Thurston County
Critical Areas Ordinance Update

July 24, 2012
Board of County Commissioners
Critical Areas Ordinance
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ORDINANCE NO. _________

CHAPTER 23.64, CHAPTER 23.72, AND CHAPTER 23.73; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act (GMA) requires the adoption of development regulations that designate and protect critical areas in accordance with RCW 36.70A.60 and RCW 36.70A.170; and

WHEREAS, in 1980 Thurston County (County) adopted Ordinance No. 6708 for the physical limitations of land and environmentally sensitive areas which included protections for geologically hazardous areas, critical aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, anadromous fish rearing habitats, and marine bluffs prior to the enactment of the GMA and related regulations in the Thurston County Code (TCC); and

WHEREAS, the County designated critical areas and adopted protective regulations under the GMA on December 20, 1993 (Ordinance No. 10528) with amendments adopted on June 3, 1996 (Amended Ordinance No. 11200); April 14, 1997 (Amended Ordinance No. 11398); December 15, 1997 (Amended Ordinance No. 11590); October 1, 1999 (Amended Ordinance No. 12032); July 28, 2009 (Amended Ordinance No. 14260); July 20, 2010, (Amended Ordinance No. 14380); January 25, 2011 (Amended Ordinance No. 14478); July 26, 2011 (Amended Ordinance No. 14542); January 24, 2012 (Amended Ordinance No. 14706); and

WHEREAS, Section 36.70A.130 (1) RCW requires the County to take legislative action to review its critical areas designations and its development regulations protecting critical areas and to revise them if needed to comply with the requirements in Chapter 36.70A RCW; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the GMA was amended to require that cities and counties must substantively consider best available science in developing policies and development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas and to give special consideration to conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous fisheries [RCW 36.70A.172]; and

WHEREAS, in light of this amendment to the GMA related to inclusion of best available science and the requirement in Chapter 36.70A.130 RCW to periodically review development regulations, the County has conducted a review of its existing critical areas regulations together with a review of the best available science; and

WHEREAS, conserving and restoring viable populations of native species, maintaining the broad range of existing populations of healthy native plants and animals, and protecting the health of populations currently at risk is consistent with the development of critical areas regulations in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, Title 365-190 WAC contains provisions for the Minimum Guidelines to Classify Agriculture, Forest, Mineral Lands and Critical Areas; and

WHEREAS, Title 365-195 WAC contains procedural criteria for determining and including Best Available Science in development regulations; and
WHEREAS, WAC 365-196-485 provisions for the relationship of critical areas regulations to the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the GMA requires a process of early and continuous citizen participation for amending comprehensive plans and development regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County has invited public participation and comments in conformance with Chapter 2.05 TCC via the formation of stakeholder committees, meetings with stakeholder groups, Planning Commission Public meetings, Board of County Commissioner Public meetings workshops, news releases, newsletters, YouTube Videos, dedicated CAO internet website, Thurston County Television, a dedicated email address, and communication of activities and meetings through a subscriber based web mail service; and

WHEREAS, under the schedule established in RCW 36.70A.130 (4), the deadline established for the County to comply with the update required by RCW 36.70A. 130 (1) is December 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has made findings of fact relating to critical areas designations and development regulations referenced in this ordinance supporting said amendments which are set forth below for adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS. For the purposes of effective land use planning, the Board of County Commissioners of Thurston County adopts the following legislative findings of fact:

A. GENERAL FINDINGS

1. The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 36.70A.060 and RCW 36.70A.170 require counties and cities to designate critical areas and adopt regulations to protect them.

2. Critical areas are defined by RCW 36.70A.030 (5) to include wetlands, areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water; fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas; frequently flooded areas; and geologically hazardous areas. These critical areas are further defined and described by Chapter 36.70A RCW and rules codified at Chapter 365-190 WAC.

3. The amendments to the development regulations adopted by this ordinance were included on the 2010-2011 Development Code Official Docket as required by Chapter 2.05 Thurston County Code (TCC), Growth Management Public Participation.

4. The development regulations in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 TCC) apply to the unincorporated rural county as well as the unincorporated Urban Growth Areas (UGA) of Rainier, Yelm, Tenino and Grand Mound. The locations and boundaries of the zoning districts established in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance are shown on the Official Zoning Map, Thurston County, Washington (Chapter 20.06 TCC).
5. The development regulations in the Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area (Title 21) apply to the unincorporated area in the City of Lacey UGA. The locations and boundaries of the zoning districts established in the Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area are shown on the Official Zoning Map, Thurston County Washington, North County Urban Growth Areas (Chapter 21.09 TCC).

6. The development regulations in the Tumwater UGA Zoning Ordinance (Title 22) apply to the unincorporated area in the City of Tumwater UGA. The locations and boundaries of the zoning districts established in the Tumwater UGA Zoning Ordinance are shown on the Official Zoning Map, Thurston County Washington, North County Urban Growth Areas (Chapter 22.06 TCC).

7. The development regulations in the Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance (Title 23) apply to the unincorporated area in the City of Olympia UGA. The locations and boundaries of the zoning districts established in the Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance are shown on the Official Zoning Map, Thurston County Washington, North County Urban Growth Areas (Chapter 23.02 TCC).

8. The GMA requires counties to adopt county-wide planning policies to guide the adoption of comprehensive plans and associated development regulations. The principal purpose of these policies is to insure that the comprehensive plans and development regulations of counties and the cities within them are coordinated with each other.

9. The County prepared an analysis of critical areas designations and the development regulations that protect critical areas currently in effect in the County for consistency with the requirements of Chapter 36.70A RCW, including best available science as included in Attachment A: Best Available Science Bibliography for Thurston County CAO Update, July 24, 2012.

10. Based on input from the public in the stakeholder and public workshop process and analysis and issues identified, the County prepared Preliminary Draft Critical Areas Regulations and released them for public comment in July 2005.

11. In conformance with Chapter 2.05 TCC the County has provided the opportunity for early and continuous public participation, comment and consideration through a varied and wide-variety of public involvement mediums and forums including stakeholder committees, meetings with community and stakeholder groups, Planning Commission workshops and meetings, Board of County Commissioner workshops and meetings, news releases, newsletters, YouTube Videos, dedicated CAO internet website, Thurston County Television, community open houses and a dedicated email address. Opportunities for public participation included:

- At least forty (40) meetings with at least fifteen (15) stakeholder groups between June 2010 and July 2012.
- The County participated in two (2) filmed programs about the Critical Areas Ordinance update for Thurston County Television that aired in October 2010 and June 2011.
The Critical Areas Ordinance update has been the subject of multiple news stories published in several area publications, including The Olympian, The Nisqually Valley News, the Tenino Independent, the South Sound Green Pages, Olympia Power & Light, the Tacoma News-Tribune, the Bellingham Herald, and the Centralia Chronicle.

Legal notices and press releases are published in Thurston County's newspaper of record to advertise public hearings.

Press releases are published in Thurston County's newspaper of record to advertise open houses, public meetings, and other events.

The Planning Department hosted four (4) open house events around the county in October 2010 to promote awareness of the Critical Areas Ordinance and seek public input.

The Planning Department maintained information regarding the Critical Areas Ordinance update on its website, including the draft ordinance, fact sheets, and other information.

The Planning Department developed four (4) information videos regarding the Critical Areas Ordinance update and posted them on its YouTube webpage.

Since 2010 the Planning Department has sent out over fifty (50) updates on Department projects through an electronic mail subscribers list that reaches over 700 people as of July 2012.

The Planning Commission held over one-hundred (100) work sessions on the Critical Areas Ordinance beginning in 2003 and extending through 2012.

The Planning Commission held a legally noticed public hearing on the Critical Areas Ordinance over three (3) evenings in 2005: August 24, August 25, and September 27.

The Planning Commission held its legally noticed public hearing on the 2012 draft of the Critical Areas Ordinance on December 10, 2011. Approximately 75 people attended the hearing, approximately 125 written comments were received, and approximately 40 people provided public testimony.

The Board of County Commissioners held at least ten (10) briefings on the Critical Areas Ordinance update in 2012.

The Board of County Commissioners held its legally noticed public hearing on the Critical Areas Ordinance on June 23, 2012. Approximately 350 people attended the hearing, approximately 350 written comments were received, and approximately 100 people provided public testimony.

12. The County Planning Commission reviewed the analysis and proposed revisions and received public comments on the analysis and proposed revisions. Based on its review of the requirements of Chapter 36.70A RCW, the analysis and proposed revisions prepared and the public comments received, the Planning Commission forwarded recommended findings on the review and proposed revisions to the Board of County Commissioners.
13. Based on its review of the requirements of Chapter 36.70A RCW, the analysis and proposed revisions, the recommended findings on review and proposed revisions forwarded by the Planning Commission, and the public comments received, the Board of County Commissioners finds and declares that the review and needed revisions have been prepared in conformance with applicable law, including Chapter 36.70A RCW, Chapter 43.21C RCW and Chapter 2.05 Thurston County Code.

14. In formulating its recommendations, the Planning Commission considered public comments received through public hearings and the public process.

15. In formulating development regulations adopted by this ordinance, the Board has considered the goals contained in RCW 36.70A.020. The GMA sets forth a list of fourteen (14) goals to guide the development and adoption of development regulations. These goals are:

   a. Urban Growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.

   b. Reduce Sprawl. Reduce the inappropriate conversion of underdeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development.

   c. Transportation. Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.

   d. Housing. Encourage the availability of affordable housing to all economic segments of the population of this state, promote a variety of residential densities and housing types, and encourage preservation of existing housing stock.

   e. Economic Development. Encourage economic development throughout the state that is consistent with adopted comprehensive plans, promote economic opportunity for all citizens of this state, especially for unemployed and disadvantaged persons, and encourage growth in areas experiencing insufficient economic growth, all within the capacities of the state’s natural resources, public services, and public facilities

   f. Property Rights. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation having been made. The property rights of landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.

   g. Permits. Applications for both state and local government permits should be processed in a timely and fair manner to ensure predictability.

   h. Natural Resources Industries. Maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries, including productive timber, agriculture, and fisheries industries. Encourage the conservation of productive forest lands and productive governmental lands, and discourage incompatible uses.
i. Open Space and Recreation. Encourage the retention of open space and development of recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks.

j. Environment. Protect the environment and enhance quality, and the availability of water.

k. Citizen Participation and Coordination. Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning process and ensure coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile conflicts.

l. Public Facilities and Services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.

m. Historic Preservation. Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, site, and structures that have historical or archaeological significance.

n. Shorelines. Manage shorelines wisely according to the goals in the Shorelines Management Act (Chapter 36.70A.020 RCW).

16. The Board has weighed the goals contained in RCW 36.70A.020 as they apply to the subject matter of this ordinance and have attempted to reach a reasonable balance of these goals in fulfilling its duty to protect critical areas through adoption of this Ordinance.

17. On April 12, 2012 notice was provided to the Washington State Department of Commerce on the intent to adopt revised development regulations applicable to critical areas in conformance with RCW 36.70A.106.

18. The critical areas development regulations are intended to protect the general public, resources and facilities from injury, loss of life, property damage or financial loss due to flooding, landslides, or steep slopes failure.

29. The findings and the record generated in the public hearing process and at the adoption of this resolution show that this measure is consistent with the GMA goals.

20. The Board believes adopting the amendments is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare of Thurston County residents.

21. The Board finds that the amendments in this ordinance were developed through an analysis of the evidence in the record, including scientific analysis and documentation, involving a reasoned process.

22. Where the critical areas protections in this ordinance vary from best available science, the County followed a reasoned process supported by local circumstances that allow localized impacts on critical areas that will be used sparingly and for good cause.
23. The Board finds that critical areas in urban and rural locations must be treated equally in unincorporated Thurston County, and that critical areas in urbanized areas should receive no less protection than critical areas in rural locations.

24. The County has reviewed existing critical area regulations from neighboring jurisdictions and the cities in Thurston County. The Board finds that similar standards are in these current critical areas regulations as are being adopted with this ordinance.

B. WETLANDS

1. Wetlands and streams are environmentally sensitive and serve numerous natural functions and values. These functions include: wildlife and fisheries habitat; water quality protection; flood protection; shoreline stabilization; stream flow; and ground water recharge and discharge. In many situations, these functions cannot be adequately replicated or replaced.

2. The scientific literature supports in the inclusion of protective buffers for wetlands to provide sediment control and nutrient inputs to wetlands, and to protect important wetland functions.


4. The scientific literature supports protective buffers ranging from 50 to 300 feet of relatively intact native vegetation to adequately protect wetland functions and values.

5. Appropriate wetland mitigation ratios – ratios of areas of wetland replacement and enhancement to that altered or destroyed – are established in Wetland Mitigation Replacement Ratios: Defining Equivalency, published by Ecology, 1992.

6. In determining what critical areas are to be afforded a particular degree of protection, Thurston County has evaluated a wide range of the best available science with respect to wetlands to make informed decisions that meet the intent of the GMA and that are also reflective of local needs.

7. The sources of best available science that were evaluated and included in the development of regulatory standards for wetland areas are included in Attachment A: Best Available Science Bibliography for Thurston County CAO Update and include White Paper: Ecological Issues in Floodplains and Riparian Corridors, prepared for Washington State Transportation Commission, Department of Transportation, and in cooperation with U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration 2001; Wetland Buffers: Use and Effectiveness, Washington State Department of Ecology Publication #92-10, 1992; Selecting Wetland Mitigation Sites Using a Watershed Approach. Washington State Department of Ecology Publication #09-06-032, 2009; Washington state wetland rating system for western Washington (Revised), Washington Department of Ecology. Ecology Publication #04-06-025, 2006; King County Executive Report. Best Available Science Volume I: A Review of Science Literature. Critical Areas, Stormwater, and Clearing and Grading Proposed Ordinances, King County Departments of Natural Resources and Parks; Department of Development and

C. CRITICAL AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS

1. WAC 365-190-080 defines wellhead protection areas, sole source aquifers, special protection areas, and other areas that are susceptible or vulnerable to ground water contamination as areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water (also referred to as critical aquifer recharge areas).

2. Potable water is an essential life-sustaining element.

3. Much of [the region’s] drinking water comes from ground water supplies.

4. Once ground water is contaminated it is difficult, costly, and sometimes impossible to clean up.

5. Preventing ground water contamination is necessary to avoid exorbitant costs, hardships, and potential physical harm to people.

6. Reclaimed water is an important resource for replenishing drinking water aquifers.

7. Reclaimed water contains minute concentrations of a variety of synthetic and natural compounds found in pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and other products.

8. There is not yet scientific consensus on the human health or environmental impacts of constituents of emerging concern.

9. The GMA directs counties and cities to use the precautionary principle and adaptive management until scientific uncertainty is resolved.

10. The Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County CleanWater Alliance (LOTT) is currently undertaking a study to determine the fate and transport of constituents of emerging concern in reclaimed water intended for aquifer infiltration in Thurston County. At the conclusion of that study, the County may revisit reclaimed water standards using LOTT’s study and other information as directed by the GMA.

12. In determining what critical areas are to be afforded a particular degree of protection, Thurston County has evaluated a wide range of the best available science with respect to critical aquifer recharge areas to make informed decisions that meet the intent of the GMA and that are also reflective of local needs.


D. FREQUENTLY FLOODED AREAS

1. Special flood hazard areas are subject to periodic inundation that results in loss of life and property, health, and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.
2. Providing protection measures for frequently flooded areas enables Thurston County to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance program and as an eligible community for federal flood insurance benefits.

3. These flood losses are caused by development in areas prone to inundation that increase flood heights and velocities, and when inadequately anchored, damage uses in other areas. Uses that are inadequately floodproofed, elevated, or otherwise protected from flood damage also contribute to flood loss.

4. Floodplain and stream connectivity are major elements in maintaining healthy riparian habitat and off-channel habitats for the survival of fish species and conveyance of floodwaters. If river, floodplains, and other systems are not viewed holistically as biological, geomorphological units, this can lead to serious degradation of habitat and increase flood hazards, which in turn can contribute to listing of various fish species as threatened or endangered and result in extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief.

5. In determining what critical areas are to be afforded a particular degree of protection, Thurston County has evaluated a wide range of the best available science with respect to frequently flooded areas to make informed decisions that meet the intent of the GMA and that are also reflective of local needs.


7. Chapter 14.38 Development in Flood Hazard Areas includes additional provisions for developing in special flood hazard areas, to minimize losses due to flood conditions by providing minimum standards for sites within flood areas, or sites that will affect identified flood hazard areas including:
a. Require that uses vulnerable to floods, including public facilities which service such uses be provided with flood protection at the time of initial construction;

b. Restrict or prohibit uses which are dangerous to human health, safety or property in times of flood, or cause increased flood heights or velocities;

c. Control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase flood damage;

d. Control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels and natural protective barriers which help accommodate or channel floodwaters; and

e. Alert individuals to lands which are in areas of special flood hazard.

E. GEOLOGICALLY HAZARDOUS AREAS

1. Geologically hazardous areas are subject to periodic geological events that result in loss of life and property, health, and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.

2. Geologic hazards may be exacerbated by development and human activity in sensitive areas, and impacts resulting from geologic hazards may be reduced by limiting development and human activity within or adjacent to the geologic hazard.

3. Some geologic hazards may be intensified during periods of consistent or heavy rainfall that results in ground saturation or surface water drainage flows.

4. In determining what critical areas are to be afforded a particular degree of protection, Thurston County has evaluated a wide range of the best available science with respect to geologically hazardous areas to make informed decisions that meet the intent of the GMA and that are also reflective of local needs.

5. Title 14 Buildings and Construction includes additional provisions for developing in geologically hazardous areas to minimize impacts due to construction on or near these areas.

6. The sources of best available science that were evaluated and included in the development of regulatory standards for geologically hazardous areas are included in Attachment A: Best Available Science Bibliography for Thurston County CAO Update and include The coal fields of southwestern Washington: Washington Geological Survey Bulletin 19, 155 pages, Culver, Harold E. 1919; Volcano Hazards from Mount Rainier, Washington, United States Department of the Interior and United States Geological Survey, 1998; Best available science – Volume I: A review of scientific literature. King County Executive Report, King County Washington; Critical areas, stormwater, and clearing and grading proposed ordinances, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Development and Environmental Services, Department of Transportation, King County, Washington, 2004; Understanding Soil Risks and Hazards – Using Soil Survey to Identify Areas With Risks and Hazards to Human Life and Property, United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Soil Survey Center, Lincoln,
F. FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION AREAS

1. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas perform many important physical and biological functions that benefit the County and its residents, including but not limited to: maintaining species diversity and genetic diversity; providing opportunities for food, cover, nesting, breeding and movement for fish and wildlife; serving as areas for recreation, education and scientific study and aesthetic appreciation; helping to maintain air and water quality; controlling erosion; and providing neighborhood separation and visual diversity within urban areas.

2. Wetlands and streams are environmentally sensitive and serve numerous natural functions and values. These functions include: wildlife and fisheries habitat; water quality protection; flood protection; shoreline stabilization; stream flow; and ground water recharge and discharge. In many situations these functions cannot be adequately replicated or replaced.

3. The scientific literature supports the inclusion of protective buffers from streams to provide sediment control, nutrient inputs to downstream waters, large woody debris, and other functions important to riparian areas.

4. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has prepared management recommendations for the preservation of priority habitat and species, which are based on the best available science, and include, in some instances, recommended protective buffer distances.


6. Salmonid and anadromous fish may be more impacted by development and human activity during some times than others. Such times are referred to as “fish windows,” which have been documented by WDFW.

7. DNR has classified watercourses according to two stream-typing systems based on channel width, fish use, and perennial or intermittent status.
8. WAC 365-190-080(5) grants Thurston County the flexibility to make decisions in the context of local circumstances, and specifically excuses local jurisdictions from being required to protect “all individuals of all species at all time.”

9. In determining what critical areas are to be afforded a particular degree of protection, Thurston County has evaluated a wide range of the best available science with respect to fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas to make informed decisions that meet the intent of the GMA and that are also reflective of local needs.

11. “Native Outwash Prairies” in Puget Trough Lowland areas have been designated as a critical area in Thurston County since 1994.
12. The Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) is a designated critical habitat in Thurston County.

13. The State of Washington Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Plan 2009 Update lists the Oregon white oak (*Quercus garrana*) ecosystem as a “Priority 2” ecosystem, which means that these species or ecosystems may become endangered across their range or in Washington if factors contributing to their decline or habitat loss continue; and

14. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy recognizes prairie and Oregon white oak habitat as an important habitat type for at least ten animal species of greatest conservation need including the Mardon skipper, Hoary elfin, Puget blue, Talyor’s checkerspot, and Valley silverspot butterflies, Mazama pocket gopher, Western gray squirrel, Western bluebird, Oregon vesper sparrow, Streaked horned lark, and other prairie obligate species; and

15. Prairie and Oregon white oak habitat provide habitat for prairie obligate species that are listed or are candidates for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act as an endangered or threatened species; and


17. Only about eight percent (8%) of the original prairie still supports grassland vegetation, and only about two percent (2% to 3%) is still dominated by native prairie vegetation.

18. Less than one percent (1%) of the remaining prairie and Oregon white oak woodland habitats are protected in parks or reserves.

19. The principle mound-bearing prairies of the Puget Lowland are situated in Thurston County.

20. Mima Mounds are a unique geologic feature, which is a formation found on native prairies in Thurston County. Removing Mima Mounds may have an adverse impact on the structural complexity of the native prairie ecosystem which affects biotic interactions among species, their population dynamic and genetic diversity.

21. All remaining prairies require some level of restoration and management because of actual and potential invasion of *Cystisus scoparius* (Scot’s broom) and Douglas fir.
G. SUMMIT LAKE OVERLAY ZONE

1. The Summit Lake Special Management Area has been part of the Thurston County Code since 1994 with the adoption of Ordinance No. 10528, as amended by Ordinance No. 11200.

2. The Summit Lake Special Management Area is currently located in Sections 17.15.820 and 17.15.825 TCC in the existing critical areas ordinance.

3. The existing critical areas ordinance will no longer apply to residential development, and so the standards for the Summit Lake Special Management Area must be relocated to the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20). The standards in the special management area are development standards more appropriate in a zoning ordinance. The special management area should be moved to a new chapter in the Thurston County (Rural) Zoning Ordinance in order to continue to allow special development exceptions to apply.

4. The purpose of the Summit Lake Overlay Zone is to allow the special development standards in the Summit Lake Special Management Area to continue.

5. The purpose is to protect the unique physical and environmental features of Summit Lake, its associated critical areas, and shoreline management area while providing development standards for physically constrained lots adjoining the Summit Lake Shoreline.

H. VARIETY OF RURAL DENSITIES IN THE THURSTON ZONING ORDINANCE (Title 20)

1. Ordinance No. 13884 was adopted on August 20, 2007; effective August 27, 2007 to amend the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance to add a variety of rural densities for the reasons stated therein and are adopted herein by this reference.

2. Ordinance No. 13884 was adopted to resolve the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board’s July 20, 2005 Final Decision and Order in 1000 Friends of Washington v. Thurston County, case #05-0002, which held, in part, that the County’s comprehensive plan and development regulations were out of compliance with the GMA, Chapter 36.70A RCW, as the County failed to provide a variety of rural densities.

3. Section 17.15.335 TCC was adopted with Ordinance No. 13884 into Chapter 17.15 TCC which limited the density limits in the Rural Residential Resource One Unit per Five Acre (RRR 1/5), Rural Residential One Unit per Five Acre (RR 1/5), and Urban Reserve (UR 1/5) zoning districts by subtracting from the parcel area documented high groundwater hazard areas, wetlands, marine bluff hazard areas to the top of the bluff and landslide hazard areas; all rivers streams and marine shorelines up to the ordinary high water mark; 100-year floodplains; and submerged land of lakes.

4. The 1990 Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region adopted by Thurston County applies to all lands in unincorporated Thurston County, and does not permit submerged
lands to be used to compute required lot area, lot dimensions, densities and/or required yards. Submerged lands include those areas below the ordinary high-water mark of marine waters, lakes and rivers.

5. With the adoption of this ordinance, Chapter 17.15 TCC will no longer apply to subdivisions as it will be limited to agricultural activities. The provisions in Section 17.15.335 governing density in the rural zoning district must be moved to more appropriate location in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20).

6. The amendments to the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20) adopted by this ordinance are consistent with Ordinance No. 13884, the Shoreline Master Program of the Thurston Region, and the need to provide for a variety of rural densities.

7. The variety of rural densities provided in the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan and the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance will not be reduced by the amendments adopted by this ordinance.

8. The Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 TCC) defines large lot subdivisions as the division of contiguous land, for purposes of sale, lease or transfer of ownership, into two or more lots, all of which are five acres or one-one hundred twenty-eighth (128\textsuperscript{th}) of a section of land or larger, and any one of which is smaller than forty (40) acres or one-sixteenth (16\textsuperscript{th}) of a section of land.

9. The RRR 1/5, RR 1/5 or UR 1/5 zoning districts limit density to one unit per five acres and are inconsistent with the above definition.

10. One standard Township and Range section is generally one(1) square mile and would normally yield approximately one hundred eighty (128) five (5) acre parcels. Township and Range sections in Thurston County which are zoned RRR 1/5, RR 1/5 or UR 1/5 range from five hundred ninety (590) acres to seven hundred and seventy three (773) acres.

11. The proposed density limit changes would yield approximately ten (10) more parcels per Township and Range section that is five hundred and ninety (590) acres.

12. Density would be further limited by critical areas the critical areas specified above, submerged lands (lakes, marine, and rivers), and other development limitations in the Thurston County Code.

13. Amendments included in this ordinance would make the density limits in the above zoning districts consistent with the definition and minimum lot size for large lot subdivisions.

14. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan.

15. The proposed amendments are consistent with Chapter 58.17 RCW, Plats, Subdivisions, and Dedications.
I. NOXIOUS WEEDS

1. The Noxious Weed Control Board and the regulation of noxious weeds are authorized by Chapter 17.10 RCW to carry out weed control in all of Thurston County, not Chapter 36.70A RCW.

2. The Noxious Weed Control Board adopts annual rules and regulations regarding noxious weed control according to Chapter 17.10 RCW and Chapter 16-750 WAC, and is more qualified and timely in designating specific species for containment and in designating specific containment areas.

3. The Agricultural Use Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 TCC) will only apply to lands with agricultural activities.

4. Noxious weed control as authorized by Chapter 17.10 RCW applies to all lands in Thurston County.

5. The noxious weed containment regulations in Chapter 17.15 TCC need to be relocated to a stand-alone chapter to apply to all of Thurston County. The proposed amendments in this ordinance continue to permit the Noxious Weed Control Board to review individual development permits, and to add conditions to development permits in regard to noxious weeds.

6. The noxious weed containment standards in this ordinance are consistent with Chapter 17.10 RCW and Chapter 16-750 WAC.

J. DENSITY AMENDMENTS IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE IN THE LACEY URBAN GROWTH AREA

1. With the adoption of this ordinance, Chapter 17.15 TCC will no longer apply to nonagricultural uses such as residential subdivisions. The Board finds that the provisions of Section 17.15.335 governing residential density in the Lacey Urban Growth Area must be moved to an appropriate location in the Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area.

2. The Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area does not include clear definitions for density in all zoning districts. The Board finds it necessary to add sections to several of the zoning districts to define density.

3. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for Lacey and the Lacey UGA.

K. DENSITY AMENDMENTS IN THE OLYMPIA UGA ZONING ORDINANCE

1. With the adoption of this ordinance, Chapter 17.15 TCC will no longer apply to nonagricultural uses such as residential subdivisions. The Board finds that the provisions of
Section 17.15.335 governing residential density in the Olympia Urban Growth Area must be moved to an appropriate location in the Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance.

2. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for Olympia and the Olympia Growth Area.

I. DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGES AND CODE REFERENCE CHANGES

1. In 2009, the Development Services Department’s name changed to the Resource Stewardship Department and the Roads and Transportation Services Department changed to the Public Works Department.

2. The Thurston County Code has not been updated to change the department name changes.

3. The amendments included in this ordinance amend the Thurston County Code to change the Development Services Department name to Resource Stewardship Department and the Roads and Transportation Service Department to the Public Works Department.

4. With the adoption of this ordinance a new title will be added to the Thurston County Code named the “Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance” (Title 24) which will apply to nonagricultural uses, and the existing critical areas ordinance (Chapter 17.15) will changed to the “Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance applying only to agricultural uses and lands.

5. With the adoption of this ordinance, reference changes to the critical areas ordinance throughout the Thurston County Code must be changed to reflect the new Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance and the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance.

M. AGRICULTURAL USES AND LAND CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE

1. The Washington State Legislature, through Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1886, effective July 1, 2011, amended chapter 36.70A RCW to add a Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) (RCW 36.70A.700 through 36.70A.760) for the protection of critical areas in relation to agricultural uses.

2. In pursuing the VSP option, the legislature found that there was a need to achieve a balance between productive uses of agricultural resource lands and associated regulatory requirements, and that the effort to achieve that balance has been difficult.

3. According to RCW 36.70A.700, the purposes of the VSP are as follows:

   1) Promote plans that protect and enhance critical areas in the area where agricultural activities are conducted
2) Focus and maximize voluntary incentive programs to encourage ecosystem stewardship in lieu of historic approaches

3) Leveraging existing resources

4) Improve compliance with other laws related to habitat and water quality

5) Rely on voluntary stewardship practices as the primary method of protecting critical areas and not require the cessation of agricultural activities.

4. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Thurston County includes five (5) primary watersheds including the Upper Chehalis, the Lower Chehalis, the Nisqually, the Deschutes, and the Puget Sound (Kennedy Goldsbourgh).

5. With the adoption of Ordinance No. 14703 on January 12, 2012, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.710 Thurston County elected to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program.

6. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.710, the county nominated all five watersheds in Thurston County to participate in the VSP provides a uniform application for the protection of critical areas in relation to agricultural uses.


8. In a July 28, 2010 letter to Thurston County from FEMA, FEMA indicated that Thurston County must demonstrate full compliance with the ESA by September 23, 2011 as delineated by the NMFS Biological Opinion issued on September 22, 2008.

9. The NMFS Biological Opinion provided three methods for participant communities of the NFIP in Puget Sound to demonstrate compliance with the ESA. Including:

   Option #1 Adopt the FEMA Model Ordinance

   Option #2 FEMA Current Regulatory Environment Checklist

   Option #3 Permit-by-Permit demonstration of Compliance

10. Thurston County selected Option #3 in September 2011 prior to electing to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program.

11. For agricultural uses, the Board finds it necessary to continue to review agricultural uses on a permit-by-permit basis in special flood hazard areas under Chapter 14.38 TCC.

12. Special flood hazard areas in Chapter 14.38 TCC “means an area subject to a base flood of one-hundred year flood; areas of special flood hazard are shown on a flood hazard boundary map or Flood Insurance Rate Map as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AH, VO, V1-30,
VE, V or High Ground Water Flood Hazard Areas Resource Map on file with the Resource Stewardship Department or the highest recorded flood elevation.”

13. If Thurston County was to decide against compliance with NFIP requirements, including the NMFS Biological Opinion, and effectively withdraws from the NFIP program, or is suspended, then the county at a minimum faces the following sanctions:

a. Flood insurance will not be available, and no resident will be able to purchase a flood insurance policy.

b. If the community withdraws or is suspended, existing flood insurance policies will not be renewed.

c. No Federal grants or loans for the acquisition or construction of buildings may be made in identified flood hazard areas under programs administered by Federal agencies such as HUD, EPA, and SBA.

d. No Federal disaster assistance may be provided to repair insurable buildings located in identified flood hazard areas for damage caused by a flood.

e. No Federal mortgage insurance or loan guarantees may be provided in identified flood hazard areas. This includes policies written by the Federal Housing Agency, Veterans Administration, and others.

f. Federally insured or regulated lending institutions, such as banks and credit unions, must notify applicants seeking loans for insurable buildings in flood hazard areas that there is a flood hazard and that the property is not eligible for Federal disaster relief.

g. Disaster mitigation funding would not be available because the State of Washington requires a community to be in full compliance with the NFIP in order to be eligible for mitigation grant funding.

h. The county and other public entities would not be eligible to receive assistance to repair county buildings.

14. Thurston County has also received Hazard Mitigation Grants to buy out structures in floodways, to provide assistance to homeowners to elevate structures, and to fund hazard mitigation planning for the entire county.

15. RCW 36.70A.130 (8) (b) identifies limited circumstances with a Voluntary Stewardship County may amend or update critical areas regulations for agricultural activities, which include:

a. A work plan has been approved for that watershed in accordance with RCW 36.70A.725;

b. The local watershed group for that watershed has requested the county to adopt or amend development regulations as part of a work plan developed under RCW 36.70A.720;
c. The adoption or amendment of the development regulations is necessary to enable the county to respond to an order of the growth management hearings board or court;

d. The adoption or amendment of development regulations is necessary to address a threat to human health or safety; or

e. Three or more years have elapsed since the receipt of funding.

16. The provisions are modified when in conflict with federal funding requirements by RCW 36.70A.904 which states that “If any part of this act (GMA) is found to be in conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act (GMA) must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state.”

17. While Thurston County has elected at this time to continue to review agricultural activities as defined in RCW 90.58.065 that are located in special flood hazard areas on a permit-by-permit basis, and not amend the critical areas regulations for agricultural activities to add blanket requirements, FEMA may require the county to amend regulations in Chapter 17.15 TCC in the future to demonstrate compliance with NFIP.

18. The proposed changes to Chapter 17.15 TCC are removing all critical areas requirements that regulate nonagricultural uses.

19. The requirements in Chapter 17.15 TCC apply to agricultural activities, uses and lands defined as “agricultural activities” in the GMA (36.70A RCW).

20. The Board finds it necessary to rename Chapter 17.15 TCC as the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance to distinguish Chapter 17.15 TCC from the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24) adopted by this ordinance.

21. The Board finds that the requirements for agricultural activities as defined in the GMA (36.70A RCW) are not changing with the adoption of this ordinance.

N. SINGLE FAMILY EXCEPTION FOR EXISTING LOTS

1. The Board finds that an exception must be included as a local circumstance in the new critical areas regulations to alleviate the hardship of new regulations and the potential creation of non-conforming lots, and to provide an administrative process for reviewing single-family development on existing lots.
2. After consideration of public testimony and evidence in the record, the Thurston County Planning Commission recommended a maximum disturbance size of 5,000 square feet subject to further limitations.

3. A minority report from the Planning Commission recommended the size be limited to 3,500 square feet or less, and that the reasonable use permit process was a more appropriate method to determine a larger disturbance area.

4. Significant public testimony was received by the Board during its public hearing regarding the single-family exception, and 5,000 square feet is too much of a disturbance area.

5. After consideration of public testimony, the Planning Commission recommendation, and evidence in the record, the Board decided to reduce the disturbance area to 3,500 square feet, subject to further requirements in the critical areas ordinance.

6. The proposed maximum size of 3,500 square feet is intended to provide enough buildable area for a single-family home where there is not 3,500 square feet of buildable area outside of a critical area and its associated buffer on an existing lot.

7. The county would only permit exceptions outside of special flood hazard areas, and further limited by the following requirements included in the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24) that is adopted with this ordinance:

   a. The development site shall be located in the outer 50 percent of the standard critical area buffer, except for wetlands and riparian habitat areas, where the development site shall be located in the outer 25 percent of the standard buffer. Development in the critical area and the inner 50 percent of the associated critical area buffer—or inner 75 percent of wetland and riparian area buffers—will require a reasonable use exception;

   b. The applicant shall demonstrate that due to physical constraints (e.g., topography, soil conditions, or the site’s configuration), another configuration would not allow the development to occur without intrusion or with less intrusion into the critical area or buffer than the proposal;

   c. The location and scale of existing development on surrounding properties shall not be the basis for granting or determining the location, scale and impact of a single-family use;

   d. The encroachment into the critical area or associated buffer shall be consistent with other requirements of this section for development on existing lots, requirements for a critical area review permit, and shall not have an adverse impact on species of concern, as determined by the approval authority;

   e. Site development, including clearing, grading, construction of structures, utilities, related appurtenances, and landscaping shall occupy the minimum area necessary to accommodate the use;

   f. Native tree and vegetation removal shall only be permitted to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate the proposed development, and shall not create a public safety risk;

   g. A revegetation plan consistent with this title for disturbed areas shall be submitted with the development application, and shall be completed prior to final occupancy or use;
h. Landscaping shall not extend more than fifteen feet from the primary structure toward the important habitat or wetland;

i. Any new structures within a critical area or buffer shall be sited to avoid the creation of hazard trees;

j. The approval authority may establish a construction setback to avoid encroachment into portions of the buffer not authorized for development, consistent with Section 24.01.030 TCC; and

k. The approval authority may authorize use of additional area to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate an onsite sewage disposal system or well, consistent with other requirements of this title, only if there is no alternative;

l. The use of this single-family residential exception shall not be a result of a self-created hardship such as subdividing the property, adjusting a boundary line, or other actions thereby creating the undevelopable conditions after [the effective date of this title], or a self-created hardship created under the applicable standards of Chapter 17.15 TCC after February 1, 1994.

8. The county reviewed approximately seventy-six (76) reasonable use exception permit approvals that have been permitted since the inception of Chapter 17.15 TCC in 1994 in the development of the 3,500 square foot exception.

9. Other jurisdictions provide for similar exceptions in their critical areas ordinances. Snohomish County has the largest at 4,000 square feet in a critical area buffer consistent with conditions outlined in their code. Both the Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Ecology determined that this was excessive and inconsistent with the Growth Management Act. Lewis County permits 2,500 square feet of land disturbance without a reasonable use exception, however, Lewis County does not include the approval criteria above that further restricts the land disturbance area.

10. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has recommended the county reduce the size and offset impacts that will provide sustainable habitat for prairie species. The 5,000 square foot size does not appear to be supported by any specific science. It appears to be larger than similar exceptions by other counties.

O. MINERAL EXTRACTION IN CRITICAL AREAS

1. Thurston County is required to designate and conserve mineral resource lands that are not already characterized by urban growth and that have long-term significance for the extraction of minerals pursuant to the GMA (RCW 36.70A.040, 36.70A.060, 36.70A.131 and 36.70A.170).

