To reflect targets in the Strategic Climate Action Plan Change from "should" to "shall" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans and practices, but reflects that there may be measures beyond County control that could limit implement of the policy as a mandate	No additional changes; reflects existing plans and practices	Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the Executive narrative says that the change from "shall" to "should" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans (i.e. the SCAP), both the ordinance and the SCAP say "shall." Although the SCAP is adopted by motion and therefore does not carry the force of law, Ordinance 17971 does.
((E-206b)) E-204 King County's Wastewater Treatment Division and Solid Waste Division ((shall)) should each independently achieve carbon-neutral operations by 2025.	Substantive change	Change from "should" to "shall" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans and practices, but reflects that there may be measures beyond County control that could limit implement of the policy as a mandate	No additional changes; reflects existing plans and practices	Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the Executive narrative says that the change from "shall" to "should" remains consistent with Ordinance 17971 and current plans (i.e. the SCAP), both the ordinance and the SCAP say "shall." Although the SCAP is adopted by motion and therefore does not carry the force of law, Ordinance 17971 does. According to Executive staff, this target is not on track. The change from "shall" to "should" here removes the mandate in the comp Plan that it be met; however, Councilmembers may want to consider amending Ordinance 17971 to remove the mandate there as well.
((E-207)) E-205 King County shall ((develop and)) continue to implement an operational "social cost of carbon." The social cost of carbon should be used in life-cycle assessments and decision making related to County operations, including for purchase of vehicles, buses and fuels, for facility construction and resource efficiency projects, and for related technology investments. ((King County should also pursue using the cost of carbon to inform broader County planning and decision-making.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Reflects that operational cost of carbon has been developed and is in use. Updated to align with K.C.C. 18.20.015, cost of carbon defined term is "social cost of carbon" Note that this was an outstanding 2016 Work Plan Action 5 "Implementation Needs" item, which has related code changes proposed in K.C.C. Chapter 21A.17 to implement policy amendments adopted in 2016	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County would no longer be required to pursue using the social cost of carbon to inform broader County planning and decision-making outside of the sectors specifically listed. Executive staff state that climate and GHG emission impacts are being considered in those broader contexts and using the social cost of carbon may not be appropriate in all circumstances.
((E-208 King County shall maximize the creation of resources from waste products from county operations such as gases produced by wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal in a manner that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and produces renewable energy.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Duplicative of F-310	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-209)) E-207 King County ((will)) shall continue to evaluate its own maintenance and operations practices, including procurement, for opportunities to reduce its own emissions or emissions produced in the manufacturing of products.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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<p>((E-210)) <u>E-209</u> King County shall ((collaborate)), independently and in collaboration with ((its)) cities(,) and other partners, ((to reduce countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050)) <u>adopt and implement policies and programs to achieve a target of reducing countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007 baseline, by 50 percent by 2030, 75 percent by 2040, and 95 percent, including net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other strategies, by 2050. King County shall evaluate and update these targets over time in consideration of the latest international climate science and statewide targets aiming to limit the most severe impacts of climate change and keep global warming under 1.5 degrees C</u></p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>To align with 2021 Countywide Planning Policies. During development of the 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan, the County knew that needed stronger greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets were needed, but determined it would be best to adopt stronger targets in coordination and collaboration with cities through the Countywide Planning Policies. So, there is a direction in the Strategic Climate Action Plan to "strengthen long-term countywide GHG targets to reflect public input and science... King County commits to work with cities and partners to analyze pathways to more ambitious targets, including a 2050 carbon neutral target, and to develop recommendations to shared GHG reduction targets as part of the next update to Countywide Planning Policies, planned for 2021." Based on that direction and in coordination/ collaboration with the cities, stronger targets were adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies. Given this, the 2024 Comprehensive Plan proposes to use the Countywide Planning Policy greenhouse gas reduction targets, rather than those in the Strategic Climate Action Plan.</p>	<p>Accelerated actions supporting reduction in greenhouse gas reductions</p>	<p>Countywide Planning Policy EN-27 Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 1.1.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> Regulatory and Programmatic • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> Commensurate proposed target changes in K.C.C. 18.25.010 <p>Proposed code changes in K.C.C. Title 21A to incentivize development of middle housing near transit</p> <p>Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> Yes • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligns with CPP requirements for greenhouse gas emissions reductions. • It should be noted that the Executive states that significant additional resources are needed to meet this requirement. As emissions rose 11% between 2007 and 2019, a reduction of 50% below 2007 levels within seven years is unlikely without additional resources. Additionally, Executive staff are assuming that existing state, federal, and other policies could contribute more than half the reductions for 2030, however, these initiatives and their success in reducing GHGs are outside of the County's control. • The phrase "and 95 percent, including net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other strategies," is not accurate, as net-zero is <i>in addition to</i> the 95%, not <i>included</i> the 95%. This language could be clarified.
<p>((E-212 King County will work with its cities and other partners to establish a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide targets.))</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>The policy direction has been completed, and is substantively redundant to revised policies E-216 and E-217</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.
<p>((E-213)) <u>E-210</u> King County should ensure that its land use policies, development and building regulations, technical assistance programs, and incentive programs support and encourage the use of viable renewable energy, energy efficiency, and fossil fuel reduction and transition technologies that ((have)) produce zero or minimal greenhouse gas emissions, while considering equity and racial and social justice siting impacts.</p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>To reflect: current status of County regulations and programs, as well as future intention to continue this moving forward; reflect additional measures to reduce greenhouse gases and move towards elimination of fossil fuel use in the built environment; and environmental justice considerations</p>	<p>Increased use of greenhouse gas-reducing technologies, in consideration of siting impacts on priority populations</p>	<p>Strategic Climate Action Plan – Building Energy – Countywide – Performance Measure 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> Regulatory and Programmatic • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.

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<u>E-211 King County shall develop and implement building and energy codes that reduce energy use and phase out fossil fuel use in the built environment within King County's jurisdiction.</u>	New policy	Recognizes the important role building and energy codes play in to support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County	New construction and retrofits of buildings within King County's jurisdiction reduce their energy use and phase out use of fossil fuels esp. natural gas	Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions GHG 3.3.1, GHG 3.6.1 and GHG 4.03.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024. Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed code changes in 2024 are anticipated. Those code changes should be adopted concurrently with the KCCP to comply with K.C.C. 20.18.090. Alternatively, a requirement to transmit the Proposed Ordinance within a certain timeframe could be added.
<u>E-212 King County shall support:</u> a. <u>Stronger Washington State building and energy codes and policies that reduce energy use, reduce the embodied carbon of materials, phase out fossil fuel use, and support deployment of electric vehicles and clean energy; and</u> b. <u>Increased state resources for local code development and implementation.</u>	New policy	Recognizes the important role the state plays in development of local codes to support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County	State building and energy codes are strengthened to support reduced energy use in the state and throughout the county; increased resources for local implementation	Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 4.02.01 and Performance Measure GHG 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<u>E-213 King County should work with other local building officials and staff, as well as community partners and the building industry, to effectively implement energy and building codes that reduce energy use and embodied carbon of materials and phase out fossil fuel use.</u>	New policy	Recognizes the role King County can play as a leader in efforts, and to the importance of collaboration to, support goals to phase out fossil fuel use in unincorporated King County	Cities adopt building energy codes that result in reduced greenhouse gases from buildings in throughout the county	Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 4.02.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<u>E-214 King County shall develop and implement countywide community-scale built environment programs and policies that:</u> a. <u>Reduce energy use, increase the use of renewable energy, and phase out the use of fossil fuels, such as: energy loan, residential efficiency retrofits; and fossil fuel reduction and transition incentives and programs; and</u> b. <u>Prioritize access and affordability of solutions for frontline communities, especially for low-income, senior, and renter households.</u>	New policy	Supports strategies to implement programs that reduce energy use community wide, including programs that support frontline communities	Reduced greenhouse gases throughout the county	Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Action GHG 3.1.1, GHG 3.5.1, and GHG 3.10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes in 2024. <p>Recent adoption of Ordinance 19360 (as amended by Ordinance 19449), which launched a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency program that enables commercial and multi-family property owners to finance efficiency, renewable, and resiliency improvements to their facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated resource need: Has current authority and an funded pilot program; scale of future programs will be dependent on scale of future funding (federal state, and/or local funding, grants, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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<p>((E-214)) E-215 King County, through its Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations, should promote healthy community designs that enable ((walking, bicycling,)) active transportation and public transit use, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and regional air pollution.</p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>To reflect current terminology</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> Ongoing • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Active Transportation" is a broader category than walking and biking; it also includes equestrian travel and micromobility devices such as e-bikes and e-scooters, among other things. The Department of Commerce's 2023 checklist for comprehensive plan updates does require an active transportation component, but whether any given policy addresses all active transportation or a subset (such as walking and bicycling) is a policy choice.
<p>E-215 King County shall evaluate proposed actions subject to the State Environmental Policy Act for their greenhouse gas emissions. King County may exercise its substantive authority under the State Environmental Policy Act to condition or deny proposed actions in order to mitigate associated individual or cumulative impacts to global warming. In exercising its authority under this policy, King County should consider project types that are presumed to be not significant in generating greenhouse gas emissions and do not require review for their greenhouse gas emissions. (Any standards related to consideration of greenhouse gas emissions through the State Environmental Policy Act process shall be subject to Council review and adoption by ordinance.)</p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>Under state law, evaluating proposals under the State Environmental Policy Act requires consideration of impacts, and mitigation where appropriate, to air quality, including greenhouse gas emissions. A separate policy is not needed to reflect this mandate.</p>	<p>None; continues implementation of existing mandates under the State Environmental Policy Act</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> Programmatic • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> No • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This policy was the subject of Work Plan Action 21, added in the 2020 Comp Plan update. It required, in part, "completion of a study evaluating options for implementing greenhouse gas mitigation from all development projects requiring SEPA review, as allowed in Comprehensive Plan Policy E-215." • The required report was transmitted as 2022-RPT0087 and stated that 1) new state laws prohibit the County from requiring GHG mitigation from the largest emitters and 2) that they evaluated options for requiring mitigation from smaller emitters – carbon credits and offsets, and requiring use of low-embodied-carbon materials – was not recommended due to lack of precedent at the local level. • Removal of this policy does not prohibit the County from using its substantive authority under SEPA to mitigate emissions from individual projects; it instead removes the requirement that Council approves standards before it does so. This is a policy choice.

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<p>((E-202)) <u>E-216</u> King County shall ((assess and publicly report on: a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas emissions associated with county operations; b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and other local government activities; and c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated with local consumption)); <u>a. Assess and publicly report on countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and local government buildings, vehicles, and solid waste at least every two years;</u> <u>b. Update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions and emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years; and</u> <u>c. Develop city-specific emissions inventories and data, in partnership with cities.</u></p>	Substantive change	<p>To align with Countywide Planning Policies and Strategic Climate Action Plan</p> <p>Sub-a is now substantively captured in E-217</p>	Timely data, which can identify how greenhouse gas reduction actions are working and inform where changes may be needed to achieve goals and targets	<p>Countywide Planning Policy EN-29</p> <p>Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions GHG 1.2.1. and GHG 1.2.2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Existing regulations in K.C.C. Title 18 Anticipated resource need: These activities are currently funded but will need ongoing support. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with CPPs. Strengthens policy by adding timelines for countywide reporting. This would mean that recent data is available for tracking of the County's progress towards its Greenhouse Gas emission reduction goals. Would require King County to develop city-specific inventories and data in partnership with cities, as required in the CPPs. As noted in the implementation column, these activities will require ongoing appropriations.
<p>((E-203)) <u>E-217</u> King County ((shall collaborate to set transparent standards to account for the net energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of government actions such as constructing transportation infrastructure and providing services such as recycling and transit and shall)) <u>should assess and ((publically)) publicly report on ((these impacts as practicable)) the net energy and net greenhouse gas impacts of the County providing services, such as recycling and public transit, and constructing infrastructure, using best practice accounting standards.</u></p>	Substantive change	<p>The current policy was written in time when made more sense to invest in quantification approach development. However, these are not targets that the County tracks in the current Strategic Climate Action Plan. These are metrics that departments have sometimes used on their own; for example, Metro has reported this value. But because it is not across the board, it is reoriented to a should, and revised to focus on assessing and reporting rather than developing standards.</p>	No change; aligns with current practice	Strategic Climate Action Plan metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy is weakened compared to the language in the deleted subsection a. of the policy above, which is a policy choice. Previously, it said that King County "shall" assess and publicly report on its operational energy usage and GHG emissions. Now this is changed to a "should," and changed to "net" rather than "total," and is limit to certain sectors. The County has not published detailed inventories of its own operational emissions in several years, in favor of providing broader summaries of trends in the SCAP and SCAP progress reports.
<p><u>E-218</u> King County shall prioritize and support ongoing partnerships with frontline communities in co-development and implementation of County climate planning, policies, and programs.</p>	New policy	<p>As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports frontline community leadership focus area of the Strategic Climate Action Plan</p>	Co-development of equitable climate solutions	Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Focus Area 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed for community compensation and engagement across King County departments relating to climate action. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-219, and E-220 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice.
<p><u>E-219</u> King County shall invest in and enable culturally and linguistically contextualized climate change education that builds frontline communities' capacity to engage on climate change impacts and solutions.</p>	New policy	<p>As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports community capacity building focus area of the Strategic Climate Action Plan</p> <p>Examples includes Strategic Climate Action Plan Priority Actions SRFC 4.1.1: "... opportunities for frontline communities to co-create</p>	Climate literacy investments for frontline communities	Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Priority Actions SRFC 2.1.1, SRFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed for multilanguage, relevant climate change communications across King County. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-218, and E-220 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice. In terms of the resource need, Exec staff state that the amount of resource

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		communications around climate events and health, access emergency resources and warnings, and collaborate on training events and climate-related health impacts while reducing access and participation barriers."		2.3.1, and SRFC 4.1.1		need has not been quantified, but more funding is needed to support building frontline community capacity to engage on climate impacts and solutions.
E-220 King County shall invest in climate solutions that result in equitable outcomes that benefit frontline communities by: a. Centering and funding access and pathways to living wage green jobs and careers for frontline communities, including youth and Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color populations; b. Providing frontline communities with resources and support to respond to extreme weather events and public health emergencies through culturally relevant strategies and avenues; c. Supporting a just food economy that increases affordability and access to healthy foods; d. Addressing housing insecurities intensified by climate change through programs and resources expanding frontline community access to climate-resilient housing and anti-displacement strategies; e. Prioritizing an affordable transition to renewable energy infrastructure and utility assistance; and f. Expanding public transportation mobility access and climate-resilient infrastructure for frontline communities in greatest need of public transit.	New policy	As part of new Climate Equity section of the Comprehensive Plan, supports green jobs, community health, food justice, housing security, energy and utilities justice, and transportation and mobility access goals of the Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section of the Strategic Climate Action Plan	Frontline communities are beneficiaries of co-benefit climate solutions	Strategic Climate Action Plan Sustainable and Resilient Frontline Communities Section Focus Areas 3,4,5,6,7, and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Capital Projects and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: Resources needed to ensure climate planning and climate action account for subs-a, b, c, d, and e in planning, coordination, and prioritization that of solutions that include frontline communities. Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third of three new policies related to climate equity, taken out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy, E-218, and E-219 are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice.
E-221 King County shall take actions that equitably reduce climate change vulnerabilities and increase the resilience of King County residents, communities, natural systems, and the built environment by: a. Integrating and accounting for climate impacts in policies, plans, practices, and procedures, and implementing climate-resilient decisions; b. Investing in and using data and other technical information to inform climate preparedness work at King County; c. Prioritizing health and equity in climate preparedness actions and activities; d. Strengthening collaborations and partnerships to address countywide climate impacts and increase regional resilience; and e. Investing in public outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to climate preparedness.	New policy	New overarching goal statement based on climate preparedness vision of success in the Strategic Climate Action Plan, and the five strategic priorities established to guide that work	Residents have improved and equitable climate change resilience	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 1-5, including Prep 1.1.1, 2.2.4, 3.1.1, 4.1.1, and 5.1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory, Capital Projects, and Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: Proposed changes to K.C.C. Chapter 16.82 to remove permitting barriers for vegetation management for wildfire risk reduction Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a shall policy coming out of the SCAP. The SCAP is adopted by motion, which does not have the force of law. "Shall" policies such as those in this policy are stronger than they would be in the SCAP. Adding this policy to the KCCP is a policy choice.
(E-215b) E-222 King County (will) shall plan and prepare for the likely impacts of climate change on County-owned facilities, infrastructure, and natural resources.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
(E-215b) E-223 King County (should) shall develop and implement regulations that help mitigate and build (resiliency) resilience to the anticipated impacts of climate change, based on best available information. Such impacts could include sea level rise, changes in rainfall patterns and flood volumes and frequencies, changes in average and extreme temperatures and weather, impacts to forests including increased wildfires, droughts (and pest	Substantive change	Strengthened to "shall" to reflect that we're already doing this and intend to continue to do so. Other clarifying edits to reflect that we cannot ensure mitigation for and building resiliency to all	Improved resilience to climate change	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted updates to the flood code in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24 and establishment and regulation of the Sea Level Rise Risk Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy strengthened from "should" to "shall". Exec staff indicate that, as the County is already undertaking this work, no additional resource impacts are anticipated.

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infiltrations), disease, and insect attacks. Methods could include mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, establishing sea level rise regulations, managing existing and limiting new development in floodplains, and/or strengthening forests ability to withstand impacts.		<p>listed impacts, and that the listed impacts change over time.</p> <p>Added disease as a missing impact for forests (e.g., harmful funguses) and changed from "pest infiltrations" to "insect attacks" to be consistent with terminology used in forest management.</p> <p>Connections between development and flooding is added as an additional mitigating method of climate change impacts, consistent with existing regulations and a input from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.</p>			<p>Proposed changes to K.C.C. Chapter 16.82 to remove permitting barriers for vegetation management for wildfire risk reduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New regulations for landscape management in wildfire risk areas are included in proposed ordinance. Updated in Draft Critical Areas Ordinance.
(E-219) E-224 King County shall integrate estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change impacts into capital project planning, siting, design, and construction and (a)se) implement infrastructure operation and maintenance programs that consider full life-cycle costs and climate change impacts in asset management.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
(E-216) E-225 King County shall integrate observed and projected climate change impacts, including severe weather, extreme heat, flooding, drought, wildfire, and landslides, into emergency management planning and programs.	Substantive change	<p>Updates to reflect current context and existing practice</p> <p>Creates additional policy support for the planned 2025 update of the King County Hazard Mitigation Plan and King County Extreme Heat Strategy anticipated in 2024</p>	No change; reflects existing practice	<p>Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 1</p> <p>King County Hazard Mitigation Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
(E-223) E-226 King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on habitat for salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range conservation plans and prioritizing habitat protection and restoration actions.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Relocation of policy without edit	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
(E-224) E-227 To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species, King County should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of floodplains to improve the resilience of major rivers to changing flow regimes and temperatures; the protection and restoration of riparian vegetation and mature and old-growth forests to reduce warming in cold water systems, of wetlands to reduce drought and flooding, and of connections between different habitats to maintain current seasonal migration; and facilitate migration opportunities for species whose ranges shift in latitude and altitude.	Substantive change	To recognize importance of mature and old growth forests to integrity of ecosystems, and support associated proposed Work Plan action	Additional protection and restoration of mature and old growth forests	<p>30-Year Forest Plan</p> <p>Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
(E-204) E-228 King County shall collaborate with experts in the field of climate change, including scientists at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, or successor groups, to monitor, assess, and publicly share information about the impacts of	Clarification of existing policy intent	To make policy more timeless, in case the name of the referenced group changes	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be combined with E-229.

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climate change in King County.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated timeline: n/a 	
((E-215e)) E-229 King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state and federal agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed, science-based estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change, including impacts on air temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, forest health and wildfire, public health river flooding, sea level rise, biodiversity (including fish and wildlife), and ocean acidification ((in King County)).	Substantive change	Expands the list of impacts that this policy applies to, while also ensuring that the work of this policy is not limited only to the items listed here, and consolidates E-222.	More comprehensive collaboration with scientific community, which can better inform climate change actions	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 2, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be combined with E-228. Councilmembers could also consider aligning the "shall"/"should" of the two policies. Updated in Draft CAO
Policy E-230						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
((E-220)) E-231 King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change impacts on natural resources that its resource programs are designed to protect, such as open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and water quality and treatment, ((in order)) to assess and improve the efficacy of existing strategies and commitments.	Technical change	Grammar and relocation	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-218)) E-232 King County shall ((apply its Equity Impact Review process)) use equity impact reviews to help prioritize investments in making infrastructure, natural resources, and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change.	Clarification of existing intent	Reflects current terminology and new defined term in the Comprehensive Plan	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-225)) E-233 Through land use and transportation actions, King County should work to reduce ((air quality and)) climate change ((related)) health inequities ((and)) related to the exposure of vulnerable populations to poor air quality and extreme weather events.	Clarification of existing intent	Edits for clarity and streamlining	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-226)) E-234 King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts public health messages related to the health implications of climate change, particularly in urban communities, and the benefits of actions((-such as using alternative transportation options that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and improve public health)) that can reduce climate impacts on health.	Clarification of existing intent	Clarified to include clear connection to climate change and health impacts. Removed examples because the phrasing seemed like it was putting the burden of taking alternative transportation on those whose health is affected.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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((E-215a)) E-235 King County ((will)) shall collaborate with local cities, residents, and other partners to prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change on the environment, natural resources, human health, public safety, infrastructure, and the economy.	Substantive Change	Updates for clarity, to reflect current context, and consolidation of E-217 "Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> King County would now be required to adapt to, not just prepare for, climate change impacts. This would acknowledge that climate impacts are already occurring. Preparation for climate impacts involves developing strategies, policies, and plans that aim to reduce vulnerability to future climate impacts, whereas adaptation involves modifying practices, systems, and behaviors to cope with the changes that are happening or are anticipated. This requirement is a policy choice, but is consistent with the SCAP. Infrastructure and natural resources are new areas of preparation and adaptation. This acknowledges that the grey infrastructure (roads, pipes, facilities, etc.) and green infrastructure (forests, floodplains, wetlands, soils, etc.) that King County manages and depends on are vulnerable to climate threats.
((E-215d)) E-236 King County ((should)) shall share information on climate change impacts and collaborate on approaches to improving ((resiliency of)) infrastructure resilience, disaster preparedness, and public engagement with ((local)) cities and other partners to ((make the best use of limited resources and)) more efficiently and effectively engage King County residents.	Substantive change	Strengthened to "shall" to reflect current practice Other edits for clarity, consistent with existing intent	No change; reflects current practice	2020 SCAP Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthens "should" to "shall", requiring the County to share information on climate change information. This is consistent with how E-235 is written, which already requires collaboration.
E-237 King County should implement and support equitable outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to reducing climate risks. This should include providing information on climate change impacts in King County, local efforts to address climate change, and actions that individuals and communities can take to reduce climate risks.	New policy	To align with strategic focus in the Strategic Climate Action Plan to include climate preparedness in outreach, engagement, and technical assistance	Supports future ongoing and future investments in climate communications that are equitable	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Area 5; Priority Actions SRFC 2.1.1, SRFC 2.3.1, and SRFC 4.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-218 through E-221, which involve work with and for frontline communities, are all "shall" policies, although the things the County "shall" do in E-218 through E-220 are potentially softer – "shall prioritize," "shall invest in." This one about equitable engagement on reducing climate risks is the only "should" policy relating to the topic, although the action – "implement" – is potentially stronger than "prioritize" or "invest in." The level of mandate in each of these policies is a policy choice. Use of "shall" with concrete actions may require the County to appropriate additional funding.
E-217 King County will work with its cities and other partners to formulate and implement climate change adaptation strategies that address the impacts of climate change to public health and safety, the economy, public and private infrastructure, water resources, and habitat.	Clarification of existing intent	Consolidated with E-235	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-222 King County should collaborate with climate scientists in order to increase knowledge of current and projected climate change	Clarification of existing intent	Consolidated with E-229	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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impacts to biodiversity.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	
((E-204)) E-238 King County ((should)) shall participate in and support appropriate local, regional and national efforts and organizations focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, <u>advancing climate equity</u> , and preparing for climate change impacts.	Substantive change	Strengthened to "shall" and account for equity to reflect current practice	No change; reflects current practice	Aligned with Strategic Climate Action Plan identified actions where King County role is "convener"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-227)) E-239 King County shall support ((s)) a comprehensive federal, regional and state science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon pollution and other greenhouse gas emissions. A portion of revenue from these policies should support local greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts, such as funding for transit service, energy efficiency and fossil fuel reduction projects, and forest protection and restoration initiatives; <u>efforts that advance climate equity and frontline community investments; and climate preparedness and resilience efforts.</u> King County shall also support ((s)) renewable energy standards for electricity production and vehicle efficiency performance standards.	Substantive change	Reoriented from statements to policy directives, consistent with existing intent Additional changes to support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and reflect Strategic Climate Action Plan focus areas	Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals	Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-228)) E-240 King County ((should)) shall advocate for federal, regional and state initiatives and grant and loan programs that support local investments in projects and programs, such as community solar, <u>fossil fuel reduction</u> , ((and)) energy efficiency retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, <u>climate equity</u> , and ((prepare)) <u>preparedness strategies</u> for climate change impacts.	Substantive change	Strengthened to a "shall" to reflect existing work and intent to continue to do so into the future. Additional changes to support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and reflect Strategic Climate Action Plan focus areas	Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals	Strategic Climate Action Plan GHG 1.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is strengthened to require the County advocate for climate change impact-related projects and programs.
((E-229)) E-241 King County shall work with ((the business community)) <u>relevant industry sector partners</u> to support efforts that reduce energy and fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, ((and to promote King County and the Puget Sound region as a center for green manufacturing)) <u>as well as promoting locally recognized high growth sectors identified in the Green Jobs Strategy, such as green manufacturing, construction, transportation, and professional services in King County and the Puget Sound.</u> The ((e)) County shall also work with community groups, consumers, and the retail sector to promote the consumption ((of green-manufactured products)) <u>and adoption of products and services supporting reduced energy use and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.</u>	Substantive change	To support eliminating fossil fuel use in the built environment and Green Jobs Strategy	Increases opportunities to advance more strategies to achieve climate change goals	Strategic Climate Action Plan Green Jobs Strategy Report – "Invest in local high-demand industry sectors" goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The green jobs strategy has not been adopted by Council. Including it in a shall policy raises it to the level of Council policy. The reference in this policy is also not necessary given the examples provided, and the policy could be reworded to delete the reference to an agency-level plan. Also, the high growth sectors may change over time, so calling out what they are at this moment may not be useful over the long-term.
E-301 King County should support initiatives that reduce <u>air pollution</u> emissions due to indoor and outdoor wood burning consistent with the actions of Puget Sound Clean Air Agency to control this source of ((public health threat)) <u>health impacts.</u>	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edits for clarity	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-302 King County ((will)) shall continue to actively develop partnerships with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, local jurisdictions, the state, and public, private, and ((not-for-profit)) nonprofit groups to promote programs, ((and)) policies, and code	Substantive change	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.	Additional actions to improve air quality include those that benefit	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic and Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Recently adopted code changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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<u>changes</u> that reduce emissions and health impacts of ozone, wildfire smoke, fine particulates, toxics, and greenhouse gases, particularly for those populations already experiencing health disparities linked to air quality.		Other edits for clarity and to reflect current context and practice	health and address wildfire smoke	section Focus Areas 3, 4	supporting reduction of fossil fuel use in the building and energy codes in K.C.C. Title 16, and anticipated additional proposed changes to the building and energy codes In 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	
<u>E-303 King County should encourage the use of methods to improve indoor air quality and reduce smoke infiltration into indoor environments during wildfire smoke events, particularly for populations already experiencing health disparities, such as air filtration technologies and other mechanisms that reduce the level of wildfire smoke that can make its way into indoor environments.</u>	New policy	To recognize the health effects of particulates from wildfire smoke on indoor air quality and health. Supports planned work on wildfire smoke.	Mitigation of the health effects of wildfire smoke indoors, especially for frontline communities	Strategic Climate Action Plan Climate Preparedness section Focus Areas 3, 4, Priority Action Prep. 4.2.10; Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities Focus Area 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County is already pursuing such strategies; the Council may want to consider changing this to a "shall" policy.
Policy E-402						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-403 King County should develop a biodiversity conservation framework and conservation strategy to achieve the goals of maintaining and recovering native biodiversity. ((This framework should be coordinated with the Washington Biodiversity Conservation Strategy where applicable.)) King County should collaborate with other governments and private and nonprofit organizations on the creation and implementation of this strategy.	Substantive change	To broaden beyond just coordination and just this one listed other body of work.	Supports regionally aligned and co-supportive actions on biodiversity, which can improve effectiveness	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-404 King County should collaborate with other governments and private and non-profit organizations to establish a bioinventory, an assessment and monitoring program, and a database of species currently using King County to provide baseline and continuing information on wildlife population trends in the county.))	Substantive change	This is not a current or planned body of work. Instead, goal is to collaborate as part of biodiversity conservation as a whole in E-403.	Creates flexibility on how to deploy limited resources, consistent with planned work	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-405 King County should evaluate a range of projected future climate scenarios based on best available science to help ensure that biodiversity conservation efforts are able to meet their objectives in a changing climate.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edit for clarity consistent with existing intent, as this policy is in the biodiversity section of the Comprehensive Plan	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-408 King County should carry out conservation planning efforts in close collaboration with other local governments, Indian tribes, state and federal governments, land((-)owners, community groups, and other conservation planning ((stakeholders)) partners.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-409 King County should develop a countywide landscape characterization system based on ecoregions as a key tool for assessing, protecting, and recovering biodiversity.	Substantive change	This is not a current or planned body of work. Instead, it is planned to develop a new corridor map, which will include ecoregion data as part of the inputs. This policy is not needed to do that	Creates flexibility on how to deploy limited resources, consistent with planned work	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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Policy E-411						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-412 King County should work with adjacent jurisdictions, state and federal governments, <u>Indian</u> tribes, and landowners during development of land use plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, <u>fish passage plans</u> , and site development reviews to identify and protect habitat networks at jurisdictional and property boundaries.	Clarification of existing policy intent	To reflect current terminology and context and practice	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated timeline</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<u>E-412a King County should work with non-governmental organizations and regulatory agencies to accelerate removal of barriers to fish passage and should:</u> a. <u>Seek opportunities to accelerate permitting and project implementation;</u> b. <u>Explore all mechanisms available to remove barriers and restore salmon access to the most and highest quality habitat as quickly as possible; and</u> c. <u>Aggressively seek funding for projects to remove barriers.</u>	New policy	To support fish passage outcomes. Emphasizes proactive coordination and collaboration to address bottlenecks related to regulations and funding sources that make it challenging to accomplish projects. Supports regional coordination to get the most bang for the buck as quickly as possible. This isn't addressed by current legal requirements to do the work, which in some cases are also causing the bottlenecks, if we just proceed as we've done in the past.	Expands reach and effectiveness of fish passage barrier removal planning and implementation	Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan 2021 Final Report Regarding Remedies to Existing Fish Passage Barriers for King County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: Programmatic <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated timeline</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The "shoulds" could be changed to "shalls" to align with state mandates.
E-413 King County's efforts to restore and maintain biodiversity should place priority on protecting and restoring ecological processes that create and sustain habitats and species diversity <u>and support climate change resilience.</u>	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidates E-414 (acquisition is part of King County's efforts restore and maintain biodiversity)	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated timeline</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-414 When acquiring land for habitat protection, efforts should be made to protect and restore areas of each habitat type most likely to be resistant to and enhance resilience to climate change.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in E-413	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated timeline</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-420 King County should incorporate climate change projections into new species protection plans and shall revise older species protection plans when feasible or when conducting ((eight)) 10-year updates to incorporate projected impacts from climate change.	Clarification of existing policy intent	To reflect planning cycle changes recently adopted in state law	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated timeline</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive staff state that reports summarizing climate impacts on salmon and potential adaptation actions for salmon habitat protection and restoration were developed for King County's four Water Resource Inventory Areas between 2017-2019. The County does not have species protection plans for other species.
Policy E-423						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
((E-426 Introductions of non-native, invasive plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species should be avoided in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environs.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in E-423	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal</u>: n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations</u>: n/a <u>Anticipated resource need</u>: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated timeline: n/a 	
E-427 King County should promote and restore native plant communities where sustainable, feasible, and appropriate to the site and surrounding ecological context and should incorporate climate change considerations into planting design, including: a. Encouraging management and control of nonnative invasive plants, including aquatic plants; b. Using environmentally sound methods of vegetation control to control noxious weeds; c. Use of locally- or climate- adapted species for natural area landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control on County-owned lands; and d. Adequate maintenance of plantings in habitat restoration projects to prevent invasion of weeds and ensure survival of native plantings.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidates E-504 and E-428, as these are strategies that help to implement the overarching goal in this policy	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be strengthened by removing "encouraging" from sub a.
((E-428 On county owned lands, King County should use locally adapted native species for natural area landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control. Habitat restoration projects should include provisions for adequate maintenance of plantings to prevent invasion of weeds and ensure survival of native plantings.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in E-427	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-430 King County shall implement its strategy to minimize impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, recreation, public health, and the economy on all lands in the County. This includes preventing, monitoring and controlling infestations of state-listed noxious weeds and other non-native invasive weeds of concern on ((e))County-owned and managed lands.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-430a Through training and other programs, King County should actively encourage the use of environmentally safe methods of vegetation control. Herbicide use on King County-owned and leased properties shall be restricted to low toxicity products applied by trained and licensed staff or contractors, and used only as necessary. King County shall be a good steward of public lands and protect water quality, by reducing the use of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides through the use of integrated pest and vegetation management practices.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Related to 2016 Work Plan Action 5 – Implementation Needs Changes to this policy adopted in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan were reviewed further to determine if code changes were needed to implement them. It was determined that the 1st sentence was intended to be about private actions, the 2nd and 3rd sentences were intended to be about King County actions. The policy is proposed to be updated accordingly. With these clarifying changes, no implementing code regulations are necessary.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-431 Management activities should, when feasible and practicable, be ((designed)) implemented in a manner that can test ((them)) results against management objectives and adjust as appropriate.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edits for clarity	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
Policies E-432 through 442						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
						changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-446 King County should; a. _____ ((e)) Evaluate the need for product or material restrictions because of water quality impacts; b. _____ Ensure the use of a data- and science-driven approach to identify and reduce the use of contaminants of emerging concern; c. _____ Seek changes to state regulations and permits that incentivize regional stormwater investments where they will achieve the best outcomes for pollution reduction; and d. _____ Continue to support regional collaborative stormwater management approaches, including consideration of incentives for regional collaboration and identification of supplemental funding sources for collaborative stormwater management in the region.	Substantive change	To further support current and planned regional stormwater planning goals and efforts	Improvements in regional collaboration on stormwater management and implementation of science-based program and regulatory strategies to address contaminants of emerging concern	Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Regional Stormwater Investment Planning Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The elements of this policy relating to regional collaborative stormwater planning may make more sense in Policy F-273 than in this policy.
E-447 ((King County recognizes that conserving and restoring headwater and upland forest cover is important for preventing flooding, improving water quality, and protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat.)) The central role that forests ((cover)) play ((s)) in supporting hydrologic and other ecological processes should be reflected in ((policies and programs addressing)) stormwater management, flooding, wildlife, and open space policies and programs.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Removed statement that is not policy direction; this statement is already covered in the narrative. Other edits for clarity	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-448 King County's critical areas and clearing and grading regulations should provide for activities compatible with long-term forest use, including use of recreational trails, firewood collection, forest fire ((prevention)) risk reduction, forest management, and control of invasive plants.	Substantive Change	To reflect current terminology and context	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This change was identified as a clarification in the Executive transmittal, however it is substantive because it changes the County's focus from <i>preventing</i> forest fires to <i>reducing risk</i> from forest fires. This change in focus is a policy change, but aligns with current best practice that trying to prevent all forest fires leads to more large, catastrophic fires, and that a risk reduction approach is preferable. Flag for Critical Area Ordinance update
E-449a King County should identify and implement strategies that optimize ecological, social, and economic benefits of establishing and maintaining large blocks of forest, particularly in upper watershed areas and along major river corridors. These approaches should: a. _____ Promote establishment of a broad mix of native tree species and age classes, including eventual establishment of forests with old growth characteristics in areas prioritized as having high conservation value; and b. _____ Consider the effect of conservation acquisitions on the viability of the timber resource economy in King County.	New policy	Supports, and sets guidance for, exploring establishment of old growth corridors to result in multiple benefits (ecological, water quality, climate resilience) while considering viability of timber economy. Relates to new proposed Work Plan action.	Potential protected areas intended for long-term development as future old growth forests	Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan Land Conservation Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy direction is not clear. It could be reworded to align with Work Plan Action 5 in Chapter 12.
((E-450 Site development practices should minimize soil disturbance and maximize retention of native vegetation and soils. Where soil disturbance is unavoidable, native soils should be stockpiled on site and reused on site in accordance with best management practices to the maximum extent practicable.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	This is a requirement of the Surface Water Design Manual and does not need to be a policy	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
E-451 King County shall require the use of organic matter to restore disturbed soils on site developments.	Clarification of existing policy intent	More appropriate for code; see K.C.C. 16.82.100.G.1.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-452 The role of salmon in transferring nutrients and maintaining the productivity of riparian and floodplain soils should be incorporated in the development of salmon and soil conservation plans.)	Clarification of existing policy intent	This policy likely resulted from an effort in the early 2000s that was highly focused on soils during development. This is now settled science and longstanding practice. No need for policy to promote the concept.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((E-454 King County shall regard the region's organic waste materials as resources which should be reused as much as possible, and minimize the disposal of such materials.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to E-456	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-455 King County shall work with regional ((stakeholders)) <u>partners</u> to ensure a viable and safe organics recycling infrastructure that allows for yard, food, wood, biosolids, manure and other organic wastes to be turned into resources benefiting climate change, soil health, water quality, and maximizing landfill diversion, <u>consistent with the County's zero waste of resources and Re+ goals.</u>	Substantive change	Connects to County goals for zero waste of resources Other edits to reflect current terminology	Creates consistent delivery of solid waste management services in support of progress towards zero waste	Re+ Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the Council has expressed support for the Re+ plan via motion, adding its goals to a shall policy gives it greater weight, which is a policy change.
E-456 King County shall promote, encourage, and require, where appropriate, the beneficial use <u>and reuse</u> of organic materials <u>and minimize their disposal</u> , including but not limited to their use in the following activities: agriculture and silviculture; road, park and other public project development; site development and new construction; restoration and remediation of disturbed soils; nursery and sod production; and landscaping. For these purposes, organic materials do not include fly ash.	Substantive change	Connects to County goals for zero waste of resources	Increased reuse and minimization of disposal of organic material	Re+ Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-457 King County agencies shall use <u>compost and recycled organic products</u> , ((such as compost,)) whenever feasible, and promote the application of ((organic material)) <u>compost</u> to compensate for historic losses of organic content in soil caused by <u>human actions, including development, landscaping agricultural practices, and resource extraction.</u>	Substantive change	Updated to align with new composting requirements in RCW 43.19A.160 and .120 (while retaining existing requirements from RCW 43.19a.040), as well as composting requirements in Ordinance 19552.	None; reflects current practice and requirements	RCW 43.19A.160 and .120 Ordinance 19552	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive staff state that a comma is missing, which changes the meaning of this policy, and that it should read "landscaping, agricultural practices." The wording of this policy could be clarified to more closely align with Executive intent, which is that agencies are required to first consider use of compost, but that there may be circumstances where compost use is not feasible and other recycled organic products, such as biosolids, would be appropriate to consider. Without a change, this policy could be interpreted as requiring agency use of both compost AND recycled organic products, which appears out in front of existing adopted policies.
E-458 King County ((will)) <u>shall</u> seek to enhance soil quality ((,)) and protect water quality and biodiversity across the landscape by	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Issues Identified.