2. The county is required by the GMA to protect lands that are considered critical areas (RCW 36.70A.060).

3. Under the GMA, Thurston County must both protect critical areas and the designated areas for mineral extraction. Mineral lands designation does not permit unfettered mining to take place.

4. Concerns over the location of gravel mines and asphalt plants surfaced after the Board of County Commissioners (Board) reviewed and expanded existing designated mineral lands of
Long-Term Commercial Significance (LTCS) and permitted areas for gravel mining as part of a seven-year review of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan in 2003.

5. In response to these concerns, the Board established an interim ordinance that prohibited the designation of new mineral lands, permitting of new gravel mining operations, and permitting of new asphalt plants outside the RRI zone.

6. Thurston County amended the Thurston County Code on October 17, 2003 with Ordinance No. 13030 adopting interim regulations limiting the issuance of special use permits for asphalt plants and gravel mines.

7. Ordinance No. 13030 limited the issuance of special use permits for asphalt plants and gravel mines intending to put mining on hold in environmentally sensitive and hazardous areas. The current designation criteria used for mineral lands of LTCS does not include extensive environmental factors or location criteria, thereby creating the possibility of potentially negatively impacting critical areas and other environmentally sensitive areas.

8. The Mineral Lands Task Force was established by the Board in the Fall of 2003 to address emerging concerns regarding the location of sand and gravel mines and asphalt plants in Thurston County and to provide advice and input to the County.

9. After meeting eleven (11) times to address, study, and develop policy changes, the Task Force made recommendations to the Board on July 24, 2004 regarding siting and permitting criteria for gravel mines, asphalt plants, and mineral lands of LTCS based on existing County policies and regulations, case law, scientific studies, maps and related technical information, and from expert testimony on mining and asphalt plant regulations.

10. The amendments relating to development standards for mineral resource lands satisfy the procedural requirements of, and are consistent with, the GMA.

11. The Thurston County Planning Commission held briefings on the designation of mineral lands of LTCS, including the designation of critical areas as mineral lands of LTCS, and mining in critical areas.

12. In addition, the Planning Commission formed a subcommittee in April 2009 to research the issues relating to the designation of mineral lands of LTCS and the permitting of gravel mines and asphalt plants, including critical areas. They made their final recommendation in October 2009.

13. The designation of specified critical areas for mineral extraction was studied thoroughly by both the Planning Commission and the Board.

14. Thurston County has been studying mineral extraction and the designation of mineral lands of LTCS for over 10 years. In developing their recommendation, the Planning Commission considered best available science and information used to develop the areas where mineral extraction may be permitted with a special use permit in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance.

15. Mineral extraction operations utilize heavy equipment, vehicles, and machinery continually until the minerals are depleted. Noise, dust, vibrations, and visual impacts, even within the bounds of the law, are inconsistent with residential and natural settings; and
16. Designation of areas where mining may occur is required prior to the evaluation of a special use permit for mineral extraction. Some critical areas are excluded from these areas, and so would not be able to be mined.

17. In developing the mineral lands designation criteria in the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance, the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners discussed the need to allow some areas to be designated that may need further review for critical areas once mining is proposed.

18. The Board finds that even when property is designated mineral lands, this does not automatically mean that it may all be mined. In order to protect critical areas as directed by the GMA, portions of property may be excluded from the minable area that meet the definition of a critical area.

19. The provisions in the critical areas protections adopted by this ordinance were developed in consideration of best available science.

20. Mining disturbs vegetation and soils. Best available science indicates that disturbance of vegetation and soils is significantly impactive to critical areas such as wetlands, special flood hazard areas, riparian areas, streams, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, and certain geologic hazard areas.

21. Restriction of mining in critical aquifer recharge areas (CARAs) is not in conflict with the need to designate natural resource lands.

22. The goal of protecting CARAs is to avoid accidents and risks to clean, safe, and available drinking water. While the use of best management practices may decrease the risks, there is no guarantee that accidents will not occur that would put groundwater at risk of contamination. Following best management practices may also allow other uses to operate in all CARAs; however, to completely avoid risk of contamination from such uses, they are prohibited or limited in critical aquifer recharge areas.

23. Restriction of mining to areas above the water table in CARAs is within the range of best available science specific to Thurston County, and follows the guidelines for critical areas and best available science in the Washington Administrative Code.

24. Aggregate mining increases the risk of pathogenic and other contamination to groundwater. Regulated activities that accompany aggregate mining also generate spills of hazardous materials that pose significant risk to groundwater and in many cases go unreported. The long-term effects of these hazardous material spills are an area of study where data is lacking. A majority of the region’s drinking water sources are wellheads located in CARA I designated areas. The contamination of these sources for even a short period of time in a region reliant on groundwater creates public health and economic risks.

25. Mining should be restricted below the water table, and in areas of extreme aquifer susceptibility such as CARA I areas in Thurston County. The King County regulations developed from the King County BAS also restrict mining below the water table in equivalent wellhead protection areas, similar CARA areas, or in the water table that could be used for potable water (King County Code Title 21A).
26. Guidance from the Washington Department of Ecology used in the development of the CARA regulations adopted by this ordinance indicate that a jurisdiction needs to take a conservative, or safe, approach in designating CARAs.

27. According to the 2005 Department of Ecology’s 2005 Guidance Document for the Establishment of Critical Aquifer Recharge Area Ordinances (05-10-0208), “the functions and values of Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas are to provide the public with clean, safe, and available drinking water...planning, programs, and ordinances are needed to prevent contamination from occurring.”

28. Best available science indicates that fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas are irreversibly affected by mining, and are best left in their natural state.

29. Gravel mining is cited as one of the reasons for habitat loss in the Washington State Status Report for the Mazama pocket gopher, streaked horned lark, and Taylor’s checkerspot, which are state listed species, and federal candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Gravel mining is also cited as one of the reasons for prairie habitat loss in general. The report indicates that “as habitat is removed and habitat patches become small, fewer and further apart the likelihood of each patch continuing to support pocket gophers declines.”

30. According to the King County Critical Areas Ordinance Best Available Science Review and other sources, disturbing the soil removes the vertical and horizontal diversity in the soil for maintaining native habitat areas.

31. Evidence in the record shows that human development harms habitats of primary association for endangered and threatened species in Thurston County. Human development includes gravel mining. Gravel mining can significantly alter the natural habitat structures and processes to which native plants and animals are adapted.

32. Maintaining habitats of primary association is permitted by state law and may be required in the case of rare habitats, such as prairie habitat.

33. Destruction of the riparian zone during gravel operations can have multiple deleterious effects on anadromous fish habitat, which are afforded special consideration under the GMA. The importance of riparian habitat to anadromous fish should not be underestimated.

34. Sand and gravel-sized sediment in water bodies is particularly important in determining stream channel form, and a reduction in the supply of these sediments may induce channel changes. Gravel and cobbles have ecological importance as habitat for benthic macro invertebrates and as spawning habitat for salmon and trout, which are anadromous fish.

35. According to the Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group, agriculture, grazing, mining, recreation, and urbanization are some of the main land uses that can result in disturbance of stream corridor structure and functions. Surface mining is perhaps the only land use with a greater capacity to change the hydrologic regime of a stream than urbanization.

36. Continued development in floodplains will exacerbate flood conditions in a manner that reduces anadromous fish survival rates, which can further lower the rate of productivity, which is already non-viable, hastening the trend toward extirpation of these fish populations.
37. Surface mining in floodplains negatively impacts important hydrologic functions and anadromous fisheries through vegetation removal, changes in water temperature, and reductions in water quality, among other effects.

38. Continued development, including mining, in floodplains can cause public safety issues by altering the natural hydrology of a stream.

SECTION 2. BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE.
The best available science and other information included and considered for this record is documented in Attachment A to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. THURSTON COUNTY CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE (TITLE 24).
The Thurston County Code is hereby amended to add Title 24 to be known as the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance as shown in Attachment B to this ordinance, which includes critical areas regulations for nonagricultural uses.

SECTION 4. THURSTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL USES AND LANDS CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE.
Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code is hereby renamed the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and amended to remove references to nonagricultural activities, add references to the Voluntary Stewardship Program, and other matters properly related thereto as shown in Attachment C to this ordinance.

SECTION 5. NOXIOUS WEEDS CHAPTER.
The Thurston County Code is hereby amended to add Chapter 17.30 TCC governing noxious weeds to Title 17 Environment as shown in Attachment D to this ordinance.

SECTION 6. SUMMIT LAKE OVERLAY ZONE.
The Thurston County Code is hereby amended to add Chapter 20.30C TCC known as the Summit Lake Overlay Zone as shown in Attachment E to this ordinance, which includes special development regulations for single family uses around Summit Lake.

SECTION 7. THURSTON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE (TITLE 20) AMENDMENTS.
The Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 TCC) is hereby amended to add the variety of rural density provisions from Chapter 17.15 TCC, update density sections in each zoning district to be consistent with the Shoreline Management Plan for the Thurston Region and title 18 Platting and Subdivision, and other matters properly related thereto as shown in Attachment F to this ordinance.

SECTION 8. ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE LACEY URBAN GROWTH AREA (TITLE 21) AMENDMENTS.
The Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area (Title 21 TCC) is hereby amended to add the density provisions from Chapter 17.15 TCC, update density sections, update exempt building sizes, and other matters properly related thereto as shown in Attachment G to this ordinance.
SECTION 9. OLYMPIA UGA ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS.
The Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance (Title 23 TCC) is hereby amended to add the density provisions from Chapter 17.15 TCC, update density sections, update exempt building sizes, and other matters properly related thereto as shown in Attachment H to this ordinance.

SECTION 10. THURSTON COUNTY CODE REFERENCE CHANGES.
The Thurston County Code is hereby amended as shown in Attachment I to this ordinance to add include changes to existing county code to address code cross references, incorporation of new terms and definitions to properly reflect the new critical areas ordinance (Title 24), the revised critical areas ordinance (Chapter 17.15), and department name changes.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or other portion of this resolution or its application to any person is, for any reason, declared invalid, illegal or unconstitutional in whole or in part by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction, said decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED:_____________________

ATTEST:_____________________

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Thurston County, Washington

___________________________
Clerk of the Board

___________________________
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JON TUNHEIM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

___________________________
Vice-Chair

___________________________
Jeffrey G. Fancher
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

___________________________
Commissioner
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance

Update

Attachment A:

Best Available Science and Information List

July 24, 2012

Board of County Commissioners
Best Available Science and Information List
Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance Update

July 24, 2012

The following documents represent a partial list of data and best available science. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, and may be added to in the future. This document is intended to provide an index of the science and data that was reviewed and utilized by the Thurston Board of County Commissioners, the Thurston County Planning Commission, and the Thurston County Planning Department in their development of the proposed critical areas ordinance update, from 2003 to present. It is important to note that some of the documents listed below are literature reviews. Literature reviews represent a collection of scientific research, and are intended to provide a summary or synthesis of a given field or topic of scientific study. Literature reviews typically incorporate information from numerous sources.

Because critical areas are often interconnected in the landscape, the scientific information that has been produced often has relevance across multiple categories of critical areas. Staff have attempted to list documents in each category in which they hold relevance, though it is possible that not all documents with relevance in more than one category have been listed as such. In instances where documents are listed in more than one category, a note has been inserted to inform the reader that the document is considered to provide valid information in more than one category of critical area.

The numbering of the documents below corresponds to the digital collection of best available science documents. Digital copies of documents have not been retained where a web URL has been provided below. Digital copies of the remaining documents on the list below are available at the Permit Assistance Center, Building 1, 2nd Floor of the Thurston County Courthouse, 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98502.

Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (through December 23, 2011)


   Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


   Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


64. Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. 2010. Recycled water white paper (Draft). Opportunities and limitations for recycled water use. Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District.


69. King County, Washington. 2004. Best available science – Volume I: A review of scientific literature. King County Executive Report. Critical areas, stormwater, and clearing and grading proposed ordinances. King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Development and Environmental Services, Department of Transportation.


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Wetlands section.


112. Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department, Environmental Health Division; and Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department, Water Resources Division. 2010. Thurston County water resources monitoring report. 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 water years.

113. Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department, Environmental Health Division. 2008. On-site sewage system management plan.

114. Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department, Environmental Health Division, Resource Protection Section; and Thurston County Department of Waste and Water Management. 2002. 2001 Deschutes groundwater inflow survey – Deschutes River, Thurston County, Washington.


Staff Note: This website includes various monitoring information and data on environmental conditions, including precipitation data and stream flows.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Staff Note: Mapping data and detailed information on each water quality listing can be accessed by clicking the hyperlinks under “Listing Detail” in this document.


Staff Note: This site allows users to access data for water bodies on Ecology’s impaired water quality (303(d)) list. Users can also access background information on required Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies.


Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (Added after December 23, 2011)


Geologic Hazards (through December 23, 2011)


Note: Document available in the Wetlands section.


**Geologic Hazards (added after December 23, 2011)**


Frequently Flooded Areas


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


of the National Flood Insurance Program in the State of Washington Phase One Document – Puget Sound Region.


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (through December 23, 2011)


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*

Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document also included in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Wetlands section.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Wetlands section.


Note: Document available in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas section.


Note: Document available in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas section.


Note: Document available in Wetlands section.

*Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


Note: Document available in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas section.


Note: Document available in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas section.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


*Note: Document available in Wetlands section.*


82. Thurston Conservation District, lead entity. Salmon habitat protection and restoration plan for Water Resource Inventory Area 13, Deschutes.


*Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.*


Note: Document available in Frequently Flooded Areas section.


Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section. Occurrence of priority species by county is available at: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/, by clicking on “Appendix 2: 2010 Species Distribution by County.”


Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section.


*Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section.*


*Note: To be used in conjunction with WDFW’s Priority Habitats and Species List, and the federal Endangered Species Act listings. This list is statewide – it does not break down animal occurrences by county.*


*Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section.*


*Note: Document available in Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies section.*


*Note: Document available in Geologic Hazards section.*


Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (added after December 23, 2011)


Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies (through December 23, 2011)


*Note: This book is a collection of the following (#32-55, all included in digital collection):*


34. Crawford, R.C., and H. Hall. Changes in the south Puget prairie landscape. 5 pp.

35. Davenport, R. Rocky Prairie restoration and native plant propagation project. 7 pp.


39. Gamon, J. Rare vascular plants of the south Puget Sound prairie landscape. 8 pp.


44. Lombardi, A. Food and medicine from the prairie: an ethnobotanical look at the historical use of south Puget Sound prairies. 5 pp.


47. Philpott, S. Exotic ladybird beetles in Washington prairies and their interactions with native ants. 7 pp.


51. Schmidt, I. Fort Lewis Integrated Training Area Management Program. 10 pp.


55. Wentworth, J.B. Castilleja levisecta, a threatened south Puget Sound prairie species. 5 pp.


72. Freed, S., C. Fimbel, and T. Zuchowski. 2005. The role of science in western gray squirrel enhancement in oak woodlands of south Puget Sound. The Nature Conservancy and Fort Lewis Public Works Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Fort Lewis, WA.


*Note: Staff are unable to provide a digital copy of this book.*


Attachment A


Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies (added after December 23, 2011)


Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: Prairies – Expert Opinion and Review

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**Wetlands (through December 23, 2011)**


**Wetlands (added after December 23, 2011)**

2012 Critical Areas Ordinance

Update

Attachment B:

Title 24 – Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance

July 24, 2012

Board of County Commissioners
Chapter 24.01

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sections:
24.01.005 General provisions – Short title.
24.01.010 General provisions – Purpose – Statement of policy for critical areas.
24.01.015 General provisions – Purpose – Statements for critical areas categories.
24.01.020 General provisions – Critical areas designated.
24.01.025 General provisions – Applicability of critical areas regulations.
24.01.030 General provisions – Interpretations.
24.01.035 General provisions – General requirements.
24.01.037 General provisions – Mitigation sequencing.
24.01.040 General provisions – Critical areas maps.
24.01.050 General provisions – Best available science.
24.01.055 General provisions – Discontinuation of agricultural uses/activities.

24.01.005 General provisions – Short title.

This title shall be known as the “Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.”

24.01.010 General provisions – Purpose – Statement of policy for critical areas.

These regulations are intended to:

A. Minimize loss of life, injury, and property damage due to natural hazards such as flooding, landslides, seismic events, and volcanic eruptions, minimize the need for emergency rescue, and avoid the cost of replacing public facilities;

B. Identify and protect the functions and values of unique, fragile, and vulnerable elements of the environment such as fish and wildlife habitats, wetlands, and other ecosystems;

C. Maintain water quality and quantity to meet human and wildlife needs;

D. Recognize and address cumulative adverse impacts that could degrade or deplete water resources, wetlands or fish and wildlife habitat, or exacerbate flooding and landslide hazards;

E. Alert the public to the development limitations and hazards associated with critical areas;

F. Protect critical areas, associated buffers designed to protect the functions of critical areas, and their functions and values while allowing reasonable use of property by: directing activities not essential in such areas to other locations; providing for review of proposed uses and activities on properties containing critical areas or their buffers to achieve
compliance with standards designed to minimize impacts to critical areas and associated buffers; and providing for mitigation of unavoidable impacts;

G. Establish enforcement tools and processes designed to deter activities in violation of this chapter and provide for remedial action for unauthorized impacts to critical areas and their buffers;

H. Implement the Washington State Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), including consideration of best available science in the designation, protection, and management of critical areas, with special consideration for the protection of anadromous fish; and

I. Carry out the goals and policies of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan.

24.01.015 General provisions – Purpose – Statements for critical areas categories.

A specific purpose statement also begins each of the critical areas categories.

24.01.020 General provisions – Critical areas designated.

To carry out the purposes of this title and the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), the following critical areas further described in this title shall be designated in the unincorporated territory of Thurston County:

A. Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas;

B. Geologic Hazards;

C. Frequently Flooded Areas;

D. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas; and

E. Wetlands.

24.01.025 General provisions – Applicability of critical areas regulations.

The provisions of this title for regulating critical areas shall apply to all land, all water areas and all structures, and all uses irrespective of lot lines in the unincorporated territory of Thurston County, Washington, except for agricultural activities. Agricultural activities meeting the requirements of TCC 17.15.110 shall be regulated by chapter 17.15 TCC.

24.01.030 General provisions – Interpretations.

For the purposes of this title, certain words and terms shall be interpreted as follows:

A. The director shall review and resolve any questions involving the proper interpretation or application of the provisions of this title that may be requested by any property owner,
tenant, government officer, department, or other person affected. The director’s decision shall be in keeping with the intent of this title, the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan, the Growth Management Act, and other applicable federal, state and county regulations.

B. Recognizing that there may be uses not specifically mentioned in this title, either because of advancing technology or any other reason, the director may permit or condition such use if it is clearly evident that the use is consistent with the listed principal uses permitted in the critical area in which it is to be located. The decision by the director shall be in writing, published on the county’s web page, and can be appealed in accordance with this title.

C. When interpreting and applying the regulations of this code, its provisions shall be the minimum requirements, unless otherwise stated.

D. Where conflicts occur between the provisions of this title or between this title and other regulations, the more protective of critical areas shall apply except as otherwise provided for in this title. When conflicts occur between meeting minimum land use densities and the provisions of this title, the provisions of this title shall apply. The county may waive minimum density requirements to protect critical areas, as determined by the director.