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developing policies, programs, and incentives that support the goal of no net loss of organic material.		directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated timeline: n/a 	
E-461 King County shall use incentives, regulations, capital projects, open space acquisitions, public education and stewardship, and other programs ((like)) such as recycled water to manage its aquatic resources (Puget Sound, rivers, streams, lakes, freshwater and marine wetlands, and groundwater) and to protect and enhance their multiple beneficial uses. Use of water resources for one purpose should, to the fullest extent practicable, preserve opportunities for other uses.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-465 King County should use the information from local and regional water supply planning processes to enhance the county's water resource protection and planning efforts, including implementation of Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans.	Policy Staff Flag				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's unclear what this policy is intended to cover. Executive staff state that the existing coordinated water system plans do not address the connection between potable water supply and impacts to streamflow. There are also changes to a related policy, F-242, which calls for additional regional water planning. E-465 could be deleted.
E-466 As watershed plans are developed and implemented, zoning, regulations, and incentive programs ((may)) should be developed, applied, and monitored so that critical habitat in King County watersheds is capable of supporting sustainable and fishable salmonid populations. Watershed-based plans should define how the natural functions and values of watersheds critical to salmonids are protected so that the quantity and quality of water and sediment entering the streams, lakes, wetlands and rivers can support salmonid spawning, rearing, resting, and migration.	Clarification of existing policy intent	As written, this policy allows these actions to happen (as a permissive "may"), when an encouragement to do it is intended (as a "should"), consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Issues Identified.
((E-467 Responsibility for the costs of watershed planning and project implementation, including water quality, groundwater protection, and fisheries habitat protection, should be shared between King County and other jurisdictions within a watershed.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	This is an outdated policy; shared funding model has been in place for many years and the continued funding model for Water Resource Inventory Area work is not in question. Policy is no longer necessary.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Issues Identified.
E-469 ((A tiered system for protection of aquatic resources should be developed based on an assessment of basin conditions using Regionally Significant Resource Area and Locally Significant Resource Area designations, Water Resource Inventory Area Plans, habitat assessments completed for acquisitions plans, the Water Quality Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Loads, ongoing monitoring programs, and best available science.)) Through a coordinated approach of incentives and acquisitions, King County should prioritize, enhance, and protect a variety of ecosystems, including urban open space uplands, riparian areas, floodplains, and aquatic systems with the highest conservation value and those supporting equitable access to quality open space.	Substantive change	Current policy is redundant to E-468; updated to reflect current work King County is doing in this area.	Conservation of high-value open space	Land Conservation Initiative Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Issues Identified.
Policies E-470 through E-489					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix

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<p>E-490 Lakes ((should)) shall be protected through management of lake watersheds and shorelines. Lakes ((sensitive to nutrients shall)) should also be protected through the management of nutrients that stimulate potentially harmful algae blooms and aquatic plant growth. Where sufficient information is available, measurable standards for lake quality should be set and management plans established to meet the standards. Formation of lake management districts or other financing mechanisms should be considered to provide the financial resources necessary to support actions for protection of ((sensitive)) lakes.</p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>Strengthened first existing "should" to a "shall" to reflect current practice - the County currently does and plans to continue to protect lakes through watershed management actions (stormwater infrastructure and retrofits, riparian buffer plantings etc.)</p> <p>The County protect lakes for many reasons - bacteria, nutrients, etc. The term "sensitive to nutrients" is not a currently used term for lake management. So, it's misleading, as the County doesn't have a separate approach for these lakes than others. The policy should capture that all lakes should be protected to align with current practice. Given this change, the second clause should also be changed to "should," as the nutrient standard would have large, non-resourced implications to the current program.</p>	<p>No change; reflects current practice</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic and Regulatory Description of proposed regulations: Existing Shoreline Master Program regulations Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed changes invert the previous should/shall within the policy. The County now "shall" protect lakes through management generally, but "should" protect lakes through management of nutrients, whereas the opposite is the case in the existing comp plan.
<p>E-491 King County, in partnership with other governments and community groups, should monitor and assess lake water and sediment quality, physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology. Assessment should identify trends and describe impacts on human and ecosystem health, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>To reflect current context and practice</p> <p>2nd half of the policy is made into new policy E-491a, as the 1st part of E-491 is about monitoring/assessments, and this part is about addressing pollution sources.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>E-491a ((The e)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected)) jurisdictions, Public Health - Seattle & King County ((, the State Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)), and state agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem health ((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these inputs)).</p>	<p>Substantive change</p>	<p>Relocation of 2nd half of E-491.</p> <p>Removed direction to do this work only through local or grant funding and only with 2 state agencies, as it limits the opportunities and sources that allows the County to reduce/remove/ address the pollutant inputs. Funding considerations are already implied in the "should" at the start of the policy.</p> <p>Other edits for clarity and current context and practice</p>	<p>Broader collaboration and funding opportunities, which can improve outcomes for management of pollution sources</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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E-492 Swimming beaches on lakes should be monitored for ((bacterial)) fecal contamination and algal toxins. When data shows public health to be at risk, Public Health - Seattle & King County should take appropriate action to address public health risks.	Clarification of existing policy intent	More specific wording of what is actually monitored	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
Policy E-493						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-494 King County should protect the quality and quantity of groundwater countywide by: a. Implementing adopted Groundwater Management Plans; b. Reviewing and implementing approved Wellhead Protection Programs in conjunction with cities, state agencies and groundwater purveyors; c. Developing, with affected jurisdictions, best management practices for development and for forestry, agriculture, and mining operations based on adopted Groundwater Management Plans and Wellhead Protection Programs. The goals of these practices should be to promote aquifer recharge quality and to strive for no net reduction of recharge to groundwater quantity; d. Refining regulations to protect Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and well((-))head protection areas; e. Educating the public about Best Management Practices to protect groundwater; f. Encouraging forest retention and active forest stewardship; g. Incorporating into its land use and water service decisions consideration of potential impacts on groundwater quality and quantity, and the need for long-term aquifer protection; h. Coordinating groundwater management efforts with cities, water districts, groundwater committees, and state and federal agencies; i. Requiring the proper decommissioning of any well abandoned in the process of connecting an existing water system to a Group A water system; and j. When funding is available, monitoring groundwater status and trends, especially for the groundwater protection planning areas established by King County, and evaluating the groundwater monitoring results, along with groundwater monitoring performed by public water systems, plus their annual quantities of groundwater pumped over the five((-))-year period. Findings as an indicator of environmental quality should be reported for each groundwater management area.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified. This policy is also being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations matrix.
E-495 King County should protect groundwater recharge quantity and quality by promoting low impact development and other methods that infiltrate stormwater runoff where site conditions permit and where pollution source controls and stormwater treatment can prevent potential groundwater contamination.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edits for clarity, to reflect current practice, and align with similar language E-496	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low impact development and infiltration of stormwater is required. This policy could be deleted.

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<p>E-496 ((In making future zoning and land use decisions that are subject to environmental review,)) King County ((shall)) <u>should</u> periodically evaluate and monitor groundwater policies, their implementation costs, and the impacts upon the quantity and quality of groundwater. The depletion or degradation of aquifers needed for potable water supplies should be avoided or mitigated, and the need to plan and develop feasible and equivalent replacement sources to compensate for the potential loss of water supplies should be considered.</p>	Substantive change	<p>Evaluation of impacts on quantity/quality of zoning changes occurs where appropriate (such as when evaluating the Vashon affordable housing special district overlay); but it may not be applicable in all cases. That type of review is more appropriate for review of development proposals subject to State Environmental Policy Act review, which is already required and does not need a policy to do. Additionally, evaluation all policies and their implementation costs would not make sense as to occur part of reviewing an individual zoning change or development proposal. This would be its own evaluation. This is not something that is currently resourced; so, a should is more appropriate.</p>	<p>Evaluation occurs in a more appropriate pathway, and in consideration of available resources</p>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a substantive change, to change a "shall" to a "should." The rationale column states that this is not resourced and should occur as needed as part of development proposals or as part of specific zoning proposals that are likely to have an impact on groundwater. As this is the case, the Councilmembers may wish to consider whether this policy is necessary.
<p>E-497 King County should protect groundwater in the Rural Area by: a. Preferring land uses that retain a high ratio of permeable to impermeable surface area, and that maintain and/or augment the natural soil's infiltration capacity and treatment capability for groundwater; b. Evaluating impacts on groundwater, where appropriate, during review of commercial, industrial and residential subdivision development projects that are proposed to be located within critical aquifer recharge areas, and, where appropriate, requiring mitigation for anticipated groundwater impacts to domestic water supply resulting from these projects; and c. Requiring standards for maximum vegetation clearing limits, impervious surface limits, and, where appropriate, infiltration of surface water.</p>	Policy Staff Flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reference to maximum clearing limits could be removed, consistent with the repeal of unconstitutional code sections.
<p>E-498 King County should, in partnership with water utilities, ((evaluate the likely effects of)) <u>work to ensure that climate change impacts on</u> ((aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies and develop a strategy to mitigate potential impacts in coordination with other climate change initiatives)) groundwater are being accounted for in water supply planning and management, such as by a. <u>Evaluating effects of climate change on aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies; and</u> b. <u>Developing strategies through climate change initiatives with cities, water districts, groundwater committees, state and federal agencies, and Indian tribes to mitigate impacts of climate change.</u></p>	Clarification of existing policy intent	<p>Restructured and edited to provide clarity on the policy direction, with implementing actions as examples</p>	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive staff state that they are not aware of any current work in this area, but note that state law now requires that Group A community public water systems include a climate resilience element in their water supply plans. As no work is currently planned and regulations have adopted, Councilmembers could consider giving further direction or removing the policy.
Policies E-498a, E-499, E-499b and E-499f						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
						3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-499g King County should collaborate with ((the)) federal and state agencies, ((including)) the Puget Sound Partnership((?)), cities, Indian tribes, <u>other</u> counties, and universities to monitor and assess Puget Sound marine waters, nearshore areas, and embayments. Monitoring and assessment should: a. <u>Address water and sediment quality, bioaccumulation of chemicals, physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology ((Assessment should)); and</u> b. <u>Identify trends and describe impacts on human <u>and</u> ecosystem health and safety, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.</u>	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edits for clarity: restructured into sub items and broke out into two separate policies, as E-499g is about monitoring/ assessments, and new E-499gg is about addressing pollution sources. Other edits for clarity, current terminology, and consistent language as with lakes in E-491 and E-491a.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy could be streamlined by removing the specific potential partners.
E-499gg ((The e)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected)) jurisdictions, Public Health – Seattle & King County, ((the State Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)) , and state agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting aquatic life <u>and/or human and ecosystem health</u> ((; through local or grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these inputs)) .	Substantive change	Relocation of 2 nd half of E-499g. Removed direction to do this work only through local or grant funding and only with 2 state agencies, as it limits the opportunities and sources that allows the County to reduce/ remove/ address the pollutant inputs. Funding considerations are already implied in the "should" at the start of the policy. Other edits for clarity and current context and practice	Broader collaboration and funding opportunities, which can improve outcomes for management of pollution sources	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-499hh King County shall continue to support efforts of the <u>Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection District to safeguard against threats to water quality that limit access to existing commercial shellfish harvesting areas.</u>	New policy	Ensures continued resourcing and support for/ management of the Poverty Bay Shellfish production District, which extends beyond just unincorporated King County, and thus has more uncertainty of continuation	Safe-to-harvest shellfish in Poverty Bay	Ordinance 18840 RCW 90.72.030 and 90.72.045	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-499hhh King County should continue to support regional program and actions to monitor and address fecal pollution of King County lakes, streams, and beaches, such as the <u>Pollution Identification and Control Program being run in collaboration with the King Conservation District and Public Health – Seattle & King County.</u>	New policy	Supports future cooperation with partners to manage pollution and reduce toxics and pathogens in lakes, streams, and beaches beyond just unincorporated King County. The Pollution Identification and Control Program is one of the strategies identified in the Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan to support associated goals	Improved quality of lakes, streams, and beaches countywide	Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-499ii King County supports the coexistence of beavers and people in rural King County. ((King County should prepare a beaver management strategy to guide a program on issues such as where and how beavers and humans can co-exist with or without	Substantive change	Creates flexibility in how to manage the coexistence of beavers and people; a "strategy" is not needed before	Streamlining beaver management actions	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As this does not have a policy direction, "should" or "shall" could be added.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
engineered solutions and where beavers should be excluded or removed.))		implementing programs, actions, and/or regulations.				
<p>E-499j King County shall continue to participate in the Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plan implementation efforts and in other regional efforts to recover salmon and the ecosystems they depend on, such as the Puget Sound Partnership. King County's participation in planning and implementation efforts shall be guided by the following principles:</p> <p>a. Focus on federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks protected under <u>Indian</u> tribal treaty rights first, take an ecosystem approach to habitat management and seek to address management needs for other species over time;</p> <p>b. Concurrently work on early actions, long-term projects and programs that will lead to improvements to, and information on, habitat conditions in King County that can enable the recovery of endangered or threatened salmonids, while maintaining the economic vitality and strength of the region;</p> <p>c. Address both King County's growth management needs and habitat conservation needs;</p> <p>d. Use best available science as defined in <u>Chapter 365-195</u> Washington Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925));</p> <p>e. Improve water quality, water quantity and channel characteristics;</p> <p>f. Coordinate with key decision-makers and ((stakeholders)) partners; and</p> <p>g. Develop, implement and evaluate actions within a watershed-based program of data collection and analysis that documents the level of effectiveness of specific actions and provides information for adaptation of salmon conservation and recovery strategies.</p>	Policy Staff Flag	To reflect current terminology. Taking WAC citation up a level to cover the whole chapter, as intended.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub a. contains a typo making the direction unclear. If the intent is that "federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks protected under Indian tribal treaty rights" be the <i>first</i> focus, with ecosystem approaches and seeking to address management needs of other species being secondary priorities, it should read "<u>then</u> take an ecosystem..." If the intent is for all three of these things happen simultaneously, then "first" should be struck. This is a policy choice.
E-499k King County should use the recommendations of approved Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans to inform the updates to development regulations as well as operations and capital planning for its <u>floodplain management, fish passage, surface water management, transportation, wastewater treatment, parks, and open space programs.</u>	Substantive Change	To reflect current practice	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>E-499l King County should seek to support Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plan goals of maintaining intact natural landscapes through:</p> <p>a. Retaining low density land use designations such as Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Area designations;</p> <p>b. Promoting Current Use Taxation and other incentives;</p> <p>c. Promoting stewardship programs including development and implementation of Forest Plans, Farm Plans, and Rural Stewardship Plans;</p> <p>d. Promoting the use of ((L))low ((I))impact ((D))development methods; and</p> <p>e. Acquiring property or conservation easements in areas of high ecological importance with unique or otherwise significant habitat values.</p>	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lead in says that salmon recovery goals of "maintaining intact natural landscapes" but not all the subs actually do this (sub. a., sub. d). There are other WRIA policies, so any rewrite should look at all of them holistically.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
E-499m King County ((will)) shall monitor and evaluate programs and regulations to determine their effectiveness in contributing to Endangered Species Act listed species conservation and recovery, and ((will)) shall update and enhance programs and plans as necessary. King County should amend regulations, plans and best management practices to enhance their effectiveness in protecting and restoring salmonid habitat, using a variety of resources, including best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925)).	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen. Taking WAC citation up a level to cover the whole chapter, as intended.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-499n Through the Watershed Resource Inventory Area planning process, geographic areas vital to the conservation and recovery of listed salmon species are identified. King County ((will)) shall evaluate this information to determine appropriate short and long-term strategies, including, but not limited to: designation of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, development regulations (special district overlays, zoning, etc.), acquisitions, facility maintenance programs, and capital improvement projects.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first sentence is not policy direction and could be deleted.
E-499q King County should continue to take actions that ensure its habitat restoration and protection actions are implemented as part of a watershed-based salmon conservation strategy that integrates habitat actions with actions taken by harvest and hatchery managers. Harvest and hatchery managers specifically include Indian tribes with treaty-reserved fishing rights, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appropriate venues for this coordination include watershed plan implementation groups and other local or regional salmon management entities that rely on actions by habitat, harvest, and hatchery managers to achieve specific goals and objectives.	Substantive change	Edits for clarity to align with existing intent	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified. Executive staff indicate that there are not hatchery managers run by Indian tribes that don't have treaty rights.
Policies E-499qq, E-499qqq, E-499r, E-501, E-503, E-504, E-506, E-507, E-507a, E-507b, E-509, E-511, and E-514						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These policies are being reviewed as part of the critical areas regulations changes that are being sent over on 3/1. This policy can be found in the Critical Areas Review Matrix
E-499t King County should review new business permit and change of use applications for businesses that propose to use hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste as part of their operations. The ((e))County should offer to provide technical assistance related to hazardous waste disposal requirements, ((spill response,)) and non-toxic alternatives.	Substantive Change	To align with current County role	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive staff states that "new business permit" means "business license." It should be noted that the vast majority of businesses in unincorporated King County do not require business licenses, so many businesses that use hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste would not be captured by this review. This language could be clarified to capture all new and changed uses.
E-601 King County shall ((incorporate into)) consider high priority strategies and actions identified in the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, or successor plans, in its land use and transportation planning, economic development efforts, and natural resource management ((the most promising actions)) to reduce	Substantive change	Related to 2016 Work Plan Action 5 – Implementation Needs "Most promising actions" was added to the policy in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update.	Improved alignment with regional strategies for natural disasters, which can improve	Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: Programmatic Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: No Anticipated timeline: Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is softened by changing "shall incorporate into" to "shall consider." Executive staff state the change is recommended to reflect current context and adopted policy framework.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
impacts from natural hazards, such as earthquake, flooding, and landslide risk.		This was identified as possibly needing implementing code changes due to the "shall incorporate." Upon further review, it was determined that the new language was vague and needed refinement/clarification. Given this, the policy is recommended to be updated to reflect current context and adopted policy framework by referencing the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Code changes are premature at this time; so, "shall consider" is more appropriate.	outcomes for more resilient systems and communities			
E-701 King County should conduct a comprehensive and coordinated program of environmental monitoring and assessment to track long-term changes in climate ((e.g.,)) such as precipitation((;)) and temperature), water quality and quantity, toxics in fish and shellfish, land use, land cover and aquatic and terrestrial habitat, natural resource conditions, and biological resources as well as the effectiveness of policies, programs, regulations, capital improvement projects, and stormwater treatment facility design. This monitoring program should be coordinated with other jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, Indian tribes, and universities to ensure the most efficient and effective use of monitoring data.	Technical change	Grammar and current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-704 King County should continue to collect data on key natural resource management and environmental parameters for use in ((KingStat, King County's Strategic Plan implementation goals and objectives, and other)) environmental benchmarking programs. Findings should be reported to the public, partner agencies, and decision makers. The information collected should be used to inform decisions about policies, work program priorities and resource allocation.	Technical change					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
E-705 King County shall fully comply with the monitoring requirements in its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, including seeking compliance strategies that are cost-effective and useful.	Policy Staff Flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy, related to NPDES permit requirements, is not needed and could be deleted.
E-707 King County shall continue to coordinate with other governments, agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations and others to develop and implement regional and watershed-based Monitoring and Adaptive Management programs focused on achieving salmon recovery goals. The programs shall continue to include monitoring of salmon populations and habitat status and trends over time in order for the ((e))County and its partners in salmon recovery to be able to access the overall trajectory of salmon recovery efforts.	Technical change	Grammar and current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.



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CHAPTER 6 SHORELINES

8 ~~((I.))~~ Introduction

9 ~~((A.))~~ Recitals

10 King County adopts the following, which are based on the Shoreline Management Act legislative findings in
11 Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020. These recitals represent King County's belief and agreement that a
12 coordinated approach to utilizing, managing, and protecting the shoreline resource is necessary and essential.
13 These recitals apply to the shoreline jurisdiction.

- 14 1. Shorelines are some of the most valuable and fragile of King County's natural resources. There
15 is appropriate concern throughout the county relating to the utilization, protection, restoration,
16 and preservation of the shoreline jurisdiction.
- 17 2. Ever increasing pressures of additional use are being placed on the shoreline jurisdiction,
18 which in turn necessitates increased coordination in its management and development.
- 19 3. Much of the shoreline jurisdiction and the uplands adjacent thereto are in private ownership.
20 Unrestricted construction on the privately owned or publicly owned shorelines is not in the
21 best public interest; and therefore, coordinated planning is necessary (~~in order~~) to protect the

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- 22 public interest associated with the shoreline jurisdiction while recognizing and protecting
 23 private property rights consistent with the public interest.
- 24 4. There is a clear and urgent demand for a planned, rational, and concerted effort, jointly
 25 performed by federal, state, and local governments, to prevent the inherent harm in an
 26 uncoordinated and piecemeal development of King County's shoreline jurisdiction.
- 27 5. It is the intent of King County to provide for the management of the shoreline jurisdiction by
 28 planning for and fostering all reasonable and appropriate uses. This program is designed to
 29 ~~((insure))~~ ensure the development in a manner that, while allowing for limited reduction of
 30 rights of the public in the navigable waters, will promote and enhance the public interest.
- 31 6. King County shoreline policies are intended to protect against adverse effects to the public
 32 health, the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state and their aquatic
 33 life, while protecting generally public rights of navigation and corollary rights incidental
 34 thereto.
- 35 7. In the implementation of this chapter, the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and
 36 aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible
 37 consistent with the overall best interest of the state, the county, and the people generally. To
 38 this end uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of
 39 damage to the natural environment or are unique to or dependent upon use of the state's
 40 shoreline.
- 41 8. Alterations of the natural condition of the shoreline jurisdiction, in those limited instances
 42 when authorized, shall be given priority for single ~~((family residences))~~ detached homes and
 43 their appurtenant structures, ports, shoreline recreational uses including but not limited to
 44 parks, marinas, piers, and other improvements facilitating public access to shorelines,
 45 industrial and commercial developments that are particularly dependent on their location on or
 46 use of the shoreline jurisdiction, and other development that will provide an opportunity for
 47 substantial numbers of the people to enjoy the shorelines.
- 48 9. Shorelines and shorelands in King County shall be appropriately designated and these
 49 classifications shall be revised when circumstances warrant, regardless of whether the change
 50 in circumstances occurs through man-made causes or natural causes. Any areas resulting from
 51 alterations of the natural condition of the shorelines and shorelands no longer meeting the
 52 definition of "shorelines of the state" shall not be subject to the provisions of King County
 53 Shoreline Master Program.
- 54 10. Permitted uses in the shorelines zone shall be designed and conducted in a manner to
 55 minimize, insofar as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the
 56 shoreline jurisdiction and any interference with the public's use of the water.
 57

58 **~~((B.))~~ About King County and King County Shorelines**

59 **~~((1.))~~ Geography**

60 King County covers 2,130 square miles and extends from Puget Sound in the west to 8,000-foot Mt. Daniel at
61 the Cascade crest in the east. King County's shoreline jurisdiction includes saltwater coastline, river floodplains,
62 and extensive lakes and streams.

63

64 **~~((2.))~~ King County's shoreline jurisdiction**

65 King County's diverse shorelines fringe or flow into Puget Sound. Puget Sound and surrounding lowland lakes
66 and river valleys are relatively young in geologic terms. Puget Sound is a glacially-carved, deep fjord between
67 the Cascade and Olympic mountains.

68

69 Puget Sound is King County's link to the Pacific Ocean via two connections: the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the
70 Strait of Georgia. Water, people and a diverse array of fish and wildlife travel freely between the ocean and King
71 County via Puget Sound and these Straits.

72

73 Puget Sound is a large estuary complex created by the freshwater it receives from streams, rivers and springs and
74 tidal exchange introduced through the two Straits. It is one of the more prominent and productive estuaries in
75 the world. In 1988, it was identified as an Estuary of National Significance by the United States government.
76 Within Puget Sound are numerous small to large estuaries. The largest estuary in King County is the
77 Green-Duwamish, although it is now a small remnant of its pre-development state.

78

79 Puget Sound consists of five basins. King County's portion of Puget Sound lies within the Central Basin and
80 includes Vashon-Maury Island. The Central or Main Basin extends from Admiralty Inlet to Tacoma Narrows.
81 It is the largest and deepest of the basins. The major drainages to the Central Basin, including Cedar River/Lake
82 Washington watershed (including Lake Sammamish and the Sammamish River), the Green-Duwamish
83 watershed, and Puyallup River/White River watershed, drain a total area of about 2,700 square miles and
84 contribute slightly less than 20((%)) percent of Puget Sound's freshwater input. The Snohomish watershed
85 (including the Snoqualmie River Basin that lies mostly in King County) outlet into Puget Sound lies in Everett.

86

87 Puget Sound is located in a region that has great overlap between valuable natural resources and a burgeoning
88 human population. The productivity, diversity and value of the resources are greatly affected by the extent and
89 density of the population. Due to proximity to transportation routes and abundant food and water resources,
90 most of the region's human development since the mid-1800s, when settlers of European descent started to
91 explore and develop the region, has occurred along Puget Sound's shorelines, large lakes, and rivers.

92

93 **~~((C.))~~ Washington State’s Shoreline Management Act**

94 **~~((1.))~~ Overview of Shoreline Management Act**

95 Washington’s Shoreline Management Act was passed by the Legislature in 1971 and adopted by the public in a
96 1972 referendum. The goal of the Shoreline Management Act is “to prevent the inherent harm in an
97 uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state’s shorelines.”

98

99 The Act establishes a broad policy giving preference to uses that:

- 100 • Protect the quality of water and the natural environment,
- 101 • Depend on proximity to the shoreline (“water-dependent uses”), and
- 102 • Preserve and enhance public access or increase recreational opportunities for the public along
103 shorelines.

104

105 The Shoreline Management Act establishes a balance of authority between local and state government. Cities
106 and counties are the primary regulators but the state, through the Department of Ecology, has authority to
107 review local shoreline master programs and shoreline permit decisions.

108

109 Under the Shoreline Management Act, each city and county adopts a Shoreline Master Program that is based on
110 the Department of Ecology’s Shoreline Master Program rules or guidelines, but tailored to the specific needs of
111 the community. More than 200 cities and all 39 counties have Shoreline Master Programs. Local Shoreline
112 Master Programs combine both plans and regulations. The plans are a comprehensive vision of how shoreline
113 areas will be used and developed over time. Regulations are the standards that shoreline projects and uses must
114 meet.

115

116 The Department of Ecology provides technical assistance to local governments undertaking Master Program
117 amendments. Master Programs and Master Program amendments are only effective after approval from the
118 Department of Ecology. In reviewing Master Programs, the Department of Ecology is limited to a decision on
119 whether ~~((or not))~~ the Program is consistent with the policy and provisions of the Shoreline Management Act
120 and the Department of Ecology’s guidelines.

121

122 Local governments may modify Master Programs to reflect changing local circumstances, new information, or
123 improved shoreline management approaches. All changes to Master Programs require public involvement and
124 approval from the Department of Ecology. At a minimum, local governments must hold public hearings.

125

126 In 2003, the Department of Ecology adopted revised state guidelines. Cities and counties with Shoreline Master
127 Programs are required to update their Shoreline Master Programs to bring them into compliance with these new
128 state guidelines.

129

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD**

130 **((2.)) History of shoreline management in King County**

131 King County adopted its original Shoreline Master Program through two ordinances adopted by the King
132 County Council and approved by the King County Executive, John Spellman, on May 2, 1978. Ordinance 3692
133 adopted the Shoreline Master Plan, which established the goals, objectives, and policies of the King County
134 Shoreline Master Program. Ordinance 3688 adopted the development regulations that implemented the
135 Shoreline Master Plan. By a letter dated June 30, 1978, the Department of Ecology stated that it had approved
136 King County's Shoreline Master Program.

137

138 The 1978 Shoreline Master Plan addressed the required elements of the shoreline guidelines originally adopted
139 by the Department of Ecology in 1972. The 1978 Plan established goals, objectives, and policies for eight
140 different shoreline elements. For each of the four shoreline environments, it also established general policies.

141

142 The 1978 Plan stated that:

143 "Each environment represents a particular emphasis in the type of uses and the extent of development that
144 should occur within it. The system is designed to encourage uses in each Environment which enhance the
145 character of the Environment while at the same time requiring reasonable standards and restrictions on
146 development so that the character of the Environment is not destroyed."

147

148 Finally, the 1978 Shoreline Master Program included general policies for a variety of different shoreline use
149 activities, including agriculture, mining, recreation, and residential development. Associated shoreline
150 regulations establish the designation criteria, the allowed uses, and development standards for the four shoreline
151 environments recognized by the 1972 state guidelines.

152

153 In 1990, the King County Council adopted regulations governing environmentally sensitive areas, some of which
154 include areas also within shoreline jurisdiction. (Ordinance 9614) King County updated its critical areas
155 regulations effective January 1, 2005. (Ordinances 15032, 15033, and 15034) King County's Critical Areas
156 Regulations and its Shoreline Master Program both provide that the regulations that are most protective of the
157 environment apply in the case of a conflict.