E. When the exact location of a critical area or buffer is in doubt, or where there appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions, County personnel shall determine the correct boundary. The approval authority may also require submittal of a report by a qualified professional, at the applicant’s expense, as needed to make such determinations. The approval authority may, at the applicant’s expense, require a third party review of a report. The approval authority shall determine the third party reviewer.

F. In the event that a boundary on an official county critical areas map depicting critical areas conflicts with the application of the text of this chapter, the text shall control.

G. Words used in the present tense can include the future; words used in the masculine gender can include the feminine and neuter; words in the singular number can include the plural; and words in the plural can include the singular, unless obvious construction of the wording indicates otherwise.

H. The inclusion of the words “must” and “shall” in a regulation indicates the requirement is mandatory.

I. Unless otherwise specified, all distances shall be measured horizontally and at right angles to the line from which the distance is specified.

J. Unless otherwise specified, the term “day” shall mean calendar day.
K. The word "used" shall be deemed to also include "designed, intended, or arranged to be used"; the term "erected" shall be deemed also to include "constructed, reconstructed, altered, placed or relocated."

L. The terms "land use" and "use of land" shall be deemed also to include the building use and use of building.

M. The terms "Board of Thurston County Commissioners," "planning commission," "hearing examiner," "Resource Stewardship Director," "health officer," "building officer," "building inspector" and other similar officers shall mean the respective boards, commissions, and officers of Thurston County and/or their authorized agents. The use of the term "board" or "Board" shall always mean the Board of Thurston County Commissioners. The use of the terms "planning commission" or "Planning Commission" shall always mean the Thurston County Planning Commission. The use of the terms "examiner" or "hearing examiner" shall always mean the Thurston County Hearings Examiner. The term "director" shall always mean the Resource Stewardship Director or designee.

24.01.035 General provisions – General requirements.

A. Avoid Impacts. All uses and activities on sites containing critical areas and/or associated buffers or riparian or marine shoreline management zones shall be located, designed and constructed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize all adverse impacts to critical areas, associated buffers designed to protect the functions of critical areas, and management zones. The County shall not authorize impacts to critical areas or buffers unless the applicant demonstrates an inability to avoid impacts and that there will be no net loss of critical area functions as required in Subsection B. Impacts to critical areas and associated buffers that cannot be avoided shall be minimized by sensitive site design and appropriate precautions during the permitted activity and as specifically provided for in this title.

B. No Net Loss of Critical Area Functions. Uses and activities carried out pursuant to this title shall result in equivalent or, if the applicant chooses, greater critical area functions. Impacts to critical areas, and associated buffers designed to protect the functions of critical areas, shall be repaired or mitigated through restoration, replacement, enhancement, or through purchase of credits at a mitigation bank consistent with the applicable provisions of this title.

C. Monitoring. In addition to the specific monitoring requirements in this title, the approval authority may require that permitted uses and mitigation projects be reviewed at appropriate intervals as necessary to ensure that they are functioning consistent with the project approval and applicable provisions of this title. The approval authority may require remedial action as warranted to correct problems identified during monitoring to
avoid degradation of critical areas and associated buffers designed to protect the functions of critical areas, and to ensure that any required mitigation is successful.

D. Access to enable administration. Property owners shall grant access to the County, or designee, for the purpose of inspecting sites proposed for development and performing monitoring required pursuant to this title. County personnel shall present proper credentials and make a reasonable effort to contact the property owner before entering onto private property.

E. Forestry. As required by state law, forestry and associated development subject to County approval under chapter 17.25 TCC, Thurston County Forest Lands Conversion Ordinance, are subject to the provisions of this chapter. In the event that any provision of this chapter conflicts with state Forest Practices regulations, the County shall apply the more restrictive provision to uses subject to chapter 17.25 TCC.

F. Property Assessment Relief. The Thurston County Assessor shall consider the restrictions on property use imposed pursuant to this title, particularly on conservation areas and critical area tracts, when determining the fair market value of land.

G. Construction Setbacks. Construction activity must occur outside of the critical area and associated buffer unless specifically authorized pursuant to this title. Structures or uses requiring a permit shall be set back a minimum of fifteen feet from wetland buffers, riparian habitat areas, marine buffers, important habitat buffers, priority species conservation areas, and landslide hazards area buffers unless the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the proposed construction activity will not encroach into the protected area. Structures and uses not requiring a building permit are required to observe the setbacks and other requirements of this title.

24.01.037 General provisions – Mitigation sequencing.
Mitigation actions associated with development proposals impacting critical areas shall adhere to the following mitigation sequence:

A. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;

B. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, by using appropriate technology, or by taking affirmative steps to avoid or reduce impacts;

C. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;

D. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action;
E. Compensating for the impact by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources or environments; and/or

F. Monitoring the impact and taking appropriate corrective measures.

24.01.040  General provisions – Critical areas maps.
A. Official Maps. The Resource Stewardship Department Director, or designee, shall maintain the official critical areas maps.

B. Maps Submitted by Applicants. Applicants shall submit required maps delineating critical areas and/or associated buffers in a digital format acceptable to the County to enable incorporation of the data in the official critical areas maps.

C. Map Omissions. The presence of critical areas or associated buffers on a parcel triggers the requirements of this chapter, regardless of whether or not a critical area or buffer is depicted on an official critical areas map.

24.01.050  General provisions – Best available science.
A. The Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) requires jurisdictions to consider the best available science in developing policies and development regulations to designate and protect critical areas. Best available science guidance criteria are located in WAC 365-195-900 through 365-195-925, as amended, which have been incorporated in the definition for best available science in this title (chapter 24.03 TCC).

B. Thurston County has considered and included best available science in developing this title. This has been achieved through research and consultation with experts, including state and federal agencies. Relevant nonscientific information, including legal, social, policy, economic, and land use issues has also been considered. The use of nonscientific information reflects the county’s responsibility to balance the goals of the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), and the need to address local circumstances. The county shall also use its authority under the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21C) to identify, consider, and mitigate where appropriate, significant adverse effects on critical areas not otherwise addressed by this title.

24.01.055  General provisions – Discontinuation of agricultural uses/activities.
The following shall apply to lands that were not considered agricultural lands prior to July 24, 2012, but subsequently became agricultural lands:

A. The critical area provisions of this title shall apply to new uses when the land use changes from an agricultural activity meeting the requirements of TCC 17.15.110 to a nonagricultural activity;

B. Any critical areas that were on the property prior to the agricultural activity shall be restored to the condition that the critical areas were in prior to the establishment of the agricultural activity; and

C. If restoration is not possible, onsite or offsite mitigation may be required.
Chapter 24.03

DEFINITIONS

Sections:
24.03 Definitions.

24.03 Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply to this chapter:

“Accessory structure” means a structure detached from the principal building located on the same lot and customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal building. Any part of the main building which shares a common wall and roof is considered a part of that building. A building or portion thereof attached to a primary structure by a covered breezeway is not considered attached.

“Accessory use” means a use of land or a portion thereof customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal use of the land and located on the same lot with the principal use.

“Accessory use, residential” means an accessory use to a primary residence as defined in this chapter, including but not limited to keeping household pets, private pools, docks, boathouses, detached accessory structures, private green houses, and agriculture or gardening for personal consumption which is secondary to the use of the property as a residence, including no employees.

“Adjacent” means nearby and not necessarily contiguous.

“Adjoins” means sharing a common boundary of sufficient width to maintain vehicular access.

"Agricultural building" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agricultural equipment" and "agricultural facilities" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agricultural ditch maintenance" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agricultural products" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agricultural, wetland conversion" please see TCC17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agriculture" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

"Agriculture, existing and ongoing" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.
“Alteration, structure” means change to, addition to, or modification of an existing physical structure beyond routine repair and maintenance but not amounting to complete replacement. This includes changes to the supporting members of a building such as bare walls, columns, beams, floor joists, roof joists, girders, rafters, or changes in roof or exterior building footprint. An alteration also includes activity that requires a building permit. The cost of an alteration shall not exceed fifty percent of the structure’s current market value as determined by an accredited appraisal or the Assessor’s valuation, at the owner’s option. The value shall be determined based on the value of the structure either before the repair, maintenance, alteration, or expansion is started, or if the structure has been damaged, and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

“Alteration, use” means change to, addition to, or modification of an existing use, including any human activity that results or is likely to result in an adverse impact upon the existing condition of a critical area or its buffer. “Alteration” does not include passive recreation such as walking, fishing or similar low impact activities.

“Anadromous fish” means fish that hatch and rear, to some extent, in freshwater, migrate to marine waters to feed and mature, then return to freshwater to spawn. Examples include salmon, steelhead trout, sea-run cutthroat trout, sea-run Dolly Varden, sea-run bull trout, and Pacific and river lamprey.

"Animal unit" please see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

“Applicant” means any person, business entity, or a government agency which applies for a development proposal, permit or approval subject to review under this chapter.

“Approval authority” means the director of the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department, or his/her designee, for administrative permits or the hearings examiner for proposals as shown in chapter 24.05 TCC.

“Aquatic noxious weeds” means aquatic plants on the state noxious weed list as prescribed by RCW 17.10.010.

“Aquatic plants” means beneficial plants and noxious weeds that occur within the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of state waters.

“(Nitrate) Assimilative capacity” means the difference between the nitrate water quality standard of 10.0 mg/l and the site background nitrate concentration. Maximum contaminant levels for drinking water are defined by chapter 246-290 WAC.

“Bankfull depth” means the average vertical distance between the channel bed and the estimated water surface elevation required to completely fill the channel to a point above which water would enter the flood plain or intersect a terrace or hillslope. In cases where multiple channels exist, the bankfull depth is the average depth of all channels along the cross-section.
“Bankfull width” means:

(a) For streams - the measurement of the lateral extent of the water surface elevation perpendicular to the channel at bankfull depth. In cases where multiple channels exist, bankfull width is the sum of the individual channel widths along the cross-section;

(b) For lakes, ponds, and impoundments - line of mean high water.

(c) For tidal water - line of mean high tide.

(d) For periodically inundated areas of associated wetlands - line of periodic inundation, which will be found by examining the edge of inundation to ascertain where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland.

“Base flood elevation (BFE)” means the flood elevation as indicated on any of the following:

(a) Thurston County Flood Insurance Rate Map prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), supplemented by the current Flood Insurance Study for Thurston County; or

(b) The Thurston County High Ground Water Hazard Area Resource Map on file with the Resource Stewardship Department or recognized by a detailed Thurston County groundwater study; or

(c) The highest known recorded flood elevation.

If there is more than one base elevation listed, the County shall utilize whichever elevation is greater.

“Beneficial use” means the use of solid waste as an ingredient in a manufacturing process, or as an effective substitute for natural or commercial products, in a manner that does not pose a threat to human health or the environment. Avoidance of processing or disposal cost alone does not constitute beneficial use.

“Best available science” means scientific information applicable to this title that is prepared by local, state or federal natural resource agencies, scientifically based peer reviewed literature, a qualified scientific professional or a team of qualified scientific professionals, that is consistent with the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) and the criteria established in the Washington Administrative Code regarding best available science (WAC 365-195-900 through 365-195-925, as amended) to implement the Growth Management Act.

“Best management practices (BMPs)” means conservation practices or systems of practices and management measures that:

(a) Control soil loss and reduce water quality degradation caused by high concentrations of nutrients, animal waste, toxics, or sediment;

(b) Minimize adverse impacts to surface water and groundwater flow and circulation patterns and to the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of a critical area;
(c) Protect trees, vegetation and soils designated to be retained during and after site construction and use native plant species appropriate to the site for re-vegetation of disturbed areas; and

(d) Provide standards for property use of chemical herbicides within critical areas.

“Best management practices (BMPs), agricultural” see TCC 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

“Bioengineering” Bioengineering” means use of plant materials, particularly native plants, that have root systems that stabilize the soil and are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions; and large woody debris, designed to stabilize eroding stream channels and banks, marine shorelines, or slopes. Bioengineering may contain limited structural elements for anchoring such as rock.

“Biosolids” means municipal sewage sludge that is a primarily organic, semisolid product resulting from the waste-water treatment process, that can be beneficially recycled and meets all requirements under chapter 173-308 WAC, and other applicable provisions of the Thurston County Code, as amended. Biosolids includes a material derived from biosolids, and septic tank sludge, also known as septage, that can be beneficially recycled and meets all applicable requirements under chapter 173-308 WAC, as amended.

“Buffer, critical area” means that area which surrounds and protects the functions and values of critical areas from adverse impacts, minimizes public safety risks, and/or which may provide wildlife habitat integrally related to the critical area. See also “Riparian habitat area”.

“Building” means any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy. The word building includes the word structure and the word structure includes the word building.

“Building footprint” means the area delineated by the outer edge of the foundation.

“Bulkhead” means walls or structures constructed parallel to the shoreline whose primary purpose is to retain the slope or prevent the erosion of soil due to wave action.

“Channel migration zone” means the area where the active channel of a stream is prone to move, resulting in a potential near-term loss of riparian function and associated habitat adjacent to the stream, except as modified by a permanent levee or dike. For this purpose, near-term means the time scale required to grow a mature forest; those areas within the lateral extent of likely stream channel movement that are subject to risk due to stream bank destabilization, rapid stream incision, stream bank erosion, and shifts in the location of stream channels.

“Channel migration hazard area – 100 year” means a portion of the channel migration zone, including the present channel, that equals one hundred times the average annual channel migration rate, plus the present channel width.

“Chemical storage” means the storage of chemicals within an enclosed container or structure.
“Coastal High Hazard Area” means an area of special flood hazard extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources. The area is designated on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) as Zone V1-30, VE or V.

“Composting” means the biological degradation and transformation of organic solid waste under controlled conditions designed to promote aerobic decomposition. Natural decay of organic solid waste under uncontrolled conditions is not composting.

“Composting facility” means all contiguous land (including buffer zones) and structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land used for composting. This does not include home composting.

“Conservation Area” means an easement or area shown on a lot or plat that contains one or more types of critical areas, but may not itself constitute a separate lot.

“Conservation easement” means a limited protective easement granted to Thurston County or a nonprofit entity (e.g., Land Trust) to enable the county to protect a critical area and associated buffer from use and development that is inconsistent with this title.

“Construction period” means the period during which all construction related activities are initiated and completed, including but not limited to, clearing, grading, building, finishing and landscaping.

“Contaminants of emerging concern (CECs)” means substances present in water or soils, for which environmental or health standards have not been established. These are often generally referred to as “contaminants of emerging concern” because the risk to human health and the environment associated with their presence, frequency of occurrence, or source may not be known. These substances are known to include endocrine disrupting chemicals, perfluorinated compounds, and pharmaceuticals and personal care products. Contaminants of emerging concern may also be referred to as “constituents of emerging concern”, “compounds of emerging concern” or “chemicals of emerging concern”.

“Contamination” means the presence in the outdoor atmosphere, ground, or water of any substances, contaminants, noise, or man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, or radiological integrity of air or water, in quantities or at levels which are or may be potentially harmful or injurious to human health or welfare, animal, or plant life, or property, or unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of life or property.

“County” means the county of Thurston, state of Washington, unless otherwise specified by this title.

“County boundary” means the exterior boundary of the county.

“Contiguous” See “adjoins”.

“Critical aquifer recharge area” means an area with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, including areas where an aquifer that is a source of drinking water is vulnerable to contamination that would affect the potability of the water, or is susceptible to reduced recharge.
“Critical area tract” means an area containing a critical area owned in common by the owners of separate lots within a development proposal, and/or a conservation easement or lot.

“Critical areas” means the following areas, as per RCW 36.70A:
1. Critical aquifer recharge areas;
2. Geologic hazard areas;
3. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas;
4. Flood and channel migration hazard areas and
5. Wetlands.

“Critical facilities” means those facilities which are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters, or which pose a high risk to the public if damaged (e.g. dams), or which are necessary for emergency (e.g., earthquake, flood, etc.) operations or are listed as category III or IV in the International building code. Refer to Table 24.15-2 for a current list of “Critical Facilities for Thurston County.”

“Crown cover” means the area covered by tree crowns.

“Danger tree” See “Hazard tree”.

“Department” or department means the “Resource Stewardship Department” unless otherwise specified in this title.

"Development" means any human-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, clearing, paving, excavation or drilling operations, storage of equipment or materials, or any other activity which results in the removal of vegetation or in the alteration of natural site characteristics.

“Development proposal” means any of the activities relating to the use and/or development of land requiring a permit or approval from Thurston County as described in this chapter.

“Development proposal site” means the legal boundaries of the parcel or parcels on which an applicant has applied for authority from Thurston County to carry out a development proposal.

“Dispersion” means the release of surface and stormwater runoff from a drainage facility system such that the flow spreads over a wide area and is located so as not to allow flow to concentrate anywhere upstream of a drainage channel with erodible underlying granular soils.

“Drainage district” means an active drainage district as provided in chapters 85.06 and 85.38 RCW. Active drainage districts in Thurston County include, but are not limited to, Chambers Lake, Hopkins Creek (i.e. Hopkins Ditch), and Scott Lake.

“Dripline” means the area defined by the outermost circumference of a tree canopy.

“Dry cleaner facility” means an establishment which launders or dry cleans articles dropped off on the premises directly by the customer, but excluding facilities where articles are dropped off, sorted, and picked up but where laundering or cleaning is done elsewhere.
“Duff layer” means the matted, friable, partly decomposed, organic surface layer of forested soils. This term is used to identify a generally firm organic layer on the surface of mineral soils. It consists of fallen plant material that is in the process of decomposition and includes everything from the litter on the surface to underlying pure humus.

“Emergency” means an unanticipated and immediate threat to public health, safety or the environment which requires immediate action within a time period too short to allow submission and review of an application in compliance with this chapter.

“Enhancement” means an action which improves the functions of a stream, wetland, or other wildlife habitat.

“Erosion hazard areas” means land characterized by soil types that are subject to severe erosion when disturbed. These include, but are not limited to, those identified by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service Soil Classification System, with a water erosion hazard of “severe” or “high” (See Table 24.15-3, Erosion Soils of Thurston County). These areas may not be highly erodible until or unless the soil is disturbed by activities such as clearing or grading.

“Exotic” means any species of plants or animals not indigenous to Thurston County.

“Expansion” means alteration of a structure beyond the existing building footprint, or the alteration of a use beyond the existing use area. Also see definition of “Alteration”.

“Expansion, vertical” Refer to definition of “Alteration”.

“Federal” means the federal government of the United States.

“Federally designated endangered and threatened species” means those fish and wildlife species identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that are in danger of extinction or threatened to become endangered.

“Fill” means a deposit or redistribution of any earth, vegetation, debris or other materials within a one-hundred-year floodplain; or within an important habitat, lake, pond, stream, or wetland; and their associated buffers as described in this chapter. Large woody debris or other native materials approved as a part of a habitat restoration project shall not be considered fill.

“Fish and wildlife habitat conservation” means land management for maintaining populations of species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution so that the habitat available is sufficient to support viable populations over the long term and isolated subpopulations are not created. This does not mean maintaining all individuals of all species at all times, but it does mean not degrading or reducing populations or habitats so that they are no longer viable over the long term.

"Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas" are areas that serve a critical role in sustaining needed habitats and species for the functional integrity of the ecosystem, and which, if altered, may reduce the likelihood that the species will persist over the long term. These areas may include, but are not limited to, rare or vulnerable ecological systems, communities, and habitat or habitat elements
including seasonal ranges, breeding habitat, winter range, and movement corridors; and areas with high relative population density or species richness. These also include locally important habitats and species.

Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas that must be considered for classification and designation include:

A. Areas where endangered, threatened, and sensitive species have a primary association;
B. Habitats and species of local importance, as determined locally;
C. Commercial and recreational shellfish areas;
D. Kelp and eelgrass beds; herring, smelt, and other forage fish spawning areas;
E. Naturally occurring ponds under twenty acres and their submerged aquatic beds that provide fish or wildlife habitat;
F. Waters of the state;
G. Lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers planted with game fish by a governmental or tribal entity;

H. State natural area preserves, natural resource conservation areas, and state wildlife areas; and
I. Any other habitat areas as defined by WAC 365-190-130, as amended.

“Fish hatcheries” mean those structures, ponds and on-site improvements used for the propagation and rearing of various types of fin-fish but does not include egg boxes, egg tubes or other similar fisheries enhancement activities undertaken within the stream channel.

"Flood" or "Flooding" means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from: the overflow of inland or tidal waters and/or the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source.

“Floodplain, one hundred-year,” “one hundred-year floodplain” or “flood hazard areas” means those lands which are subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any year. (Refer to Figures 11 and 12 located at the end of this chapter.)

“Floodway” means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.

“Flood protection facility” or “flow control facility” means those physical structural works which have been constructed specifically to modify flooding in order to reduce the extent of the areas within a community subject to flooding and the extent of the depths of associated flooding. Such a system typically includes dams, reservoirs, levees, or dikes.

“Forest, mature” means a stand of trees that have developed for ninety years or longer.

“Forest, old growth” means a stand of trees that have developed for one hundred fifty years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams.
“Forest practices” means any activity conducted on or impacting forest land. This may include, but is not limited to:

1. Road and trail construction;
2. Harvesting, final and intermediate;
3. Precommercial thinning;
4. Reforestation;
5. Fertilization;
6. Prevention and suppression of diseases and insects;
7. Salvage of trees; and
8. Brush control.

Forest practices shall not include preparatory work such as tree marking, surveying and road flagging; or removal or harvest of incidental vegetation from forest lands such as berries, ferns, greenery, mistletoe, herbs, mushrooms and other products which cannot normally be expected to result in damage to forest soils, timber or public resources.

“Frequently flooded areas” means lands in the flood plain subject to at least a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year or areas within the highest known recorded flood elevation, or within areas subject to flooding due to high ground water. This includes all areas within unincorporated Thurston County identified on Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by the Federal Insurance Administration, as supplemented by “The Flood Insurance Study for Thurston County,” dated November 17, 1980, as amended. (These maps and the referenced report shall be on file with the department at the Thurston County Permit Assistance Center). Frequently flooded areas may include special flood hazard areas as defined in chapter 14.38 TCC or high ground water flood hazard areas, where high ground water forms ponds on the ground surface, or may overlap with other critical areas, such as streams, rivers, lakes, coastal areas, and wetlands.

“Functions and values,” or “functions” means the beneficial roles served by critical areas. For example, functions and values associated with wetlands include: water quality protection and enhancement, fish and wildlife habitat, food chain support, flood storage, conveyance and attenuation, groundwater recharge and discharge, erosion control, wave attenuation, aesthetic value and recreation.

“Gardening for personal consumption” means the production of typical garden crops (e.g. fruits, vegetables and herbs) that are not intended for retail sale. Generally, personal gardens are no larger than 2,000 square feet and do not require clearing of habitat areas or buffers.

“Geologic hazard areas” means those areas that because of their susceptibility to erosion, landsliding, earthquake, volcanic lahar, liquefaction or other geological events, are not suited to siting commercial, residential or industrial development consistent with public health or safety concerns.

“Geologist” means a person who has earned a degree in geology from an accredited college or university, or a person who has equivalent educational training and has experience as a practicing geologist, licensed in the State of Washington.
“Geotechnical engineer” means a practicing, geotechnical/civil engineer licensed as a professional
civil engineer with the state of Washington who has at least four years of professional employment
pertaining to the field of geotechnical engineering.

"Geotechnical professional" means a person with experience and training in analyzing, evaluating,
and mitigating any of the following: landslide, erosion, seismic, volcanic and/or mine hazards, or
hydrogeology, fluvial geomorphology and river dynamics. A geotechnical professional shall be
licensed in the State of Washington as an engineering geologist or professional engineer. In
accordance with WAC 308-15-140 and 196-27-020, engineering geologists and professional
engineers shall affix their signatures or seals only to plans or documents dealing with subject matter
in which they are qualified by training or experience.

“Grading” means any excavating or filling of soil, or removal of the duff layer, or any combination
thereof.

“Habitats of local importance” means those habitats designated as locally important by Thurston
County. These may include a seasonal range or habitat element with which a given species has a
primary association, and which, if altered, may reduce the likelihood that the species will maintain
and reproduce over the long-term. These might include areas of high relative density or species
richness, breeding habitat, winter range, and movement corridors. These might also include habitats
that are of limited availability or high vulnerability to alteration. Also see “Species of local
importance.”

“Hazardous materials” means those substances, debris and waste which are a physical or health
hazard, chemical substances that are ignitable, corrosive, reactive or toxic, consistent with chapter
173-303 WAC and the International Fire Code (2009), as amended, including chemicals listed in
WAC 173-303-9903 as “P” chemicals.

“Hazard tree” or “danger tree” means a tree with a high probability of falling due to a debilitating
disease, a structural defect, a root ball more than fifty percent exposed, or having been exposed to
wind throw within the past ten years, and where there is a residence or residential accessory
structure within a tree length of the base of the trunk, or where the top of a bluff or steep slope is
endangered. Where not immediately apparent to the review authority, the danger tree determination
shall be made after review of a report prepared by an arborist certified in Washington State.

“Health officer” means that person of the Thurston County health department described as such in
chapter 70.05 RCW or his/her duly authorized representative.

“High ground water flood hazard areas” means an area where flooding occurs as a result of
subsurface geologic conditions that prevent recharging water from moving downward or laterally as
fast as it enters the ground water system. The result is a rise in the ground water table and
accumulation of surfacing ground water, typically intermixed with stormwater that cannot infiltrate,
at low points on the ground’s surface. Such ponding may persist over protracted periods of time.

“Home composting” means composting of wastes generated on site, and incidental materials
beneficial to the composting process, by the owner or person in control of a single-family residence,
or for a dwelling that houses two to five families, such as a duplex or clustered dwellings.
“Hydric soil” means a soil that is saturated, flooded or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part of the soil column. The presence of hydric soil shall be determined following the methods described in the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987, as amended), with “Washington Regional Guidance on the 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual” (1994, as amended). A list of “Hydric Soils of Thurston County” is contained in Table 24.30-5.

“Hydrologic regime” means the distribution over time of water in a watershed, among precipitation, evaporation, soil moisture, groundwater storage, surface storage, and runoff.

“Impervious surface” means pavement (compacted gravel, asphalt and concrete), roofs, revetments, or any other human-made surface which substantially impedes the infiltration of precipitation and other surface water that had entered the soil under natural conditions prior to development; and/or that hard surface area that causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from that present under natural conditions prior to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to: rooftops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel roads, and packed earthen materials.

“Important habitats”, “important species” or “important habitats and species” means those federal, state priority habitats and species and those local habitats and species recognized as such by this title. Also see “Fish and wildlife habitat conservation.”

“Important marine habitats” means marine shorelines of statewide significance and marine shorelines of the state (see chapter 90.58 RCW and related rules) consistent with WAC 173-26-221(2)(iii)(A). It also applies to marine areas supporting kelp and eelgrass beds; herring spawning areas; intertidal areas supporting surf smelt and sand lance spawning, salmonids, and shellfish beds sustaining commercial or recreational harvest, including shellfish protection districts established pursuant to chapter 90.72 RCW.

“Integrated pest management (IPM)” means an approach to pest and vegetation control that utilizes regular monitoring to determine if and when treatments are needed. The approach emphasizes physical, mechanical, cultural, and biological tactics to keep pest numbers or vegetation problems low enough to prevent intolerable damage, annoyance, or public safety hazards. When chemical controls are necessary, they will be the least toxic available and will be used only when no other control methods would be effective or practical. Components for integrated pest management programs are established in the Thurston County Pest and Vegetation Management Policy.

“Intensification” means to alter the character of a use to the extent that the use generates new or greater impacts on the critical area and/or any associated buffers.

“Intensive use” means land uses that involve use or storage of hazardous materials or would generate excessive nutrients, sediments, or pollutants on property containing critical areas and/or buffers.

“Intermediate Stability (I)” means slopes that are generally steeper than 15 percent except where conditions such as weaker material and/or abundant groundwater exist. Identified areas include
slopes of sand and gravel, till, or thin soils over bedrock which have no known failures. (Source: Coastal Zone Atlas of Washington, Volume 8 Thurston County (1980)).

"Invasive species" means nonnative organisms that cause economic or environmental harm and are capable of spreading to new areas of the state. "Invasive species" does not include domestic livestock, intentionally planted agronomic crops, or non-harmful exotic organisms.

“Lahar” means a flowing mixture of water-saturated debris that moves downslope under the force of gravity. Debris flows consist of material varying in size from clay to blocks several tens of meters in maximum dimension. When moving, they resemble masses of wet concrete and tend to flow downslope along channels or stream valleys. Debris flows are formed when loose masses of unconsolidated wet debris become unstable. Water may be supplied by rainfall or by melting of snow or ice. Debris flows may be formed directly if lava or pyroclastic flows are erupted onto ice or snow. Debris flows may be either hot or cold, depending on their manner of origin and temperature of their constituent debris.

“Lake” means a naturally existing or artificially created body of standing water twenty acres or larger in size. Lakes include reservoirs which exist on a year-round basis and occur in a depression of land or expanded part of a stream. A lake is bounded by the ordinary high water mark or the extension of the elevation of the lake’s ordinary high water mark within the stream, where the stream enters the lake. All lakes meet the criteria of chapter 90.58 RCW (Shoreline Management Act) and have been inventoried as “Shorelines of the State” under the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, and chapter 19.04 TCC.

“Landslide” means episodic downslope movement of a mass of soil or rock that includes but is not limited to rockfalls, slumps, mudflows, earthflows and snow avalanches.

“Landslide hazard areas” means those areas which are potentially subject to risk of landslide due to a combination of geologic, topographic, and/or hydrologic factors; and where the vertical height is fifteen feet or more, excluding those wholly manmade slopes created under the design and inspection of a geotechnical professional. The following areas, at a minimum, are considered to be subject to landslide hazards:

A. Any area with a combination of:
   1. Slopes of fifteen percent or steeper, and
   2. Impermeable subsurface material (typically silt and clay), frequently interbedded with granular soils (predominantly sand and gravel), and
   3. Springs or seeping groundwater during the wet season;

B. Slopes of forty percent or greater;

C. Any areas located on a landslide feature which has shown movement during the Holocene Epoch (post glacial) or which is underlain by mass wastage debris from that period of time;

D. Known hazard areas, such as areas of historic failures, including areas of unstable, old and recent landslides.
E. Breaks between landslide hazard areas shall be considered part of the landslide hazard area under the following condition: The length of the break is twice the height or less than the height of the slope below or above the break, whichever is greater; and the combined height is fifteen feet or more. When this condition is present, the upper and lower landslide hazard areas and the break shall be combined into one landslide hazard area.

“Large woody debris” means fallen trees and limbs with a minimum diameter of four inches and a minimum length of six feet that protrude or lay within a stream channel. These materials can include whole trees with a rootwad and limbs attached or portions of trees with or without rootwad or limbs.

“Legal lot” means a lot that meets the criteria for a legal lot in title 18 TCC, Platting and Subdivisions. The word “lot” includes the word “plot.”

“Liquefaction” means a phenomenon in which strong earthquake shaking causes a soil to rapidly lose its strength and behave like quicksand. Liquefaction typically occurs in artificial fills and in areas of loose sandy soils that are saturated with water, such as low-lying coastal areas, lakeshores, and river valleys.

“Maintenance” See “Repair and maintenance”.

“Mass wasting” means one of several processes by which a large mass of rock or earth material is moved down slope by gravity.

“Marine bluff” means all the shorelines of Puget Sound, excluding the Nisqually Delta which extends from Luhr Beach easterly to the center of the Nisqually River.

“Marine bluff hazard area” means the following:

A. Those marine bluffs which have a vertical height of fifteen feet or more, including the upland area which lies within two hundred feet of the top of the marine bluff; or

B. Those marine bluffs mapped as “unstable” (U), “unstable recent landslide” (URS), unstable old landslide” (UOS) or “intermediate stability” (I) on the maps of the Coastal Zone Atlas of Washington; Volume 8 Thurston County (1980), including the upland area which lies within two hundred feet of the top of the marine bluff; provided that bluffs less than fifteen feet high and determined stable on an individual parcel basis by the approval authority may be excluded.

C. Known hazard areas, such as areas of historic failures or areas with active bluff retreat that exhibit continuing sloughing of bluff sediments resulting in a steep bluff face.

D. Breaks between marine bluff hazard areas shall be considered part of the marine bluff hazard area under the following condition: The length of the break is twice the height, or less, than the height of the slope below or above the break, whichever is greater, and the combined height is fifteen feet or more. When this condition is present, the upper
and lower marine bluff hazard areas and the break shall be combined into one marine 
bluff hazard area.

E. Any other marine area that does not meet the criteria above may still be considered a 
landslide hazard area.

"Maximum contaminant level (MCL)" means the maximum concentration of a contaminant in water 
specified in WAC 246-290 and WAC 173-200, as amended.

“Methods of prevention and control” (MPCs) means reasonable methods of prevention and control. 
Examples of MPCs include, but are not limited to, pollution prevention plan development and 
implementation, routine maintenance, secondary containment, and measures to eliminate 
containment pathways to the source water.

“Minerals” include gravel, sand, and valuable metallic substances.

“Mine hazard areas” means those areas directly underlain by, adjacent to, or directly affected by 
mine workings such as adits (mine entrances), gangways (tunnels), drafts or air shafts.

“Mitigation bank” means a program to implement mitigation at a subwatershed or watershed scale 
and provide opportunities to provide larger, better habitat in advance of impacts. Mitigation banking 
involves the generation of “credits” through restoring, creating, and/or enhancing habitats. These 
credits can then be sold to permit applicants who need to offset the adverse impacts of projects that 
would occur within the “service area” of the bank. Wetland mitigation is regulated by Chapter 90.84 
RCW. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also offer 
guidance.

“Mitigation” or “compensatory mitigation” means replacing project-induced critical area losses or 
impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, restoration, creation or enhancement.

“Mitigation, wetland creation (establishment)” means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or 
biological characteristics present to develop a wetland on an upland or deepwater site where a 
wetland did not previously exist. Establishment results in a gain in wetland acres. Activities 
typically involve excavation of upland soils to elevations that will produce a wetland hydroperiod, 
create hydric soils, and support the growth of hydrophytic plant species.

“Mitigation, enhancement” means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological 
characteristics of a critical area to heighten, intensify, or improve specific function(s) or to change 
the growth stage or composition of the vegetation present. Enhancement is undertaken for specified 
purposes such as water quality improvement, flood water retention, or wildlife habitat. 
Enhancement results in a change in some critical area functions and can lead to a decline in other 
functions, but does not result in a gain in critical area acreage. Activities typically consist of 
planting vegetation, controlling non-native or invasive species, modifying site elevations or the 
proportion of open water to influence hydroperiods, or some combination of these activities.

“Mitigation, wetland protection/maintenance (preservation)” means removing a threat to, or 
preventing the decline of, wetland conditions by an action in or near a wetland. This includes the 
purchase of land or easements, repairing water control structures or fences, or structural protection
such as repairing a barrier island. This term also includes activities commonly associated with the term “preservation”. Preservation does not result in a gain of wetland acres, may result in a gain in functions, and will be used only in exceptional circumstances.

“Mitigation, re-establishment” means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former critical area. Re-establishment results in a gain in critical area acreage (and functions). Activities could include removing fill material, plugging ditches, or breaking drain tiles.

“Mitigation, rehabilitation” means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural or historic functions of a degraded wetland or other critical area. Rehabilitation results in a gain in critical area function but does not result in a gain in critical area acreage. Activities could involve breaching a dike to reconnect wetlands to a floodplain or returning tidal influence to a wetland.

“Mitigation, restoration” means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former or degraded wetland or other critical area. For the purpose of tracking net gains in wetland acres, restoration is divided into re-establishment and rehabilitation.

“Mitigation, in-kind” or “in-kind mitigation” means to replace wetlands, other critical areas, associated buffers and their functions with substituted critical areas/buffers whose characteristics closely approximate those destroyed or degraded by an allowable use or activity.

“Mitigation, out-of-kind” or “out-of-kind mitigation” means to replace a critical area, associated buffer and their functions with a substitute critical area and buffer whose characteristics do not closely approximate those destroyed or degraded by an allowable use or activity. It does not refer to replacement out-of-category.

“Mitigation, off-site” or “off-site mitigation” means to replace a critical area, buffer and their functions away from the site on which a critical area has been impacted by an allowable use or activity.

“Mitigation, project” means actions necessary to replace project-induced losses to the functions of a critical area, including land acquisition, planning, construction plans, monitoring and contingency actions.

“Mitigation sequencing” Refer to TCC 24.01.037.

“Monitoring” means the collection and analysis of data by various methods for the purposes of understanding and documenting changes in natural ecosystems and features, and includes gathering baseline data, evaluating the impacts of development proposals on the biological, hydrologic and geologic elements of such systems and assessing the performance of required mitigation measures.

“No development zone (NDZ)” means an area extending fifty feet, measured on a horizontal plane, from the outer edge of the high ground water hazard area or extending to a ground elevation two feet (vertically) above the base flood elevation, whichever is less. No development is allowed in the NDZ.
“No Net Loss” means that permitted uses in critical areas shall be designed and conducted in a manner consistent with WAC 197-11-768 to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate, in so far as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the critical area. It may also encompass restoration of ecological functions necessary to sustain critical areas.

The concept of "net" as used herein, recognizes that any development has potential or actual, short-term or long-term impacts and that through application of appropriate development standards and employment of mitigation measures in accordance with the mitigation sequence, those impacts will be addressed in a manner necessary to assure that the end result will not diminish the critical area resources and functions as they currently exist.

“Nonconforming structure” means a building or a portion thereof, which was lawfully erected, altered or maintained prior to the adoption of this chapter, but because of the application of this chapter, does not conform to the provisions of this chapter.

“Nonconforming use” means an activity that was lawfully established prior to the adoption of this chapter, but because of the application of this chapter does not conform to the provisions of this chapter.

“Normal residential appurtenances” means those improvements or structures which are connected to the use and enjoyment of the single-family residence and are located landward of the ordinary high-water mark and includes a garage, deck, driveway and utilities.

“Noxious weed" means a plant that when established is highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control by cultural or chemical practices. See “Noxious Weed Control.”

“Noxious weed control” means those activities subject to review or action by the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board to control noxious weeds. The Noxious Weed Control Board is authorized to carry out noxious weed control under chapter 17.10 RCW, Noxious Weed Control Board Act, and adopts rules and regulations regarding the listing and control of noxious weeds consistent with chapter 16-750 WAC and chapter 17.10 RCW.

"Prior converted croplands” please see section 17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms, as amended.

“Oak habitat” means stands of Oregon white oak (Quercus garryana) or Oregon white oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component of the stand is twenty-five percent (25%) or more; or where total canopy coverage of the stand is less than twenty-five percent (25%), but oak accounts for at least fifty percent (50%) of the canopy coverage. The latter is often referred to as oak savanna. Oak habitat includes oak savannas and oak woodlands.

“Oak savanna” means an Oak Habitat with a community of widely spaced Oregon white oak trees (Quercus garryana) where total canopy coverage is less than twenty-five percent (25%) but where Oregon white oak accounts for at least fifty percent (50%) of the canopy coverage above a layer of native prairie grasses and forbs. The spacing of these trees is widely scattered so that there is no closed canopy and groups of trees. In degraded habitat, trees may be more widely spaced above a layer of non-native vegetation on developed property.
“Oak woodlands” means those stands of Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) or Oregon white oak/conifer associations where the crown cover of the Oregon white oak component of the stand is greater than or equal to twenty-five percent (25%). In degraded habitat, the Oregon white oak component of the stand may be less than twenty-five percent (25%), or the canopy coverage may be less than fifty percent (50%).

“Open space” means lands which are in a natural or underdeveloped character because they have not been developed with structures, paving or other appurtenances. Open space lands can refer to parks; recreation areas; conservation easements; critical area buffers, and/or critical area tracts.

“Ordinary high water mark” means the mark on all lakes, streams and tidal waters which is found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland; provided, that in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

“Permanent roof structure for deck or patio” means a legally permitted roof structure that, if enclosed, would create habitable living space in compliance with the Thurston County Building Code. This does not include canvas awnings or free-standing gazebo structures.

“Permitted use” see “Use, permitted or allowed”.

“Pier” means a structure generally built from the shore extending out over the water to provide moorage for commercial or private recreation water craft or float planes or for water-oriented recreation use. When such a structure is serving ten or more boats it is considered a marina. It may be either anchored and floating or permanently fixed to pilings.

“Pollution prevention plan” means a site-specific plan that addresses the avoidance of unplanned chemical release in the air, water, or land. It is based on deliberate waste management planning, site design, and operational practices.

“Pond” means a naturally existing or artificially created body of standing water less than twenty acres in size and not defined as “Shorelines of the State” by chapter 90.58 RCW (Shoreline Management Act) or as a wetland under this title. Ponds can include reservoirs which exist on a year-round basis and occur in a depression of land or expanded part of a stream, but shall exclude stormwater or agricultural stock ponds within the Nisqually or long-term agricultural districts. A pond is bounded by the ordinary high water mark or the extension of the elevation of the pond’s ordinary high water mark within the stream, where the stream enters the pond.

“Prairie” or “Westside Prairie,” means herbaceous, non-forested (forested means greater than or equal to 60% forest canopy cover) plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie where soils are well-drained or a wet prairie. In parts of the Puget Trough, prairies can sometimes be recognized by mounded topography commonly referred to as Mima Mounds. Mima Mounds are a unique geologic feature of prairie habitat in Thurston County.
“Prairie, Dry” means prairies located in areas containing prairie vegetation. Although dry prairie can occur on other soils, typically it occurs on any one of the soils known to be associated with prairie (Table 24.25-6). Locations occurring on mapped prairie soils where the surface is impervious is not considered dry prairie. Certain vegetation characteristics typify dry prairie. These include the occurrence of diagnostic grasses, sedges, and forbs. Mosses, lichens, and bare ground may also be found in the spaces between grass and forbs cover.

The presence of certain diagnostic plants is required to establish an occurrence of dry prairie. In particular, three of the diagnostic grasses, sedges, or forbs (Table 24.25-8) are required to establish the presence of dry prairie.

Shrubs such as black hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*), kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), and oval-leaf viburnum (*Viburnum ellipticum*) can be found at low densities within dry prairies. Some Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) can also be present in native prairie (see Oak Habitat).

Native and nonnative invasive plants typically dominate most remaining prairie. Common invasive species are Scot’s broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), colonial bentgrass (*Agrostis tenuis*), common velvetgrass (*Holcus lanatus*), tall oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*). Douglas fir is also considered an invasive species with respect to prairie habitat. Other invasive grasses, forbs, and shrubs also may be present.

Marginal or fair condition areas may be dominated by non-native species with several native prairie species present (e.g. from Tables 24.25-7 and 8) or with a significant cover of native prairie species. Areas dominated by invasive species, such as Scot’s broom (non-native shrub), can be restorable to prairie if they have native prairie species in the understory. Such marginal and restorable areas may have significant value if they are large in area, located close to prairies, or in a landscape that connects two or more prairies.

“Prairie, Wet” means prairies located in areas containing prairie vegetation. Although wet prairie can occur on other soils, typically it occurs on any one of the soils where the surface topology and the groundwater table approach each other, and where local aquifers are present. Locations occurring on mapped prairie soils where the surface is impervious is not considered wet prairie. Wet prairies in the Puget Trough generally are found on glacial outwash soils that typically are limited to swales or low-gradient riparian areas. Three diagnostic grasses, sedges, or forbs from a combination of the wet prairie diagnostic species list (Table 24.25-7) and the dry prairie diagnostic species list (Table 24.25-8) are required to establish the presence of wet prairie.

Areas dominated by invasive species, such as Scot’s broom (non-native shrub), can be restorable to prairie if they have native prairie species in the understory.

“Primary association” means the use of a habitat area by a listed or priority species for breeding/spawning, rearing young, nesting, roosting, feeding, foraging, and/or migrating on a frequent and/or regular basis during the appropriate season(s) as well as habitats that are used less frequently/regularly but which provide for essential life cycle functions such as breeding/nesting/spawning.

“Primary structure” means the structure in which the primary use of a given lot is conducted, as distinguished from a secondary or accessory structure.
“Primary use” means the principal or predominant use of any lot, building or structure.

“Prior converted croplands” means wetlands that before December 23, 1985, were drained, dredged, filled, leveled, or otherwise manipulated including the removal of woody vegetation, for the purpose, or to have the effect, of making the production of an agricultural commodity possible and an agricultural commodity has been produced at least once before December 23, 1985. This determination is made by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

“Priority habitat, state” or “state priority habitat” means a seasonal range or habitat element, so identified by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, with which a given species has a primary association, or habitat types or elements with unique or significant value to a diverse assemblage of species, and which, if altered, may reduce the likelihood that the species will maintain and reproduce over the long term. These might include areas of high relative diversity or species richness, breeding habitat, and winter range and movement corridors. These might also include habitats that are of limited availability or high vulnerability to alteration. A priority habitat may consist of a unique vegetation type or dominant plant species, a described successional stage, or a specific structural element. Priority habitats and species are identified by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife.

A priority habitat may be described by a unique vegetation type or by a dominant plant species that is of primary importance to fish and wildlife (such as oak woodlands or eelgrass meadows or beds). A priority habitat may also be described by a successional stage (such as, old growth and mature forests). Alternatively, a priority habitat may consist of a specific habitat element (such as a consolidated marine/estuarine shoreline, talus slopes, caves, snags) of key value to fish and wildlife. A priority habitat may contain priority and/or non-priority fish and wildlife.

“Priority species, state” or “state priority species” means those species that are so identified by the Washington Department of Wildlife due to their population status and their sensitivity to habitat manipulation. Priority species include those which are state-listed endangered, threatened and sensitive and candidate species; animal aggregations considered vulnerable; vulnerable species of recreational, commercial or tribal importance; as well as other species of concern and game species.

“Priority species conservation area” means the areas containing a documented priority species location and the associated buffer established pursuant to this chapter.

"Project area or boundary" means the geographic limits or the outer extent of the site to be altered or impacted by proposed development.

“Public agency” means any agency, political subdivision or unit of local government of this state including but not limited to municipal corporations, special purpose districts, and local service districts; any agency of the state of Washington, the United States or any state thereof; or any Indian tribe recognized as such by the federal government.

“Public facilities” means the buildings, streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational facilities, and schools or uses of land whether owned or leased, operated by a public
agency for such purposes as providing places for public assembly and recreation, operating services of benefit to the public or for the administration of public affairs.

“Public project of significant importance” means a project funded by a public agency, department or jurisdiction which is found to be of compelling interest to the citizens of Thurston County. The Thurston County board of commissioners may only declare a project as such in a resolution after a public hearing.

“Public services” mean fire protection and suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental protection and other governmental services.

“Public use” means any area, building or structure held, used or controlled exclusively for public purposes by any department or branch of any government, without reference to the ownership of the building or structure or of the land upon which it is situated.

“Public utility” means a business or service, either governmental or having appropriate approval from the state, which is engaged in regularly supplying the public with some commodity or service which is of public consequence and need such as electricity, gas, water, transportation or communications.

“Ravine” means a narrow gorge containing steep slopes and deeper than fifteen vertical feet as measured from the centerline of the ravine to the top of the slope. Refer to Figure 13.


“Reclaimed water” means water derived in any part from wastewater with a domestic wastewater component that has been treated for use in beneficial purposes, such as irrigation, industrial processes, landscaping, or aquifer recharge.

“Recreation, active” means leisure-time activities, usually of a formal nature and often performed with others, requiring equipment and taking place at prescribed places, sites, or fields. The term “active recreation” includes, but is not limited to, swimming, tennis, and other court games, baseball, soccer and other field sports, and playground activities.

“Recreation, passive” means low intensity recreation activities which have limited noise and light impacts and are minimally disruptive to the natural environment. For the purposes of this title, “passive recreation” includes, but is not limited to, walking, hiking, canoeing, viewing, nature study, photography, fishing and hunting.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is: built on a single chassis, 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection, designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and designed primarily as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. Recreational vehicles are not for use as permanent dwellings.

“Reference wetland” means, in the context of compensatory mitigation, a wetland chosen to represent the functions and characteristics that are being created, restored, or enhanced at the “mitigation” site. A reference wetland can be used for monitoring the success of the mitigation project. Reference wetlands, in the context of methods for assessing wetland functions, mean the
sites chosen to represent the full range of functioning in a region or hydrogeomorphic class. Data collected at these sites are used to calibrate the methods.

“Repair and maintenance” means those activities associated with the routine care and upkeep of a structure, development, land use or activity.

“Replacement” or “total replacement” of a structure involves the removal of more than fifty percent of the lineal footage of existing exterior ground floor walls and the cost of repairs exceeds fifty percent of the structure’s current market value as determined by an accredited appraisal or the Assessor’s valuation, at the owner’s option. The value shall be determined based the value of the structure either before the repair, maintenance, alternation, or expansion is started, or if the structure has been damaged, and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

“Restoration” means the return of a critical area to a state in which its functions approach its unaltered state as closely as possible.

“Restricted development zone (RDZ)” means an area extending from the outer edge of the No Development Zone to a ground elevation two feet (vertically) above the base flood elevation.

“Retaining wall” means a wall or structure constructed to hold or prevent the sliding of soil. Such a wall or structure located along the shoreline or the ordinary high water mark is referred to as a “bulkhead.”

“Review area” means the area surrounding or adjacent to a point location of a species of concern, or other critical area or buffer in which proposed activities are reviewed to determine what, if any, impacts may occur to the critical area, or what hazard(s) the critical area may pose to the proposed activity. A project located in a review area does not necessarily require submission of any detailed critical area reports. The review area is not a buffer; it allows the approval authority to look beyond the immediate area or proposed impact to assess the project on a larger scale.

“Right-of-way” means an area dedicated to public use for pedestrian and vehicular movement, which may also accommodate public utilities.

“Riparian habitat areas” are areas that include both freshwater and marine riparian habitat areas.

“Riparian habitat areas, freshwater” are areas adjacent to streams containing elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that mutually influence each other. The width of these areas extends to that portion of the terrestrial landscape that directly influences the aquatic ecosystem by providing shade, fine or large woody material, nutrients, organic and inorganic debris, terrestrial insects, or habitat for riparian-associated wildlife. For the purposes of these regulations, riparian habitat areas are as specified in chapter 24.25 TCC.

“Riparian habitat areas, marine” means areas adjacent to marine waters containing elements of both marine and terrestrial ecosystems that mutually influence each other. The width of these areas extends to that portion of the terrestrial landscape that directly influences the marine ecosystem by providing shade, fine or large woody material, nutrients, organic and inorganic debris, terrestrial insects, or habitat for riparian-associated wildlife. For the purposes of these regulations, riparian habitat areas are as specified in chapter 24.25 TCC.
“Riparian management zone” means an area established along the outer boundary of freshwater and marine riparian habitat areas, as specified in this title. Uses and activities within riparian management zones shall be conducted in a manner and/or restricted as necessary to minimize adverse impacts to riparian, freshwater and/or marine habitat.

“Salmonid” means a member of the fish family salmonidae. In Thurston County these include chinook, coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon, rainbow, steelhead, cutthroat trout, brown trout, bull trout (char), Brook trout (char), Dolly Varden char, kokanee and whitefish.

“Seismic hazard areas” means the following:

A. Those areas subject to severe risk of damage as a result of earthquake induced ground shaking, slope failure, surface faulting, settlement or soil liquefaction, such as artificial fill areas, and areas underlain by glaciolacustrine deposits and/or glacial outwash; or

B. Those areas mapped as having a liquefaction susceptibility of high, moderate to high, or low to moderate on the Liquefaction Susceptibility Map of Thurston County, Washington, published by Washington Department of Natural Resource (September 2004).

“Sewage system” means a system designed to transport, process and/or treat urine, feces, and the water carrying human wastes, including kitchen, bath, and laundry wastes from residences, buildings, industrial establishments or other places. For the purposes of this title, "sewage" is generally synonymous with domestic wastewater.

"Sewage system, on-site" means an integrated system of components located on or nearby the property it serves, that conveys, stores, treats, and/or provides subsurface soil treatment and dispersal of sewage. It consists of a collection system, a treatment component or treatment sequence, and a soil dispersal component. An on-site sewage system also refers to a holding tank sewage system or other system that does not have a soil dispersal component.

“Sewage system, large on-site” means an on-site sewage system as defined in chapter 246-272B WAC as a large on-site sewage system or LOSS. This is an on-site sewage system with design flows of three thousand five hundred gallons per day up to and including one hundred thousand gallons per day.

“Site plan review” means a development review permit described in chapter 20.37 TCC.

“Sludge” means any solid, semisolid, or liquid waste generated from a municipal, commercial, or industrial processing, manufacturing, or wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, excluding the treated effluent from a wastewater treatment plant.

“Solid waste” means all rotting or decaying (putrescible) and non-rotting or non-decaying (nonputrescible) solid, semisolid, and liquid wastes, including, but not limited to, garbage, rubbish, yard debris, ashes, industrial wastes, contaminated soils, dredge spoils, swill, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, wood waste, sludge, dangerous waste, moderate risk waste, recyclable materials, and discarded commodities.
“Special management areas” means those geographic areas of Thurston County which contain a unique combination of physical features and require a special set of management techniques specifically designed for that area, or where the uniqueness of the area demands an even greater degree of environmental protection.

“Species of local importance” means those species that may not be endangered or threatened from a statewide perspective, but are of local concern due to their population status or their sensitivity to habitat manipulation and have been designated as such. Also see “Habitats of local importance.”

“Species, point location” means generally, but not limited to, an individual occurrence, breeding location, communal roost or marine mammal haul out site for a state priority species.

“Species of concern” includes, but is not limited to, species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act as threatened or endangered, candidate species for federal listing, priority species identified on the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species List, anadromous fish, and species of local importance.

“Stair tower” means a structure twelve feet or taller in height, typically consisting of one or more flights of stairs, usually with landings to pass from one level to another.

“Stairway” means one or more flights of stairs, usually with landings to pass from one level to another.

“Stand (of trees)” means a group of more than three trees in closed-canopy configuration, considered a homogenous unit for management purposes.

“State” means the state of Washington.

“State designated endangered, threatened, and sensitive species” are those fish, wildlife, and plant species native to the state of Washington identified by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the state Department of Natural Resources, that are in danger of extinction, threatened to become endangered, vulnerable, or declining and are likely to become endangered or threatened in a significant portion of their range within the state without cooperative management or removal of threats. State designated endangered, threatened, and sensitive species are periodically recorded in WAC 232-12-014 (state endangered species), and WAC 232-12-011 (state threatened and sensitive species), as amended. Vulnerable plant species are recorded by the Department of Natural Resources’ Natural Heritage Program, per chapter 352-28 WAC, and the state Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains the most current fish and wildlife listings. These agencies should be consulted as necessary for current listing status.

“Steep slope” means an area which is equal to or in excess of forty percent slope and where there is a vertical height of at least fifteen feet.

“Storage tank, hazardous materials” means above- or underground tanks and vaults for the storage of hazardous materials, animal wastes, fertilizers, or hazardous/dangerous waste, as defined in chapter 173-303 WAC.
“Storage tank, nonhazardous materials” means above- or underground tanks and vaults for the storage of materials not referenced in “storage tank, hazardous materials”.

“Stormwater” means water originating from rainfall and other precipitation that is found in drainage facilities, rivers, streams, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes, and wetlands as well as shallow ground water.

“Stormwater, private retention/detention facility” means a type of drainage facility designed either to hold water for a considerable length of time and then release it by evaporation, plant transpiration and/or infiltration into the ground; or to hold runoff for a short period of time and then release it to the surface and stormwater management system.

“Stormwater, regional retention/detention facility” means a surface water control structure constructed by Thurston County to correct excess surface water runoff problems of a basin or sub-basin. The area downstream of the facility must have been identified by the director of the water and waste management department previously as having significant, regional basin flooding and/or water quality problems. The facility must be listed as a Thurston County capital improvement project.

“Stormwater, temporary sediment control pond” means a pond used to improve water quality by allowing sediments to settle out of stormwater prior to discharge to a stream, wetland or other conveyance.

“Stream segment” means that portion of a stream which lies between road crossings of a public right-of-way.

“Streams” means those areas of Thurston County where surface waters flow sufficiently to produce a defined channel or bed. A “defined channel or bed” is an area which demonstrates clear evidence of the passage of water and includes but is not limited to bedrock channels, gravel beds, sand and silt beds and defined-channel swales. The channel or bed need not contain water year-round. This definition is not meant to include irrigation ditches, canals, storm or surface water runoff devices or other entirely artificial watercourses unless they are used by salmon or used to convey streams naturally occurring prior to construction.