158

159 **((3.)) Shoreline jurisdiction under the Shoreline Management Act**

160 Shorelines of the State in King County, as defined by the Shoreline Management Act, include the total of all
161 shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance. Shorelines include shorelands, which are defined as those
162 lands extending landward for 200 feet from the ordinary high water mark, floodways and contiguous floodplain
163 areas landward 200 feet from such floodways, and all associated wetlands and river deltas. King County
164 currently includes the 100-year floodplain in its shoreline jurisdiction. Shoreline jurisdiction under the Shoreline
165 Management Act does not include Indian tribal reservation lands or lands held in trust by the federal government
166 for ((the)) Indian tribes.

167

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD**

168 Table S-1 below shows the number of shoreline miles managed under King County's Shoreline Master Program.

169

170 **Table S-1. Miles of shoreline under King County's jurisdiction**

Shoreline (miles)		
Lake	River/Stream	Marine
((234)) 229	((1,696)) 1,690	51

171

172 **~~((D-))~~ King County's Shoreline Master Program**

173 The Shoreline Master Program adopted by King County provides a legal framework for decision making on land
174 use and other activities that complies with the Shoreline Management Act. This section describes the elements
175 of the Shoreline Master Program, with the details being further developed throughout this chapter.

176

177 **~~((1-))~~ Components of the Shoreline Master Program**

178 The King County Shoreline Master Program consists of this chapter and the implementing shoreline
179 management regulations.

180

181 This chapter describes King County's shoreline goals and policies. It addresses the shoreline jurisdiction, overall
182 shoreline policy goals, shoreline element policies, Shoreline Master Program relationship to other laws, shoreline
183 environment designations, environmental protection, shoreline use and modification, and administrative
184 policies. The following documents provide supporting information for these goals and policies:

185

186 **King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan (September 2010):** The Shoreline Protection and
187 Restoration Plan summarizes the methods and results of King County's shoreline analysis with respect to
188 restoration planning, the elements and applicability of the restoration plan, and the ways in which shoreline
189 restoration is expected to occur over time.

190

191 **King County Shoreline Public Access Plan (September 2010):** The Shoreline Public Access Plan includes
192 an inventory of existing formal and informal shoreline public access opportunities in the unincorporated
193 area, and identifies gaps in public access opportunities. The Shoreline Public Access Plan describes King
194 County's priorities for providing new public access to major shorelines in the unincorporated area.

195

196 **King County Shoreline Cumulative Impacts Assessment (September 2010):** The Shoreline Cumulative
197 Impacts Assessment provides a mechanism for examining the potential success of ((e))County policies and
198 regulations in meeting the goal of no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.

199

200 **King County Shoreline Inventory and Characterization (May 2007):** The Shoreline Inventory and
201 Characterization includes the data and analytic methods used to develop King County's shoreline inventory
202 and shoreline characterization (including evaluation of existing physical and shoreline ecological processes

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203 and functions, public access and recreation, land use and economic development, public facilities and
 204 utilities, and archaeological and historic resources). In addition, the Shoreline Inventory and
 205 Characterization includes methodologies for cumulative impact analysis associated with shoreline
 206 management and comprehensive shoreline restoration planning. ~~((Specific data can be found at:~~
 207 ~~<http://www.kingcounty.gov/shorelines>))~~

208

209 **King County Shoreline Map Folio and List (September 2010):** The Shoreline Map Folio includes all maps
 210 produced and referenced as part of the Shoreline Master Program, with the exception of those maps
 211 included in this chapter. The King County Shoreline List includes all streams and lakes within the shoreline
 212 jurisdiction. ~~((All geographic information can be found at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/shorelines>))~~

213

214 The terms “Shoreline Master Program,” “Shoreline Program” and “Program” are all used throughout this
 215 chapter to describe King County’s shoreline policies (this chapter) and shoreline management regulations in their
 216 entirety.

217

218 **~~((2.))~~ Shoreline policies**

219 The Shoreline Master Program contains specific policies relating to a wide variety of shoreline uses and issues.

220

221 Shoreline policies establish broad shoreline management directives. They are statements of intent by King
 222 County that direct or authorize a course of action or specify criteria for regulatory or non-regulatory action. The
 223 policies serve as the basis for regulations that govern use and development along the shoreline.

224

225 King County’s shoreline policies must:

- 226 1. Be consistent with the Shoreline Management Act;
- 227 2. Address the Master Program elements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100;
- 228 3. Include policies for environmental designations as described in Washington Administrative Code
 229 173-26-211;
- 230 4. Be designed and implemented in a manner consistent with all relevant constitutional and other legal
 231 limitations on regulation of private property; and
- 232 5. Be consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan and functional plans ~~((adopted as components
 233 of the Comprehensive Plan)).~~

234

235 Shoreline policies provide a comprehensive foundation for the Shoreline Master Program regulations, which are
 236 more specific standards that are used to evaluate shoreline development proposals. King County must evaluate
 237 permit applications in light of the shoreline policies and may approve a permit only after determining that the
 238 development conforms to the policies in the Shoreline Master Plan.

239

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240 In addition, shoreline policies assist in prioritizing King County's spending on facilities and services within
241 shorelines of the state. Finally, the shoreline policies provide direction for regional issues such as resource
242 management, environmental protection, transportation, inter-governmental coordination and regional planning.

243 **~~((3.))~~ Shoreline Environments**

244 The Shoreline Management Act requires that shoreline management programs classify shoreline areas into
245 specific environment designations. The Department of Ecology's guidelines recommend six different
246 environment designations, but does not require that local programs adopt this particular scheme. King County's
247 1978 Shoreline Master Program adopted the four environment designations recommended by the Department of
248 Ecology at that time: Urban, Rural, Conservancy, and Natural. ~~((In this update))~~ Subsequently, King County
249 ~~((is adopting))~~ adopted eight environment designations in total, based on the recommendations from the
250 Department of Ecology. These environment designations are~~((:))~~ discussed in the "Shoreline Environment
251 Designations" section of this chapter.

252

253 ~~**(High Intensity Shoreline Environment:** Applied to areas that provide high intensity water-oriented
254 commercial, transportation, and industrial uses.~~

255

256 ~~**Residential Shoreline Environment:** Applied to accommodate residential uses at urban densities, while
257 allowing for non-residential uses that are consistent with the protection of the shoreline jurisdiction.~~

258

259 ~~**Rural Shoreline Environment:** Applied to accommodate rural residential shoreline development, while
260 allowing for rural non-residential uses that are consistent with the protection of the shoreline.~~

261

262 ~~**Conservancy Shoreline Environment:** Applied to protect and conserve the shoreline for ecological, public
263 safety, and recreation, purposes. Includes areas with important shoreline ecological processes and functions,
264 valuable historic and cultural features, flood and geological hazards and recreational opportunities.
265 Residential areas can also be designated as conservancy shorelines.~~

266

267 ~~**Resource Shoreline Environment:** Applied to allow for mining and agriculture land uses, except for
268 shorelines that are relatively intact or that have minimally degraded shoreline processes and functions.~~

269

270 ~~**Forestry Shoreline Environment:** Applied in areas to allow for forest production and protect municipal
271 water supplies.~~

272

273 ~~**Natural Shoreline Environment:** Applied to shorelines that are relatively intact or have minimally degraded
274 shoreline processes and functions that are intolerant of human use.~~

275

276 ~~**Aquatic Shoreline Environment:** Applied to the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.)~~

277

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278

279 **((4.)) Shoreline program elements**

280 The Shoreline Management Act identifies eight “program elements” that must be addressed and included in
281 local shoreline master programs:

282

283 **Economic development element** that considers the location and design of industries, industrial projects of
284 statewide significance, transportation facilities, port facilities, tourist facilities, commerce, and other
285 developments that are particularly dependent on shorelines of the state.

286

287 **Public access element** that considers public access to publicly owned land along shorelines of the state.

288

289 **Recreational element** that identifies recreational opportunities along shorelines, such as parks, tidelands,
290 beaches, and recreational areas, and that pursues acquisition through implementation of the King County
291 Shoreline Master Program.

292

293 **Circulation element** that consists of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major
294 thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities.

295

296 **Land use element** that considers the general distribution and location, as well as the extent of use on the
297 shorelines and adjacent areas for housing, business, industry, transportation, agriculture, natural resources,
298 recreation, education, public buildings and grounds, and other categories of public and private use of the
299 land.

300

301 **Conservation element** that addresses the preservation of natural resources including, but not limited to,
302 scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fish and wildlife.

303

304 **Historic, cultural, scientific and educational element** that prevents the destruction of or damage to any site
305 having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value as identified by the appropriate authorities,
306 including affected Indian ((T))tribes, and the state office of archaeology and historic preservation.

307

308 **Flood hazard element** that considers the prevention and minimization of flood damages.

309

310 **((5.)) Shoreline modifications and uses**

311 The Shoreline Management Act requires that local Shoreline Master Programs distinguish between shoreline
312 modifications and shoreline uses.

313

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314 **Shoreline modifications** are generally related to construction of a physical element such as a dike, breakwater,
 315 dredged basin, or fill, but can include other actions such as clearing, grading or application of chemicals. A
 316 shoreline modification is usually undertaken in support of or in preparation for a shoreline use.

317

318 **Shoreline uses** are classified as "water-dependent," "water-related," "water-enjoyment," or "water-oriented."

319

320 **A water-dependent use** is a use or portion of a use that cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the
 321 water and that is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations.

322

323 **A water-related use** is a use or portion of a use that is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location
 324 but whose economic viability is dependent upon a waterfront location because:

325 (a) The use has a functional requirement for a waterfront location such as the arrival or shipment of
 326 materials by water or the need for large quantities of water; or

327 (b) The use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent uses and the proximity of the
 328 use to its customers makes its services less expensive or more convenient.

329

330 **A water-enjoyment use** is a recreational use or other use that facilitates public access to the shoreline as a
 331 primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the
 332 shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general characteristic of the use and which, through
 333 location, design and operation, ensures the public's ability to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of the
 334 shoreline. ~~((In order to))~~To qualify as a water-enjoyment use, the use must be open to the general public and
 335 the shoreline-oriented space within the project must be devoted to the specific aspects of the use that fosters
 336 shoreline enjoyment.

337

338 **A water-oriented use** is a use that is water-dependent, water-related, water-enjoyment, or a combination of
 339 such uses.

340

341 ~~((H.))~~ **Shoreline Jurisdiction**

342 ~~((A))~~ **King County's Responsibility to Regulate Shorelines**

343 ~~((1.))~~ **King County assumes primary responsibility for shoreline planning and** 344 **regulation**

345 King County has primary responsibility for shoreline management planning and for the administration of
 346 shoreline regulations within its jurisdiction.

347

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348 **S-101** King County has primary responsibility within its boundaries for planning
 349 required by the Shoreline Management Act and for administering its shoreline
 350 regulatory program.
 351

352 King County recognizes that its Shoreline Master Program is subject to review and approval by the Washington
 353 State Department of Ecology and that the Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with the policies and
 354 provisions of the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((90.58))).
 355

356 **((2.)) King County’s Shoreline Master Program is intended to be consistent with**
 357 **the Shoreline Management Act & Guidelines**

358 King County’s Shoreline Master Program is intended to be consistent with the required elements of the
 359 Department of Ecology’s guidelines for implementing the Shoreline Management Act that are found in Chapters
 360 173-26 and 173-27 of the Washington Administrative Code. King County’s Shoreline Master Program shall be
 361 interpreted consistently with the Shoreline Management Act. In the event of a conflict between Shoreline
 362 Management Act and King County’s Shoreline Master Program, the Shoreline Master Program should be
 363 interpreted to give meaning and effect to the Shoreline Management Act.
 364

365 **S-102** King County’s Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with
 366 the policies and requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58
 367 Revised Code of Washington ((90.58))).
 368

369 **S-103** King County’s Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with
 370 the required elements of the shoreline guidelines found in Chapters 173-26 and
 371 173-27 of the Washington Administrative Code.
 372

373 **((3.)) King County’s Shoreline Master Program is to be liberally construed**

374 The Shoreline Management Act explicitly provides that it is exempt from the rule of strict construction and must
 375 be liberally construed to give full effect to the Act’s objectives and purposes. By adopting a liberal standard of
 376 construction, the state Legislature demonstrated the importance it attached to protecting the shoreline and
 377 accomplishing the goals and policies of the Shoreline Management Act. Consistent with this mandate, and
 378 because King County believes that accomplishing the goals and objectives of the Shoreline Management Act
 379 within the county is of primary importance, the Shoreline Master Program is to be liberally construed to
 380 accomplish its objectives and purpose.
 381

382 **S-104** King County’s Shoreline Master Program is exempted from the rules of strict
 383 construction and shall be construed liberally to give full effect to its objectives
 384 and purpose.
 385

386 **~~(B.)~~ Shoreline Jurisdiction**

387 **~~(1.)~~ Shoreline jurisdiction extends over all “shorelines” and “shorelines of**
388 **statewide significance” within unincorporated King County**

389 The Shoreline Management Act applies to all “shorelines of the state.” “Shorelines of the state” are defined to
390 include “shorelines” and “shorelines of statewide significance.” It is important to understand the distinction
391 between the terms “shorelines” and “shorelines of statewide significance.” Both terms are used throughout the
392 Shoreline Management Act and define the scope of King County’s shoreline jurisdiction. The distinction is
393 important because the Shoreline Management Act imposes greater and more specific obligations when dealing
394 with shorelines of statewide significance.

395

396 **~~(a.)~~ “Shorelines”**

397 Shorelines are defined in the Shoreline Management Act as follows:

398 “Shorelines” means all of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated
399 shorelands, together with the lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of statewide significance; (ii)
400 shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean annual flow is 20 cubic feet per
401 second or less and the wetlands associated with such upstream segments; and (iii) shorelines on lakes
402 less than 20 acres in size and wetlands associated with such small lakes.

403

404 **~~(b.)~~ “Shorelines of statewide significance”**

405 Shorelines of statewide significance, as specifically defined in the Shoreline Management Act include:

- 406 • Those areas of Puget Sound between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme low tides;
- 407 • Lakes, whether natural, artificial or a combination thereof, with a surface acreage of 1,000 acres or
408 more measured at the ordinary high water mark; and
- 409 • Natural rivers or segments thereof downstream of a point where the mean annual flow is measured at
410 1,000 cubic feet per second or more.

411

412 In unincorporated King County, the water bodies that qualify as shorelines of statewide significance include:

- 413 • The marine waters around Vashon-Maury Island
- 414 • Northeast Lake Washington (north of Kirkland) and southwest Lake Washington (west of Renton)
- 415 • Lake Sammamish at Marymoor State Park and Lake Sammamish State Park
- 416 • Mud Mountain Reservoir and White River from river mile 15.5 to river mile 46 (excluding the
417 Muckleshoot Indian Reservation between river mile 8.9 and river mile 15.5)
- 418 • Green River from its confluence with the Duwamish River to river mile 95
- 419 • Duwamish River from river mile 3.5 to river mile 5
- 420 • Chester Morse Lake (Reservoir)

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- 421 • Tolt Reservoir
- 422 • Mainstem Snoqualmie River to river mile 43 and Middle Fork Snoqualmie River to river mile 39
- 423 • South Fork Skykomish River to river mile 30

424

425 Associated shorelands that are adjacent to shorelines of statewide significance are included within the shoreline
426 of statewide significance jurisdiction.

427

428 **~~((e-))~~ “Shorelands”**

429 Shorelines includes “associated shorelands” which are defined in the Shoreline Management Act as follows:

430 “Shorelands” or “shoreland areas” means those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all
431 directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and
432 contiguous floodplain areas landward 200 feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas
433 associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the provisions of [Chapter 90.58
434 RCW].

435

436 **~~((d-))~~ Shoreline jurisdiction**

437 King County’s shoreline jurisdiction consists of the combination of shorelines, shorelines of statewide
438 significance, and shorelands.

439

440 **S-105 King County’s shoreline jurisdiction extends over all shorelines of the state, as**
441 **that term is defined in the Shoreline Management Act, in unincorporated King**
442 **County. This includes jurisdiction over shorelines, shorelines of statewide**
443 **significance, and shorelands.**

444

445 **~~((e-))~~ Options to extend geographic jurisdiction over shorelines and shorelines of statewide**
446 **significance**

447 The Shoreline Management Act gives King County two options concerning the scope of its shoreline
448 jurisdiction.

449

450 The first option allows the ~~((e))~~ County to include 100-year floodplains:

451 Any county or city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year flood plain to be included in its
452 master program as long as such portion includes, as a minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land
453 extending landward two hundred feet therefrom. (Revised Code of Washington 90.58.030(2)(d)(i))

454

455 In its original Shoreline Master Program adopted in 1977, King County included the 100-year floodplain. The
456 continued regulation of the 100-year floodplain is necessary to comply with certain federal requirements under

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457 the National Flood Insurance Program. Therefore, King County continues to extend its shoreline jurisdiction to
458 cover 100-year floodplains.

459

460 **S-106 King County includes within its shoreline jurisdiction the 100-year floodplains of**
461 **shorelines of the state.**

462

463 The second option allows the extension of shoreline jurisdiction to include land necessary for buffers for critical
464 areas that extend beyond the 200 foot shoreland jurisdiction:

465 Any city or county may also include in its master program land necessary for buffers for critical areas,
466 as defined in chapter 36.70A RCW, that occur within shorelines of the state, provided that forest
467 practices regulated under chapter 76.09 RCW, except conversions to nonforest land use, on lands
468 subject to the provisions of this subsection (2)(d)(ii) are not subject to additional regulations under
469 [Chapter 90.58 RCW].(Revised Code of Washington 90.58.030(2)(d)(ii)

470

471 King County is not exercising its option to extend its shoreline jurisdiction to include lands for buffers for critical
472 areas.

473

474 **S-107 Where critical areas are located within the unincorporated King County**
475 **shorelands, the shoreline jurisdiction shall not include the critical area buffers**
476 **that extend outside of the shoreline jurisdiction boundary.**

477

478 **~~((2.))~~ Jurisdictional map**

479 Applying these definitions within King County has involved an extensive survey of the shoreline jurisdiction,
480 which is discussed in detail in the King County Shorelines Inventory and Characterization (May 2007). The
481 Shorelines of the State map at the end of this chapter shows the complete scope of King County's shorelines and
482 shorelines of statewide significance.

483

484 **~~((III.))~~ Shoreline Policy Goals**

485 **~~((A.))~~ Introduction to Shoreline goals**

486 King County's shoreline has a long history of settlement because of the abundant natural resources, availability
487 of water, and usefulness as transportation routes. The shoreline also draws people to enjoy the aesthetic and
488 recreational value that marine beaches, lakes, and rivers provide. The shoreline supports some of the region's
489 most important industries, such as shipping, fishing, and tourism.

490

491 Because of the unique and irreplaceable value of the shorelines of the state, King County recognizes that it is in
492 the public interest to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions, while allowing reasonable and

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493 necessary use of shorelines to support the regional economy and provide recreational opportunities for the
494 public.

495

496 The high demand for shoreline use over time has degraded shoreline ecological processes and functions in many
497 areas. Many segments of King County's shoreline jurisdiction are devoid of native vegetation, the banks are
498 hardened with additions of rock and other materials, sediment movement is no longer driven by natural forces,
499 and valuable fish and wildlife habitat is gone or impaired to a significant extent. Unaltered shorelines are
500 increasingly rare. It has become critical to restore and enhance degraded shorelines.

501

502 A vast majority of the shoreline jurisdiction, particularly in the lower parts of the regional watersheds and along
503 the marine shorelines, is in private ownership, giving the residents of King County an important role in
504 protecting unique and irreplaceable shoreline values. The challenge for King County is to manage these lands in
505 a manner that protects, restores, and enhances King County's shoreline jurisdiction, while respecting private
506 property rights and protecting the public interest.

507

508 King County has established a set of general policy goals that provide overarching guidance for discretionary
509 decision-making, support shoreline regulations, and define the vision that King County has for the use,
510 protection, restoration and enhancement of the shorelines of the state. These policy goals reflect the wide range
511 of Shoreline Management Act mandates, while at the same time preserving the maximum possible flexibility for
512 King County to address the unique shoreline conditions within its jurisdiction.

513

514 **((B-)) Statement of Applicability**

515 The Shoreline Management Act includes a requirement ~~((that))~~ for development proposals ~~((must))~~ to obtain a
516 shoreline ~~((substantial development))~~ permit. However, the Shoreline Management Act includes a number of
517 exemptions from this requirement. ~~((For example, proposals to construct a single family residence or to
518 construct a bulkhead to protect a single family residence are exempt from the requirement to obtain a substantial
519 development permit. Activities that do not require a shoreline substantial development permit can,))~~ Because
520 even exempt projects can still have negative impacts, individually and cumulatively, ~~((adversely impact adjacent
521 properties and natural resources. King County has both the authority and the responsibility to enforce Shoreline
522 Master Program regulations on all uses and development in the shoreline jurisdiction. In order to ensure that
523 permit exempt activities comply with the Shoreline Management Act and the County's Shoreline Master
524 Program,))~~ King County generally requires applicants with exempt projects to apply for a shoreline exemption.

525

526 Because there has been confusion in the past regarding the scope of the Shoreline Management Act, the
527 Department of Ecology requires that all Master Programs contain the following policy statement:

528

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529 **S-201** All proposed uses and development occurring within King County's shoreline
530 jurisdiction ~~((must))~~ shall conform to the Shoreline Management Act and to King
531 County's Shoreline Master Program.
532

533 **~~((C.))~~ Shoreline Preferred Uses**

534 The Shoreline Management Act establishes mandatory preferences for uses that are unique to or dependent upon
535 a shoreline location. These preferred uses apply to the entire shoreline jurisdiction, both the shorelines and
536 shorelines of statewide significance. The Shoreline Management Act preferred uses are recognized in the
537 following policies.
538

539 **S-202** In establishing and implementing shoreline policies and development
540 regulations, King County shall give preference to uses that are unique to or
541 dependent upon a shoreline location.
542

543 **S-203** King County, when determining allowable uses and resolving use conflicts in the
544 shoreline jurisdiction, shall apply the following preferences and priorities in the
545 order listed below:

- 546 a. Reserve appropriate areas for protecting and restoring shoreline
547 ecological processes and functions to control pollution and prevent
548 damage to the natural environment and to public health.
- 549 b. Reserve shoreline areas for water-dependent and associated
550 water-related uses. Harbor areas, established pursuant to Article XV of
551 the State Constitution, and other areas that have reasonable commercial
552 navigational accessibility and necessary support facilities, such as
553 transportation and utilities, should be reserved for water-dependent and
554 water-related uses that are associated with commercial navigation,
555 unless adequate shoreline is reserved for future water-dependent and
556 water-related uses and unless protection of the existing natural resource
557 values of such areas preclude such uses. Shoreline mixed-use
558 developments may be allowed if they include and support
559 water-dependent uses and address specific conditions that affect
560 water-dependent uses.
- 561 c. Reserve shoreline areas for other water-related and water-enjoyment
562 uses that are compatible with ecological protection and restoration
563 objectives.
- 564 d. Locate single ~~((family))~~ detached residential uses where they are
565 appropriate and can be developed without significant impact to shoreline
566 ecological processes and functions or displacement of water-dependent
567 uses.

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568 e. Limit nonwater-oriented uses to those locations that are inappropriate
569 for higher priority uses or locations where the nonwater-oriented uses
570 demonstrably contribute to the objectives of the Shoreline Management
571 Act.

572

573 **S-204** In particular circumstances, the preferred use policies, the local economic and
574 land use conditions, and the policies and regulations that assure protection of
575 shoreline resources may result in a determination that other uses may be
576 considered as necessary or appropriate. These other uses may be
577 accommodated, provided that the preferred uses are reasonably provided for
578 throughout the shoreline jurisdiction.

579

580 **~~(D-)~~ General Policy Goals**

581 The Shoreline Management Act policies of protecting shoreline ecological processes and functions, fostering
582 reasonable use, and maintaining the public right of navigation and corollary uses result in certain mandatory
583 policy goals for the shoreline jurisdiction.

584

585 These policies apply to both shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance. The policies are not ranked in a
586 specific order. King County reserves the right to balance these general policies based on the unique
587 circumstances, location, and physical condition of the shoreline.

588

589 **S-205** The following policy goals apply to all of the shoreline jurisdiction. The goals are
590 not ranked in importance and have been assigned a number for identification
591 purposes only.

592 a. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for those economically productive
593 uses that are particularly dependent on shoreline location or use.

594 b. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for public access and recreation.

595 c. Protection and restoration of the ecological processes and functions of
596 shoreline natural resources.

597 d. Protection of the public right of navigation and corollary uses of waters
598 of the state.

599 e. The protection and restoration of buildings and sites having historic,
600 cultural, and educational value.

601 f. Planning for public facilities and utilities correlated with other shorelines
602 uses.

603 g. Prevention and minimization of flood damage.

604 h. Recognizing and protecting private property rights.

605 i. Preferential accommodation of single ~~((family))~~ detached residential
606 uses.

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646 providing recreational activities for the public, King County has given special consideration to these factors in
647 developing the Shoreline Master Program.

648

649 **S-209 King County should encourage and help facilitate the use of state-owned**
650 **shorelines for public recreational activities, where appropriate.**

651

652 **~~((G-))~~ Balancing Policy Goals**

653 The policy goals for the management of the shoreline jurisdiction have the potential for conflict. King County
654 shorelines are considered among the most valuable and fragile of King County's natural resources. These
655 shorelines are valuable for economically productive industrial and commercial uses, recreation, navigation,
656 residential amenity, scientific research, and education. They are fragile because shorelines depend upon a
657 balance between physical, biological, and chemical systems that may be significantly altered by both natural
658 forces (earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, storms, droughts, floods) and human activities (industrial,
659 commercial, residential, recreation, navigational). Unbridled use of the shorelines ultimately could destroy their
660 utility and value for human use.

661

662 **S-210 The policy goals of King County's Shoreline Master Program relate both to the**
663 **use and protection of the extremely valuable and vulnerable shoreline resources**
664 **of the state.**

665

666 **S-211 King County shall accommodate in the shoreline jurisdiction all reasonable and**
667 **appropriate uses consistent with protecting against adverse effects to the public**
668 **health, the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state and**
669 **consistent with public rights of navigation.**

670

671 **S-212 ~~((The policy of achieving))~~ Development regulations shall provide both shoreline**
672 **use and protection ~~((is reflected in the provision that))~~ by requiring permitted**
673 **uses in the shoreline jurisdiction ~~((shall))~~ to be designed and conducted in a**
674 **manner to avoid or minimize, in so far as practical, any resultant damage to the**
675 **ecology and environment of the shoreline area and the public's use of the water.**

676

677 **S-213 King County shall balance shoreline use and shoreline protection when meeting**
678 **the policy goals of the Shoreline Management Act.**

679

680 **~~((H-))~~ Multiple Approaches to Accomplishing Policy Goals**

681 The policy goals in the Shoreline Master Program may be achieved through a variety of methods that go beyond
682 simply regulating development within the shoreline jurisdiction. There are a wide range of non-regulatory tools
683 available that provide incentives for property owners to work cooperatively with King County to achieve these

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684 policy goals. In addition, King County works closely with other public and non((-)profit groups to achieve
685 mutually beneficial objectives.

686

687 **S-214**

**The King County Shoreline Master Program policies may be achieved by a
688 number of different means, both regulatory and non-regulatory. These include,
689 but are not limited to:**

690

a. Regulations controlling development within the shoreline jurisdiction;

691

**b. Acquisition of land and easements by purchase, lease, or gift, either
692 alone or in concert with other local governments;**

693

**c. Accepting grants, contributions, and appropriations from any public or
694 private agency or individuals;**

695

d. Public facility and park planning;

696

e. Watershed planning;

697

f. Voluntary salmon recovery projects; and

698

**g. Incentive programs, such as the transfer of development rights or the
699 public benefit rating system.**

700

701 **~~((IV.))~~ Shoreline Element Policy Goals**

702 **~~((A.))~~ Need for shoreline elements**

703 The Shoreline Management Act requires local master programs to include a number of elements that range from
704 use of shorelines for economic benefit and accommodating necessary infrastructure to protecting both cultural
705 and natural resources. These elements are addressed separately throughout this chapter and are based on the
706 following overarching King County Shoreline Master Program element policy goals.

707

708 **~~((B.))~~ Economic Development Element**

709 King County's economy is the largest and most significant ~~((in the Puget Sound Region and))~~ among counties in
710 Washington State. With almost half of the state's nonagricultural jobs and almost 83,900 businesses, it is
711 essential that the King County accommodate the industries and infrastructure to support a healthy and vibrant
712 economy. Most of the county's industry and infrastructure lies within the incorporated cities and is not subject to
713 the King County Shoreline Master Program. However, there are some portions of the shoreline jurisdiction in
714 unincorporated King County that provide for economic development of the region.

715

716 **S-301**

**King County should plan for the location and design of industries, transportation
717 facilities, port facilities, tourist facilities, commerce, and other developments that
718 are particularly dependent on their location on or use of the shorelines of the
719 state.**

720

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721 **((C.)) Public Access Element**

722 King County believes the shoreline should be accessible to the general public to enjoy and use within the
723 limitations of private property rights and ecological considerations. Since a significant amount of shoreline
724 property is in private ownership, the responsibility to maintain and provide public access falls primarily on public
725 projects. Not all sites are appropriate for use by the public and must be evaluated carefully to ensure that public
726 access can be safely provided without harm. Provisions should also be retained and sought to provide
727 opportunities for the public to enjoy views of the water and shoreline.

728

729 **S-302**

King County shall:

730

a. **Support the public interest with regard to rights to access waters held in public trust by the state, while protecting private property rights and public safety, as well as considering impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions.**

731

732

733

734

b. **Protect the rights of navigation and the space necessary for water-dependent uses.**

735

736

c. **To the greatest extent feasible consistent with the overall best interest of the state and the people generally, protect the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of shorelines of the state, including views of the water.**

737

738

739

740

e. **Regulate the design, construction, and operation of permitted uses in the shorelines of the state to minimize, insofar as practical, interference with the public's use of the water.**

741

742

743

744 When planning shoreline public access, King County should try to achieve an integrated system that can
745 supplement, and be coordinated with, multimodal transportation planning. King County has identified areas of
746 potential public access that will be assessed in more detail through shoreline permits and public projects. The
747 King County Shoreline Public Access Plan (July 2009) provides details on the analysis of existing shoreline
748 public access in King County, identified public access gaps and opportunities, and the resulting shoreline Public
749 Access Plan.

750

751 **S-303**

The King County Shoreline Master Program should increase the amount and diversity of public access to the shoreline jurisdiction in areas identified within a shoreline public access gap. New public access should minimize impacts to shoreline ecological processes and functions, preserve natural shoreline character as much as possible, protect private property rights, and consider public safety.

752

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757

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758 **S-304** Public agencies, including local governments, port districts, state agencies, and
 759 public utility districts, should include public access in their development
 760 proposals if public access is compatible with the activity and can be provided
 761 safely. An assessment of the impact of public access on the shoreline and
 762 constructed features should also be conducted.

764 **S-305** King County shall require public access to shorelines of the state for
 765 water-enjoyment, water-related, and nonwater-dependent non-residential uses
 766 and for subdivisions of land into more than four parcels unless:
 767 a. The development proposal is not compatible with public access;
 768 b. There is a safety or security concern;
 769 c. Inclusion of public access will have an environmental impact that cannot
 770 be mitigated; or
 771 d. There are legal limitations on allowing public access.

773 **S-306** King County shall adopt development regulations that establish maximum
 774 building height limits, setbacks, and view corridors to minimize the impact to
 775 existing views from public property or a substantial number of residences.
 776 Where providing direct public access or allowing for water dependent shoreline
 777 uses conflicts with maintaining existing views, the direct public access or water
 778 dependent shoreline uses shall have priority.

780 **~~(D.)~~ Recreational Element**

781 Shorelines provide many opportunities for recreation, such as boating, swimming, beach combing, hiking, and
 782 nature viewing. Since much of the shoreline jurisdiction is in private ownership, using public lands for
 783 recreation will become increasingly important. Opportunities should be sought through public projects to protect
 784 and enhance recreational opportunities.

786 **S-307** King County should protect and, when possible, expand recreational
 787 opportunities, including but not limited to parks, beaches, tidelands, swimming
 788 beaches and boat launches.

790 **S-308** King County should evaluate opportunities to acquire shoreline property for
 791 purposes of public recreation from willing sellers of private property.

793 **~~(E.)~~ Circulation Element**

794 Circulation and transportation planning is conducted at many levels in King County. The overarching
 795 transportation planning agency in the Puget Sound region is the Puget Sound Regional Council, an association
 796 of cities, ~~((towns,))~~ counties, ports, and state agencies that serves as a forum for developing policies and making

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797 decisions about growth and transportation issues in the Puget Sound region. At the local level, cities and
798 counties approve local circulation patterns for their individual jurisdictions. King County should consider the
799 policy goals in this Shoreline Master Program when participating in regional and local transportation planning
800 discussions.

801

802 **S-309 The King County Shoreline Master Program should guide the ((e))County's**
803 **transportation plans and projects within the shoreline jurisdiction.**

804

805 **~~((F.))~~ Land Use Element**

806 Land use in King County is established through implementation of the Washington State Growth Management
807 Act. To implement the Growth Management Act, King County relies primarily on the King County
808 Comprehensive Plan and functional plans that are adopted as part of this Comprehensive Plan for facilities and
809 services. This Comprehensive Plan establishes an Urban Growth Area and designates land use and zoning for
810 the unincorporated portions of King County. It also delineates and protects Agricultural Production Districts,
811 Forest Production Districts, and mineral resource sites.

812

813 **S-310 The King County Comprehensive Plan should consider the policy goals of the**
814 **King County Shoreline Master Program when designating land use and zoning on**
815 **shorelines of the state and adjacent lands.**

816

817 **~~((G.))~~ Conservation Element**

818 The Shoreline Management Act requires local master programs to include a conservation element for the
819 preservation of natural resources, including critical areas, scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital freshwater, saltwater
820 and estuarine areas for fish and wildlife.

821

822 **~~((I.))~~ Critical areas**

823 King County's critical areas ordinance is based on best available science and protects coal mine hazard areas;
824 erosion hazard areas; flood hazard areas; seismic hazard areas; landslide hazard areas; volcanic hazard areas;
825 steep slope hazard areas; critical aquifer recharge areas; wetlands; aquatic areas (including lakes, rivers and
826 streams and marine areas); and wildlife habitat conservation areas. The Growth Management Act requires that
827 a Shoreline Master Program provide a level of protection for critical areas located within shorelines that assures
828 no net loss of shoreline ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources. Policy S-403 adopts
829 this requirement.