“Stream and water body types" means as follows:

1. Type S waters include all aquatic areas inventoried as "shorelines of the state", in accordance with chapter 90.58 RCW, including segments of streams where the mean annual flow is more than twenty cubic feet per second, marine shorelines and lakes twenty acres in size or greater.
2. Type F waters include all segments of aquatic areas that are not type S waters and that contain fish or fish habitat including waters diverted for use by a federal, state or tribal fish hatchery from the point of diversion for one-thousand five-hundred feet or the entire tributary if the tributary is highly significant for protection of downstream water quality.
3. Type N waters include all segments of aquatic areas that are not type S or F waters and that are physically connected by an above-ground channel system, stream or wetland to type S or F waters.
“Structural mitigation plan” means a design for any site structures or building engineering submitted specifically to mitigate the influence of a landslide. An engineer licensed to practice in the State of Washington shall prepare the plan. Said engineer will be designated the design professional in responsible charge as per International Building Code 106.3.4. The design professional in responsible charge shall conduct special inspections and provide written reports to the building official on the installation of those engineered elements.

"Structure" means that which is built or constructed. The term "structure" shall be construed as though followed by the words "or parts thereof”.

“Structure, threatened” means a structure to be protected from streambank, slope or bluff erosion and where through a geotechnical report it has been determined that the documented erosion rates over the past 30-50 years show that a structure will be harmed within a three year timeframe. An additional hazard assessment process by the geotechnical expert may be included to ensure that the structure is not exposed to landslide hazards potentially not captured in the erosion rate methodology. If the erosion rate and additional hazard assessment suggest that harm will likely occur to the structure within a three-year timeframe then the property is deemed “threatened”.

“Structures to be protected” means structures considered for protection from erosion or failing slopes, including: primary parcel structures (includes commercial, industrial or residential), accessory dwelling units, septic systems, public roads, public infrastructure such as pipes or utilities, and private driveways/roads where relocation is not feasible. Structures not protected are: stairs, trails to the beach, bathhouses, detached deck/patios, fences, sheds, trees, landscaping, and any structures threatened by self-created hardship.

“Submerged lands” means those areas below the ordinary high-water mark of marine waters or rivers and which are defined as a “shoreline of the state” by chapter 90.58 RCW (Shoreline Management Act).

“Substantial development permit” or “shoreline substantial development permit” means a permit issued subject to the provisions of the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, and chapter 19.04.

“Sub-watershed” means the areas within a watershed draining to one or more major tributaries of the mainstem steam, such as the Deschutes or Nisqually River.

“TCC” means Thurston County Code.

“Thermobaric” means deeper, older waters stored at depth. They are warmer and higher in dissolved solids due to longer water-rock contact times and geothermal gradient.

“Title” means the “Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance” unless otherwise specified in the text.

“Toe of slope” means a distinct topographic break in slope at the lower-most limit of the landslide or marine bluff hazard area. The following areas qualify as toe of slope:
A. A distinct topographic break in slope which separates slopes inclined less than forty percent from slopes equal to or greater than forty percent. Where no distinct break exists, this point shall be the lower most limit of the area where the ground surface drops ten feet or more vertically within a horizontal distance of twenty-five feet;

B. A distinct topographic break in slope which separates slopes inclined less than fifteen percent from slopes equal to fifteen to thirty-nine percent, when the slope also meets the criteria found in section A of the landslide hazard area definition in this chapter; or

C. For marine bluffs, the toe means the ordinary high water mark except where there has been a landslide of upland materials which now rests on the beach. In this case, the toe shall be the point on the undisturbed slope which would be defined as the ordinary high water mark if not for the landslide.

D. A distinct topographic break in slope, as determined by the geotechnical assessment.

“Top of slope” means a distinct topographic break in slope at the upper most limit of the landslide or marine bluff hazard area. The following areas qualify as top of slope:

A. A distinct topographic break in slope which separates slopes inclined less than forty percent from slopes equal to or greater than forty percent. Where no distinct break exists, this point shall be the upper most limit of the area where the ground surface drops ten feet or more vertically within a horizontal distance of twenty-five feet;

B. A distinct topographic break in slope which separates slopes inclined less than fifteen percent from slopes equal to fifteen to thirty-nine percent, when the slope also meets the criteria found in section A of the landslide hazard area definition in this chapter; or

C. A distinct topographic break in slope, as determined by the geotechnical assessment.

“Underground injection well, Class II” means a well used to inject fluids (a) Brought to the surface in connection with natural gas storage operations, or conventional oil or natural gas production. It may be mixed with wastewaters from gas plants that are an integral part of production operations, unless those waters are classified as hazardous wastes at the time of injection; (b) For enhanced recovery of oil or natural gas; or (c) For storage of hydrocarbons that are liquid at standard temperature and pressure. Reference chapter 173-218 WAC, as amended.

“Unstable (U)” means slopes that are generally steep and considered unstable because the geology, groundwater, or wave erosion factors are critical and/or the slopes show evidence of present or past landsliding. Unstable areas include landslides and talus too small or obscure to be individually mapped (Source: Coastal Zone Atlas of Washington, Volume 8 Thurston County (1980)).

“Unstable Old Slide (Uos)” means post-glacial but prehistoric landslide areas (Source: Coastal Zone Atlas of Washington, Volume 8 Thurston County (1980)).

“Unstable Recent Landslide (Urs)” means recent or historically active landslide areas. [Note that Urs designation is based on investigations carried out in the late 1970s; subsequent landsliding is
not reflected on the Coastal Zone Atlas maps] (Source: Coastal Zone Atlas of Washington, Volume 8 Thurston County (1980)).

“Use area” means the portion of property physically occupied or used by the land use activity.

“Use, permitted or allowed” means any authorized use allowed alone or in conjunction with other uses by this title in a specified critical area or its buffer and subject to the regulations of the specified critical area or its buffer. Nothing in this definition shall be construed to relieve any person of the obligation to obtain other permits required by other applicable regulations or laws.

“Utility” means water, electric and natural gas distribution, sewer and stormwater collection, cable communications, telephone utility, and related activities.

"Utilities" means enterprises or facilities serving the public by means of an integrated system of collection, transmission, distribution, and processing facilities through more or less permanent physical connections between the plant of the serving entity and the premises of the customer. Included are systems for the delivery of natural gas, electricity, telecommunications services, and water and for the disposal of sewage.

“Utility corridor” means rights-of-way or easements for utility lines on either publicly or privately owned property.

"Utility line" means pipe, conduit, cable, or other similar facility by which services are conveyed to the public or individual recipients. Such services shall include but are not limited to water supply, electric power, gas, communications, and sanitary sewers.

“Vadose zone” means the zone between land surface and the capillary fringe within which the moisture content is less than saturation and pressure is less than atmospheric. Soil pore spaces also typically contain air or other gases. The capillary fringe is not included in the unsaturated zone.

“Vegetation, hydrophytic” or “hydrophytic vegetation” means macrophytic plant life growing in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content. The presence of hydrophytic vegetation shall be determined following the methods described in the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987) with “Washington Regional Guidance on the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual” (1994).

“Vegetation management-aquatic weeds” means the removal or control of submerged or floating-leaved plants in lakes, ponds or rivers which are regulated by any state agency, including but not limited to: aquatic herbicide applications regulated under chapter 90.48 RCW (chapter 173-201 WAC, Short-Term Modifications to Water Quality Standards); mechanical or physical control measures such as mechanical harvesting or bottom barriers regulated under the Hydraulic Code (RCW 77.55.100 and 77.55.110); grass carp planting regulated under chapter 232-12 WAC; and dredging or other; mechanical means of removing aquatic plants regulated under chapter 90.58 RCW (Shoreline Master Act), the Shoreline Master Program, as amended, and other regulations.

“Vegetated filter strip” means a section of vegetation, typically 30-50 feet in width, that contains plants that form a rough surface capable of filtering sediment, pollutants, and nutrients.
“Vegetation, native” or “native vegetative” means vegetation or plant species which are indigenous to the area or habitat in question.

“Volcanic hazard areas” means those areas subject to pyroclastic flows, lava flows and inundation by debris flows, mud flows or related flooding resulting from geologic or volcanic events of Mount Rainier, as mapped by United States Geological Survey Open File Report 98-428. The boundaries on these maps are approximately located, and areas outside of the boundaries should not be regarded as hazard-free.

“Volume equivalent” means the number of unit volumes of sewage that will be discharged to the ground from on-site sewage systems per day, where a unit volume of sewage is the daily flow of sewage from a single-family residence or mobile home park site. A volume equivalent is equal to 450 gallons of sewage per day for other types of development.

“Wellhead protection area, designated” means the surface and subsurface area surrounding a water well or well field, through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach such well or well field within one, five and ten years, respectively. Wellhead protection areas are critical aquifer recharge areas, and subject to the requirements of this title. For Group A water systems, the wellhead protection area shall be the wellhead protection area identified in the approved water system plan, prepared according to the requirements of chapter 246-290 WAC, or an equivalent area accepted by the health officer. For Group B (3-14 service connections) and smaller water systems, the wellhead protection area shall be the well sanitary control area or other designated area approved by the health officer.

“WAC” means Washington Administrative Code.

“Water body types”. See “stream and water body types.”

“Wetland" or "wetlands" means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, and other areas meeting the definition of wetland under RCW 36.70A.030, as amended. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland areas in order to mitigate conversion of natural wetlands. Areas below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of a water body, including but not limited to marine waters, lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers, may also qualify as wetlands if they meet the criteria of the 1987 US Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and the 2008 Interim Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region.

“Wetland edge” or “wetland boundary” means the line delineating the outer edge of a wetland established consistent with the provisions of this title.
“Wetland Rating System for Western Washington” means the most recently approved version of the Washington State Department of Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.

“Wetland specialist” or “wetland scientist” means a person with experience and training in wetland issues and with experience in performing delineations, analyzing wetland functions and values, analyzing wetland impacts, and recommending wetland mitigation and restoration. Qualifications include: (1) Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree in biology, botany, environmental studies, fisheries, soil science, wildlife, agriculture, or related field, and two years of related work experience, including a minimum of one year experience delineating wetlands using Army Corps of Engineers methodology and preparing wetland reports and mitigation plans. Additional education may substitute for one year of related work experience; or (2) four years of related work experience and training, with a minimum of two years experience delineating wetlands using the Unified Federal Manual and preparing wetland reports and mitigation plans. The person should be familiar with the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands, Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual 1987 edition and corresponding guidance letters, March 1997 Washington State Wetlands Identification and Delineation Manual, Washington State Wetlands Rating System for Western Washington, as amended.

“Wildlife blind” means a structure no larger than fifty square feet used for the observation or hunting of wildlife.

“Wood products preserving and treating” means the application of chemicals to wood products to increase their durability and resistance to destruction by insects, fungus and/or decay. This shall not include typical residential applications.
Chapter 24.05

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Sections:
24.05.005 Administrative procedures – General purposes.
24.05.010 Administrative procedures – Application types and classification.
24.05.020 Administrative procedures – Application review procedures and public notice requirements.
24.05.022 Administrative procedures – Third party review.
24.05.025 Administrative procedures – Critical area approval authority and review processes.
24.05.027 Administrative procedures – Critical area review process.
24.05.030 Administrative procedures – Coordination with other application reviews.
24.05.040 Administrative procedures – Preshidden conference.
24.05.050 Administrative procedures – Appeals.
24.05.060 Administrative procedures – Code interpretations.
24.05.070 Administrative procedures – Critical area determinations.
24.05.080 Administrative procedures – Submittal requirements – Critical area review permit.
24.05.090 Administrative procedures – Submittal requirements – Reasonable use exception.
24.05.100 Administrative procedures – Recordation – Critical areas on property – Notice.
24.05.110 Administrative procedures – Fees.

24.05.005 Administrative procedures – General purposes.
It is the policy of Thurston County to accomplish the following:

A. To review developments which lie within a critical area, which includes its buffer;

B. To minimize the delays associated with multiple development reviews; and

C. To assist property owners in developing their property consistent with this title by promoting the use of innovative land use techniques to protect critical areas.

24.05.010 Administrative procedures – Application types and classification.
Applications for review of permit types or actions listed in Table 24.05-1 TCC shall be subject to a Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type IV review process. The application types are classified as follows:

A. A Type I process involves 1) an application that is subject to clear, objective and nondiscretionary standards or standards that require the exercise of professional judgement about technical issues, and 2) that is exempt from State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review.
B. A Type II process involves an application that is subject to objective and subjective standards which require the exercise of limited discretion about nontechnical issues and about which there may be limited public interest.

C. A Type III process involves an application that is subject to standards which require the exercise of substantial discretion and about which there may be broad public interest.

D. A Type IV process involves the adoption or amendment of critical areas policies or regulations. It also includes critical areas analysis that would be required for a site-specific comprehensive plan or zoning amendment.

24.05.020 Administrative procedures – Application review procedures and public notice requirements.

A. Applications for permits or approvals listed in Table 24.05-1 TCC shall be subject to the review procedures and public notice requirements specified below:

1. Type I review procedure – Ministerial Decision. The review procedure for a Type I review process shall follow the procedure specified in TCC 20.60.020(1), except that critical areas map amendments shall follow the procedure and notice requirements in TCC 24.91.030.

2. Type II review procedure – Administrative Decision. The review procedure and public notice requirements for a Type II review process shall follow the procedure and public notice requirements specified in TCC 20.60.020(2).

3. Type III review procedure – Quasi-Judicial Decision. The review procedure and public notice requirements for a Type III review process shall follow the procedure and public notice requirements specified in TCC 20.60.020(3).

4. Type IV review procedure – Legislative Decision. The review procedure and public notice requirements for a Type IV review process shall follow the procedure and public notice requirements specified in chapter 24.91 TCC.

B. In addition to the requirements of TCC 24.05.020 (A) above, the director may reject all or part of an application and supporting information, including any required special report, based upon:

1. Any factual errors or omissions; or

2. Inconsistencies between the submitted materials and observable data, and/or accepted scientific or technical criteria; or

3. Faulty analysis, faulty analytical procedures, or other findings made through the review of the proposal that support rejection.
24.05.022 Administrative procedures – Third party review.

A. The purposes of third party review are to protect critical areas, maintain public safety, protect public health and property, and to ensure that the nature and extent of critical areas and any associated buffers are correctly determined.

B. The county shall attempt to resolve any issues with the original author(s) or applicant before requiring third party review.

C. The approval authority may, at the applicant’s expense, require a third party review of any submission if there is reason to determine that:

1. The submission contains factual errors, omissions, or incomplete analysis; or

2. Inconsistencies exist between the submitted materials and observable data, and/or accepted scientific or technical criteria; or

3. The submission contains faulty analysis, faulty analytical procedures, substantive differences of interpretation of submitted data or analysis, or other findings made through the review of the proposal that support commissioning third party review; or

4. Specialized expertise is required for adequate review of a proposal.

D. The approval authority shall select the third party reviewer.

24.05.025 Administrative procedures – Critical area approval authority and review processes.

A. The approval authority for the various types of permits and actions involved in the administration of this title are shown in Table 24.05-1 TCC.

B. In making a decision under Table 24.05-1 TCC, the approval authority may approve, approve with conditions, or deny proposed uses and activities consistent with the applicable provisions of this title. The county shall issue a decision for each application involving a critical area, associated buffer, or riparian area in accordance with the applicable review process in TCC 24.05.020 and the sections of this title applicable to each decision.

C. Decisions by the hearing examiner shall conform to chapter 2.06 TCC.

24.05.027 Administrative procedures – Critical area review process.

The sequence of review related to critical areas and associated buffers generally is as follows:

A. County site visit. When a critical area screening tool or other source of information indicate the possible presence of a critical area or associated buffer on a subject property,
the director shall visit the site to verify what critical areas or associated buffers may exist on site. Depending on the type of critical area being evaluated, the size of the parcel, the nature of surrounding development, and the level of degradation or development already existing on site, the director may be able to determine that no jurisdictional critical area exists on the subject property, or that the proposed activity will not impact the functions of any critical areas or associated buffers on site.

B. Professional survey. If the director determines that a critical area may exist, or are unsure of the nature or condition of a critical area on site, the applicant may be required by the county to hire a professional to determine the nature and extent of critical areas and associated buffers on the property. Critical area buffer requirements are specified in each individual critical area chapter of this title. Specific requirements for special reports, and criteria for determining who is qualified to prepare them, are located in chapter 24.35 TCC.

C. Critical area report. The director, upon review of a critical area delineation or survey, may require the applicant to submit a critical area report that outlines what impacts will occur and how any impacts will be mitigated. The critical area report must demonstrate that impacts are unavoidable, pursuant to TCC 24.01.037 and 24.35.015. Critical area reports that pertain to important habitats and species may also be referred to as habitat management plans.

24.05.030 Administrative procedures – Coordination with other application reviews.
A proposed project action involving a permit under this title shall be processed in a consolidated manner, as specified below:

A. Decisions on and review of critical area review permits under chapter 24.40 TCC associated with other related development applications shall occur at the same time as the State Environmental Policy Act review and determination required under chapter 17.09 TCC. However, the decision on the critical area review permit is a separate decision. If no State Environmental Policy Act determination is required, then:

1. The decision shall be issued such that the appeal period shall expire a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days prior to a public hearing; or

2. Where no public hearing is required, the decision shall be issued a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days prior to a decision on any associated development application.

B. Decisions on and review of reasonable use exceptions under chapter 24.45 TCC associated with other related development applications that require a public hearing before the hearing examiner shall occur concurrent with the related development applications; unless the applicant chooses to initiate the reasonable use exception first.
C. Decisions on reasonable use exceptions under chapter 24.45 TCC associated with other related development applications that do not require a public hearing before the hearing examiner shall occur prior to a decision on the development applications.

### Table 24.05-1 Critical Area Review Authority and Review Processes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMIT/REVIEW</th>
<th>APPROVAL AUTHORITY</th>
<th>REVIEW PROCESS TYPE (Section 24.05.010)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff/Director</td>
<td>Hearing Examiner (HE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Action</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Authorization (chapter 24.90)</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Area Determination</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type I Critical Area Review Permit (chapter 24.40) (Type I Application Review Process)*</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type II Critical Area Review Permit (chapter 24.40) (All Other Application Review Processes)*</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Area Map Amendment**</td>
<td>D*</td>
<td>A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Area Ordinance Amendment</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code Interpretation</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasonable Use Exception (chapter 24.45)</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit and Administrative Action Amendments</td>
<td>Same approval authority and review process as the original action being amended.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Extensions</td>
<td>Same approval authority and review process as original decision/approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND:**  
A = Appeal  
D = Decision  
R = Recommendation  
* See TCC 24.40.020 for selecting the appropriate process for a critical area review permit  
** Subject to TCC 24.05.050 and 24.91.030.

### 24.05.040 Administrative procedures – Presubmission conference.

Prior to applying for a critical area review permit (chapter 24.40 TCC) or reasonable use exception (chapter 24.45 TCC), prospective applicants are encouraged to participate in a presubmission conference. Depending on the nature of the action, presubmission conferences may be required by this title, or by the Thurston County Code. Applications for presubmission conferences shall be submitted to the department on forms provided by the department.
24.05.050 Administrative procedures – Appeals.

A. Appeals of administrative decisions may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by chapter 2.06 TCC. Appeals of administrative map amendments may be subject to a public hearing if requested by any aggrieved party or the county. Map amendments by the director that are consistent with a critical area delineation prepared for an approved specific development application’s critical area review or a reasonable use exception are not subject to appeal of an administrative decision if the approved critical area review permit becomes final.

B. Appeals of hearing examiner decisions on Type III permits and on appeals of administrative decisions (Type I and II), as provided in Table 24.05-1 TCC, may be brought to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved party. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by chapter 2.06 TCC.