830

831 Past development of the shorelines has degraded the habitat for many species by activities such as armoring
832 banks against wave action and the erosive force of water flowing downstream; removal of vegetation;
833 straightening channels; installing in-stream structures for flood control, hydroelectricity, and water supply; and

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834 allowing stormwater runoff that degrades water quality. Degraded shorelines should be restored and shorelines
835 that are in good condition should be preserved.

836

837 **S-311 King County shall protect shoreline critical areas and, where possible, should**
838 **restore degraded habitat and critical area functions and values.**

839

840 **((2)) Scenic vistas**

841 The natural topography of King County provides numerous scenic vistas of the shoreline. King County should
842 ensure that development occurring both within and outside the shorelines of the state avoids impacts on scenic
843 vistas and protects view corridors while balancing other policy goals of this plan.

844

845 **S-312 King County should consider and, when possible, require protection of scenic**
846 **vistas of the shoreline jurisdiction when reviewing public and private**
847 **development proposals.**

848

849 **((3)) Aesthetics**

850 Natural shorelines are visually aesthetic in their natural state. When these shorelines are altered through
851 development, the aesthetic value of the shoreline should be preserved as much as possible. In areas where
852 shorelines have already been developed with little consideration of the aesthetics, restoration should return the
853 shoreline to an aesthetically-pleasing environment.

854

855 **S-313 King County should ensure that public and private development proposals**
856 **protect and restore the aesthetic quality of shorelines in the project design.**

857

858 **((H-)) Historic, Cultural, Scientific and Educational Element**

859 The historic, cultural, scientific, and educational element provides for protection and restoration of historic
860 resources. Historic resources include historic building, sites, objects, districts and landscapes, prehistoric and
861 historic archaeological resources, and traditional cultural places.

862

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- 863 **S-314** Historic resources in the shoreline jurisdiction should be protected to prevent
864 the destruction of, or damage to, any site having archaeological, historic,
865 cultural, or scientific value through coordination and consultation with the
866 appropriate local, state and federal authorities, including affected Indian tribes.
- 867 a. Sites should be protected in collaboration with appropriate Indian tribal,
868 state, federal, and other local governments. Cooperation among public
869 and private parties ~~((is to))~~ should be encouraged in the identification,
870 protection, and management of cultural resources.
- 871 b. Where appropriate, access to such sites should be made available to
872 parties of interest. Access to such sites ~~((must))~~ shall be designed and
873 managed in a manner that gives maximum protection to the resource.
- 874 c. Opportunities for education related to archaeological, historical, and
875 cultural features should be provided where appropriate and incorporated
876 into public and private programs and development.
877
- 878 **S-315** King County should work with Indian tribal, state, federal, and local governments
879 to maintain an inventory of all known historic resources. King County shall
880 protect these inventories from public disclosure to the extent permitted or
881 required under applicable federal and state law. As appropriate, such sites
882 should be preserved and restored for study, education, and public enjoyment to
883 the maximum possible extent.
884
- 885 **S-316** Provisions for historic resource preservation, restoration and education should
886 be incorporated with open space or recreation areas in site development plans
887 whenever compatible and possible.
888
- 889 **S-317** Cooperation among involved private and public parties should be encouraged to
890 achieve these historic, cultural, scientific, and educational objectives.
891
- 892 **S-318** Private and public owners of historic resources should be encouraged to provide
893 public access and educational opportunities at levels consistent with long term
894 protection of both historic values and shoreline ecological processes and
895 functions. Site-specific conditions may require public site access to be
896 restricted at times, but educational means should be provided whenever
897 possible.
898
- 899 **S-319** Historic resource development should be planned and carried out so as to
900 prevent impacts to the resource. Impacts to neighboring properties and other
901 shoreline uses should be limited to temporary or reasonable levels.
902

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903 **S-320** Owners of historic resource are encouraged to make substantial development
904 plans known well in advance of application so that appropriate agencies, such as
905 the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation,
906 Indian ((T))tribes, and others, may have ample time to assess the site and make
907 arrangements to preserve historic, cultural, scientific, and educational values as
908 applicable.

909
910 **S-321** If development is proposed adjacent to an historic resource, the proposed
911 development should be designed and operated so as to be compatible with
912 continued protection of the historic, cultural or archaeological resource.
913

914 **~~((V.))~~ Shoreline Plan Relationship to Other Laws**

915 **~~((A. — Washington's Growth Management Act~~**

916 ~~The Growth Management Act, passed by the Washington State Legislature in 1990 and 1991, seeks to further~~
917 ~~protect the quality of life in Washington State. The Growth Management Act requires that the state's most~~
918 ~~populous and fastest growing counties and their cities prepare comprehensive land use plans that anticipate~~
919 ~~growth for a 20-year horizon. Smaller communities and those communities that are experiencing a slow rate of~~
920 ~~growth may choose to plan under the Growth Management Act, but are not required to do so. Comprehensive~~
921 ~~Plans adopted in accordance with the Growth Management Act must manage growth so that development is~~
922 ~~directed to designated urban areas and away from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The Growth~~
923 ~~Management Act also requires local governments to designate and protect critical areas and to identify and~~
924 ~~protect natural resource lands, which include commercially significant forestry, agriculture, and mining areas. In~~
925 ~~1997, the Washington State Legislature amended both the Growth Management Act and the Shoreline~~
926 ~~Management Act in an effort to achieve consistency between the two statutes. Among the amendments to the~~
927 ~~Growth Management Act was a provision that makes the policies and goals of the Shoreline Management Act~~
928 ~~also policies and goals of the Growth Management Act. See Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.480.~~

929
930 **~~S-401 ————— The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with the~~**
931 **~~Washington State Growth Management Act.~~**

932
933 **~~B. — King County Countywide Planning Policies~~**

934 ~~King County, along with the City of Seattle, City of Bellevue, and suburban cities established the Growth~~
935 ~~Management Planning Council to prepare a coordinated policy framework for future development in King~~
936 ~~County. In July 1992, the Growth Management Planning Council adopted Phase 1 of the Countywide Planning~~
937 ~~Policies. Phase 2 was adopted in 1994. The King County Countywide Planning Policies have been ratified by a~~
938 ~~majority of the jurisdictions in King County and therefore apply to all jurisdictions. The Countywide Planning~~
939 ~~Policies address critical areas, land use patterns, transportation, community character and open space, affordable~~

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940 housing, development and provision of urban services, siting of public capital facilities, economic development,
941 and regional financing and governance.

942

943 ~~S-402~~ ~~The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with and~~
944 ~~coordinated with the King County Countywide Planning Policies.~~

945

946 **~~C.)~~ Critical Areas Regulations**

947 Critical areas located within shorelines are regulated under the Shoreline Management Act and implemented
948 through local Shoreline Master Programs. The Growth Management Act requires that shoreline master
949 programs provide a level of protection for shoreline critical areas that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological
950 functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources.

951

952 **S-403** **The King County Shoreline Master Program and implementing regulations shall**
953 **provide a level of protection for critical areas in the shoreline jurisdiction that**
954 **assures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions necessary to sustain**
955 **shoreline natural resources.**

956

957 The Shoreline Management Act provides options for assuring consistency with the Growth Management Act
958 protection of critical areas. These options range from including the Growth Management Act critical areas
959 regulations in the Shoreline Master Program to preparing a discrete set of shoreline regulations.

960

961 **S-404** **The King County Shoreline Master Program includes by reference portions of the**
962 **King County critical areas regulations into the Shoreline Master Program to meet**
963 **the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.090((3) and**
964 **90.58.090(4)).**

965

966 **~~(D.)~~ Zoning, Clearing and Grading, and Stormwater Regulations**

967 King County has adopted a wide array of development regulations that protect various aspects of the
968 environment and implement other King County policies. These regulations generally include King County's
969 surface water management regulations, clearing and grading regulations, and zoning. In the shoreline
970 jurisdiction, the Shoreline Master Program may impose additional requirements. Shoreline development
971 regulations must:

- 972 1. Be sufficient in scope and detail to ensure implementation of the Shoreline Management Act statewide
973 shoreline management policies, this chapter, and the King County Comprehensive Plan and functional
974 plans adopted to implement the Comprehensive Plan;
- 975 2. Include regulations that apply to the environmental designations classified under Washington
976 Administrative Code 173-26-211;

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- 977 3. Include general regulations, specific use regulations that address issues of concern in regard to specific
978 uses, and modification regulations;
- 979 4. Include clearing and grading and stormwater regulations that protect the ecological processes and
980 functions of the shorelines; and
- 981 5. Design and implement regulations and mitigation standards in a manner consistent with all relevant
982 constitutional and other legal limitations on the regulation of private property. (Revised Code of
983 Washington 90.58.100)

984

985 However, to the extent that it can, consistent with requirements of the Shoreline Management Act, King County
986 will rely on its existing regulations to meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act.

987

988 **S-405 To the maximum extent practical, King County's Shoreline Master Program shall**
989 **rely on King County's existing regulations, including critical areas regulations,**
990 **surface water management regulations, clearing and grading regulations, and**
991 **zoning ((in order)) to comply with the Shoreline Management Act and the**
992 **Ecology's guidelines.**

993

994 **~~(E.)~~ Flood Hazard Management Plan**

995 The King County Flood Hazard Management Plan directs floodplain management within King County. This
996 Plan was developed in coordination with incorporated cities within King County as directed by Revised Code of
997 Washington 86.12.210 and is binding on each jurisdiction located within King County. The goals of the King
998 County Flood Hazard Management Plan are:

- 999 1. To reduce the risks from flood and channel migration hazards.
- 1000 2. To avoid or minimize the environmental impacts of flood hazard management.
- 1001 3. To reduce the long-term costs of flood hazard management.

1002 Flood hazard regulations are implemented within unincorporated King County. Each jurisdiction within King
1003 County is required under the Flood Hazard Management Plan to adopt flood hazard management regulations
1004 that meet the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

1005

1006 In 2007, the King County Council approved the formation of a countywide Flood Control Zone District under
1007 the authority in Revised Code of Washington 86.15.025. The overarching countywide strategies and objectives
1008 include:

- 1009 1. Improving levee protection through major commercial, industrial and residential areas;
- 1010 2. Improving flood water conveyance and capacity;
- 1011 3. Reducing hazards by removing flood, erosion, and landslide prone residential structures;
- 1012 4. Providing safe access to homes and businesses by protecting key transportation routes;
- 1013 5. Minimizing creation of new risks to public safety from development pressure.

1014

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1015 The King County Flood Control Zone District is governed by a District Board of Supervisors that consists of the
1016 members of the King County Council. An advisory committee advises the board of supervisors of the Flood
1017 Control Zone District on regional flood protection issues by providing recommendations to the board of
1018 supervisors on the district's work program and budget, including capital improvement program projects. King
1019 County will rely on the Flood Hazard Management Plan and the Flood Control Zone District to meet the
1020 general shoreline master program provisions for flood hazard reduction in Washington Administrative Code
1021 173-26-221(((3))).

1022

1023 **S-406** **The King County Shoreline Master Program ((will)) shall rely on the policies and**
1024 **programs established in the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan and**
1025 **flood hazard regulations to meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management**
1026 **Act and the Department of Ecology's guidelines for flood hazard reduction.**

1027

1028 ~~((VI.))~~ **Shoreline Environment Designations**

1029 ~~((A.))~~ **Introduction to shoreline environment designations**

1030 Shoreline management addresses a wide range of physical conditions and development settings. The Shoreline
1031 Master Program classifies shoreline reaches into defined environment designations, based on the existing use
1032 pattern, the current biological and physical character of the shoreline, and the goals and aspirations of the
1033 community. King County prescribes environmental protection measures, allowable use provisions, and
1034 development standards for each shoreline environment designation.

1035

1036 King County has established eight shoreline environment designations:

- 1037 • ~~((A.))~~ High Intensity Shoreline
- 1038 • ~~((B.))~~ Residential Shoreline
- 1039 • ~~((C.))~~ Rural Shoreline
- 1040 • ~~((D.))~~ Conservancy Shoreline
- 1041 • ~~((E.))~~ Resource Shoreline
- 1042 • ~~((F.))~~ Forestry Shoreline
- 1043 • ~~((G.))~~ Natural Shoreline
- 1044 • ~~((H.))~~ Aquatic

1045

1046 This section sets forth the purpose, criteria, and management policies for each shoreline environment. The
1047 Shoreline Environment Designation maps at the end of this chapter show how the environment designations
1048 apply to shoreline reaches within the shoreline jurisdiction in unincorporated King County. Shoreline areas that
1049 meet the jurisdictional criteria, but that are not mapped or designated, are assigned a Conservancy designation
1050 until the Shoreline Master Program is amended to assign a shoreline environment to that shoreline reach.

1051

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1052

1053 **Environment Designation Criteria**

1054 King County has a long history of comprehensive planning and basin planning. Beginning in the 1980s, basin
1055 plans were developed throughout the county and helped identify fragile aquatic resources. Relying on these
1056 plans, King County has assigned zoning that is appropriate given the nature of the resources that need
1057 protection. As a result, fragile resources generally have zoning classifications that permit only low intensity
1058 development. King County's zoning regulations limit high intensity development to urban areas designated
1059 under the Countywide Planning Policies and the King County Comprehensive Plan.

1060

1061 King County recognizes, however, that zoning by itself is insufficient to determine the shoreline environment
1062 designations. Other factors are also important in assuring that the shoreline environment designations help King
1063 County achieve the goals of the Shoreline Management Act. These factors include, for a given shoreline:

- 1064 • Existing development patterns together with zoning, the King County Comprehensive Plan land use
1065 designations and other officially adopted plans;
- 1066 • Existing shoreline ecological processes and functions and the degree of human alteration;
- 1067 • Whether the reach has a restoration priority that demonstrates it has both basin conditions and existing
1068 shoreline condition that support extra efforts to maintain shoreline ecological processes and functions
1069 and the length of such reaches;
- 1070 • Federal, state, county, Indian tribal and municipal watershed ownership status;
- 1071 • The goals of King County residents for their shorelines as set forth in this chapter;
- 1072 • Pursuant to Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100(~~((4))~~), for state-owned shorelines the public
1073 demand for wilderness beaches and other recreational activities and for ecological study areas; and
- 1074 • Other state policies in the Shoreline Management Act and the Department of Ecology's guidelines
1075 (Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020 and Chapter 173-26 Washington Administrative Code
1076 (~~((173-26))~~), respectively).

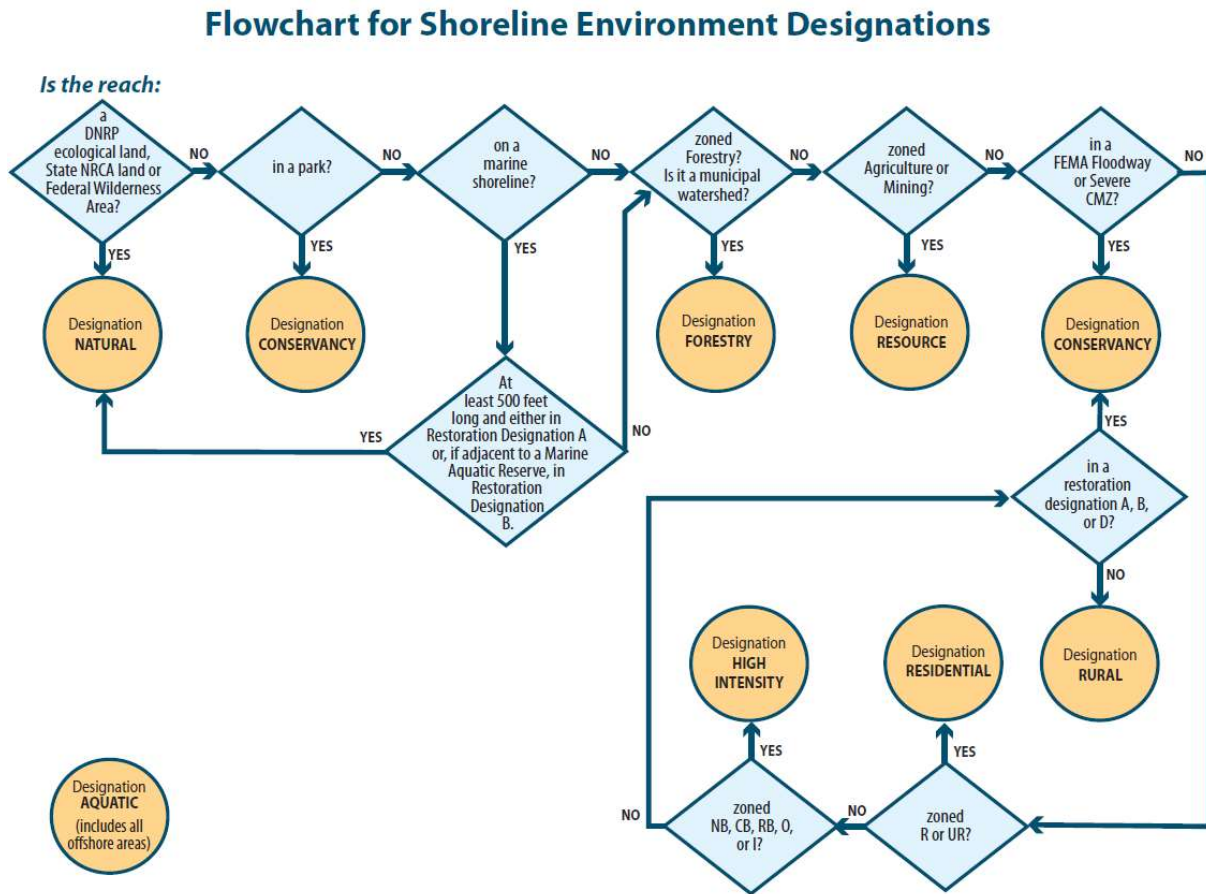
1077

1078 Figure S-1 depicts the decision(-)-making process that is used to determine the appropriate shoreline
1079 environment designation for a given shoreline.

1080

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1081 **Figure S-1: Pathway of decisions in applying criteria to produce shoreline designations.**



1082

1083

1084 The shoreline environment designations take into account several elements. Areas currently meeting the criteria
 1085 for high levels of protection are given greater levels of protection. The determination of whether an area deserves
 1086 a greater level of protection is based either on its current ownership and condition, ((e.g.)) such as publicly
 1087 owned natural areas or wilderness areas, or on its restoration rating. The restoration rating is discussed in more
 1088 detail below. Zoning is also an important criterion. King County has for years implemented zoning as a means
 1089 to protect more sensitive areas from intense development. Shoreline environment designations also take into
 1090 account whether a reach is located within a floodway and severe channel migration hazard area and gives
 1091 greater protection to these areas due to their importance in maintaining shoreline ecological processes and
 1092 functions and because of public health and safety concerns.

1093

1094 The restoration rating (see King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan (July 2009)) is included in
 1095 the designation as a way to incorporate more strongly the current degree of alteration along the shoreline, the
 1096 biological importance of the reach in a watershed context, and the restoration priorities associated with the
 1097 combination of the two analyses. The restoration designations are largely concerned with whether it is most
 1098 appropriate to implement measures to protect or conserve a site, restore it to a previous condition, or undertake
 1099 projects to enhance its current condition or to create new features with shoreline ecological processes and

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1100 functions. These ratings also provide guidance on areas where it is important to protect existing shoreline
1101 ecological processes and functions.

1102

1103 Restoration ratings combine the reach characterization based on the results from an alterations analysis with the
1104 context of basin analyses (See Table S-2). The reach or drift cell characterization is an assessment of the extent
1105 to which ecosystem structure, processes, and, ultimately, functions for a reach or drift cell are affected by
1106 anthropogenic factors. Scores resulting from this assessment are indicative of the degree to which shoreline
1107 ecological processes have been altered and impaired. The reach characterizations are found in King County
1108 Shoreline Inventory and Characterization: Methodology and Results (May 2007). The basin analysis is based on
1109 the Basin Condition Map adopted by the King County Council in King County Code 21A.24.065.

1110

1111 **Table S-2. Restoration scores and associated actions.**

Restoration Score	Basin Condition	Reach Condition	Actions
A	High	High	Conserve, Preserve
B	High	Moderate	Conserve, Preserve, Restore, Enhance
C	High	Low	Restore, Enhance
D	Moderate	High	Conserve, Enhance, Restore, Preserve
E	Moderate	Moderate	Conserve, Enhance, Restore
F	Moderate	Low	Enhance, Restore
G	Low	High	Enhance, Conserve
H	Low	Moderate	Enhance, Create
I	Low	Low	Enhance, Create

1112

1113 Each designation has specific restoration goals associated with it, based on the conditions observed onsite and in
1114 the basin. Depending on condition, as indicated by the degree of alteration, reaches and drift cells were placed
1115 into one of nine categories of preferred actions. These range from preservation and conservation under the
1116 highest conditions (high basin and reach conditions, ((i.e.,)) meaning the least altered from natural) to
1117 enhancement and creation under the poorest condition (low basin and reach conditions, the most altered from
1118 natural).

1119

1120 The various actions are defined as follows:

- 1121 • **Preserve** – To protect intact processes, often through acquiring lands or easements to exclude activities
1122 that may negatively affect the environment.
- 1123 • **Conserve** – To maintain biodiversity by protecting or increasing the natural potential of landscapes to
1124 support multiple native species. Typically, this is accomplished through financial incentives for
1125 landowners intended to offset any economic loss resulting from managing the land for conservation.

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- 1126 • **Restore** – To transform degraded conditions to a close approximation of historical conditions.
1127 Restoration generally involves more intense and extensive modification and manipulation of site
1128 conditions than would occur with enhancement projects. Example actions include levee breaching,
1129 removal, or setback.
- 1130 • **Enhance** – To improve a targeted ecological attribute and/or process. Example actions may include
1131 culvert replacement, riparian plantings and fencing, invasive species removal, and streambank
1132 stabilization.
- 1133 • **Create** – To construct or place habitat features where they did not previously exist (~~(in order)~~) to foster
1134 development of a functioning ecosystem. Examples include tidal channel excavation and the placement
1135 of dredge material intended to create marsh or other habitat. Creation represents the most experimental
1136 approach and, therefore, may have a lower degree of success, particularly when landscape-scale
1137 ecological processes are not sufficient to support the created habitat type.

1138
1139 The marine shoreline, which in unincorporated King County occurs only around Vashon-Maury Island, is
1140 treated a little differently than freshwater shorelines in the designation strategy. This is in recognition of both the
1141 differing character of marine shorelines, which are subject to tidal influences, wakes from large commercial
1142 vessels, and some variation in the ecological processes affecting them, as well as the creation of the Maury Island
1143 Environmental Aquatic Reserve along Maury Island and Quartermaster Harbor shorelines by the Washington
1144 state Department of Natural Resources. More protection by shoreline designation was afforded to marine
1145 shorelines with active feeder bluffs and little alteration to processes. As a result, in these areas, areas with a
1146 restoration rating of A or B were designated natural in recognition of the importance of conserving existing
1147 shoreline ecological functions and processes in this area.

1148

1149 **~~(B-)~~ High Intensity Shoreline Environment**

1150 **Purpose**

1151 The purpose of the High Intensity Shoreline Environment is to provide for high intensity water-oriented
1152 commercial and industrial uses.

1153

1154 **High Intensity Designation Criteria**

- 1155 **S-501** **A shoreline may be designated High Intensity if the shoreland is characterized by**
1156 **high intensity development or uses or is zoned Neighborhood Business (NB),**
1157 **Commercial Business (CB), Regional Business (RB), Office (O), or Industrial (I),**
1158 **and:**
- 1159 **a.** **The shoreland does not contain limitations on urban uses, such as**
1160 **geological hazards or flood hazards; and**
 - 1161 **b.** **The shoreline does not provide important shoreline ecological**
1162 **processes and functions that would be significantly compromised by**
1163 **high intensity residential, commercial, or industrial use.**

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1164

1165 **High Intensity Management Policies:**

1166 **S-502** In the High Intensity Shoreline Environment, King County shall give priority to
1167 non-residential land uses that are water-dependent or water-related.

1168

1169 **S-503** King County shall discourage non-water-oriented, non-residential land uses in
1170 the High Intensity Shoreline Environment. Shoreline mixed-use developments
1171 that include and support water dependent uses may be allowed. King County
1172 should allow non-water-oriented land uses in the High Intensity Shoreline
1173 Environment only in limited situations and only if they do not conflict with or limit
1174 opportunities for water-dependent uses or are located on sites where there is no
1175 direct access to the shoreline.

1176

1177 **S-504** Prior to allowing expansion of a high intensity non-water-oriented use in the
1178 shoreline environment, King County shall determine that there is no feasible
1179 alternative for locating the expansion outside of the shoreline jurisdiction.

1180

1181 **S-505** King County should require visual or physical public shoreline access to be
1182 provided whenever feasible in the High Intensity Shoreline Environment.

1183

1184 **S-506** King County shall protect the aesthetic character of the shoreline in the High
1185 Intensity Shoreline Environment through development regulations, including
1186 sign controls, development siting criteria, screening requirements and
1187 architectural standards, landscaping requirements and maintenance of natural
1188 vegetation.

1189

1190 **S-507** King County shall require that the scale and intensity of new uses and
1191 development within the High Intensity Environment is compatible with, and
1192 protects or enhances, the existing character of the area.

1193

1194 **~~(C.)~~ Residential Shoreline Environment**1195 **Purpose**

1196 The purpose of the Residential Shoreline Environment is to accommodate residential and commercial uses on a
1197 scale appropriate with urban residential zones.

1198

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1199 **Residential Shoreline Designation Criteria**

1200 **S-508** A shoreline may be designated Residential Shoreline if the shoreland is
 1201 characterized by urban levels of residential development or uses or is zoned
 1202 Urban Residential (R) or Urban Reserve (UR) and:
 1203 a. The shoreland does not contain limitations on urban uses, such as
 1204 geological hazards or flood hazards; and
 1205 b. The shoreline not provide important shoreline ecological processes and
 1206 functions that would be significantly compromised by urban levels of
 1207 residential development.
 1208

1209 **Residential Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**

1210 **S-509** King County shall require that the scale and intensity of new uses and
 1211 development within the Residential Shoreline Environment is compatible with((,))
 1212 and protects or enhances the existing character of the area.
 1213

1214 **S-510** King County should encourage public or private outdoor recreation facilities that
 1215 are compatible with the character of the area in the Residential Shoreline
 1216 Environment. Water-dependent and water-enjoyment recreation facilities that
 1217 provide opportunities for people to access and enjoy the shoreline are preferred
 1218 uses in the Residential Shoreline Environment.
 1219

1220 **S-511** King County should discourage non-water-oriented commercial uses in the
 1221 Residential Shoreline Environment. A non-water-oriented commercial use may
 1222 be allowed as part of a shoreline mixed-use development or if the
 1223 non-water-oriented use provides a substantial benefit with respect to the goals
 1224 and policies of this Program, such as providing public access or restoring
 1225 degraded shorelines.
 1226

1227 **~~(D-)~~ Rural Shoreline Environment**

1228 **Purpose**

1229 The purpose of the Rural Shoreline Environment is to accommodate land uses normally associated with rural
 1230 levels of development while providing appropriate public access and recreational uses to the maximum extent
 1231 practicable.
 1232

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD**

1233 **Rural Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**

- 1234 **S-512** A shoreline may be designated Rural Shoreline if the shoreland is characterized
1235 by rural levels of development or if the shoreland is zoned Rural Area (RA-2.5,
1236 RA-5, RA-10, and RA-20) and:
- 1237 a. The shoreland does not contain limitations on rural residential uses,
1238 such as geological hazards or flood hazards; and
 - 1239 b. The shoreline does not provide important shoreline ecological
1240 processes and functions that would be significantly compromised by
1241 rural levels of residential development.

1242

1243 **Rural Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**

- 1244 **S-513** King County should limit uses in the Rural Shoreline Environment to those rural
1245 development activities and associated services that sustain the shoreline's
1246 physical and biological resources and that protect options for restoration to
1247 maximum extent practicable given the nature of rural development.

1248

- 1249 **S-514** King County should require that multi-family and multi-lot residential and
1250 recreational developments in the Rural Shoreline Environment provide public
1251 access and joint use for community recreational facilities.

1252

1253 **~~(E.)~~ Conservancy Shoreline Environment**

1254 **Purpose**

1255 The purpose of the Conservancy Shoreline Environment is to conserve areas that are a high priority for
1256 restoration, include valuable historic properties or provide recreational opportunities.

1257

1258 **Conservancy Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**

- 1259 **S-515** A shoreline may be designated Conservancy Shoreline if it is in an area where
1260 important shoreline ecological processes have not been substantially degraded
1261 by human activities, where important shoreline ecological processes would be
1262 degraded by development or present a public health or safety risk, or where the
1263 shoreline is in public ownership and is managed for public access or recreation.
1264 Areas that may be included in Conservancy Shoreline are:
- 1265 a. Shoreline reaches primarily within an identified FEMA floodway or
1266 severe channel migration hazard zone;
 - 1267 b. Lake shorelines or river shorelines with a restoration plan rating of A, B,
1268 or D;
 - 1269 c. Marine shorelines with a restoration plan rating of A, B, or D; and
 - 1270 d. Shorelines in public ownership and managed for public access or
1271 recreation.

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1272

1273 **Conservancy Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**1274 **S-516**

King County should limit uses in the Conservancy Shoreline Environment to those that sustain the shoreline area's physical and biological resources or to uses of a nonpermanent nature that do not substantially degrade the rural or natural character of the shoreline area or disturb historic and cultural resources.

1277

1278

King County should discourage non-residential uses in the Conservancy

1279

Shoreline except as follows:

1280

a. King County should allow aquaculture, forestry and agriculture in the Conservancy Shoreline Environment; and

1281

1282

b. King County should allow water-dependent and water-enjoyment recreation facilities as preferred uses if significant adverse impacts to the shoreline are mitigated.

1283

1284

1285

1286 **S-517**

King County shall require that new uses or development in the Conservancy Shoreline Environment preserve the existing character of the shoreline consistent with the purpose of the environment, including:

1287

1288

a. Limiting the total effective impervious surface in the shoreline jurisdiction to no more than ~~((ten))~~ **10** percent ~~((in order))~~ to maintain the existing hydrologic character of the site; and

1289

1290

1291

1292

b. Allowing more effective impervious surface coverage on lots legally created prior to the date of adoption of this update to King County's Shoreline Master Program. In these cases, effective impervious surface coverage shall be limited to the maximum extent practicable.

1293

1294

1295

1296

1297 **~~((F.))~~ Resource Shoreline Environment**1298 **Purpose**

1299

The purpose of the Resource Shoreline Environment is to allow for mining and agricultural uses on lands that have been designated under the Growth Management Act as agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance or mineral resource lands where those lands do not provide significant shoreline ecological processes and functions.

1300

1301

1302

1303

1304 **Resource Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**1305 **S-518**

A shoreline may be designated Resource Shoreline if the shoreland is zoned Agriculture or Mineral and the shoreline is not designated Natural Shoreline under Policy S-525.

1306

1307

1308

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1309 **Resource Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**

1310 **S-519** King County should limit uses in the Resource Shoreline Environment to
1311 agricultural and mining activities.

1312
1313 **S-520** King County shall adopt development standards for the Resource Shoreline
1314 Environment to preserve the existing character of the shoreline consistent with
1315 the purpose of the environment.
1316

1317 **~~((G-))~~ Forestry Shoreline Environment**

1318 **Purpose**

1319 The purpose of the Forestry Shoreline Environment is to allow for forestry uses in the Forest Production District
1320 and to protect municipal watersheds.
1321

1322 **Forestry Shoreline Designation Criteria**

1323 **S-521** A shoreline may be designated Forestry Shoreline if the shoreland is within the
1324 Forest Production District and the shoreline is not designated as a Natural
1325 Shoreline or a Conservancy Shoreline.
1326

1327 **Forestry Shoreline Management Policies:**

1328 **S-522** King County shall require forest practices in the Forestry Shoreline Environment
1329 to comply with standards that provide protection for shoreline ecological
1330 processes and functions equal to or greater than the forest practice rules
1331 adopted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (~~and in~~
1332 ~~effect on January 1, 2007~~)).
1333

1334 **S-523** King County shall allow activities related to the direct management and delivery
1335 of municipal domestic water supplies in the Forestry Shoreline Environment only
1336 when consistent with municipal domestic water supply best management
1337 practices.
1338

1339 **S-524** King County shall allow agricultural and aquaculture uses within the Forestry
1340 Shoreline Environment if the use is subject to appropriate limitations or
1341 conditions to ensure that the use does not expand or alter practices in a manner
1342 inconsistent with the purpose of the designation.
1343

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1344 **((H-)) Natural Shoreline Environment**

1345 **Purpose**

1346 The purpose of the Natural Shoreline Environment is to protect those shoreline areas that are relatively free of
1347 human influence and are of high ecological quality. This designation allows only very low intensity uses ((~~in~~
1348 ~~order~~)) to maintain the existing high levels of ecological process and function.

1349

1350 **Natural Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**

1351 **S-525**

A shoreline may be designated Natural Shoreline if the shoreline is:

- 1352 a. **Of high ecological quality and is performing an important, irreplaceable**
1353 **ecological process or function that would be damaged by human**
1354 **activity;**
1355 b. **Unable to support new development or uses without significant adverse**
1356 **impacts to shoreline ecological processes and functions or risk to**
1357 **human safety;**
1358 c. **A federally designated wilderness area or in an area managed by the**
1359 **King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks as natural**
1360 **lands; or**
1361 d. **A marine shoreline reach that extends at least five hundred feet along**
1362 **the ordinary high water mark and either has a restoration plan rating of A**
1363 **or has a restoration plan rating of B and is located adjacent to the Maury**
1364 **Island Marine Aquatic Reserve.**

1365

1366 **Natural Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**

1367 **S-526**

**King County shall not allow new shoreline armoring in the Natural Shoreline
Environment.**

1368

1370 **S-527**

**King County shall not allow the following new uses in the Natural Shoreline
Environment:**

- 1371
1372 a. **Commercial uses;**
1373 b. **Industrial uses;**
1374 c. **Nonwater-oriented recreation uses that require shoreline modification**
1375 **((~~in order~~)) to provide shoreline access;**
1376 d. **Mining and associated facilities, such as docks, piers, and loading**
1377 **facilities; and**
1378 e. **Transportation facilities, utility corridors, and parking areas that can be**
1379 **located outside of the Natural Shoreline Environment.**

1380

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1381 **S-528** King County may allow single ((family)) detached residential development in the
 1382 Natural Shoreline Environment as a shoreline conditional use if the scale and
 1383 intensity of the use is limited to protect shoreline ecological processes and
 1384 functions and is consistent with the purpose of the environment. King County
 1385 shall require new subdivisions and short-subdivisions in the Natural Shoreline
 1386 Environment to locate new structures and impervious surfaces outside of the
 1387 shoreline jurisdiction to the maximum extent practicable.
 1388

1389 **S-529** King County shall allow scientific, historical, cultural, and educational research
 1390 uses in the Natural Shoreline Environment if no significant ecological impact on
 1391 the area will result.
 1392

1393 **S-530** Except for removal of noxious weeds or invasive vegetation as provided for in
 1394 S-645, King County shall not allow vegetation removal in the Natural Shoreline
 1395 Environment that will reduce the capability of vegetation to perform normal
 1396 ecological processes and functions.
 1397

1398 **S-531** King County shall allow agricultural and aquaculture uses of a very low intensity
 1399 nature within the Natural Shoreline Environment if the use is subject to
 1400 appropriate limitations or conditions to ensure that the use does not expand or
 1401 alter practices in a manner inconsistent with the purpose of the designation.
 1402

1403 **S-532** King County shall allow passive and low((-))_impact recreational activities in the
 1404 Natural Shoreline Environment. New passive and low impact recreation activities
 1405 shall use designs that avoid or minimize impacts to shoreline processes and
 1406 functions. Maintenance of trails and campsites shall minimize disturbance and
 1407 restoration of impacted areas is encouraged.
 1408

1409 **S-533** King County should use tax incentives, easements, and buyouts to protect
 1410 shorelines in the Natural Shoreline Environment with important fish and wildlife
 1411 habitat at risk from moderate to high intensity development.
 1412

1413 **~~(I-)~~ Aquatic Environment**

1414 **Purpose**

1415 The purpose of the Aquatic Environment is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and
 1416 resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.
 1417

1418 **Aquatic Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**

1419 **S-534** A shoreline shall be designated Aquatic if it is waterward of the ordinary high
 1420 water mark of the shoreline.

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1421

1422 **Aquatic Shoreline Environment Management Policies:**

1423 **S-535** King County shall allow new in-water and over-water structures in the Aquatic
1424 Shoreline Environment only for water-dependent uses, public access, or
1425 ecological restoration.

1426

1427 **S-536** King County shall limit the size of new over-water structures in the Aquatic
1428 Shoreline Environment to the minimum necessary to support the structure's
1429 intended use.

1430

1431 **S-537** King County shall encourage multiple uses of over-water facilities in the Aquatic
1432 Shoreline Environment ~~((in order))~~ to reduce the impacts of shoreline
1433 development and increase the effective use of water resources.

1434

1435 **S-538** King County shall require all developments and uses on navigable waters or their
1436 beds in the Aquatic Shoreline Environment to be located and designed to
1437 minimize interference with surface navigation, to consider impacts to public
1438 views, and to allow for the safe, unobstructed passage of fish and wildlife and
1439 materials necessary to create or sustain their habitat, particularly those species
1440 dependent on migration.

1441

1442 **S-539** King County shall not allow uses in the Aquatic Shoreline Environment that
1443 adversely impact the ecological processes and functions of critical saltwater and
1444 freshwater habitats, except when necessary to achieve the objectives of Revised
1445 Code of Washington 90.58.020, and then only when the adverse impacts are
1446 mitigated according to the sequence described in Washington Administrative
1447 Code 173-26-201~~((2))~~ as necessary to assure no net loss of shoreline
1448 ecological processes and functions.

1449

1450 **S-540** King County shall consider the guidance in the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve
1451 Management Plan in making decisions about permitted uses in the shoreline
1452 jurisdiction.

1453

1454 **~~((VII.))~~ Environment Protection Policies**1455 **~~((A.))~~ General Environmental Protection Policy Goals**

1456 The Department of Ecology's guidelines recognize that shoreline ecological processes and functions may be
1457 impaired not only by shoreline developments that are required to obtain shoreline substantial development
1458 permits, but also by past actions, unregulated activities, and developments that are exempt from the shoreline

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1459 substantial development permit requirements. The loss or degradation of shoreline ecological processes and
1460 functions from any of these activities can significantly impact shoreline natural resources and may also adversely
1461 impact human health and safety.

1462

1463 The concept of ecological processes and functions recognizes that any ecological system is composed of a wide
1464 variety of interacting physical, chemical, and biological processes. These processes are interdependent in varying
1465 degrees and at different scales, and that result in the landscape, habitats and species as they exist at any time.
1466 Ecological functions are the work performed or roles played individually or collectively within ecosystems by
1467 these processes.

1468

1469 **~~(1.)~~ Cumulative Impacts and "No Net Loss" of Ecological Processes and**
1470 **Functions**

1471 Nearly all shoreline areas, even substantially developed or degraded areas, retain important ecological processes
1472 and functions that contribute to the survival and successful reproduction of plants and animals. For example, an
1473 intensely developed harbor area may also have an important function as a fish migration corridor and feeding
1474 area critical to species survival. In addition, ecosystems are interconnected and many species may depend on the
1475 functioning of multiple systems for critical resources. As examples, anadromous fish depend upon the viability
1476 of freshwater, marine, and terrestrial shoreline ecosystems, and many wildlife species associated with shorelines
1477 depend on the functioning of both terrestrial and aquatic environments. Therefore, the policies for protecting
1478 and restoring ecological processes and functions should apply to the maximum extent practical to all shoreline
1479 areas, not just those that remain relatively unaltered.

1480

1481 The Shoreline Management Act requires that King County's Shoreline Master Program achieve no net loss of
1482 shoreline ecological processes and functions from new uses or development, and that it address the cumulative
1483 impacts on shoreline ecology that would result from future shoreline development. The Shoreline Management
1484 Act also requires local governments to plan for restoration of shoreline ecological processes and functions where
1485 they have been impaired, thus working towards actual improvement in shoreline ecological processes and
1486 functions. The following policies ensure that King County will address cumulative impacts of existing and
1487 proposed shoreline development and work towards improving shoreline ecological processes and functions.

1488

1489 **S-601 King County shall ensure that new uses, development, and redevelopment within**
1490 **the shoreline jurisdiction do not cause a net loss of shoreline ecological**
1491 **processes and functions.**

1492

1493 **S-602 King County should protect shorelines and conduct restoration in areas that**
1494 **have been previously degraded.**

1495

1496 **S-603 King County shall require shoreline uses and modifications to be designed and**
1497 **managed to prevent degradation of water quality and alteration of natural**
1498 **hydrographic conditions to the maximum extent practical.**

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- 1499
- 1500 **S-604** King County's Shoreline Master Program shall include regulations and mitigation
- 1501 standards to ensure that permitted and exempt developments in the aggregate
- 1502 will not cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
- 1503
- 1504 **S-605** King County's Shoreline Master Program goals and policies ~~((will))~~ shall promote
- 1505 restoration of impaired shoreline ecological processes and functions. Policies
- 1506 and programs and non-regulatory actions that contribute to restoration goals
- 1507 ~~((will))~~ shall be identified. King County should consider the direct and indirect
- 1508 effects of regulatory or non-regulatory programs of other local, state, and federal
- 1509 governments, as well as any restoration effects that may result from shoreline
- 1510 development regulations and mitigation standards.
- 1511
- 1512 **S-606** The King County Shoreline Master Program identifies restoration opportunities
- 1513 and planning elements that together should improve the overall condition of
- 1514 habitat and resources within the shoreline jurisdiction.
- 1515
- 1516 **S-607** King County should provide options for property-specific technical assistance
- 1517 and tailored applications of shoreline management regulations through Rural
- 1518 Stewardship Plans for single ~~((family))~~ detached residential uses in the upland
- 1519 areas of the Rural, Conservancy and Natural Shoreline Environments. Rural
- 1520 Stewardship Plans must be consistent with the goals of the Shoreline
- 1521 Management Act and King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan,
- 1522 and ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
- 1523
- 1524 **S-608** The King County Shoreline Master Program shall consider the cumulative
- 1525 impacts of reasonably foreseeable future development to ensure no net loss of
- 1526 shoreline ecological processes and functions.
- 1527
- 1528 **S-609** The Shoreline Master Program is intended to fairly allocate the burden of
- 1529 addressing cumulative impacts. King County should adopt policies and
- 1530 regulations that are designed to avoid the need for individualized cumulative
- 1531 impacts analysis for commonly occurring and planned development.
- 1532
- 1533 **S-610** King County shall prefer and provide special permitting considerations for docks
- 1534 and piers that are shared among multiple landowners.
- 1535
- 1536 **S-611** When updating the Shoreline Master Program, King County should analyze
- 1537 proposed policies and regulations to determine whether they will cause

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1538 cumulative adverse impacts to the shoreline and consider how such impacts may
 1539 be avoided. The evaluation of cumulative impacts should consider:
 1540 a. Current condition of the shorelines and associated natural processes;
 1541 b. Reasonably foreseeable future development and shoreline uses;
 1542 c. An appropriate evaluation of the effect on shoreline ecological
 1543 processes and functions caused by unregulated activities, development
 1544 exempt from permitting, and effects such as the incremental impact of
 1545 residential bulkheads, residential piers, or runoff from newly developed
 1546 properties; and
 1547 d. Beneficial effects of any established regulatory programs under other
 1548 local, state, and federal laws.

1550 **S-612** King County should use the shoreline permitting or shoreline conditional use
 1551 permitting processes for development proposals that may have impacts that
 1552 cannot be anticipated or uncommon impacts that have not been considered or
 1553 identified at time of adoption of the King County Shoreline Master Program to
 1554 ensure that all impacts are addressed and that there is no net loss of ecological
 1555 function of the shoreline after mitigation.

1557 **S-613** King County shall consider and address cumulative impacts of shoreline
 1558 development on shoreline ecological processes and functions and on shoreline
 1559 uses given priority under Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((Chapter
 1560 90.58)).

1562 **((2.)) Ongoing Evaluation, Review of Cumulative Impacts and Duty to Update**

1563 King County will periodically review the Shoreline Master Program and make amendments that it determines
 1564 are necessary to reflect changing local circumstances, new information and improved data, and to meet the
 1565 requirements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.080 and applicable guidelines. King County will also
 1566 monitor actions taken to implement the Shoreline Master Program and the shoreline conditions to inform
 1567 updates of Shoreline Master Program provisions and improve shoreline management over time.

1569 **S-614** King County shall periodically review and amend its Shoreline Master Program
 1570 using a process that inventories and ensures meaningful understanding of
 1571 current and potential ecological processes and functions provided by affected
 1572 shorelines.

1573

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1574 **~~((B.))~~ Shoreline Critical Areas**

1575 **~~((1.))~~ Standard for protection under the Shoreline Management Act**

1576 The Growth Management Act requires King County to protect the functions and values of critical areas, which
1577 are defined as wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, frequently flooded areas, geologically hazardous areas,
1578 and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. Critical areas located within the shoreline jurisdiction are
1579 protected under the Shoreline Master Program rather than the Growth Management Act. The Shoreline Master
1580 Program provides a level of protection for critical areas to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological functions. In
1581 addition, the Shoreline Management Act requires King County to give optimum protection of shorelines of
1582 state-wide significance. The King County Comprehensive Plan and functional plans adopted as elements of the
1583 King County Comprehensive Plan also guide the protection of critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction.

1584 **~~((2.))~~ Use of scientific and technical information**

1585 The Shoreline Management Act requires local governments to use scientific and technical information when
1586 establishing protection measures for critical areas. To achieve this requirement, King County has, to the extent
1587 feasible:

- 1588 1. Used a systematic interdisciplinary approach that ensures the integrated use of the natural and
1589 social sciences and the environmental design arts;
- 1590 2. Consulted with and obtained the comments of any federal, state, regional, or local agency
1591 having any special expertise with respect to environmental impacts;
- 1592 3. Considered all plans, studies, surveys, inventories, and systems of classification made or being
1593 made by federal, state, regional, or local agencies, by private individuals, or by organizations
1594 dealing with King County shorelines;
- 1595 4. Used all available information regarding hydrology, geography, topography, ecology,
1596 economics, and other pertinent data;
- 1597 5. Employed, when possible, all appropriate, modern scientific data processing and computer
1598 techniques to store, index, analyze, and manage the information gathered.

1599
1600 King County has reviewed and synthesized a wide range of scientific information resulting in regulatory
1601 standards based on the best available science for the protection of critical areas. In addition, King County
1602 considered state, Indian tribal and federal programs to provide a full spectrum of planning and regulatory
1603 measures to guide critical areas protection in shorelines.

1604
1605 **S-615 In considering development regulations to protect shoreline ecological**
1606 **processes and functions, King County shall consider the scientific and technical**
1607 **information contained in functional plans adopted to implement the**
1608 **Comprehensive Plan, adopted watershed plans, King County critical areas**
1609 **regulations, and state, Indian tribal, and federal programs.**

1610

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1611 ~~((In order to))~~To ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions resulting from development
 1612 proposed in shoreline critical areas, the King County Shoreline Master Program requires that development
 1613 proposals analyze the environmental impacts of the proposal and consider measures to avoid, if possible, and
 1614 then mitigate for the adverse environmental impacts.

1615

1616 **S-616** King County shall apply the following sequence of steps listed in order of priority
 1617 in evaluating the impacts of development and redevelopment on critical areas
 1618 within the shoreline jurisdiction:

- 1619 a. Avoid the impacts altogether;
- 1620 b. Minimize impacts;
- 1621 c. Rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected
 1622 environment;
- 1623 d. Reduce or eliminate the impacts over time;
- 1624 e. Compensate for impacts by replacing, enhancing, or providing
 1625 substitute resources; and
- 1626 f. Monitor the impact and taking appropriate corrective measures.

1627

1628 **~~((3.)) Wetlands~~**

1629 When determining allowed uses within wetlands and their buffers in shorelines of the state, consideration should
 1630 be given to those uses that would result in no net loss of wetland area and wetland function. Consideration
 1631 should be given to specific uses that are likely to positively impact the physical, chemical, and biological
 1632 processes that create and sustain wetlands.

1633

1634 **S-617** King County wetland regulations shall address the following uses to achieve, at a
 1635 minimum, no net loss of wetland area and functions:

- 1636 a. Removal, excavation, grading, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, minerals,
 1637 organic matter, or material of any kind;
- 1638 b. Dumping, discharging, or filling with any material, including discharges
 1639 of stormwater and domestic, commercial, or industrial wastewater;
- 1640 c. Draining, flooding, or disturbing of the open water level, duration of
 1641 inundation, or groundwater table;
- 1642 d. Driving of pilings;
- 1643 e. Placing of obstructions;
- 1644 f. Construction, reconstruction, demolition, or expansion of any structure;
- 1645 g. Significant vegetation removal, except for non-conversion forest
 1646 practices regulated under Chapter 76.09 Revised Code of Washington
 1647 ~~((chapter 76.09))~~;
- 1648 h. Other uses or development that results in a significant ecological impact
 1649 to the physical, chemical or biological characteristics of wetlands; and
- 1650 i. Activities reducing the functions of buffers.

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1651

1652 Wetlands shall be categorized based on rarity, irreplaceability, or sensitivity to disturbance, as well as the
1653 functions the wetland provides. The Shoreline Management Act provides the option of using specified wetland
1654 rating systems or developing a regionally specific system, provided the system is scientifically based and provides
1655 a method to distinguish wetland quality and function. King County adopted the Washington State Wetland
1656 Rating System for Western Washington for use in categorizing wetlands under the Growth Management Act
1657 critical areas development standards.

1658

1659 **S-618 King County shall categorize wetlands within shorelines of the state as provided**
1660 **for in Chapter 5((:)), Environment((, of the King County Comprehensive Plan)).**

1661

1662 The King County Shoreline Master Program provisions that would allow limited alterations to wetlands shall be
1663 consistent with the policy of no net loss of wetland area and functions, wetland rating, and scientific and
1664 technical information.

1665

1666 **S-619 King County should allow alterations to wetlands only if there is no net loss of**
1667 **wetland functions and values.**

1668

1669 The King County Shoreline Master Program requires buffers be delineated and protected around wetlands. The
1670 size of the wetland buffer is based on the classification of the wetland and its characteristics and whether the
1671 wetland is located within or outside of the Urban Growth Area. Mitigation measures have been established to
1672 obtain a reduced buffer width in return for added measures to address light, noise, toxic runoff, change in water
1673 regime, pets and human disturbance, dust, and degraded buffer condition. Other modifications to buffer widths
1674 are allowed through buffer averaging. Circumstances, such as the presence of threatened or endangered species
1675 or proximity to steep slopes, may authorize increased buffer widths.

1676

1677 **S-620 King County shall delineate buffers around wetlands to protect and maintain**
1678 **wetland functions. Buffer widths shall be based on ecological function,**
1679 **characteristics and setting, potential impacts with adjacent land use, and other**
1680 **relevant factors.**

1681

1682 The King County Shoreline Master Program requires that mitigation measures achieve equivalent or greater
1683 wetland functions including, but not limited to, habitat complexity, connectivity and other biological functions,
1684 and seasonal hydrological dynamics. Preferential consideration is given to measures that replace the impacted
1685 functions directly and in the immediate vicinity of the impact.

1686

1687 **S-621 In determining appropriate mitigation measures applicable to shoreline**
1688 **development, the mitigation sequencing requirements described in Washington**
1689 **Administrative Code 173-26-201(((2)(e))) require that lower priority measures shall**

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1690 **be applied only where higher priority measures are determined to be infeasible or**
 1691 **inapplicable.**

1692
 1693 King County may authorize alternative compensatory mitigation within the watershed that addresses limiting
 1694 factors or identified critical needs for shoreline resource conservation based on watershed or comprehensive
 1695 resource management plans applicable to the area of impact. Authorization of compensatory mitigation
 1696 measures may require appropriate safeguards, terms, or conditions as necessary to ensure no net loss of shoreline
 1697 ecological processes and functions.

1698
 1699 **S-622 King County may allow compensatory mitigation only after a mitigation sequence**
 1700 **is applied (see Policy S-616) and higher priority means of mitigation are**
 1701 **determined to be infeasible.**

- 1702 **a. Compensatory mitigation replacement ratios or other mitigation**
 1703 **provisions shall consider:**
- 1704 1. **The risk of failure of the compensatory mitigation action;**
 - 1705 2. **The length of time the compensatory mitigation action will take**
 1706 **to replace adequately the impacted wetland functions and**
 1707 **values; and**
 - 1708 3. **The gain or loss of the type, quality, and quantity of the**
 1709 **ecological functions of the compensation.**
- 1710 **b. Performance standards shall be established to evaluate the success of**
 1711 **compensatory mitigation.**
- 1712 **c. Long-term monitoring shall be required to determine if performance**
 1713 **standards are met.**
- 1714 **d. Long-term protection and management shall be required for**
 1715 **compensatory mitigation sites.**
- 1716

1717 **((4.)) Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas**

1718 King County has classified and mapped critical aquifer recharge areas according to the vulnerability of the
 1719 aquifer. Vulnerability is the combined effect of hydrogeological susceptibility to contamination and the
 1720 contamination loading potential. High vulnerability is indicated by land uses that contribute contamination that
 1721 may degrade groundwater and by hydrogeologic conditions that facilitate degradation. Low vulnerability is
 1722 indicated by land uses that do not contribute contaminants that will degrade groundwater and by hydrogeologic
 1723 conditions that do not facilitate degradation. Critical aquifer recharge areas are required to be protected under
 1724 the Growth Management Act as a critical area.

1725
 1726 **S-623 The King County Shoreline Master Program shall protect critical aquifer recharge**
 1727 **areas consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan and critical areas**
 1728 **regulations.**

1729

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1730 **~~((5.))~~ Geologically Hazardous Areas**

1731 Geologically hazardous areas include areas susceptible to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological
1732 processes and events. They pose a threat to the health and safety of residents when incompatible commercial,
1733 residential, or industrial development is sited in areas of significant hazard. Some geological hazards can be
1734 reduced or mitigated by engineering, design, or modified construction or mining practices, so that risks to health
1735 and safety are acceptable. When technology cannot reduce risks to acceptable levels, building in geologically
1736 hazardous areas is best avoided. Under the King County Shoreline Master Program, geologically hazardous
1737 areas include:

- 1738 • ~~((1.))~~ Erosion hazard areas;
- 1739 • ~~((2.))~~ Landslide hazard areas;
- 1740 • ~~((3.))~~ Seismic hazard areas;
- 1741 • ~~((4.))~~ Coal mine hazard areas;
- 1742 • ~~((5.))~~ Volcanic hazard areas; and
- 1743 • ~~((6.))~~ Steep slope hazard areas.

1744

1745 The following policies to protect health and safety and also to reduce the loss of shoreline ecological processes
1746 and functions apply to geological hazardous areas located within the shoreline jurisdiction.

1747

1748 ~~**((S-624) Development regulations for geologically hazardous areas shall meet the**~~
1749 ~~**minimum requirements in Washington Administrative Code 365-190-120.))**~~

1750

1751 **S-625 King County shall prohibit development and new lot creation in geologically**
1752 **hazardous areas if it would result in increased risk of injury to people or property**
1753 **damage, consistent with King County Code ((e))Chapter 21A.24.**

1754

1755 ~~**((S-626) King County shall prohibit new development that requires structural stabilization**~~
1756 ~~**in geologically hazardous areas. Stabilization will be allowed in these areas only**~~
1757 ~~**if the stabilization is necessary to protect existing allowed uses, there is no**~~
1758 ~~**alternative location available, and no net loss of shoreline ecological processes**~~
1759 ~~**and functions will result. Stabilization measures shall conform to Washington**~~
1760 ~~**Administrative Code 173-26-231.**~~

1761

1762 ~~**S-627 King County may allow stabilization structures or measures in geologically**~~
1763 ~~**hazardous areas to protect existing primary residential structures, if there are no**~~
1764 ~~**alternatives, including relocation or reconstruction of the residential structure,**~~
1765 ~~**the stabilization is in conformance with Washington Administrative Code**~~
1766 ~~**173-26-231, and no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions will**~~
1767 ~~**result.**~~

1768

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1769 **6.) Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas**

1770 King County is required by the Growth Management Act to protect fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas
1771 as critical area. The Washington State Department of Commerce adopted guidelines to assist local governments
1772 in designating critical areas, including fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. The Department of
1773 Commerce guidelines are designed to define and protect areas necessary to maintain species in suitable habitats
1774 within their natural geographic distribution, at least in part so that isolated subpopulations are not created. The
1775 Department of Commerce identifies the following areas as being suitable for fish and wildlife habitat
1776 conservation areas:

- 1777 1. Areas with which endangered, threatened, and sensitive species have a primary association; areas
1778 critical for habitat connectivity;
- 1779 2. Habitats and species of local importance;
- 1780 3. Commercial and recreational shellfish areas;
- 1781 4. Kelp and eelgrass beds; herring, smelt and sand lance spawning areas;
- 1782 5. Naturally occurring ponds under twenty acres and their submerged aquatic beds that provide fish or
1783 wildlife habitat;
- 1784 6. Waters of the state;
- 1785 7. Lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers planted with game fish by a governmental or Indian ((~~¶~~))tribal
1786 entity; or
- 1787 8. State natural area preserves and natural resource conservation areas.

1788

1789 The King County Comprehensive Plan and its development regulations protect the functions and values of fish
1790 and wildlife habitat conservation areas through its provisions governing aquatic areas and wildlife habitat
1791 conservation areas.

1792

1793 The Department of Ecology's guidelines divide fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas into critical saltwater
1794 and critical freshwater habitats.

1795

1796 **a. Critical saltwater habitat**

1797 Critical saltwater habitats include all kelp beds, eelgrass beds, spawning and holding areas for forage fish, such as
1798 herring, smelt and sand lance; subsistence, commercial and recreational shellfish beds; mudflats, spits, intertidal
1799 habitats with vascular plants, and areas with which priority species have a primary association. Critical saltwater
1800 habitats include both the shorelines and the adjacent submerged areas.

1801

1802 **S-628 King County shall provide a high level of protection to critical saltwater habitats**
1803 **due to the important ecological functions they provide.**

1804

1805 **S-629 Protection and restoration of critical saltwater habitats should integrate**
1806 **management of shorelands as well as submerged areas.**

1807

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1808 Comprehensive planning for the protection and restoration of critical saltwater habitat should include state
 1809 resource agencies, local and regional government entities including, but not limited to the Port of Seattle, ~~((and))~~
 1810 Sound Transit, and affected Indian tribes. To reverse the impacts from development on critical saltwater
 1811 habitats, the King County Shoreline Master Program should look for opportunities to restore critical saltwater
 1812 shorelines and protect them from further degradation. All resources should be reviewed and considered.

1813

1814 **S-630**

As part of its management planning for critical saltwater habitats, King County should include an evaluation of current data and trends regarding:

1815

1816

a. Available inventory and collection of necessary data regarding physical characteristics of the habitat, including upland conditions, and any information on species population trends;

1817

1818

1819

b. Terrestrial and aquatic vegetation;

1820

1821

c. The level of human activity in such areas, including the presence of roads and level of recreational types. Passive or active recreation may be appropriate for certain areas and habitats;

1822

1823

d. Restoration potential;

1824

1825

e. Tributaries and small streams flowing into marine waters;

1826

1827

f. Dock and bulkhead construction, including an inventory of bulkheads serving no protective purpose;

1828

1829

g. Conditions and ecological function in the near-shore area;

1830

1831

h. Uses surrounding the critical saltwater habitat areas that may negatively impact those areas, including permanent or occasional upland, beach, or over-water uses;

1832

1833

i. Potential Indian tribal uses of critical saltwater habitats to ensure that these uses are protected and restored when possible; and

1834

j. An analysis of what data gaps exist and a strategy for gaining this information.

1835

1836 Because of the need for a higher level of protection for critical saltwater habitat, allowed uses should be carefully
 1837 limited and only allowed to meet other policy goals of the Shoreline Management Act.

1838

1839 **S-631**

Docks, bulkheads, bridges, fill, floats, jetties, utility crossings, and other human-made structures shall not intrude into or over critical saltwater habitats except when all of the conditions below are met:

1840

1841

1842

a. The public's need for such an action or structure is clearly demonstrated, and the proposal is consistent with protection of the public trust, as embodied in Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020;

1843

1844

1845

b. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible or would result in unreasonable and disproportionate cost to accomplish the same general purpose;

1846

1847

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- 1848 c. **The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss**
 1849 **of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat; and**
 1850 d. **The project is consistent with state and Indian ((T)) tribal interests in**
 1851 **resource protection and species recovery.**

1852

- 1853 **S-632 Public or private noncommercial docks for public, individual residential or**
 1854 **community use may be authorized provided that:**
 1855 a. **Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative**
 1856 **alignment or location is not feasible; and**
 1857 b. **The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss**
 1858 **of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.**

1859

1860 **~~(b-)~~ Critical freshwater habitat**

1861 Critical freshwater habitats are equally important to saltwater areas as fish and wildlife habitat conservation
 1862 areas along shorelines of the state. Critical freshwater habitats include streams and rivers, with their associated
 1863 channel migration zones, floodplains, wetlands, and lakes. Shorelines along these freshwater habitats often have
 1864 been highly developed and are currently adversely impacted by improper stormwater, sewer, or industrial
 1865 outfalls; unmanaged clearing and grading; and stormwater runoff from buildings and parking lots. Some impacts
 1866 include altered quality and quantity of stormwater runoff, as well as destruction or alteration of vegetation.
 1867 Potential impacts from vegetation changes can include increased water temperatures and altered hydrographic
 1868 conditions. All of these changes create inhospitable conditions in water bodies for priority species and, in
 1869 addition, make them more susceptible to problems stemming from catastrophic flooding, droughts, landslides
 1870 and channel changes.

1871

1872 Some freshwater habitats, particularly rivers and floodplains, often are considered as hazardous areas that can
 1873 threaten life and property during catastrophic events, such as flooding. Development can exacerbate such
 1874 conditions.

1875

1876 As with critical saltwater habitats, comprehensive planning for the protection and restoration of critical
 1877 freshwater habitat should include state resource agencies, local and regional government entities including, but
 1878 not limited to the Port of Seattle, Sound Transit, and affected Indian tribes. To reverse the impacts from
 1879 development on critical freshwater habitats, the King County Shoreline Master Program should look for
 1880 opportunities to restore critical freshwater shorelines and protect them from further degradation. All resources
 1881 should be reviewed and considered.

1882

- 1883 **S-633 King County shall provide a high level of protection to critical freshwater habitats**
 1884 **due to the important ecological functions they provide.**

1885

- 1886 **S-634 King County should establish priorities for protection and restoration, where**
 1887 **appropriate, along unincorporated river corridors and lake shorelines.**

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1888

1889 **S-635** King County ~~((should))~~ shall regulate uses and development as necessary within
1890 and along stream channels, associated channel migration zones, wetlands, lake
1891 shorelines, ~~((and))~~ and other critical areas within the shoreline
1892 jurisdiction, to assure that no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
1893 functions results from new development near freshwaters of the state, including
1894 associated hyporheic zones.

1895

1896 **S-636** King County shall protect ecological functions associated with critical freshwater
1897 habitat as necessary to assure no net loss from shoreline activities and
1898 associated changes.

1899

1900 **S-637** King County should facilitate authorization of appropriate restoration projects.

1901

1902 **~~((C.))~~ Frequently Flooded Areas and Channel Migration Hazard Areas**

1903 The King County ~~((2013))~~ Flood Hazard Management Plan ~~((was))~~ is adopted as a functional plan of the King
1904 County Comprehensive Plan. The Flood Plan outlines the policies, programs, and projects that King County
1905 uses to reduce the risk from flooding and channel migration. The ~~((King County 2013))~~ Flood Hazard
1906 Management Plan was reviewed for consistency with the Shoreline Management Act and determined to be
1907 consistent with it. King County maps Channel Migration Hazard Areas and applies critical areas regulations to
1908 assure that channel migration can be accommodated.

1909

1910 **S-638** The policies contained within the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan,
1911 or its successor, constitute the policies for the protection of frequently flooded
1912 areas and channel migration within shorelines. Provisions implementing these
1913 policies are included in the critical areas regulations.

1914

1915 **S-639** King County shall continue mapping channel migration zones on all of its rivers and
1916 streams within shoreline jurisdiction where channel migration zones have not already
1917 been mapped.

1918

1919 **~~((D.))~~ Shoreline Vegetation Conservation**

1920 A major intent of vegetation conservation is to protect and restore the ecological processes and functions
1921 performed by stands of vegetation along shorelines. Vegetation conservation can also be undertaken to protect
1922 human safety and property, to increase the stability of river banks and coastal bluffs, to reduce the need for
1923 structural shoreline stabilization measures, to improve the visual and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline, to
1924 protect particular plant and animal species and their habitats, and to enhance shoreline uses.

1925

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1926 In King County, aquatic environments, as well as their associated upland and wetland vegetated areas, provide
 1927 significant habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species. Healthy environments for aquatic species are
 1928 inseparably linked with the ecological integrity of the surrounding terrestrial ecosystems. For example, nearly
 1929 continuous stretches of mature forest characterize the natural riparian conditions of the Pacific Northwest.
 1930 Riparian areas along marine shorelines provide the same or similar functions as their freshwater counterparts.
 1931 The most commonly recognized functions of the shoreline vegetation include, but are not limited to:

- 1932 • Providing shade necessary to maintain cool water temperatures required by salmonids, spawning forage
 1933 fish, and other aquatic biota.
- 1934 • Providing external organic inputs critical for some aquatic life.
- 1935 • Providing food for various insects and other benthic macro invertebrates, which are in turn food sources
 1936 for fish, birds, and other wildlife.
- 1937 • Stabilizing banks, minimizing erosion, and reducing the occurrence of landslides. The roots of trees
 1938 and other riparian vegetation provide the bulk of this function.
- 1939 • Reducing fine sediment input into the aquatic environment through stormwater retention and vegetative
 1940 filtering.
- 1941 • Filtering and vegetative uptake of nutrients and pollutants from groundwater and storm runoff.
- 1942 • Providing a source of large woody debris for introduction into the aquatic system. Large woody debris
 1943 is a primary structural component in streams that functions as a hydraulic roughness element to
 1944 moderate flows and store sediment. Large woody debris also serves a pool-forming function, providing
 1945 critical salmonid rearing and refuge habitat. Abundant large woody debris increases aquatic diversity
 1946 and stabilizes systems.
- 1947 • Regulating microclimates in the lake and stream-riparian and intertidal corridors.
- 1948 • Providing critical wildlife habitat, including migration corridors and feeding, watering, rearing, and
 1949 refuge areas.

1951 The length, width, and species composition of a shoreline vegetation community all contribute substantively to
 1952 aquatic ecological functions. Likewise, the biological communities of the aquatic environment are essential to
 1953 ecological functions of the adjacent upland vegetation. The ability of vegetated areas to provide critical
 1954 ecological functions diminishes as the length and width of the vegetated area along shorelines is reduced. When
 1955 shoreline vegetation is removed, there is a greater risk that important ecological functions will not be provided.

1956
 1957 Sustaining different ecological functions requires varying widths, compositions, and densities of vegetation. The
 1958 importance of the different functions, in turn, varies with the type of shoreline setting. For example, in forested
 1959 shoreline settings, periodic introduction of fallen trees, especially conifers, into the stream channel is an
 1960 important attribute that is critical to natural stream channel maintenance.

1961

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1962 Vegetation conservation includes activities to protect and restore vegetation that contributes to the ecological
 1963 functions of shoreline areas along or near marine and freshwater shorelines.¹ Vegetation conservation provisions
 1964 generally include the prohibiting or limiting plant clearing and earth grading, restoring vegetation, and
 1965 controlling invasive weeds and nonnative species.

1966
 1967 **S-640** King County shall adopt planning provisions to address vegetation conservation
 1968 and restoration and regulatory provisions to address conservation of vegetation,
 1969 as necessary, to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
 1970 functions, to avoid adverse impacts to soil hydrology, and to reduce the hazard
 1971 of slope failures or accelerated erosion.

1972
 1973 **S-641** Vegetation conservation provisions apply to all shoreline uses and
 1974 developments, regardless of whether ((or not)) the use or development requires a
 1975 shoreline substantial development permit.

1976
 1977 **S-642** Vegetation conservation standards shall not apply retroactively to existing uses
 1978 and structures, such as existing agricultural practices.

1979
 1980 **S-643** King County should identify which ecological processes and functions are
 1981 important to the local aquatic and terrestrial ecology, and then conserve
 1982 sufficient vegetation to maintain these functions. Vegetation conservation areas
 1983 are not necessarily intended to be closed to use and development, but should
 1984 provide for management of vegetation in a manner adequate to assure no net
 1985 loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.

1986
 1987 **S-644** King County should adopt development regulations for ((vegetated)) riparian
 1988 areas along streams, which once supported or could in the future support mature
 1989 trees, that include buffers of sufficient width to facilitate the growth of mature
 1990 trees and periodic recruitment of woody vegetation into the water body to
 1991 ((support-vegetation-related)) provide shoreline ecological function((s)).

1992
 1993 **S-645** King County should adopt mechanisms to implement the vegetation
 1994 conservation policies of this chapter. These mechanisms may include setback or
 1995 buffer requirements, clearing and grading standards, regulatory incentives,
 1996 environment designation standards, or other provisions. Selective pruning of
 1997 trees for safety and view protection may be allowed. Removal of noxious weeds
 1998 and invasive vegetation should be allowed as long as appropriate best
 1999 management practices are followed.

¹ Vegetation conservation does not include those activities covered under the Washington State Forest Practices Act, except for conversion to other uses and those other forest practice activities over which local governments have authority.

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2000 **((E.)) Water Quality, Stormwater and Non-Point Pollution**

2001 The Shoreline Master Program must protect against adverse impacts to the public health, to the land with its
2002 vegetation and wildlife, and to the waters of the state and their aquatic life. The intent of water quality,
2003 stormwater and non-point pollution policies is to provide shoreline protection by preventing adverse impacts to
2004 shoreline ecological processes and functions, aquatic habitats, and water dependent uses such as aquaculture and
2005 fishing.

2006
2007 **S-646 Shoreline Master Program water quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution**
2008 **policies apply to all development and uses in the shoreline jurisdiction that affect**
2009 **water quality.**

2010
2011 **S-647 King County should work to prevent impacts to water quality and stormwater**
2012 **quantity that would result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions,**
2013 **degraded aesthetic qualities, loss of recreational opportunities or reduction in**
2014 **water-dependent uses, such as aquaculture and fishing.**

2015
2016 **S-648 King County should ensure mutual consistency between shoreline management**
2017 **provisions and other regulations that address water quality and stormwater**
2018 **quantity, including Public Health—Seattle & King County standards, the King**
2019 **County Surface Water Design Manual, and King County surface water**
2020 **management regulations. The regulations that are most protective of ecological**
2021 **functions shall apply.**

2022
2023 **S-649 The Shoreline Master Program shall include provisions to implement the water**
2024 **quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution policies in this chapter.**

2025
2026 **((F.)) Preparing for Climate Change**

2027 As discussed in Chapter 5 ~~((of the King County Comprehensive Plan)),~~ Environment, climate change has the
2028 potential for significant impacts on shorelines and shoreline habitats. Sea((-))level rise and storm surges may
2029 place at risk infrastructure, habitat restoration projects, and other development, including residential
2030 development. King County has adopted a Sea Level Rise Risk Area and associated code requirements for
2031 properties located in areas adjoining the current coastal high hazard area on Vashon-Maury Island. The Risk
2032 Area recognizes that coastal flooding will expand inland with sea level rise, affecting areas that may not
2033 experience flooding today. These regulations will help reduce the impacts of sea level rise by ensuring that
2034 ~~((N))~~new development and ((maintenance or replacement of)) improvements to existing development ((should
2035 take into)) accounts the ((potential for harm that may)) impacts that can result from sea((-))level rise.
2036

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2037 **S-650** King County shall ensure that new projects for and major maintenance or
 2038 replacement of utilities, roads, and other public infrastructure consider the
 2039 impacts of sea((-))_level rise in the location, design, and operation of the projects.

2040
 2041 **S-651** Habitat protection and restoration projects in the shoreline jurisdiction shall
 2042 consider implications of sea((-))_level rise and other climate change impacts to
 2043 promote resiliency of habitats and species.
 2044

2045 **~~((VIII.))~~ Shoreline Use and Shoreline Modification**

2046 **~~((A.))~~ Shoreline Use versus Shoreline Modification**

2047 The Shoreline Management Act makes a distinction between a shoreline use and a shoreline modification. A
 2048 shoreline use is an activity that is allowed within the shoreline((s)) jurisdiction. In most cases, ~~((in order))~~ to
 2049 engage in an activity, the shoreline must be modified. Shoreline modifications often involve construction of a
 2050 physical element, such as a dike, breakwater, dredged basin, or fill, as well as other actions such as clearing,
 2051 grading, application of chemicals, or significant vegetation removal. This means that shoreline modifications are
 2052 often undertaken in support of or in preparation for an activity along shorelines.
 2053

2054 **~~((B.))~~ Shoreline Use**

2055 **~~((1.))~~ Generally**

2056 Land uses in King County are based on federal, state, and county policies and regulations. The baseline
 2057 permitted uses are established in zoning regulations. Land uses that would be allowed in zoning may be further
 2058 limited by the King County Shoreline Master Program and shoreline management regulations.
 2059

2060 **S-701** King County shall give preference to uses in the shoreline that are consistent
 2061 with the control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment
 2062 or are unique to or dependent upon the shoreline.

2063
 2064 **S-702** Development within the shoreline jurisdiction shall protect the public's health,
 2065 safety, and welfare, as well as the land, including its vegetation and wildlife, and
 2066 protect property rights while implementing the policies of the Shoreline
 2067 Management Act.
 2068

2069 **S-703** Where there is a conflict between the uses permitted in the land use zone and the
 2070 Shoreline Master Program for a site, the Shoreline Master Program shall control
 2071 and preference shall be given first to water-dependent uses, then to water-related
 2072 uses, and finally to water-enjoyment uses.
 2073

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2074 **S-704** Shoreline Master Program development regulations shall ensure no net loss of
2075 shoreline ecological processes and functions.
2076

2077 **S-705** King County shall adopt use policies and development regulations to achieve
2078 consistency among and between shorelands and adjacent lands as required by
2079 Revised Code of Washington 90.58.340.
2080

2081 **~~((2.))~~ Shoreline Conditional Uses**

2082 For the purposes of the King County Shoreline Master Program, a shoreline conditional use may be appropriate
2083 ~~((in order))~~ to:

- 2084 1. Effectively address unanticipated uses that are not classified in the Shoreline Master Program;
2085 2. Address cumulative impacts; or
2086 3. Provide the opportunity to require specially tailored environmental analysis or design criteria for types
2087 of use or development that may otherwise be inconsistent with a specific designation within the
2088 Shoreline Master Program or with the Shoreline Management Act policies.
2089

2090 **S-706** The following types of uses and development should require a shoreline
2091 conditional use permit:
2092 ~~((1.))~~ **a.** Uses and development that may significantly impair or alter the public's
2093 use of the waters of the state;
2094 ~~((2.))~~ **b.** Uses and development which, by their intrinsic nature, may have a
2095 significant impact on shoreline ecological processes and functions
2096 depending on location, design, and site conditions; and
2097 ~~((3.))~~ **c.** Development in critical saltwater habitats.
2098

2099 **~~((3.))~~ Agriculture**

2100 The Shoreline Management Act defines agricultural activities as:

2101
2102 "agricultural uses and practices including, but not limited to: Producing, breeding, or increasing agricultural
2103 products; rotating and changing agricultural crops; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie fallow
2104 in which it is plowed and tilled but left unseeded; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant
2105 as a result of adverse agricultural market conditions; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie
2106 dormant because the land is enrolled in a local, state, or federal conservation program, or the land is subject
2107 to a conservation easement; conducting agricultural operations; maintaining, repairing, and replacing
2108 agricultural equipment; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural facilities, provided that the
2109 replacement facility is no closer to the shoreline than the original facility; and maintaining agricultural lands
2110 under production or cultivation".
2111

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2112 The Shoreline Management Act prohibits shoreline master programs from requiring modification to or limiting
2113 existing agricultural activities on agricultural lands in the shoreline jurisdiction. This limitation does not apply to
2114 new agricultural activities.

2115
2116 **S-707 The King County Shoreline Master Program shall not require modification of or**
2117 **limit existing agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction. Existing**
2118 **agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall be governed by existing**
2119 **provisions of the King County Comprehensive Plan and the King County Code.**

2120
2121 **S-708 New agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall comply with the**
2122 **critical areas regulations incorporated into the shoreline master program as they**
2123 **apply to agricultural activities.**

2124
2125 As required by the Growth Management Act, King County has designated agricultural lands of long-term
2126 commercial significance. These lands have been included in Agricultural Production Districts under the King
2127 County Comprehensive Plan. Land uses meeting the definition of “agricultural activities” also occur outside the
2128 designated Agricultural Production Districts. The King County Shoreline Master Program encourages
2129 agricultural uses, but they must be compatible with the shoreline designation in which they are proposed. In
2130 addition, under the rare circumstances when land is removed from the Agricultural Production Districts, any
2131 development occurring on that land must be consistent with the shoreline designation where it is located.

2132
2133 **S-709 New agricultural activities within the shoreline jurisdiction and outside the**
2134 **Agricultural Production Districts shall be consistent with the shoreline**
2135 **designation where the land is located.**

2136
2137 **S-710 New agricultural activities within the shoreline jurisdiction and outside the**
2138 **Agricultural Production Districts shall be located and designed to ensure no net**
2139 **loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions and shall not result in an**
2140 **adverse impact on other shoreline resources and ecological values.**

2141
2142 **S-711 Development and uses on land removed from the Agricultural Production**
2143 **Districts shall be consistent with the shoreline designation where the land is**
2144 **located.**

2145

2146 **((4.)) Forestry**

2147 In general, the Department of Ecology’s guidelines require local shoreline master programs to rely on the Forest
2148 Practices Act and the rules implementing that Act and the Forest and Fish Report as adequate management of
2149 commercial forest uses within the shoreline jurisdiction. When a property owner chooses to convert commercial
2150 timber land to a use other than timber production, the regulations for commercial forestry no longer apply.

2151

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2152 **S-712** If land is being converted to a non-forest use through Class IV-General forest
2153 practice, the provisions of the King County Shoreline Management Program that
2154 apply to development activities governs the proposed land use.

2155

2156 Because shorelines of statewide significance require a higher level of protection, special provisions apply to
2157 forestry within shorelines of statewide significance.

2158

2159 **S-713** Within shorelines of statewide significance, selective commercial timber cutting
2160 shall be used for timber harvest within two hundred feet abutting landward of the
2161 ordinary high water mark so that no more than thirty percent of the merchantable
2162 trees may be harvested in any ~~((ten-))~~10-year period of time. Through a shoreline
2163 conditional use permit, King County may approve:

- 2164 a. Other timber harvesting methods in those limited instances where the
2165 topography, soil conditions, or silviculture practices necessary for
2166 regeneration render selective logging ecologically detrimental; and
2167 b. Clear cutting of timber that is solely incidental to the preparation of land
2168 for other uses authorized by the King County Shoreline Master Program.

2169

2170 **S-714** For forest practice conversions and other Class IV-General forest practices,
2171 where there is a likelihood of conversion to nonforest uses, King County shall
2172 ensure that there is no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions
2173 and that there are no significant adverse impacts to other shoreline uses,
2174 resources, and values such as navigation, recreation, and public access.

2175

2176 **~~((5.))~~ Surface Drilling for Oil and Gas**

2177 The Shoreline Management Act prohibits surface drilling in the waters of Puget Sound north to the Canadian
2178 ~~((boundary))~~ border and the Strait of Juan de Fuca seaward from the ordinary high water mark and on all lands
2179 within one thousand feet landward from that line.

2180

2181 **S-715** Surface drilling for oil or gas shall be prohibited in Puget Sound seaward from
2182 the ordinary high water mark and on all lands within one thousand feet landward
2183 from the ordinary high water mark on Puget Sound.

2184

2185 **~~((6.))~~ Aquaculture**

2186 **~~((a.))~~ General Aquaculture**

2187 Aquaculture is the culture or farming of fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals. Aquaculture does
2188 not include the harvest of wild geoduck associated with the state managed wildstock geoduck fishery.

2189 Aquaculture is dependent on the use of the water area and, when consistent with goals for aesthetics, public
2190 access, control of pollution and prevention of damage to the environment should be allowed so long as it does

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2191 not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. The visual and aesthetic impacts of
2192 aquaculture should not overwhelm adjacent land uses.

2193
2194 **S-716** **Aquaculture is a water-dependent use and should be an allowed use of the**
2195 **shoreline when consistent with control of pollution and avoidance of adverse**
2196 **impacts to the environment and preservation of habitat for native species, ((()**
2197 **consistent with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-241(((3)(b))))).**

2198
2199 **S-716a** **King County shall prohibit nonnative marine finfish aquaculture.**

2200
2201 **S-717** **Potential locations for aquaculture activities are relatively restricted because of**
2202 **specific requirements related to water quality, temperature, oxygen content,**
2203 **currents, adjacent land use, wind protection, commercial navigation, and salinity.**
2204 **The technology associated with some forms of aquaculture is still experimental**
2205 **and in formative states. Therefore, when implementing development regulations**
2206 **related to aquaculture, King County should provide flexibility in its development**
2207 **regulations governing the siting of aquaculture facilities, where appropriate.**
2208 **Those regulations shall require avoidance of adverse impacts to existing uses, to**
2209 **the maximum extent practical, and no net loss in shoreline ecological functions**
2210 **and processes. If King County determines that certain types aquaculture involve**
2211 **a significant risk of net loss in shoreline ecological functions or cumulative**
2212 **adverse effects on the environment or native species and their habitats, the**
2213 **County may prohibit or condition such uses in its development regulations.**

2214
2215 **S-718** **Aquaculture activities shall be designed, located, and operated in a manner that**
2216 **supports long-term beneficial use of the shoreline and protects and maintains**
2217 **shoreline ecological processes and functions. Aquaculture permits shall not be**
2218 **approved where it would result in net loss of shoreline ecological functions; net**
2219 **loss of habitat for native species including eelgrass, kelp, and other macroalgae;**
2220 **adverse impacts to other habitat conservation areas; or interference with**
2221 **navigation or other water-dependent uses.**

2222
2223 **S-719** **Aquaculture facilities shall be designed, operated and located so as not to**
2224 **spread disease to native aquatic life, establish new nonnative species that cause**
2225 **significant ecological impacts, or substantially impact the aesthetic qualities and**
2226 **public access of the shoreline.**

2227

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- 2228 **S-720** Preference should be given to those forms of aquaculture that involve lesser
2229 environmental and visual impacts and lesser impacts to native plant and animal
2230 species. In general, projects that require no structures, submerged structures or
2231 intertidal structures are preferred over those that involve substantial floating
2232 structures. Projects that involve little or no substrate modification are preferred
2233 over those that involve substantial modification, recognizing that in some
2234 circumstances that the importation of sand or pea gravel on rocky or cobble
2235 substrates may result in more diverse habitat. Projects that involve little or no
2236 supplemental food sources, pesticides, herbicides, or antibiotic application are
2237 preferred over those that involve such practices.
- 2238
2239 **S-721** Aquaculture shall not be permitted if it involves significant risk of cumulative
2240 adverse effects on water quality, sediment quality, benthic and pelagic
2241 organisms, or wild fish populations through potential contribution of antibiotic
2242 resistant bacteria, or escapement of non-native species, or other adverse effects
2243 on native species or threatened or endangered species and their habitats.
2244
- 2245 **S-722** King County shall consider the potential beneficial impacts and the potential
2246 adverse impacts of new aquaculture development on the physical environment;
2247 on other existing and approved land and water uses, including navigation; and
2248 on the aesthetic qualities of a project area.
2249
- 2250 **S-723** Legally established aquaculture uses, including authorized experimental
2251 projects, should be protected from incompatible uses that may seek to locate
2252 nearby. King County may deny uses or developments that have a high
2253 probability of damaging or destroying a legally established existing aquaculture.
2254
- 2255 **S-724** King County should review and make permit decisions on restoration projects
2256 associated with aquaculture in a timely manner.
2257
- 2258 **S-725** Experimental aquaculture projects in water bodies should be limited in scale and
2259 should be approved for a limited period of time. Experimental aquaculture
2260 means an aquaculture activity that uses methods or technologies that are
2261 unprecedented or unproven in the State of Washington.
2262
- 2263 **S-726** King County should actively seek substantive comment regarding potential
2264 adverse impacts of any shoreline permit application for aquaculture from all
2265 appropriate Federal, State, Indian tribal, and local agencies(~~(; the Muckleshoot~~
2266 ~~Tribe, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the Tulalip Tribes and other tribes with treaty~~
2267 ~~fishing rights)); and the general public. Comments of nearby residents or~~
2268 property owners directly affected by an aquaculture proposal should be

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2269 considered and evaluated, especially in regard to use compatibility and
 2270 aesthetics.

2271

2272 **S-727** The rights of treaty Indian tribes to aquatic resources within their usual and
 2273 accustomed areas should be addressed through the permit review process.
 2274 Direct and early coordination between the applicant or proponent and the
 2275 relevant tribe(s) should be encouraged.

2276

2277 **S-727a** King County should ensure proper management of upland uses in the shoreline
 2278 jurisdiction to avoid degradation of water quality of existing shellfish areas,
 2279 including adoption of additional protections from impacts of geoduck
 2280 aquaculture.

2281

2282 **((b.)) Net Pens**

2283 One specific type of aquaculture is a net pen, which is a type of large cage used to farm finfish in open water.
 2284 These net pens allow for the exchange of water between the farm and the surrounding environment. In 2017, a
 2285 large commercial net pen near Cypress Island collapsed and released hundreds of thousands of nonnative salmon
 2286 into King County’s shorelines of statewide significance.

2287

2288 Following this incident, King County reviewed its net pens regulations in 2018 for potential impacts on native
 2289 species and found that commercial salmon net pen aquaculture operations generally have adverse environmental
 2290 and ecological impacts that do not appear to meet the SMA standard of ‘no net loss of ecological function.’
 2291 These adverse impacts include increased disease transmission, increased water quality impacts, competition for
 2292 food and habitat, predation on local native salmon, and genetic introgression.

2293

2294 King County's native salmon runs are among the Puget Sound region's most precious and irreplaceable natural
 2295 resources. King County, area Indian tribes, the state, the region, and the federal government have collectively
 2296 invested hundreds of millions of dollars over many years to help protect and restore native salmon species. The
 2297 impacts of net pens to native salmon outlined above would threaten years of work and millions of dollars in
 2298 investments.

2299

2300 The environmental and ecological risks associated with commercial salmon net pens may also apply to other
 2301 finfish net pens, including net pens for noncommercial native salmon and commercial native finfish, but there is
 2302 a lack of current information regarding these risks. The Department of Ecology’s Shoreline Master Program
 2303 Handbook lists only three references to guide local jurisdictions in how to regulate net pens, all of which predate
 2304 the Endangered Species Act listings of Southern Resident Puget Sound Orcas, Puget Sound Chinook salmon,
 2305 and Puget Sound steelhead as threatened. The Department of Ecology acknowledges in the handbook that
 2306 interim net pen guidelines from the 1980s are out of date and caution should be used if relying on them.

2307

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2308 In response to the Cypress Island incident, the Washington State Legislature adopted Engrossed House Bill 2957
 2309 prohibiting new or expanded leases for nonnative marine finfish aquaculture. House Bill 2957 also directed state
 2310 agencies to continue updating guidance and informational resources for planning and permitting marine net pen
 2311 aquaculture. State agencies were further directed to seek advice and assistance from the Northwest Indian
 2312 Fisheries Commission, national centers for coastal ocean science, and to invite consultation with universities and
 2313 federally recognized Indian tribes and report back to the Legislature. ~~((The applicable state agencies must report~~
 2314 ~~to the legislature in late 2019.))~~ The resulting updated guidance has been published as Publication 22-06-008 and
 2315 22-06-009 and is available on the Department of Ecology’s website.

2316
 2317 **~~((S-272b)) S-727b~~ King County shall prohibit new commercial salmon net pen aquaculture**
 2318 **operations to avoid adverse impacts on native salmon runs.**

2319
 2320 **~~((S-272e)) S-727c~~ King County shall support Indian tribal treaty fishing rights, including operation**
 2321 **of noncommercial native salmon net pens for temporary rearing and brood stock**
 2322 **recovery programs.**

2323
 2324 **S-727d King County shall review and condition the siting of net pens to ensure they**
 2325 **apply all necessary environmental and ecological protections and meet the**
 2326 **standard of no adverse impacts and no net loss of ecological function.**

2327
 2328 **S-727e King County shall revisit its policies and regulations associated with net pens,**
 2329 **including the prohibition on commercial native salmon net pens, during the next**
 2330 **statutory-required periodic review of this program. At that time, additional**
 2331 **research and guidance from the state is expected to be available.**

2332
 2333 **~~((7-)) Boating Facilities~~**

2334 Boating facilities provide the boating public recreational opportunities on waters of the state, but should be sited
 2335 carefully to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions and to maintain the aesthetic
 2336 quality of the shoreline. For purposes of the King County Shoreline Master Program, “boating facilities” do not
 2337 include docks serving four or fewer single~~((family residences))~~ detached homes.

2338

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- 2339 **S-728** **Boating facilities shall be located only at sites with suitable environmental**
 2340 **conditions, shoreline configuration, access, and neighboring uses, and:**
 2341 a. **Meet health, safety and welfare requirements;**
 2342 b. **Mitigate aesthetic impacts;**
 2343 c. **Provide public access in new marinas, unless there is a safety or**
 2344 **security concern;**
 2345 d. **Prevent the impacts to shoreline resources from boaters living on their**
 2346 **vessels;**
 2347 e. **Restrict vessels should be restricted from extended mooring on waters**
 2348 **of the state unless authorization is obtained from the Washington**
 2349 **Department of Natural Resources and impacts to navigation and public**
 2350 **access are mitigated;**
 2351 f. **Assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions or**
 2352 **other significant adverse impacts; and**
 2353 g. **Protect the rights of navigation.**
 2354

2355 **~~(S.)~~ Commercial Development**

2356 Some commercial uses within the shoreline jurisdiction may be required to incorporate appropriate design and
 2357 operational elements to qualify as water-related or water-enjoyment. Public access and ecological restoration are
 2358 considered appropriate mitigation for the impact to shorelines unless it is determined public access is infeasible
 2359 or inappropriate. Most commercial land in unincorporated King County is located outside the shoreline
 2360 jurisdiction.
 2361

2362 **S-729** **King County shall require all commercial development on public land to provide**
 2363 **public access, unless the use is incompatible with public access or there are**
 2364 **public safety concerns.**
 2365

2366 **S-730** **King County shall permit non-water-oriented commercial uses in the shoreline**
 2367 **jurisdiction only if:**
 2368 a. **The non-water-oriented commercial use is limited to the minimum size**
 2369 **necessary for the use;**
 2370 b. **The use provides a significant public benefit with respect to the**
 2371 **Shoreline Management Act's objectives such as providing public access**
 2372 **and ecological restoration; and**
 2373 c. **The use is part of a mixed-use project that includes water-dependent**
 2374 **uses; or navigability is severely limited at the proposed site.**
 2375

2376 **S-731** **King County may allow nonwater-oriented commercial development in the**
 2377 **shoreline jurisdiction if the site is physically separated from the shoreline by**
 2378 **another property or public right-of-way.**
 2379

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- 2380 **S-732** **King County shall allow over-water nonwater-dependent commercial uses only in**
2381 **existing structures or if the use is auxiliary to and necessary to support a**
2382 **water-dependent use. The area of any over-water structure shall be limited to the**
2383 **maximum extent practical.**
2384
- 2385 **S-733** **King County shall prohibit commercial development that will have significant**
2386 **adverse impact to other shoreline uses, resources and values, such as**
2387 **navigation, recreation, and public access. King County shall require mitigation**
2388 **for all commercial development in the shoreline jurisdiction to ensure that it does**
2389 **not cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.**
2390
- 2391 **((9.)) Industry**
- 2392 The King County Shoreline Master Program establishes a hierarchy for industrial development within the
2393 shoreline jurisdiction. Most industrial land in King County is located within cities rather than within
2394 unincorporated King County.
2395
- 2396 **S-734** **In the shoreline jurisdiction, King County shall give preference to industrial uses**
2397 **in the following order: first, water-dependent industrial uses; second,**
2398 **water-related industrial uses; and third, non-water-oriented industrial uses.**
2399
- 2400 **S-735** **To mitigate for the impacts of industrial development within the shoreline**
2401 **jurisdiction, King County should require ecological restoration and public**
2402 **access, unless it determines that public access is infeasible or inappropriate.**
2403
- 2404 **S-736** **King County shall require industrial uses located on public land in the shoreline**
2405 **jurisdiction to provide public access, unless the use is incompatible with public**
2406 **access or there are public safety concerns.**
2407
- 2408 **S-737** **King County should encourage Industrial development and redevelopment to be**
2409 **located where environmental cleanup and restoration of the shoreline can be**
2410 **incorporated.**
2411
- 2412 **S-738** **King County shall permit new nonwater-oriented industrial development in the**
2413 **shoreline jurisdiction only if:**
- 2414 **a. The use is part of a mixed-use project that includes water-dependent**
2415 **uses or navigability is severely limited; and**
- 2416 **b. The use provides a significant public benefit with respect to the**
2417 **Shoreline Management Act's objectives, such as providing public access**
2418 **and ecological restoration.**
2419

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2420 **S-739** King County may allow nonwater-oriented industrial uses in the shoreline
 2421 jurisdiction if the site is physically separated from the shoreline by another
 2422 property or public right-of-way.
 2423

2424 **~~((10.))~~ In-Water Structures**

2425 "In-water structure" means a structure placed by humans within a stream, river, or lake waterward of the
 2426 ordinary high-water mark that either causes or has the potential to cause water impoundment or the diversion,
 2427 obstruction, or modification of water flow. In-water structures may include those for hydroelectric generation,
 2428 irrigation, water supply, flood control, transportation, utility service transmission, fish collection weir, or other
 2429 purposes.
 2430

2431 **S-740** In-water structures shall provide for the protection and preservation of shoreline
 2432 ecological processes and functions, and cultural resources, including, but not
 2433 limited to, fish and fish passage, wildlife and water resources, shoreline critical
 2434 areas, hydro-geological processes, and natural scenic vistas.
 2435

2436 **S-741** The location and planning of in-water structures shall give due consideration to
 2437 the full range of public interests and shoreline ecological processes and
 2438 functions, with special emphasis on protecting and restoring habitat for
 2439 threatened or endangered species.
 2440

2441 **~~((11.))~~ Mining**

2442 King County has identified and designated land that is appropriate for the removal of sand, gravel, soil, minerals
 2443 and other extractable resources. In King County, gravel removal was a common method of flood control in the
 2444 first half of the 20th century. However, mining within shorelines can have significant impacts, particularly to
 2445 habitat for threatened and endangered aquatic and riparian species.
 2446

2447 **S-742** Mining may be allowed within the shoreline jurisdiction if it is:
 2448 a. Consistent with the environment designation policies of the King County
 2449 Shoreline Master Program and provisions of the Shoreline Management
 2450 Act; and
 2451 b. Located within mineral resource lands designated by the King County
 2452 Comprehensive Plan.

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- 2453
- 2454 **S-743** New mining and associated activities shall be designed and conducted to comply
- 2455 with the regulations of the environment designation where the activity occurs
- 2456 and the provisions applicable to critical areas where relevant. Accordingly,
- 2457 meeting the standard of no net loss of ecological function shall include
- 2458 avoidance and mitigation of adverse impacts during the course of mining and
- 2459 reclamation. It is appropriate, however, to determine whether there will be no net
- 2460 loss of ecological function based on evaluation of final reclamation required for
- 2461 the site. Preference shall be given to mining proposals that result in the
- 2462 restoration, creation, or enhancement of habitat for threatened or endangered
- 2463 species.
- 2464
- 2465 **S-744** The King County Shoreline Master Program provisions and permit requirements
- 2466 for mining should be coordinated with the requirements of Chapter 78.44 Revised
- 2467 Code of Washington (~~Chapter 78.44~~).
- 2468
- 2469 **S-745** The proposed subsequent use of mined property shall be consistent with the
- 2470 provisions of the shoreline environment designation in which the property is
- 2471 located.
- 2472
- 2473 **S-746** King County shall permit mining within the active channel of a river only as
- 2474 follows:
- 2475 a. Removal of specified quantities of sand and gravel or other materials at
- 2476 specific locations will not adversely affect the natural processes of
- 2477 gravel transportation for the river system as a whole;
- 2478 b. The mining and any associated permitted activities will not have
- 2479 significant adverse impacts to habitat for threatened or endangered
- 2480 species nor cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
- 2481 functions;
- 2482 c. The determinations required by items ~~((1))~~ a. and ~~((2))~~ b. of this policy
- 2483 shall be consistent with Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100~~((1))~~ and
- 2484 Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201~~((2))~~(a). Such evaluation of
- 2485 impacts should be appropriately integrated with relevant environmental
- 2486 review requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act and the
- 2487 Department of Ecology guidelines;
- 2488 d. In considering renewal, extension, or reauthorization of gravel bar and
- 2489 other in-channel mining operations in locations where they have
- 2490 previously been conducted, King County shall require compliance with
- 2491 this policy if no such review has previously been conducted. Where
- 2492 there has been prior review, King County shall review the previous

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2493 determinations ~~((in order))~~ to ensure that current site conditions comply
 2494 with the Program; and
 2495 e. These requirements do not apply to dredging of authorized navigation
 2496 channels when conducted in accordance with Washington
 2497 Administrative Code 173-26-231~~((3)(f))~~.

2498
 2499 **S-747 King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for mining activity**
 2500 **within a severe channel migration hazard zone located within the shoreline**
 2501 **jurisdiction.**

2502

2503 **~~((12.))~~ Recreational Development**

2504 Recreational development includes uses and activities designed to allow public enjoyment and use of the water
 2505 and shoreline. King County recreational planning provides for parks, trails, open space, and opportunities for
 2506 both active and passive recreational use in King County.

2507

2508 **S-748 Recreational development is allowed in the shoreline jurisdiction and ~~((must))~~**
 2509 **shall be consistent with the shoreline environment designation in which the**
 2510 **property is located.**

2511

2512 **S-749 King County shall plan to provide public recreational uses on ~~((e))~~ County-owned**
 2513 **shoreline, consistent with the goals of this chapter.**

2514

2515 **~~((13.))~~ Residential Development**

2516 The Shoreline Management Act recognizes single ~~((family))~~ detached residential development as a priority use
 2517 within shorelines of the state. The term “residential development” also includes attached and multifamily
 2518 dwelling units as well as subdivision of shoreline land into new residential lots. In King County, single detached
 2519 dwelling units are the most common shoreline development. Residential development is often fairly high density
 2520 to maximize water frontage. Care must be taken to assure that shoreline residential development and the related
 2521 impacts from shoreline armoring, stormwater runoff, on-site sewage disposal systems, introduction of pollutants,
 2522 and vegetation modification and removal do not result in significant damage to the shoreline.

2523

2524 **S-750 Single ~~((family))~~ detached residential development is a priority use in the**
 2525 **shoreline jurisdiction in King County.**

2526

2527 **S-751 King County shall require a conditional use permit for construction or expansion**
 2528 **of a single~~((family residence))~~ detached home that is located within an aquatic**
 2529 **area buffer in the Forestry or Natural Shoreline Environment.**

2530

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- 2531 ~~((S-752~~ ~~Shoreline residential development, including accessory structures and uses,~~
 2532 ~~should be sufficiently set back from steep slopes and shorelines vulnerable to~~
 2533 ~~erosion so that structural improvements, including bluff walls and other~~
 2534 ~~stabilization structures, are not required to protect these structures and uses.))~~
- 2535 **S-753** New over-water residences, including floating homes, are not a preferred use and
 2536 shall be prohibited in the shoreline jurisdiction. Existing communities of floating
 2537 or over-water homes should be reasonably accommodated to allow
 2538 improvements associated with life-safety matters and to ensure protection of
 2539 private property rights. King County shall limit the expansion of existing floating
 2540 homes, including over-water and underwater footprint, and over-water
 2541 communities to the minimum necessary to ensure consistency with
 2542 constitutional and other legal limitations that protect private property.
 2543
 2544
- 2545 **S-754** King County should require multifamily residential development and
 2546 subdivisions within the shoreline jurisdiction creating more than four lots to
 2547 provide public access.
 2548
- 2549 **S-755** King County shall require subdivisions and short subdivisions to:
 2550 a. Be designed, configured and developed in a manner that ensures no net
 2551 loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions at full build-out of
 2552 all lots;
 2553 b. Prevent the need for new shoreline stabilization or flood risk reduction
 2554 measures that would cause significant impacts to other properties or
 2555 public improvements, a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
 2556 functions, or interfere with channel migration; and
 2557 c. Implement the provisions and policies for shoreline designations and the
 2558 general policy goals of this chapter.
 2559

2560 **~~((14.))~~ Transportation and Parking**

2561 Providing for transportation and parking is necessary to support water-dependent uses, to support the regional
 2562 economy, and for access to privately owned property. However, transportation facilities should be located and
 2563 designed to have the least impact on the ecological processes and functions of the shoreline. Transportation
 2564 planning in shorelines should not be focused totally on ~~((automobiles))~~ vehicles, but should consider a wide
 2565 range of options, including buses, light rail, commuter rail, bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian facilities.
 2566 Transportation planning can be a tool for finding opportunities to provide public access to the shorelines.

- 2567
- 2568 **S-756** King County shall require transportation and parking plans and projects located
 2569 in the shoreline jurisdiction to be consistent with the public access policies in
 2570 this chapter and environmental protection provisions.
 2571

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2572 **S-757** Where appropriate, circulation system planning in the shoreline jurisdiction shall
 2573 include systems for pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation and combining
 2574 transportation uses to minimize the footprint of transportation facilities.
 2575 Circulation planning and projects should support existing and proposed
 2576 shoreline uses that are consistent with the King County Shoreline Master
 2577 Program.

2578
 2579 **S-758** Transportation and parking facilities located in the shoreline jurisdiction shall be
 2580 planned, located and designed to have the least possible adverse impact on
 2581 unique or fragile shoreline features, not result in a net loss of shoreline
 2582 ecological processes and functions or adversely impact existing or planned
 2583 water-dependent uses. Where other options are available and feasible, new
 2584 transportation facilities or transportation facility expansions should not be
 2585 constructed within the shoreline jurisdiction.
 2586

2587 **S-759** Parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction are not a preferred use. King
 2588 County shall allow parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction only when
 2589 necessary to support an authorized use and when an alternatives analysis shows
 2590 there are no feasible alternatives outside of the 200-foot shoreline jurisdiction.
 2591 Parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall use ((L))low ((I))impact
 2592 ((D))designs, such as porous concrete and vegetated swales, and be planned,
 2593 located and designed to minimize the environmental and visual impacts.
 2594

2595 **~~(15.)~~ Utilities**

2596 Utilities include services and facilities that produce, convey, store, or process power, gas, water, sewage,
 2597 stormwater, communications, oil, or waste. Utilities that are classified as on-site utilities serving only one
 2598 primary use are considered “accessory utilities” and are considered part of the primary use.
 2599

2600 **S-760** Utility facilities shall be designed and located to assure no net loss of shoreline
 2601 ecological processes and functions, preserve the natural landscape, and
 2602 minimize conflicts with present and planned land and shoreline uses, while
 2603 meeting the needs of future populations in areas planned to accommodate
 2604 growth.
 2605

2606 **S-761** King County shall allow modification of existing utility facilities and the location
 2607 of new water-oriented portions of utility facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction
 2608 provided that a mitigation sequence is applied (see policy S-616) and there is no
 2609 net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. To the maximum extent
 2610 practical, those parts of utility production and processing facilities that are not

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- 2611 water-oriented, such as power plants and sewage treatment plants, shall be
 2612 located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction.
 2613
 2614 **S-762** Transmission facilities for the conveyance of services, such as power lines,
 2615 cables, and pipelines, shall be located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction where
 2616 feasible. Transmission facilities located within the shoreline jurisdiction shall
 2617 assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
 2618
 2619 **S-763** Utilities should be located in existing developed rights-of-way and corridors to
 2620 the maximum extent practical.
 2621
 2622 **S-764** Unless no other feasible alternative location exists, King County should
 2623 discourage:
 2624 a. Locating pipelines and cables in water, on tidelands or roughly parallel
 2625 to the shoreline; and
 2626 b. The development of facilities that may require periodic maintenance that
 2627 disrupts shoreline ecological processes and functions.
 2628
 2629 King County shall ensure that any utility facilities that are allowed do not result in
 2630 a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions or significant adverse
 2631 impacts to other shoreline resources and values.
 2632

2633 **~~((C.))~~ Shoreline Modifications**

2634 **~~((L.))~~ General Policies Governing Shoreline Modifications**

2635 A shoreline modification is construction of a physical element, such as a dike, breakwater, dredged basin, or fill,
 2636 as well as other actions such as clearing, grading, application of chemicals, or significant vegetation removal to
 2637 support or prepare for a shoreline use. These activities should be directly related to a legal shoreline use and
 2638 should not be conducted for other purposes.
 2639

2640 **S-765** King County should allow structural shoreline modifications only when
 2641 necessary to support or protect a legally established structure or a legally
 2642 existing shoreline use that is in danger of loss or substantial damage, or when a
 2643 modification is necessary for reconfiguration of the shoreline for mitigation or
 2644 enhancement purposes.
 2645

2646 **S-766** ~~((In order to))~~ In order to reduce the adverse effects of shoreline modifications, King
 2647 County should limit shoreline modifications in number and extent to the
 2648 maximum extent practicable.
 2649

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2650 **S-767** King County shall only allow shoreline modifications that are appropriate to the
2651 specific type of shoreline and environmental conditions for which they are
2652 proposed.

2653
2654 **S-768** King County shall ensure that shoreline modifications individually and
2655 cumulatively do not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
2656 functions. ~~((In order to))~~To achieve this goal, King County shall give preference to
2657 those types of shoreline modifications that have a lesser impact on the shoreline
2658 and by requiring mitigation of identified impacts resulting from shoreline
2659 modifications.

2660
2661 **S-769** Where applicable, King County shall develop regulations and impose conditions
2662 based on scientific and technical information and a comprehensive analysis of
2663 shoreline conditions for drift cells for marine waters or reaches for lakes and
2664 river and stream systems.

2665
2666 **S-770** King County should plan for the enhancement of impaired shoreline ecological
2667 processes and functions where feasible and appropriate, while accommodating
2668 permitted uses. To the maximum extent practical, King County should
2669 incorporate appropriate measures to protect shoreline ecological processes and
2670 functions from the impacts of shoreline modifications.

2671

2672 **((2.)) Shoreline Stabilization**

2673 Shorelines are impacted by wind and wave action, currents, tides, and flood waters, resulting in erosion of banks
2674 and shifts in channels. These impacts are natural processes that support shoreline ecological processes and
2675 functions, but they also impact human use of shorelines.

2676

2677 These natural processes are likely to be affected by climate change. Lowland rivers may see higher flows in the
2678 autumn and winter and mid-elevation rivers may see higher winter flows. In both cases, these changes could
2679 lead to more frequent flooding. The marine shorelines around Vashon-Maury Island and the Duwamish Estuary
2680 may also see effects due to sea((-))level rise. Increased sea elevations will make development and infrastructure
2681 in low-lying areas more susceptible to flooding due to high tides and storms. Waves will encroach further onto
2682 low-lying beaches and cause greater beach erosion, threatening or damaging low-lying structures. At the same
2683 time steep slopes may receive increased moisture due to predicted changes in precipitation patterns, potentially
2684 resulting in an increase in landslides that may cause property destruction and threaten human safety.

2685

2686 Humans have long desired to "control" these natural processes by constructing shoreline stabilization structures.
2687 The negative side of structural solutions includes the high cost of construction, long-term cost of maintenance
2688 and repair, the false sense of security for humans relying on these structures, and the high impact to the shoreline

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2689 environment. These negative impacts are likely to increase as the effects of climate change become more
2690 apparent. These impacts include:

- 2691 1. Beach starvation where sediment is prevented from supplying the beach, thus impeding a
2692 dynamic process.
- 2693 2. Habitat degradation, particularly through removal of shoreline vegetation.
- 2694 3. Sediment impoundment where the sources of sediment are lost and longshore transport is
2695 diminished, resulting in lowering of down-drift beaches, narrowing of the high tide beach, and
2696 the coarsening of beach sediment.
- 2697 4. Exacerbation of erosion as wave energy is reflected back from hard surfaces onto the beach,
2698 increasing erosion.
- 2699 5. Groundwater impacts that can lead to a rise of the water table on the landward side of an
2700 erosion control structure, which results in increased pore pressures in the beach material and
2701 accelerated erosion of sand-sized material from the beach.
- 2702 6. Hydraulic impacts where wave energy is reflected back onto the beach, resulting in scour
2703 lowering the beach elevation, or coarsening the beach, resulting in failure of the structure.
- 2704 7. Loss of shoreline vegetation and the loss of erosion control that the vegetation provided, as
2705 well as loss of the habitat function provided by vegetation.
- 2706 8. Loss of large woody debris, which plays an important role in biological diversity and habitat as
2707 well as stabilizing the shoreline.
- 2708 9. Restriction of channel movement and creation of side channels, impacting recruitment of large
2709 woody debris and gravel for spawning.

2710
2711 As alternatives to constructing a hard-surfaced structural facility, nonstructural methods that have lesser impacts
2712 on shoreline ecological processes and functions are available. These nonstructural methods may also allow for
2713 adaptation to the effects of climate change. For example, if buildings are constructed further away from the
2714 existing water edge, beyond the range of sea((-))_level rise, shoreline protection would be unnecessary. For most
2715 projects, a range of options is available. These include “soft” measures, such as revegetation to stabilize banks,
2716 which provide a variety of other ecological processes and functions, and "hard" measures, such as bulkheads,
2717 which often detract from or provide only limited ecological function. Shoreline stabilization options include, but
2718 are not limited to:

- 2719 1. Vegetation enhancement;
- 2720 2. Upland drainage control;
- 2721 3. Biotechnical measures;
- 2722 4. Beach enhancement;

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- 2723 5. Anchor trees;
- 2724 6. Gravel placement;
- 2725 7. Rock revetments;
- 2726 8. Gabions;
- 2727 9. Concrete groins;
- 2728 10. Retaining walls and bluff walls;
- 2729 11. Bulkheads; and
- 2730 12. Seawalls.

2731

2732 **S-771 King County shall require shoreline stabilization to be consistent with**
 2733 **Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221((5)) for vegetation retention and**
 2734 **((Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221(2) for)) protection of critical areas.**

2735

2736 **S-772 King County shall adopt standards to first avoid then mitigate the impact to**
 2737 **shoreline ecological processes and functions when alteration of the shoreline is**
 2738 **allowed for the construction of single detached dwelling units and accessory**
 2739 **structures. These standards shall address the design and type of protective**
 2740 **measures and devices that are allowed.**

2741

2742 When structural shoreline stabilization is proposed to protect existing development, the following measures
 2743 apply:

2744

2745 **S-773 King County may allow construction of new or replaced structural shoreline**
 2746 **stabilization and flood control works to protect an existing structure if King**
 2747 **County determines there is a documented need, including a geotechnical**
 2748 **analysis that the structure is in danger from shoreline erosion caused by tidal**
 2749 **action, currents, or waves.**

2750

2751 When new development occurs within the shoreline jurisdiction, the following measures apply:

2752

2753 **S-774 Shoreline stabilization shall be allowed only when:**
 2754 **a. Necessary to protect existing primary structures at imminent risk;**
 2755 **b. No lower-impact alternative exists, including relocation or reconstruction**
 2756 **of the structure;**
 2757 **c. When impacts are mitigated to ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological**
 2758 **processes and functions; and**
 2759 **d. Stabilization measures are in conformance with Washington**
 2760 **Administrative Code 173-26-231.**

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2761

2762 **S-774a** King County shall require:2763 a. ~~((n))~~ New shoreline development to be located and designed, as well as2764 the creation of new subdivisions and short subdivisions, to avoid the2765 need for future structural slope or shoreline stabilization ((to the2766 maximum extent practicable)); and2767 b. New development to be set back from steep or eroding slopes so that2768 structural slope or shoreline stabilization is not needed for the life of the2769 development.

2770

2771 ~~((S-775~~ King County shall require that lots in new subdivisions and short subdivisions to2772 ~~be created so that shoreline stabilization will not be necessary in order for~~2773 ~~reasonable development to occur, using geotechnical analysis of the site and~~2774 ~~shoreline characteristics.~~

2775

2776 ~~S-776~~ King County shall require new development on steep slopes or bluffs to be set2777 ~~back sufficiently to ensure that shoreline stabilization is unlikely to be necessary~~2778 ~~during the life of the structure, as demonstrated by a geotechnical analysis.))~~

2779

2780 **S-777** King County shall not allow new development that requires shoreline

2781 stabilization that will cause significant adverse impacts to adjacent or

2782 down-current properties and shoreline areas.

2783

2784 ~~((S-778~~ King County should notify all prospective developers of new development along2785 ~~Vashon-Maury Island that their development may be impacted by sea-level rise~~2786 ~~and should encourage all such new development to be set back a sufficient~~2787 ~~distance to avoid the need for shoreline protection during the expected life of the~~2788 ~~development.))~~

2789

2790 New “hard” structural stabilization measures should be used as a last resort after exploring and evaluating other

2791 soft measures.

2792

2793 **S-779** King County shall require the use of soft methods of shoreline stabilization to the2794 maximum extent practicable. King County shall allow new and replacement hard

2795 structural stabilization measures only as follows:

2796 a. To protect existing nonwater-dependent development and structures,

2797 including single~~((family residences))~~ detached homes, if:

2798 1. The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the

2799 loss of vegetation and drainage;

2800 2. Nonstructural measures, such as locating the development

2801 further from the shoreline, planting vegetation, or installing

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- 2802 on-site drainage improvements, are not feasible or not
 2803 sufficient;
 2804 3. The need to protect primary structures from imminent risk of
 2805 damage due to erosion is demonstrated through a geotechnical
 2806 report submitted by a qualified specialist. The damage must be
 2807 caused by natural processes, such as tidal action, currents, and
 2808 waves; and
 2809 4. Mitigation is provided such that the erosion control structure
 2810 will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes
 2811 and functions.
 2812 b. To protect water-dependent development if:
 2813 1. The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the
 2814 loss of vegetation and drainage;
 2815 2. Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation or installing on-site
 2816 drainage improvements are not feasible or not sufficient;
 2817 3. The need to protect primary structures from damage due to
 2818 erosion is demonstrated through a geotechnical report
 2819 submitted by a qualified specialist; and
 2820 4. The erosion control structure will not result in a net loss of
 2821 shoreline ecological processes and functions.
 2822 c. To protect shoreline restoration projects or hazardous substance
 2823 remediation projects pursuant to Chapter 70A.305 Revised Code of
 2824 Washington (~~Chapter 70.105D~~) if:
 2825 1. Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation or installing on-site
 2826 drainage improvements are not feasible or not sufficient; and
 2827 2. The erosion control structure will not result in a net loss of
 2828 shoreline ecological processes and functions.
 2829

2830 The King County shoreline jurisdiction includes a large number of shoreline stabilization structures, many of
 2831 which were constructed years ago with little or no consideration of the impact on shoreline ecological processes
 2832 and functions.
 2833

2834 **S-780** An existing shoreline stabilization structure may be replaced (~~with a similar~~
 2835 structure if), provided that the least impactful stabilization measure is used and
 2836 there is a demonstrated need to protect principal uses or structures from erosion
 2837 caused by currents, tidal action, or waves.
 2838

2839 **S-781** King County shall require replaced shoreline protection structures to be
 2840 designed, located, sized, and constructed to assure no net loss of shoreline
 2841 ecological processes and functions.
 2842

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- 2843 **S-782** Replacement walls or bulkheads to protect a residence shall not encroach
2844 waterward as measured at an elevation of two-feet above the current ordinary
2845 high-water mark, unless:
- 2846 a. The residence was occupied prior to January 1, 1972;
2847 b. There are overriding safety or environmental concerns; and
2848 c. The replacement structure shall abut the existing shoreline stabilization
2849 structure and be located on the landward side of the existing structure.
2850
- 2851 **S-783** If a net loss of ecological processes and functions associated with critical
2852 saltwater habitats will result from leaving an existing shoreline protection
2853 structure that is proposed for replacement, King County shall require the
2854 structure to be removed as part of the replacement measure.
2855
- 2856 **S-784** King County shall ~~((encourage))~~ require the use soft shoreline stabilization
2857 measures that use placement or growth of natural materials that closely
2858 resemble natural scales and configurations, or other soft stabilization measures
2859 where appropriate, and that provide restoration of shoreline ecological
2860 processes and functions waterward of the ordinary high-water mark.
2861
- 2862 **S-785** King County should encourage replaced structural shoreline stabilization located
2863 on Vashon-Maury Island to be relocated outside of the coastal high hazard area
2864 (also known as the coastal 100-year floodplain) whenever possible.
2865
- 2866 King County should make decisions on shoreline stabilization measures based on technical studies and reports
2867 that objectively analyze the current conditions and the impact of the proposed stabilization measure. A
2868 geotechnical report addressing geologic and habitat conditions developed by a qualified geologist or geotechnical
2869 engineer and habitat specialist should be a requirement of a development proposal application that includes
2870 shoreline stabilization as part of the development.
2871
- 2872 **S-786** ~~((When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall require a
2873 geotechnical report to address the need to prevent potential damage to a primary
2874 structure. The report shall estimate time frames and rates of erosion and the
2875 urgency associated with the specific situation. King County should not allow
2876 hard armoring solutions, unless a geotechnical report confirms that there is a
2877 significant possibility that the structure will be damaged within three years as a
2878 result of shoreline erosion in the absence of such hard armoring measures, or
2879 where waiting until the need is immediate would foreclose the opportunity to use
2880 measures that avoid impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions. If
2881 the geotechnical report confirms a need to prevent potential damage to a primary
2882 structure, but the need is not as immediate as the three years, the report may still
2883 be used to justify more immediate authorization to protect against erosion using~~

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2884 **soft measures.)) When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall**
 2885 **ensure that the stabilization method used is the least ecologically impactful,**
 2886 **technically feasible option.**

2887

2888 The construction of shoreline stabilization measures results in impacts to the ecological processes and functions
 2889 of the shoreline. The following measures should be considered to mitigate the impacts of shoreline stabilization
 2890 projects.

2891

2892 **S-788 If structural shoreline stabilization measures are demonstrated to be necessary,**
 2893 **King County shall:**
 2894 **~~((1-))~~ a. Limit the size of stabilization measures to the minimum necessary;**
 2895 **~~((2-))~~ b. Require the use of measures designed to assure no net loss of shoreline**
 2896 **ecological processes and functions; and**
 2897 **~~((3-))~~ c. Require the use of soft approaches, unless they are demonstrated not to**
 2898 **be sufficient to protect primary structures, dwellings, and businesses.**

2899

2900 **S-789 King County shall ensure that publicly financed or subsidized shoreline erosion**
 2901 **control measures do not restrict appropriate public access to the shoreline,**
 2902 **except where such access is determined to be infeasible because of**
 2903 **incompatible uses, safety, security, or harm to shoreline ecological processes**
 2904 **and functions. Where feasible, King County shall require ecological restoration**
 2905 **and public access improvements to be incorporated into the project.**

2906

2907 **S-790 King County shall discourage new development and redevelopment on feeder**
 2908 **bluffs. Where a legal building lot exists and the landowner has no option to**
 2909 **locate new development or redevelopment away from feeder bluffs and other**
 2910 **areas that affect beach sediment-producing areas, King County shall require that**
 2911 **they avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, and then minimize the adverse**
 2912 **impacts to sediment conveyance systems from erosion control measures.**

2913

2914 **S-791 King County should prioritize feeder bluffs as areas for protection using**
 2915 **acquisition, easement, transfer of development rights and other programs that**
 2916 **eliminate or reduce development threats.**

2917

2918 Erosion is the breakdown of soil, mud, rock, and other particles by the agents of wind, water, or ice or by living
 2919 organisms. These materials are moved downward or down-slope in response to gravity. Upland conditions may
 2920 contribute to this on-going natural physical process and may impact the ability of people to use the shoreline.

2921 Mass wasting is the geomorphic process by which soil, mud, rock, and other particles move downslope under the
 2922 force of gravity. Types of mass wasting include creep, slides, flows, topples, and falls, each with its own
 2923 characteristic features. Mass wasting may occur at a very slow rate, particularly in areas that are very dry or
 2924 those areas that receive sufficient rainfall such that vegetation has stabilized the surface. It may also occur at

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2925 very high speed, such as in rock slides or landslides, with disastrous consequences. The desire to protect
2926 shoreline development from these impacts leads to proposals for shoreline stabilization.

2927

2928 **S-792 The impacts of erosion and mass wasting should be mitigated through protection**
2929 **of geological hazardous areas.**

2930

2931 **((3.)) Piers and Docks**

2932 Piers and docks are some of the most commonly requested modifications to the shorelines. Because they extend
2933 over the water, piers and docks can have a significant impact on the shoreline ecological processes and functions.
2934 Careful consideration should be given to the construction of new piers and docks, and how they are constructed
2935 ~~((in order))~~ to minimize their impacts.

2936

2937 **S-793 King County shall allow new piers and docks only for water-dependent uses or**
2938 **public access. If it is designed and intended as a facility for access to watercraft,**
2939 **a dock associated with a single~~((family residence))~~ detached home is considered**
2940 **a water-dependent use. As an alternative to individual private moorage for**
2941 **residential development: mooring buoys are preferred over floats or docks and**
2942 **shared moorage facilities are preferred over single use moorage, where feasible**
2943 **or where water use conflicts exist or are predictable.**

2944

2945 **S-794 King County shall require pier and dock construction to be limited to the**
2946 **minimum size necessary to meet the needs of the proposed water-dependent**
2947 **use.**

2948

2949 **S-795 King County may allow water-related and water-enjoyment uses as part of a**
2950 **shoreline mixed-use development on over-water structures where they are**
2951 **clearly auxiliary to and in support of water-dependent uses, provided the**
2952 **minimum size requirement needed to meet the water-dependent use is not**
2953 **violated.**

2954

2955 **S-796 King County shall allow new pier or dock construction, excluding docks**
2956 **accessory to single~~((family residences))~~ single detached homes, only when the**
2957 **applicant has demonstrated that a specific need exists to support the intended**
2958 **water-dependent uses.**

2959

2960 **S-797 If new piers or docks are allowed, King County shall require new residential**
2961 **development of two or more dwelling units, subdivisions and short subdivisions**
2962 **to provide joint use or community dock facilities, when feasible, rather than**
2963 **individual docks for each dwelling unit or lot. King County shall allow only one**
2964 **pier or dock associated with residential development on a parcel.**

2965

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2966 **S-798** King County shall require piers and docks, including those accessory to
 2967 single~~((family residences))~~ detached homes, to be designed and constructed to
 2968 avoid and then minimize and mitigate the impacts to shoreline ecological
 2969 processes and functions. King County shall ~~((require piers and docks to be~~
 2970 ~~constructed of non-toxic materials. Where toxic materials, such as treated wood,~~
 2971 ~~are proposed, the proponent must show that no non-toxic alternative exists))~~
 2972 prohibit the use of creosote or pentachlorophenol pilings.
 2973

2974 **~~((4.))~~ Fill**

2975 Fill means the addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structures, or other material to an
 2976 area waterward of the ordinary high water mark, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that raises the
 2977 elevation or creates dry land. Fill is not permitted within the 100-year floodplain without providing
 2978 compensatory flood storage to prevent a rise in the base flood, which is a flood having a one percent chance of
 2979 being equaled or exceeded in any given year, often referred to as the "100-year flood." Fill can impact shoreline
 2980 ecological processes and functions, including channel migration.
 2981

2982 **S-799** King County shall require fill to be located, designed, and constructed to protect
 2983 shoreline ecological processes and functions and ecosystem-wide processes,
 2984 including channel migration and side channels.
 2985

2986 **S-800** King County shall allow fill waterward of the ordinary high-water mark only when
 2987 necessary to support:

- 2988 ~~((1.))~~ **a.** Water-dependent use;
- 2989 ~~((2.))~~ **b.** Public access;
- 2990 ~~((3.))~~ **c.** Cleanup and disposal of contaminated sediments as part of an
 2991 interagency environmental clean-up plan;
- 2992 ~~((4.))~~ **d.** Disposal of dredged material considered suitable under, and conducted
 2993 in accordance with, the dredged material management program of the
 2994 Washington Department of Natural Resources;
- 2995 ~~((5.))~~ **e.** Expansion or alteration of transportation facilities of statewide
 2996 significance currently located on the shoreline and then only upon a
 2997 demonstration that alternatives to fill are not feasible; ~~((or))~~
- 2998 ~~((6.))~~ **f.** Mitigation actions, environmental restoration, beach nourishment,
 2999 enhancement projects; or
- 3000 ~~((7.))~~ **g.** Flood risk reduction projects implemented consistent with the goals,
 3001 policies and objectives of the King County Flood Hazard Management
 3002 Plan where no reasonable alternative exists.
 3003

3004 **S-801** King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for fill waterward of
 3005 the ordinary high-water mark for any use, except for projects for ecological

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3006 restoration or for the maintenance, repair or replacement of flood protection
3007 facilities.
3008

3009 **~~((5.))~~ Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins and Weirs**

3010 Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs are all structural elements that are constructed to absorb or deflect wave
3011 action or to control excess sediment. A breakwater is an off-shore structure, either floating or not, which may or
3012 may not be connected to the shore and is designed to absorb and reflect back into the water body the energy of
3013 the waves. A jetty is an artificial barrier used to change the natural littoral drift to protect inlet entrances from
3014 clogging by transported sediment. A groin is a barrier-type structure extending from the backshore into the water
3015 across the beach, which is constructed to interrupt sediment movement along the shore. A weir is a small dam in
3016 a stream or river to control the flow of water. Although each of these structural elements may sometimes be
3017 appropriate, they should be allowed only under limited circumstances.
3018

3019 **S-802 King County shall allow breakwaters, jetties, and weirs located waterward of the**
3020 **ordinary high-water mark only where necessary to support water-dependent**
3021 **uses, public access, shoreline stabilization, or other specific public purpose.**
3022

3023 **S-803 Groins are prohibited except as a component of a publicly-sponsored project to**
3024 **protect or restore shoreline ecological processes and functions.**
3025

3026 **S-804 King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for the construction**
3027 **of breakwaters, jetties, groins, weirs, and similar structures, except for those**
3028 **structures installed to protect or restore shoreline ecological processes and**
3029 **functions, such as woody debris installed in streams.**
3030

3031 **S-805 Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs shall be designed to protect critical areas**
3032 **and shall provide for mitigation according to the sequence in policy S-616 and**
3033 **defined in Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201 ~~((2)(e))~~.**
3034

3035 **~~((6.))~~ Beach and Dunes Management**

3036 Washington's beaches and their associated dunes lie along the Pacific Ocean coast between Point Grenville and
3037 Cape Disappointment and, as shorelines of statewide significance, are mandated to be managed from a statewide
3038 perspective by the Shoreline Management Act. There are no beaches and associated dunes in King County.
3039

3040 **~~((7.))~~ Dredging and Dredge Material Disposal**

3041 Dredging is the removal, displacement, or disposal of unconsolidated earth material such as sand, silt, gravel, or
3042 other submerged materials, from the bottom of water bodies, ditches, or natural wetlands. Long-term
3043 maintenance and support activities are also considered dredging. Dredging can cause significant ecological

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3044 damage, which cannot always be avoided. Mitigation measures should be required to assure no net loss of
3045 shoreline ecological processes and functions.

3046

3047 King County has a channel monitoring program for King County rivers, which can be used to inform decisions
3048 on dredging activities. While only certain reaches of these rivers have been surveyed, King County recognizes
3049 the need to continue and enhance the channel monitoring program. In addition, King County should avoid
3050 development of shorelines that would require new or maintenance dredging.

3051

3052 **S-806** King County shall require that new development should be sited and designed to
3053 avoid, to the maximum extent practical, and then to minimize the need for new or
3054 maintenance dredging.

3055

3056 **S-807** King County shall allow dredging for the purpose of establishing, expanding, or
3057 relocating or reconfiguring navigation channels and basins when necessary to
3058 assure safe and efficient accommodation of existing navigational uses.
3059 Significant adverse ecological impacts shall be minimized and mitigation shall be
3060 provided to ensure that there is no net loss of shoreline ecological processes
3061 and functions. Maintenance dredging of established navigation channels and
3062 basins should be restricted to maintaining previously dredged or existing
3063 authorized location, depth, and width.

3064

3065 **S-808** King County shall not allow dredging waterward of the ordinary high-water mark
3066 for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material, except when the material is
3067 necessary for the restoration of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
3068 When allowed, the site where the fill is to be placed shall be located waterward of
3069 the ordinary high-water mark. The project must be either associated with a
3070 habitat restoration project under the Model Toxics Control Act or the
3071 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or, if
3072 approved through a shoreline conditional use permit, any other significant
3073 habitat enhancement project.

3074

3075 **S-809** King County shall not allow disposal of dredge material on shorelands and in
3076 side channels within a river's channel migration zone. King County shall not
3077 allow disposal of dredge material in wetlands located within the shoreline
3078 jurisdiction. In the limited instances where it is allowed, such disposal shall
3079 require a shoreline conditional use permit.

3080

3081 **S-810** King County shall require dredging to be conducted consistent with Policy
3082 RCM-3 of the ((2006)) King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or successor
3083 policies or plans.

3084

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3085 **~~((8.))~~ Shoreline Habitat and Natural Systems Enhancement Projects**

3086 Shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement projects should be supported and coordinated with other
3087 planning processes, such as salmon conservation plans and the ((2006)) King County Flood Hazard
3088 Management Plan , or successor plans.

3089

3090 **S-811 King County should allow for habitat and natural systems enhancement projects**
3091 **that include, but are not limited to:**

- 3092 a. **Modification of vegetation;**
3093 b. **Removal of nonnative or invasive plants;**
3094 c. **Shoreline stabilization using soft or non-structural techniques; and**
3095 d. **Dredging, and filling, provided that the primary purpose of such actions**
3096 **is clearly restoration of the natural character and shoreline ecological**
3097 **processes and functions of the shoreline.**

3098

3099 **S-812 Habitat and natural systems enhancement projects should assure that the**
3100 **projects address legitimate restoration needs and priorities.**

3101

3102 **~~((IX.))~~ Primary and Administrative Policies**

3103 **~~((A.))~~ Reservation of Right to Appeal Department of Ecology Decisions**

3104 ~~By law, King County's Shoreline Master Program must be approved by the Department of Ecology, which has~~
3105 ~~the power to reject or modify part or all of King County's Shoreline Master Program elements.~~

3106

3107 **~~1.))~~ Reservation of right to submit alternate proposal to Ecology**

3108 ~~If the Department of Ecology recommends a change to some or all of the elements in King County's Shoreline~~
3109 ~~Master Program, King County reserves the right to submit an alternate proposal for approval.~~

3110

3111 **~~S-901~~ If the Department of Ecology recommends changes to any elements of the King**
3112 **County Shoreline Master Program, King County reserves the right to submit an**
3113 **alternate proposal to the Department for its review and approval.**

3114

3115 **~~2.))~~ Appeal of Ecology's decision to reject or modify King County Shoreline**
3116 **Master Program.**

3117 ~~If the Department of Ecology rejects or modifies part or all of the elements of in King County's Shoreline Master~~
3118 ~~Program, King County reserves the right to appeal this decision, in whole or part, to the Growth Management~~
3119 ~~Hearings Board and the courts.~~

3120

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD~~

3121 ~~S-902~~ ~~————— If the Department of Ecology rejects part or all of King County’s Shoreline Master~~
3122 ~~Program, or if the Department of Ecology recommends changes that are~~
3123 ~~unacceptable to King County, King County reserves the right to appeal the~~
3124 ~~Department’s decision to the Shoreline Management Hearings Board.~~

3125

3126 ~~**B. Posting Notice of Effective Date of King County’s Shoreline Master**~~
3127 ~~**Program and Shoreline Regulations**~~

3128 ~~The King County Shoreline Master Program and any amendments to the Shoreline Master Program take effect~~
3129 ~~only after approval by the Washington State Department of Ecology.~~

3130

3131 ~~S-903~~ ~~————— Upon receipt of the letter from the Department of Ecology approving the King~~
3132 ~~County Shoreline Master Program or any amendments to the Shoreline Master~~
3133 ~~Program, King County will promptly post on its web site a notice that the~~
3134 ~~Department of Ecology has taken final action and approved the Shoreline Master~~
3135 ~~Program or SMP amendments. The notice will indicate the effective date.~~

3136

3137 ~~C.)~~ ~~**Indian Treaty Rights Not Affected by Shoreline Master Program**~~

3138 King County has sought the input of and consulted with Indian tribes located in and adjacent to King County
3139 when developing the Shoreline Master Program. However, the Shoreline Master ((Plan)) Program and
3140 associated shoreline regulations shall not be construed to affect any treaty rights established between the United
3141 States and the individual tribes.

3142

3143 ~~S-904~~ ~~Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program nor in any action taken~~
3144 ~~under the Shoreline Master Program shall be construed to affect any Indian treaty~~
3145 ~~right to which the United States is a party.~~

3146

3147 ~~**((D-)) Power to Abate Nuisance Retained by King County and the State Of**~~
3148 ~~**Washington**~~

3149 Adoption of the Shoreline Master Program is a requirement of the Shoreline Management Act. King County’s
3150 compliance with this state law should not be construed in any way to limit or modify all other powers possessed
3151 by King County.

3152

3153 ~~S-905~~ ~~Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program shall be construed to limit~~
3154 ~~the power of King County or the State of Washington to abate nuisances within~~
3155 ~~the shoreline jurisdiction.~~

3156

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3157 **S-906** **King County specifically reserves all rights, power, and authority granted to it by**
3158 **law. Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program shall be construed in**
3159 **any way to limit any power or authority possessed by King County.**
3160

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
S-101 King County has primary responsibility within its boundaries for planning required by the Shoreline Management Act and for administering its shoreline regulatory program.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S-101 could be deleted. It's state law that doesn't need to be in the policies.
S-102 King County's Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with the policies and requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((90.58))).	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified
<p>S-102 King County's Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with the policies and requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((90.58))).</p> <p>S-103 King County's Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with the required elements of the shoreline guidelines found in Chapters 173-26 and 173-27 of the Washington Administrative Code.</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councilmembers may wish to consolidate the policies of S-102 and S-103 given the similarities between the policies. Policies S-102 and S-103 identify which state laws the Shoreline Master Program is subject to.
S-104 King County's Shoreline Master Program is exempted from the rules of strict construction and shall be construed liberally to give full effect to its objectives and purpose.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy parallels RCW 90.58.100 and could be deleted.
<p>S-105 King County's shoreline jurisdiction extends over all shorelines of the state, as that term is defined in the Shoreline Management Act, in unincorporated King County. This includes jurisdiction over shorelines, shorelines of statewide significance and shorelands.</p> <p>S-106 King County includes within its shoreline jurisdiction the 100-year floodplains of shorelines of the state.</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies S-105 and S-106 could be combined to clearly define the County's shoreline jurisdiction in one policy instead of two. Language around floodways and adjacent land could be added to the policy to reflect what is included in the 100-year floodplain consistent with state law. State law allows the County the option to include the 100-year floodplain in its shoreline jurisdiction, which the County has elected to include. The current plan describes this option, splitting the scope of the shoreline jurisdiction into two policies, S-105 and S-106. These two policies must be read together in order to understand the boundaries, which may cause confusion.
S-107 Where critical areas are located within the unincorporated King County shorelands, the shoreline jurisdiction shall not include the critical area buffers that extend outside of the shoreline jurisdiction boundary.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy could be amended to be consistent with state law, which uses "shorelines of the state" instead of "shorelands." "Shorelands" does not include the actual waterbody that the Shoreline Master Program covers. This would clarify this policy, consistent with state law. Flag for CAO update.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
<p>S-201 All proposed uses and development occurring within King County's shoreline jurisdiction (must) shall conform to the Shoreline Management Act and to King County's Shoreline Master Program.</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>"Shall" is more consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>S-203 King County, when determining allowable uses and resolving use conflicts in the shoreline jurisdiction, shall apply the following preferences and priorities in the order listed below: a. Reserve appropriate areas for protecting and restoring shoreline ecological processes and functions to control pollution and prevent damage to the natural environment and to public health. b. Reserve shoreline areas for water-dependent and associated water-related uses. Harbor areas, established pursuant to Article XV of the State Constitution, and other areas that have reasonable commercial navigational accessibility and necessary support facilities, such as transportation and utilities, should be reserved for water-dependent and water-related uses that are associated with commercial navigation, unless adequate shoreline is reserved for future water-dependent and water-related uses and unless protection of the existing natural resource values of such areas preclude such uses. Shoreline mixed-use developments may be allowed if they include and support water-dependent uses and address specific conditions that affect water-dependent uses. c. Reserve shoreline areas for other water-related and water-enjoyment uses that are compatible with ecological protection and restoration objectives. d. Locate single (family) detached residential uses where they are appropriate and can be developed without significant impact to shoreline ecological processes and functions or displacement of water-dependent uses. e. Limit nonwater-oriented uses to those locations that are inappropriate for higher priority uses or locations where the nonwater-oriented uses demonstrably contribute to the objectives of the Shoreline Management Act.</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>Edits for clarity and to reflect current terminology</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. References to "single detached residential uses" could be changed back to "single-family residential uses" or clarified elsewhere in this chapter. Exec staff state that the change to single detached was done for consistency throughout the Comprehensive Plan to align with current code and current county terminology for housing planning; the SMA does not define single-family residences, but definitions could be updated to reference that the intent is to include single-family homes.
<p>S-205 The following policy goals apply to all of the shoreline jurisdiction. The goals are not ranked in importance and have been assigned a number for identification purposes only. a. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for those economically productive uses that are particularly dependent on shoreline location or use. b. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for public access and recreation. c. Protection and restoration of the ecological processes and functions of shoreline natural resources. d. Protection of the public right of navigation and corollary uses of waters of the state. e. The protection and restoration of buildings and sites having historic, cultural, and educational value. f. Planning for public facilities and utilities correlated with other shorelines uses. g. Prevention and minimization of flood damage. h. Recognizing and protecting private property rights.</p>	<p>Technical change</p>	<p>Current terminology</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. References to "single detached residential uses" could be changed back to "single-family residential uses" or clarified elsewhere in this chapter. Could add "shall" near the beginning of the policy to give the policy direction.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
i. Preferential accommodation of single ((family)) detached residential uses. j. Coordination of shoreline management with other relevant local, state and federal programs.						
S-212 ((The policy of achieving)) Development regulations shall provide both shoreline use and protection ((is reflected in the provision that)) by requiring permitted uses in the shoreline jurisdiction ((shall)) to be designed and conducted in a manner to avoid or minimize, in so far as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline area and the public's use of the water.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Reoriented from statement to policy direction, consistent with existing intent	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-309 The King County Shoreline Master Program should guide the ((e))County's transportation plans and projects within the shoreline jurisdiction.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-314 Historic resources in the shoreline jurisdiction should be protected to prevent the destruction of, or damage to, any site having archaeological, historic, cultural, or scientific value through coordination and consultation with the appropriate local, state and federal authorities, including affected Indian tribes. a. Sites should be protected in collaboration with appropriate Indian tribal, state, federal, and other local governments. Cooperation among public and private parties ((is to)) should be encouraged in the identification, protection, and management of cultural resources. b. Where appropriate, access to such sites should be made available to parties of interest. Access to such sites ((must)) shall be designed and managed in a manner that gives maximum protection to the resource. c. Opportunities for education related to archaeological, historical, and cultural features should be provided where appropriate and incorporated into public and private programs and development.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Should" and "shall" are more consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature Other edits to reflect current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-315 King County should work with Indian tribal, state, federal, and local governments to maintain an inventory of all known historic resources. King County shall protect these inventories from public disclosure to the extent permitted or required under applicable federal and state law. As appropriate, such sites should be preserved and restored for study, education, and public enjoyment to the maximum possible extent.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-317 Cooperation among involved private and public parties should be encouraged to achieve these historic, cultural, scientific, and educational objectives.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As written, this policy doesn't stand on its own, it could be reworded focus on protecting resources.
S-320 Owners of historic resource are encouraged to make substantial development plans known well in advance of application so that appropriate agencies, such as the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Indian ((T))tribes, and others, may have ample time to assess the site and make arrangements to preserve historic, cultural, scientific, and educational values as applicable.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial development is a term that has a specific definition. The language could be broadened so that all shoreline development is communicated to interested parties, by deleting "substantial development".

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
S-401 The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with the Washington State Growth Management Act.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-402 The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with and coordinated with the King County Countywide Planning Policies.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-404 The King County Shoreline Master Program includes by reference portions of the King County critical areas regulations into the Shoreline Master Program to meet the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.090((3) and 90.58.090(4)).	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-405 To the maximum extent practical, King County's Shoreline Master Program shall rely on King County's existing regulations, including critical areas regulations, surface water management regulations, clearing and grading regulations, and zoning ((in order)) to comply with the Shoreline Management Act and the Ecology's guidelines.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-406 The King County Shoreline Master Program ((will)) shall rely on the policies and programs established in the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan and flood hazard regulations to meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act and the Department of Ecology's guidelines for flood hazard reduction.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
[Lead-in text on page 6-29] Shoreline areas that meet the jurisdictional criteria, but that are not mapped or designated, are assigned a Conservancy designation until the Shoreline Master Program is amended to assign a shoreline environment to that shoreline reach.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This lead-in text provides policy direction and guidance. The text could be a policy.
[Lead-in text on page 6-33] Purpose The purpose of the High Intensity Shoreline Environment is to provide for high intensity water-oriented commercial and industrial uses.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
[Lead-in text on page 6-34] Purpose The purpose of the Residential Shoreline Environment is to accommodate residential and commercial uses on a scale appropriate with urban residential zones.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
S-509 King County shall require that the scale and intensity of new uses and development within the Residential Shoreline Environment	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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Policy	Type of Change	Executive's Rationale	Executive's Anticipated outcome	Consistent with other plans	Executive's Planned Implementation	Policy Staff Comments
is compatible with((;)) and protects or enhances the existing character of the area.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	
<p>[Lead-in text on page 6-35] Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of the Rural Shoreline Environment is to accommodate land uses normally associated with rural levels of development while providing appropriate public access and recreational uses to the maximum extent practicable.</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
S-514 King County should require that multi-family and multi-lot residential and recreational developments in the Rural Shoreline Environment provide public access and joint use for community recreational facilities.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multifamily development is not permitted in the Rural Shoreline Environment. This policy could be revised to be consistent with the regulations. • "Multi-lot" development is not a term that is typically used. "Lot division" could be used instead as it is a more common term
<p>[Lead-in text on page 6-36] Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of the Conservancy Shoreline Environment is to conserve areas that are a high priority for restoration, include valuable historic properties or provide recreational opportunities.</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
<p>S-517 King County shall require that new uses or development in the Conservancy Shoreline Environment preserve the existing character of the shoreline consistent with the purpose of the environment, including:</p> <p>a. Limiting the total effective impervious surface in the shoreline jurisdiction to no more than ((ten)) 10 percent ((in order)) to maintain the existing hydrologic character of the site; and</p> <p>b. Allowing more effective impervious surface coverage on lots legally created prior to the date of adoption of this update to King County's Shoreline Master Program. In these cases, effective impervious surface coverage shall be limited to the maximum extent practicable.</p>	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.
<p>[Lead-in text on page 6-37] Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of the Resource Shoreline Environment is to allow for mining and agricultural uses on lands that have been designated under the Growth Management Act as agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance or mineral resource lands where those lands do not provide significant shoreline ecological processes and functions.</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
<p>[Lead-in text on page 6-38] Purpose</p>	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management

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The purpose of the Forestry Shoreline Environment is to allow for forestry uses in the Forest Production District and to protect municipal watersheds.						policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
S-522 King County shall require forest practices in the Forestry Shoreline Environment to comply with standards that provide protection for shoreline ecological processes and functions equal to or greater than the forest practice rules adopted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources ((and in effect on January 1, 2007)).	Clarification of existing policy intent	Date is not needed to reflect current adopted rules	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
[Lead-in text on page 6-39] Purpose The purpose of the Natural Shoreline Environment is to protect those shoreline areas that are relatively free of human influence and are of high ecological quality. This designation allows only very low intensity uses ((in order)) to maintain the existing high levels of ecological process and function.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
S-528 King County may allow single ((family)) detached residential development in the Natural Shoreline Environment as a shoreline conditional use if the scale and intensity of the use is limited to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions and is consistent with the purpose of the environment. King County shall require new subdivisions and short-subdivisions in the Natural Shoreline Environment to locate new structures and impervious surfaces outside of the shoreline jurisdiction to the maximum extent practicable.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. Councilmembers may wish to use terminology consistent with state law, which is "single-family residence"
S-532 King County shall allow passive and low((-))_impact recreational activities in the Natural Shoreline Environment. New passive and low impact recreation activities shall use designs that avoid or minimize impacts to shoreline processes and functions. Maintenance of trails and campsites shall minimize disturbance and restoration of impacted areas is encouraged.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
[Lead-in text on page 6-40] Purpose The purpose of the Aquatic Environment is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose statement could be a policy. This is currently lead-in text, but it works in conjunction with criteria policies and management policies for this shoreline environment to establish the policy framework.
S-537 King County shall encourage multiple uses of over-water facilities in the Aquatic Shoreline Environment ((in order)) to reduce the impacts of shoreline development and increase the effective use of water resources.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-539 King County shall not allow uses in the Aquatic Shoreline Environment that adversely impact the ecological processes and functions of critical saltwater and freshwater habitats, except when necessary to achieve the objectives of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020, and then only when the adverse impacts are mitigated according to the sequence described in Washington Administrative	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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Code 173-26-201((2)(e)) as necessary to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.						
S-604 King County's Shoreline Master Program shall include regulations and mitigation standards to ensure that permitted and exempt developments in the aggregate will not cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This concept is covered by S-601, and S-604 could be deleted.
S-605 King County's Shoreline Master Program goals and policies ((will)) shall promote restoration of impaired shoreline ecological processes and functions. Policies and programs and non-regulatory actions that contribute to restoration goals ((will)) shall be identified. King County should consider the direct and indirect effects of regulatory or non-regulatory programs of other local, state, and federal governments, as well as any restoration effects that may result from shoreline development regulations and mitigation standards.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Will" is predictive but "shall" is directive; policies should be directive, not statements of what is anticipated to happen.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-606 The King County Shoreline Master Program identifies restoration opportunities and planning elements that together should improve the overall condition of habitat and resources within the shoreline jurisdiction.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This does not provide policy direction and is well covered by other policies. S-606 could be deleted.
S-607 King County should provide options for property-specific technical assistance and tailored applications of shoreline management regulations through Rural Stewardship Plans for single ((family)) detached residential uses in the upland areas of the Rural, Conservancy and Natural Shoreline Environments. Rural Stewardship Plans must be consistent with the goals of the Shoreline Management Act and King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan, and ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. Councilmembers may wish to use terminology consistent with state law, which is "single-family residence" Flag –CAO update.
S-613 King County shall consider and address cumulative impacts of shoreline development on shoreline ecological processes and functions and on shoreline uses given priority under Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((Chapter 90.58)).	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-615 In considering development regulations to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions, King County shall consider the scientific and technical information contained in functional plans adopted to implement the Comprehensive Plan, adopted watershed plans, King County critical areas regulations, and state, Indian tribal, and federal programs.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-616 King County shall apply the following sequence of steps listed in order of priority in evaluating the impacts of development and redevelopment on critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction: a. Avoid the impacts altogether; b. Minimize impacts; c. Rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; d. Reduce or eliminate the impacts over time; e. Compensate for impacts by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources; and f. Monitor the impact and taking appropriate corrective measures.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently, S-616 applies only to critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction. State laws states that the language in this policy should apply to the entire shoreline jurisdiction, not only in critical areas. Mitigation sequencing is required for all actions that occur within the shoreline jurisdiction. State law (WAC 173-26-201(2)(e)) prescribes how and in what order mitigation sequencing should occur. Policy S-616 includes

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						<p>some of the language by identifying the steps, but it does not fully include the language in each step.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councilmembers may wish to 1) expand this mitigation sequencing standard to all areas of the shoreline jurisdiction, 2) make the language consistent with state law, and 3) clarify the order of priority is high to low.
<p>S-617 King County wetland regulations shall address the following uses to achieve, at a minimum, no net loss of wetland area and functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Removal, excavation, grading, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, minerals, organic matter, or material of any kind; Dumping, discharging, or filling with any material, including discharges of stormwater and domestic, commercial, or industrial wastewater; Draining, flooding, or disturbing of the open water level, duration of inundation, or groundwater table; Driving of pilings; Placing of obstructions; Construction, reconstruction, demolition, or expansion of any structure; Significant vegetation removal, except for non-conversion forest practices regulated under <u>Chapter 76.09</u> Revised Code of Washington (chapter 76.09); Other uses or development that results in a significant ecological impact to the physical, chemical or biological characteristics of wetlands; and Activities reducing the functions of buffers. 	<p>Technical change</p>	<p>Grammar</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>S-618 King County shall categorize wetlands within shorelines of the state as provided for in Chapter 5((:)), Environment((-of the King County Comprehensive Plan))).</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>"Of the Comprehensive Plan" is implied and not consistent with nomenclature for internal references within the plan</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands are required to be categorized under state law using state wetland manuals, which is stated as such in the critical areas regulations. The corresponding policy in Chapter 5, E-470, is proposed for removal, as it is a state requirement and does not need to be a policy. This policy could also be removed in conjunction.
<p>S-619 King County should allow alterations to wetlands only if there is no net loss of wetland functions and values.</p>	<p>Policy staff flag</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy could be modified to make the connection to the critical areas regulations clearer. As written, Policy S-619 implies that alterations in wetlands should be generally allowed. However, the County's critical areas regulations establishes parameters for what kinds of alterations and where they can occur.
<p>S-620 King County shall delineate buffers around wetlands to protect and maintain wetland functions. Buffer widths shall be based</p>	<p>Policy staff flag</p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetland category could be included in the list of factors used to delineate buffers, consistent with the critical

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on ecological function, characteristics and setting, potential impacts with adjacent land use, and other relevant factors.						<p>areas code. Buffers are established based on a number of factors in the critical areas ordinance. One such factor, the wetland category, is not included in the existing policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands are required to be delineated under state law using the federal wetland delineation manuals, which is stated as such in the critical areas regulations. The corresponding policy in Chapter 5, E-470, is proposed for removal, as it is a state requirement and does not need to be a policy. This policy could also be removed in conjunction.
S-621 In determining appropriate mitigation measures applicable to shoreline development, the mitigation sequencing requirements described in Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201((2)(e)) require that lower priority measures shall be applied only where higher priority measures are determined to be infeasible or inapplicable.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy duplicates S-616, above, which lists this mitigation sequencing priorities in WAC 173-26-201, and could be deleted.
((S-624 Development regulations for geologically hazardous areas shall meet the minimum requirements in Washington Administrative Code 365-190-120.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-625 King County shall prohibit development and new lot creation in geologically hazardous areas if it would result in increased risk of injury to people or property damage, consistent with King County Code ((e))Chapter 21A.24.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
((S-626 King County shall prohibit new development that requires structural stabilization in geologically hazardous areas. Stabilization will be allowed in these areas only if the stabilization is necessary to protect existing allowed uses, there is no alternative location available, and no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions will result. Stabilization measures shall conform to Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in S-774 and S-774a	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-627 King County may allow stabilization structures or measures in geologically hazardous areas to protect existing primary residential structures, if there are no alternatives, including relocation or reconstruction of the residential structure, the stabilization is in conformance with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231, and no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions will result.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in S-774 and S-774a	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-630 As part of its management planning for critical saltwater habitats, King County should include an evaluation of current data and trends regarding:	Technical change	Current terminology and grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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<p>a. Available inventory and collection of necessary data regarding physical characteristics of the habitat, including upland conditions, and any information on species population trends;</p> <p>b. Terrestrial and aquatic vegetation;</p> <p>c. The level of human activity in such areas, including the presence of roads and level of recreational types. Passive or active recreation may be appropriate for certain areas and habitats;</p> <p>d. Restoration potential;</p> <p>e. Tributaries and small streams flowing into marine waters;</p> <p>f. Dock and bulkhead construction, including an inventory of bulkheads serving no protective purpose;</p> <p>g. Conditions and ecological function in the near-shore area;</p> <p>h. Uses surrounding the critical saltwater habitat areas that may negatively impact those areas, including permanent or occasional upland, beach, or over-water uses;</p> <p>i. Potential <u>Indian</u> tribal uses of critical saltwater habitats to ensure that these uses are protected and restored when possible; and</p> <p>j. An analysis of what data gaps exist and a strategy for gaining this information.</p>						
<p>S-631 Docks, bulkheads, bridges, fill, floats, jetties, utility crossings, and other human-made structures shall not intrude into or over critical saltwater habitats except when all of the conditions below are met:</p> <p>a. The public's need for such an action or structure is clearly demonstrated, and the proposal is consistent with protection of the public trust, as embodied in Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020;</p> <p>b. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or location is not feasible or would result in unreasonable and disproportionate cost to accomplish the same general purpose;</p> <p>c. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological functions associated with critical saltwater habitat; and</p> <p>d. The project is consistent with state and <u>Indian</u> ((ᑦ)) tribal interests in resource protection and species recovery.</p>	<p>Technical change</p>	<p>Current terminology</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>S-635 King County ((shoud)) shall regulate uses and development as necessary within and along stream channels, associated channel migration zones, wetlands, lake shorelines, ((and)) floodplains, and other critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction, to assure that no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions results from new development near freshwaters of the state, including associated hyporheic zones.</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>Updated to shall to be consistent with Shoreline Management Act standards (WAC 173-26-186).</p> <p>Added "other critical areas" for clarity and completeness, in response to a comment from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and consistent with existing intent.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>S-641 Vegetation conservation provisions apply to all shoreline uses and developments, regardless of whether ((or not)) the use or development requires a shoreline substantial development permit.</p>	<p>Technical change</p>	<p>Grammar</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The term "shoreline substantial development permit" could be changed to "shoreline permit" to cover all types of permits.

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S-644 King County should adopt development regulations for ((vegetated)) riparian areas along streams, which once supported or could in the future support mature trees, that include buffers of sufficient width to facilitate the growth of mature trees and periodic recruitment of woody vegetation into the water body to ((support vegetation-related)) provide shoreline <u>ecological</u> function ((s)) .	Clarification of existing policy intent	Edits for clarity, to reflect current terminology, and existing mandates, in response to a comment from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and consistent with existing intent.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy duplicates other policies and could be consolidated into another policy.
S-650 King County shall ensure that new projects for and major maintenance or replacement of utilities, roads, and other public infrastructure consider the impacts of sea ((-)) level rise in the location, design, and operation of the projects.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-646 Shoreline Master Program water quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution policies apply to all development and uses in the shoreline jurisdiction that affect water quality.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be deleted, as it duplicates Policy S-201, which states all uses and developments in the shoreline jurisdiction must conform with this shoreline master program.
S-701 King County shall give preference to uses in the shoreline that are consistent with the control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment or are unique to or dependent upon the shoreline.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be deleted, as it duplicates Policy S-203.
S-704 Shoreline Master Program development regulations shall ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be deleted. It's covered by S-601.
S-706 The following types of uses and development should require a shoreline conditional use permit: ((1-)) a. Uses and development that may significantly impair or alter the public's use of the waters of the state; ((2-)) b. Uses and development which, by their intrinsic nature, may have a significant impact on shoreline ecological processes and functions depending on location, design, and site conditions; and ((3-)) c. Development in critical saltwater habitats.	Technical change	Updated to standard Comprehensive Plan numbering	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-708 New agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall comply with the critical areas regulations incorporated into the shoreline master program as they apply to agricultural activities.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be deleted. It's duplicative to state law and code requirements. All activities in King County have to comply with the critical areas regulations. This doesn't necessarily need to be spelled out in this policy.
S-713 Within shorelines of statewide significance, selective commercial timber cutting shall be used for timber harvest within two hundred feet abutting landward of the ordinary high water mark so that no more than thirty percent of the merchantable trees may be harvested in any ((ten-)) 10-year period of time. Through a shoreline conditional use permit, King County may approve: a. Other timber harvesting methods in those limited instances where the topography, soil conditions, or silviculture practices necessary for regeneration render selective logging ecologically detrimental; and b. Clear cutting of timber that is solely incidental to the preparation of land for other uses authorized by the King County Shoreline Master Program.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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S-715 Surface drilling for oil or gas shall be prohibited in Puget Sound seaward from the ordinary high water mark and on all lands within one thousand feet landward from the ordinary high water mark on Puget Sound.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S-715 could be deleted, as it duplicates state law.
S-716 Aquaculture is a water-dependent use and should be an allowed use of the shoreline when consistent with control of pollution and avoidance of adverse impacts to the environment and preservation of habitat for native species, ((f)) consistent with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-241 ((3)(b))) .	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years, with edit for clarity	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-726 King County should actively seek substantive comment regarding potential adverse impacts of any shoreline permit application for aquaculture from all appropriate Federal, State, Indian tribal, and local agencies ((; the Muckleshoot Tribe, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the Tulalip Tribes and other tribes with treaty fishing rights)) ; and the general public. Comments of nearby residents or property owners directly affected by an aquaculture proposal should be considered and evaluated, especially in regard to use compatibility and aesthetics.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Indian tribal covers all tribes, rather than listing one by one, consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-727 The rights of treaty Indian tribes to aquatic resources within their usual and accustomed areas should be addressed through the permit review process. Direct and early coordination between the applicant or proponent and the relevant tribe(s) should be encouraged.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-744 The King County Shoreline Master Program provisions and permit requirements for mining should be coordinated with the requirements of Chapter 78.44 Revised Code of Washington ((Chapter 78.44)) .	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be deleted. It's duplicative of state law.
S-746 King County shall permit mining within the active channel of a river only as follows: a. Removal of specified quantities of sand and gravel or other materials at specific locations will not adversely affect the natural processes of gravel transportation for the river system as a whole; b. The mining and any associated permitted activities will not have significant adverse impacts to habitat for threatened or endangered species nor cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions; c. The determinations required by items ((4)) a. and ((2)) b. of this policy shall be consistent with Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100 ((4)) and Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201 ((2)(a)) . Such evaluation of impacts should be appropriately integrated with relevant environmental review requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act and the Department of Ecology guidelines; d. In considering renewal, extension, or reauthorization of gravel bar and other in-channel mining operations in locations where they have previously been conducted, King County shall require compliance with this policy if no such review has previously been conducted. Where there has been prior review, King County shall	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years, with edits for grammar and corrections	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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review the previous determinations ((in order)) to ensure that current site conditions comply with the Program; and e. These requirements do not apply to dredging of authorized navigation channels when conducted in accordance with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231 ((3)(f)) .						
S-748 Recreational development is allowed in the shoreline jurisdiction and ((must)) shall be consistent with the shoreline environment designation in which the property is located.	Clarification of existing policy intent	"Shall" is more consistent with Comprehensive Plan nomenclature	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-749 King County shall plan to provide public recreational uses on ((e)) County-owned shoreline, consistent with the goals of this chapter.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-750 Single ((family)) detached residential development is a priority use in the shoreline jurisdiction in King County.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. References to "single detached residential uses" could be changed back to "single-family residential uses" or clarified elsewhere in this chapter
S-751 King County shall require a conditional use permit for construction or expansion of a single ((family residence)) detached home that is located within an aquatic area buffer in the Forestry or Natural Shoreline Environment.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Environment" should be plural. "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. References to "single detached residential uses" could be changed back to "single-family residential uses" or clarified elsewhere in this chapter
((S-752 Shoreline residential development, including accessory structures and uses, should be sufficiently set back from steep slopes and shorelines vulnerable to erosion so that structural improvements, including bluff walls and other stabilization structures, are not required to protect these structures and uses.))	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in S-774 and S-774a	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-759 Parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction are not a preferred use. King County shall allow parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction only when necessary to support an authorized use and when an alternatives analysis shows there are no feasible alternatives outside of the 200-foot shoreline jurisdiction. Parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall use ((L)) low ((I)) impact ((D)) designs, such as porous concrete and vegetated swales, and be planned, located and designed to minimize the environmental and visual impacts.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-766 ((in order)) To reduce the adverse effects of shoreline modifications, King County should limit shoreline modifications in number and extent to the maximum extent practicable.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	
S-768 King County shall ensure that shoreline modifications individually and cumulatively do not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. ((In order to)) To achieve this goal, King County shall give preference to those types of shoreline modifications that have a lesser impact on the shoreline and by requiring mitigation of identified impacts resulting from shoreline modifications.	Technical change	Grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-771 King County shall require shoreline stabilization to be consistent with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221 ((5)) for vegetation retention and ((Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221(2) for)) protection of critical areas.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years, with edits for grammar and corrections	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-773 King County may allow construction of new or replaced structural shoreline stabilization and flood control works to protect an existing structure if King County determines there is a documented need, including a geotechnical analysis that the structure is in danger from shoreline erosion caused by tidal action, currents, or waves.	Clarification of existing policy intent					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be consolidated into S-774, S-779, and S-780.
S-774 Shoreline stabilization shall be allowed only when: a. Necessary to protect existing primary structures at imminent risk; b. No lower-impact alternative exists, including relocation or reconstruction of the structure; c. When impacts are mitigated to ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions; and d. Stabilization measures are in conformance with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231.	Clarification of existing policy intent	S-774 and S-744a consolidates S-626, S-627, S-752, S-775, and S-776 for clarity, to align with existing practice and consistency with other stabilization policies and state guidance	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is intended to cover shoreline stabilization for new and existing development. However, sub a. states that protection of an existing primary structure is required. This policy could be revised to be clearer on which situation this policy applies to.
S-774a King County shall require: a. ((#)) New shoreline development to be located and designed, as well as the creation of new subdivisions and short subdivisions, to avoid the need for future structural slope or shoreline stabilization ((to the maximum extent practicable)); and b. New development to be set back from steep or eroding slopes so that structural slope or shoreline stabilization is not needed for the life of the development.	Clarification of existing policy intent	S-774 and S-744a consolidates S-626, S-627, S-752, S-775, and S-776 for clarity, to align with existing practice and consistency with other stabilization policies and state guidance	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be revised to include language from state law and the KCCP lead-in text, which discusses how new development should, on principle, avoid the construction of shoreline stabilization unless no other options are available.
((S-775 King County shall require that lots in new subdivisions and short subdivisions to be created so that shoreline stabilization will not be necessary in order for reasonable development to occur, using geotechnical analysis of the site and shoreline characteristics.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in S-774 and S-774a	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-776 King County shall require new development on steep slopes or bluffs to be set back sufficiently to ensure that shoreline stabilization is unlikely to be necessary during the life of the structure, as demonstrated by a geotechnical analysis.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Consolidated in S-774 and S-774a	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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<p>((S-778 King County should notify all prospective developers of new development along Vashon-Maury Island that their development may be impacted by sea level rise and should encourage all such new development to be set back a sufficient distance to avoid the need for shoreline protection during the expected life of the development.))</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>This policy is not needed. 1) it overlaps with policies and actions in the Vashon-Maury Island subarea plan. 2) it's mandated by code in K.C.C. 21A.25.170.M.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
<p>S-779 King County shall require the use of soft methods of shoreline stabilization to the maximum extent practicable. King County shall allow new <u>and replacement</u> hard structural stabilization measures only as follows:</p> <p>a. To protect existing nonwater-dependent development and structures, including single(-family residences) <u>detached homes</u>, if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation and drainage; Nonstructural measures, such as locating the development further from the shoreline, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage improvements, are not feasible or not sufficient; The need to protect primary structures from <u>imminent risk of damage</u> due to erosion is demonstrated through a geotechnical report submitted by a qualified specialist. The damage must be caused by natural processes, such as tidal action, currents, and waves; and Mitigation is provided such that the erosion control structure will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. <p>b. To protect water-dependent development if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation and drainage; Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation or installing on-site drainage improvements are not feasible or not sufficient; The need to protect primary structures from damage due to erosion is demonstrated through a geotechnical report submitted by a qualified specialist; and The erosion control structure will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. <p>c. To protect shoreline restoration projects or hazardous substance remediation projects pursuant to <u>Chapter 70A.305 Revised Code of Washington</u> ((Chapter 70.105D)) if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation or installing on-site drainage improvements are not feasible or not sufficient; and The erosion control structure will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. 	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>To align with state requirements/guidance and current practice.</p> <p>Added language in sub-a.3 to reflect current practice, clarifying that nonwater-dependent structures can only use structural shoreline stabilization to protect them from imminent risk, not any theoretical risk</p> <p>Other edits for current terminology, corrections, and grammar</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy covers three different instances where shoreline stabilization could be allowed. This policy could be broken into three policies addressing protection of existing structures, new nonwater-dependent development, water-dependent development, and restoration projects.
<p>S-780 An existing shoreline stabilization structure may be replaced ((with a similar structure if)), <u>provided that the least impactful stabilization measure is used and</u> there is a demonstrated need to protect principal uses or structures from erosion caused by currents, tidal action, or waves.</p>	<p>Clarification of existing policy intent</p>	<p>To align with state requirements/guidance and current practice</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be revised to include more parameters such as where the replacement structure could be located, if the existing structure could be removed, and size limits of the new structure.

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S-781 King County shall require replaced shoreline protection structures to be designed, located, sized, and constructed to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy could be combined with Policy S-781.
S-784 King County shall ((encourage)) require the use soft shoreline stabilization measures that use placement or growth of natural materials that closely resemble natural scales and configurations, <u>or other soft stabilization measures where appropriate,</u> and that provide restoration of shoreline ecological processes and functions waterward of the ordinary high-water mark.	Clarification of existing policy intent	To align with state requirements/guidance and current practice	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-786 ((When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall require a geotechnical report to address the need to prevent potential damage to a primary structure. The report shall estimate time frames and rates of erosion and the urgency associated with the specific situation. King County should not allow hard armoring solutions, unless a geotechnical report confirms that there is a significant possibility that the structure will be damaged within three years as a result of shoreline erosion in the absence of such hard armoring measures, or where waiting until the need is immediate would foreclose the opportunity to use measures that avoid impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions. If the geotechnical report confirms a need to prevent potential damage to a primary structure, but the need is not as immediate as the three years, the report may still be used to justify more immediate authorization to protect against erosion using soft measures.)) <u>When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall ensure that the stabilization method used is the least ecologically impactful, technically feasible option.</u>	Clarification of existing policy intent	To reflect existing practice.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This revised policy language could be consolidated with S-788, as this policy also covers what must be demonstrated in order to allow shoreline stabilization.
S-788 If structural shoreline stabilization measures are demonstrated to be necessary, King County shall: ((1-)) a. Limit the size of stabilization measures to the minimum necessary; ((2-)) b. Require the use of measures designed to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions; <u>and</u> ((3-)) c. Require the use of soft approaches, unless they are demonstrated not to be sufficient to protect primary structures, dwellings, and businesses.	Technical change	Updated to standard Comprehensive Plan numbering	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This revised policy language in S-786 could be consolidated with this policy, as this policy also covers what must be demonstrated in order to allow shoreline stabilization..
S-793 King County shall allow new piers and docks only for water-dependent uses or public access. If it is designed and intended as a facility for access to watercraft, a dock associated with a single ((family residence)) <u>detached home</u> is considered a water-dependent use. As an alternative to individual private moorage for residential development: mooring buoys are preferred over floats or docks and shared moorage facilities are preferred over single use moorage, where feasible or where water use conflicts exist or are predictable.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies S-793 and S-796 concerns new piers and docks. These policies could be consolidated and clarified to distinguish between single-family development and non-single-family development.
S-796 King County shall allow new pier or dock construction, excluding docks accessory to single ((family residences)) <u>single detached homes</u> , only when the applicant has demonstrated that a specific need exists to support the intended water-dependent uses.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies S-793 and S-796 concerns new piers and docks. These policies could be consolidated and clarified to distinguish between single-family development and non-single-family development.

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S-798 King County shall require piers and docks, including those accessory to single(family residences) detached homes, to be designed and constructed to avoid and then minimize and mitigate the impacts to shoreline ecological processes and functions. King County shall (require piers and docks to be constructed of non-toxic materials. Where toxic materials, such as treated wood, are proposed, the proponent must show that no non-toxic alternative exists) prohibit the use of creosote or pentachlorophenol pilings.	Clarification of existing policy intent	To align with state law requirements, in response to comments from Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and consistent with existing King County Code Other changes to reflect current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Single detached" is not the terminology used in the Shoreline Management Act. References to "single detached residential uses" could be changed back to "single-family residential uses" or clarified elsewhere in this chapter.
S-800 King County shall allow fill waterward of the ordinary high-water mark only when necessary to support: ((1-)) a. Water-dependent use; ((2-)) b. Public access; ((3-)) c. Cleanup and disposal of contaminated sediments as part of an interagency environmental clean-up plan; ((4-)) d. Disposal of dredged material considered suitable under, and conducted in accordance with, the dredged material management program of the Washington Department of Natural Resources; ((5-)) e. Expansion or alteration of transportation facilities of statewide significance currently located on the shoreline and then only upon a demonstration that alternatives to fill are not feasible; ((6-)) ((6-)) f. Mitigation actions, environmental restoration, beach nourishment, enhancement projects; or ((7-)) g. Flood risk reduction projects implemented consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan where no reasonable alternative exists.	Technical change	Updated to standard Comprehensive Plan numbering and grammar	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-805 Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs shall be designed to protect critical areas and shall provide for mitigation according to the sequence in policy S-616 and defined in Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201 (((2)(e))).	Clarification of existing policy intent	Raised RCW reference up a level for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years, with edits for grammar and corrections	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-809 King County shall not allow disposal of dredge material on shorelands and in side channels within a river's channel migration zone. King County shall not allow disposal of dredge material in wetlands located within the shoreline jurisdiction. In the limited instances where it is allowed, such disposal shall require a shoreline conditional use permit.	Policy staff flag					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy internally conflicts. The language could be changed to reflect that disposal of dredge material is allowed only through a shoreline conditional use permit.
S-810 King County shall require dredging to be conducted consistent with Policy RCM-3 of the ((2006)) King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or successor policies or plans.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Updates for more timelessness to help ensure accuracy over the next 10 years	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.
S-901 If the Department of Ecology recommends changes to any elements of the King County Shoreline Master Program, King County reserves the right to submit an alternate proposal to the Department for its review and approval.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned implementation of proposal: n/a Description of proposed regulations: n/a Anticipated resource need: n/a Anticipated timeline: n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues identified.

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S-902— If the Department of Ecology rejects part or all of King County's Shoreline Master Program, or if the Department of Ecology recommends changes that are unacceptable to King County, King County reserves the right to appeal the Department's decision to the Shoreline Management Hearings Board.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.
S-903— Upon receipt of the letter from the Department of Ecology approving the King County Shoreline Master Program or any amendments to the Shoreline Master Program, King County will promptly post on its web site a notice that the Department of Ecology has taken final action and approved the Shoreline Master Program or SMP amendments. The notice will indicate the effective date.	Clarification of existing policy intent	Redundant to state law; not necessary for Comprehensive Plan to state.	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.
S-904 Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program nor in any action taken under the Shoreline Master Program shall be construed to affect any <u>Indian</u> treaty right to which the United States is a party.	Technical change	Current terminology	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Planned implementation of proposal:</u> n/a • <u>Description of proposed regulations:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated resource need:</u> n/a • <u>Anticipated timeline:</u> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues identified.