C. Any final decision by the board of county commissioners is appealable in the manner proscribed by state law.

24.05.060 Administrative procedures – Code interpretations.

Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title. The department shall issue a written determination to the person requesting the interpretation in accordance with Type I procedures in TCC 20.60.020(1). The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations. A fee may be assessed for code interpretations consistent with TCC 24.05.110.

24.05.070 Administrative procedures – Critical area determinations.

A. Determining if critical areas are present. Any person seeking to determine whether a proposed activity or an area is subject to this chapter may request a Critical Area Determination (CAD) on an application provided by the department.

B. The CAD shall be processed as a Type I application.

C. Submission requirements. Applicants for a CAD shall submit all of the information requested on the application form provided by the department. Based on the quality and detail of information provided, the complexity of the site, or the potential of the proposed use to impact critical areas or buffers, the approval authority may request additional information as necessary to make a determination regarding the site.
D. Director findings. The director shall review the information submitted by the applicant and other relevant, available information and perform an on-site inspection to determine if a critical area, which includes the associated buffer, is located on the property. If the director cannot determine, based on available information or due to access limitations, whether the proposed development would encroach upon a critical area, the applicant shall be advised as to what is needed to make the determination. This may include full delineation and analysis of the critical area by a qualified professional at the applicant’s expense.

E. The Critical Area Determination shall be valid for one year.

24.05.080 Administrative procedures – Submittal requirements – Critical area review permit.
Applications for critical area review permits under chapter 24.40 TCC shall be filed with the department using the application form provided by the department. This information is in addition to any related State Environmental Policy Act requirements under chapter 17.09 TCC. The application and any supporting materials shall provide the following information, as applicable:

A. Information required for an associated Type I, II, III, or IV application as specified in chapters 14.48, 20.60, 21.81, 22.62, and 23.72 TCC, or if no associated application is required by the above chapters, then information required for a Type II application as specified in TCC 20.60.030;

B. If applicable, delineation of the minimum setbacks required by titles 20, 21, 22 or 23 TCC (zoning codes);

C. Information required under chapter 24.40 TCC;

D. Any special reports required pursuant to this title due to the critical areas present on the property;

E. Any deviations from the provisions and standards of this title that would be needed to accommodate the proposed development or activity permitted in chapter 24.40 TCC;

F. Identification and evaluation of the potential impacts of the proposed development on the critical area(s) which includes associated buffer(s), and their functions, and proposed measures to avoid or mitigate the identified impacts; and

G. Any other information the County deems necessary to make a determination regarding the request.
24.05.090 Administrative procedures – Submittal requirements – Reasonable use exception.
Applications for reasonable use exceptions under chapter 24.45 TCC shall be filed with the department using the application form provided by the department. The application and any supporting materials shall provide the following information, as applicable:

A. Information required for a Type III application specified in TCC 20.60.030;

B. If applicable, delineation of the minimum setbacks required by titles 20, 21, 22 or 23 TCC (zoning codes);

C. Information required under chapter 24.45 TCC, including but not limited to the eligibility of the property for a reasonable use exception, the review criteria, and other matters required to be addressed in chapter 24.45 TCC;

D. Any special reports required pursuant to this title;

E. Any deviations from the provisions and standards of this title that would be needed to accommodate the proposed development or activity;

F. Identification and evaluation of the potential impacts of the proposed development on the critical area(s), which includes associated buffer(s), and their functions, and proposed measures to avoid or mitigate the identified impacts; and

G. Any other information the County deems necessary to make a determination regarding the request.

24.05.100 Administrative procedures – Recordation – Critical areas on property – Notice.
For a development proposal that does not involve the division of land where critical areas have been identified, the owner of a lot with a critical area and/or buffer shall record a notice on the title with the Thurston County Auditor that identifies the critical area location. This notice is not required if a preexisting notice has already been recorded that identifies the critical area in the same location. The applicant shall submit proof that any required notice has been filed for record as a prerequisite to permit approval. The notice shall be approved by the director prior to recordation, and, shall at a minimum, include a map and legal description of the critical area, and a notice substantially similar to the following:

“Prior to and during the course of any grading, building construction or other development activity on this property containing or abutting a critical area, the area of development activity must be fenced or otherwise marked to the satisfaction of Thurston County. The critical area shall be maintained in its existing condition, except as provided for by title 24 of the Thurston County Code, the Critical Areas Ordinance. Yard waste, debris, fill, equipment, vehicles, and materials shall not be placed in the critical area.”
24.05.110 Administrative procedures – Fees.
Applicants for permits or other approvals pursuant to this title shall pay applicable fee identified on the county fee schedule.
Chapter 24.10

CRITICAL AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS

Sections:
24.10.005 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Purposes.
24.10.010 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Applicability.
24.10.020 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Standards and restricted and prohibited uses.
24.10.030 Critical aquifer recharge areas – General standards.
24.10.040 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Abandoned wells.
24.10.050 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Above ground tanks and distribution systems.
24.10.060 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Agricultural uses and activities.
24.10.070 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Asphalt plants/concrete plants.
24.10.080 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Biosolid application.
24.10.090 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Cemeteries.
24.10.100 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Commercial and industrial uses – General standards.
24.10.103 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Composting facilities.
24.10.105 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Dry cleaner facilities.
24.10.110 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Fuel dispensing.
24.10.120 Critical aquifer recharge areas – (Unattended) Gasoline and diesel powered generators.
24.10.130 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and landscaped areas exceeding one acre in size.
24.10.135 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Greenhouse/Nursery.
24.10.140 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Hazardous materials.
24.10.145 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Metal plating.
24.10.150 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Mineral extraction – Gravel and sand.
24.10.160 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Onsite sewage disposal.
24.10.170 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Pier foundations.
24.10.180 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Pipelines.
24.10.190 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Reclaimed water.
24.10.200 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Sawmills.
24.10.205 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Solid waste.
24.10.220 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Underground storage tanks and vaults.
24.10.230 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Vehicle repair and servicing/body shops.
24.10.240 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Vehicle wrecking yards.
24.10.250 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Wood products preserving and treating.

24.10.005 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Purposes.

The purposes of this section are to:

A. Protect the public health and welfare by safeguarding Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (CARA) and vital groundwater resources that serve as the county’s primary potable water source. This includes avoiding or, where that is not possible, minimizing the risks of ground
water contamination from new, existing, expanded and altered land uses and activities, consistent with state water quality standards.

B. Identify and protect aquifer recharge areas and vital groundwater resources based on their physical susceptibility to contamination, the potential for contamination from existing and allowed uses, the number of people or uses that rely on the aquifer as a potable water source, the presence of wellhead protection areas and whether there is an alternative water source.

C. Recognize and maintain the delicate balance and connection between surface water and ground water in order to preserve essential biological, physical, and geochemical functions. This includes avoidance of saltwater intrusion, avoidance of pumping deep saline thermobaric water that could contaminate the upper aquifer(s), avoidance of groundwater withdrawals and interruptions that would diminish stream flows and temperatures sustaining anadromous fish or alter the quantity and timing of water sustaining wetlands and associated plants and wildlife.

D. Ensure sufficient infiltration of water at the land’s surface to sustain aquifers used as a potable water source, to maintain base flows in streams supporting anadromous fish, and maintain water levels in wetlands.

E. Be consistent with RCW 36.70A.170 and 172; Public Water Systems Penalties and Compliance, chapters 70-119A RCW; Washington State Wellhead Protection Program and the Public Water Supplies, chapter 246-290 WAC; Dangerous Waste Regulations, chapter 173-303 WAC; the Water Quality Standards for Groundwater of the State of Washington, chapter 173-200 WAC; Articles III, IV, and VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code; County adopted water resource inventory area watershed management plans; and County adopted water system plans and wellhead protection plans.

24.10.010 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Applicability.

This chapter applies to proposals for new development and alteration and expansion of existing uses listed in Table 24.10-1 that are located in an area defined as a critical aquifer recharge area in this title. These regulations also apply to the one, five and ten year time of travel zones of wellhead protection areas meeting the criteria in this chapter. See the map entitled “Wellhead Protection Areas.” These maps shall be on file at the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department.

A. "Category I, extreme aquifer sensitivity" includes:

1. Those areas which provide very rapid recharge with little protection, contain coarse soil textures and soil materials, and are derived from glacial outwash materials. The predominant soil series and types are those listed as Category I in Table 24.10-4 at the end of this chapter; and

2. Wellhead protection areas as defined by chapter 24.03 TCC, including their one-, five-, and ten-year time of travel zones.

3. Aquifers in subsurface geologic formations that are extremely vulnerable to contamination, as listed in Table 24.10-3 at the end of this chapter.
Appendix B

B. "Category II, high aquifer sensitivity" includes:

1. Those areas which provide slightly lower recharge, also provide little protection, and contain materials from glacial deposit. The predominant soil series and types are those listed as Category II in Table 24.10-4 at the end of this chapter.

2. Aquifers in subsurface geologic formations that are highly vulnerable to contamination, as listed in Table 24.10-3 at the end of this chapter.

C. "Category III, moderate aquifer sensitivity" includes:

1. Those areas with aquifers present but which have a surface soil material that encourages run-off and slows water entry into the ground. The predominant soil series and types are those listed as Category III Table 24.10-4 at the end of this chapter.

2. Aquifers in subsurface geologic formations that are moderately vulnerable to contamination, as listed in Table 24.10-3 at the end of this chapter.

24.10.020 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Standards and restricted and prohibited uses. Table 24.10-1 identifies the new, expanded, and altered land uses and activities that are restricted or prohibited in the CARA depicted on the Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas Map. These restricted and prohibited uses and activities are subject to the applicable standards in TCC 24.10.030-250 and all other applicable regulations. (See Article III of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water Supplies; Article IV, Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage; and Article VI, Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Nonpoint Pollution).

The general standards listed in TCC 24.10.030 apply to all uses in Table 24.10-1. Standards provided in TCC 24.10.040-250 apply to specific uses in CARAs, and are in addition to other requirements of this title. Table 24.10-1 contains the primary section references for each activity covered by this chapter.
**Table 24.10-1. Prohibited and Restricted Uses and Activities Within Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>AQUIFER RECHARGE AREA CATEGORY</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wellhead Protection Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1-year time of travel zone</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned wells (Decommissioning of wells) (TCC 24.10.040)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt plants/cement and concrete plants (TCC 24.10.070)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat refinishing</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemeteries (TCC 24.10.090)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical manufacturing/processing, mixing and remanufacturing (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical storage facilities (not including fuel) (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical/hazardous waste reprocessing and disposal (TCC 24.10.100; 140)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial uses that do not use hazardous materials or generate hazardous waste</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial uses that use or generate less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste or materials per month as described in WAC 173-303; including but not limited to; furniture staining, furniture stripping, repair, and refinishing; hardware, lumber, and parts stores; medical/dental/veterinary offices; photo processing/printing; printing and publishing (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>X/P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND**

A = Allowed without a Critical Area Permit, subject to requirements of this title
P = Permitted, subject to Critical Area Permit and requirements of this title
X = Prohibited
X/P = As determined by the approval authority, small scale uses or those using nonhazardous materials may be permitted when the quantity, nature of materials processed and mitigation methods are determined to contain no significant risk to groundwater
## Appendix B

### TABLE 24.10-1 (CONT.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>AQUIFER RECHARGE AREA CATEGORY</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wellhead Protection Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1-year time of travel zone</td>
<td>5 and 10-year time of travel zones</td>
<td>Other CARA I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial uses that use or generate more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste or materials per month as described in WAC 173-303; including but not limited to; furniture staining, furniture stripping, repair, and refinishing; hardware, lumber, and parts stores; medical/dental/veterinary offices; photo processing/printing; printing and publishing <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composting facilities, except home composting <em>(TCC 24.10.103)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry cleaner facilities <em>(TCC 24.10.105)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electroplating, metal plating <em>(TCC 24.10.145)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel dispensing, including gas stations <em>(TCC 24.10.110)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral facilities (except crematory facilities) <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf courses, parks, athletic fields, playgrounds Campgrounds/RV Parks/landscaping more than one acre <em>(TCC 24.10.130)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse – commercial/Nursery – wholesale/retail <em>(TCC 24.10.135)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(New) hazardous waste transfer and storage facilities including radioactive wastes as defined in Chapter 43.200 RCW <em>(TCC 24.10.100; 140)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 24.10-1 (CONT.)</th>
<th>AQUIFER RECHARGE AREA CATEGORY</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wellhead Protection Areas</td>
<td>Other CARA I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-year time of travel zone</td>
<td>5 and 10 year time of travel zones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial uses that do not use hazardous materials or generate hazardous waste <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial uses – other, including but not limited to battery processing, reprocessing, and storage, food processing facilities, tanning, textile dying, wood/pulp/paper processing, and metal finishing which generate less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month as described in WAC 173-303 <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial uses – other, including but not limited to battery processing, reprocessing, and storage, food processing facilities, tanning, textile dying, wood/pulp/paper processing, and metal finishing which generate more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month as described in WAC 173-303 <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infiltration of reclaimed water (application to the land’s surface above agronomic rates) <em>Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW).</em> <em>(TCC 24.10.190)</em></td>
<td>X*</td>
<td>X*</td>
<td>X*</td>
<td>X*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injection wells-Class II <em>(chapter 173-218 WAC)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennels – with more than 10 animals <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land spreading irrigation with reclaimed water at agronomic rates <em>(TCC 24.10.190)</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## TABLE 24.10-1 (CONT.)

### RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wellhead Protection Areas</th>
<th>Other CARA I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-year time of travel zone</td>
<td>5 and 10 year time of travel zones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Description</th>
<th>CARA I</th>
<th>CARA II</th>
<th>CARA III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landfill—demolition (inert), municipal sanitary waste, solid waste, wood waste, hazardous waste <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine shops, fabricating, metal processing with etchers and chemicals <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance/fueling facilities – municipal, county, state, school district, transit, airports, railroads, buses <em>(TCC 24.10.110, 230)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing-electrical/electronic <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining-coal and minerals</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining—gravel and sand <em>(TCC 24.10.150)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide/fertilizer storage facilities <em>(TCC 24.10.100; 140)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum products refining and reprocessing <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pier foundations <em>(TCC 24.10.170)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipelines- liquid petroleum products or other hazardous liquid transmission <em>(TCC 24.10.180)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad yards-cargo transfer areas <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research laboratories/facilities-chemical or biological <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential use/subdivisions, short plats, and large lots <em>(TCC 24.10.195)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND**

A = Allowed without a Critical Area Permit, subject to requirements of this title
P = Permitted, subject to Critical Area Permit and requirements of this title
X = Prohibited
X/P = As determined by the approval authority, small scale uses or those using nonhazardous materials may be permitted when the quantity, nature of materials processed and mitigation methods are determined to contain no significant risk to groundwater
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 24.10-1 (CONT.)</th>
<th>AQUIFER RECHARGE AREA CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wellhead Protection Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawmills (TCC 24.10.200)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewage disposal-onsite (TCC 24.10.160)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewage disposal, large onsite (LOSS chapter 246-272B WAC)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewage lift stations (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid waste processing/handling/transferring/recycling (TCC 24.10.205)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage tanks-above ground (hazardous materials) (TCC 24.10.050)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage tanks-underground (hazardous materials) (TCC 24.10.220)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage tanks, residential (e.g. propane and oil tanks not to exceed 1,100 gallons) (TCC 24.10.195)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater facilities/discharges, not including injection wells (TCC 24.10.210)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxidermy (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unattended gas powered portable generators (TCC 24.10.120)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility substations (TCC 24.10.100)</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle wrecking/junk/scrap/salvage yards (TCC 24.10.240)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### TABLE 24.10-1 (CONT.)

**RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AQUIFER RECHARGE AREA CATEGORY</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wellhead Protection Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-year time of travel zone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 and 10 year time of travel zones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle and boat repair/service garages/body shops <em>(TCC 24.10.230)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater treatment or reuse facilities/recycling satellite plant, not including injection/infiltration of reclaimed water <em>(TCC 24.10.100)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood and wood products preserving/treating <em>(TCC 24.10.250)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other activities involving the use and handling of hazardous materials or generating hazardous materials by their activities or actions in quantities exceeding the thresholds listed in TCC 24.10.140.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other new and existing uses identified by the County as posing a risk to ground water quality</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LEGEND

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24.10.030 Critical aquifer recharge areas – General standards.
The following requirements apply, as applicable, to all uses and activities in Table 24.10-1 that are not prohibited.

A. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more Critical Areas are governed by chapter 24.01 TCC.

B. The approval authority, in consultation with a qualified hydrogeologist, shall evaluate hydrogeological reports required pursuant to this chapter to determine the proposed project’s potential impacts to ground water and surface water. This evaluation shall include, if applicable, evaluation of the project’s potential impact on baseflows of streams regulated under chapter 24.25 TCC, and the quantity and timing of ground water flows sustaining wetlands regulated under chapter 24.30 TCC.

C. The uses and activities listed in Table 24.10-1 shall not be allowed in a CARA if the approval authority determines, in consultation with others having expertise or jurisdiction, that the proposed use poses a risk to ground water quality, consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

D. Best management practices. If warranted to protect ground water, the approval authority shall require applicants for new, expanded and altered uses listed in Table 24.10-1 that require a County permit to use best management practices (BMPs), including all known, available, reasonable treatments, to ensure the highest degree of aquifer protection. In this case, the applicant shall submit a report identifying the appropriate BMPs and describing how they will be employed to prevent degradation of ground water quality. The report shall be prepared by or under the direction of a qualified person with demonstrated expertise in the industry or field. The report shall include all necessary technical data, drawings, calculations, and other information to describe the proposed application of BMPs. If necessary, the approval authority will review the report with technical experts at the applicant’s expense.

E. Mitigation of impacts.

1. The approval authority may condition the approval of a proposed use or activity if it is determined to be warranted in order to protect ground water quality, maintain stream flows and temperatures sufficient to sustain anadromous and native fish, and maintain the volume and timing of ground water flows sustaining wetlands and dependent plants and wildlife (see chapters 24.25 and 24.30 TCC).

2. The approval authority may deny proposed wells or require mitigative measures (e.g., methods of prevention and control) for any use as necessary to preserve adequate ground water quality and quantity for existing users of the aquifer that do not have an alternative water source, particularly in areas subject to saltwater intrusion. This subsection shall not affect any right to use or appropriate water under state or federal law.

F. New uses in Category I CARA. Applicants for uses proposed to be located within a Category I CARA that involve use, storage, handling or disposal of hazardous materials in excess of the quantity thresholds listed in TCC 24.10.140 shall submit to the County a BMP report,
consistent with subsection D above, documenting that BMPs will be used to prevent ground water degradation.

The approval authority, in consultation with the water purveyor serving the area and, if necessary, a third party consultant at the applicant’s expense, will review the report to determine whether the proposed activity can be conducted without degrading the water quality of the affected aquifer. The County shall provide the applicant with a cost estimate and obtain their approval prior to consulting with the third party consultant. The application shall be closed if the applicant chooses not to bear the cost of the evaluation. The approval authority may approve, condition, or deny the project as they deem warranted in order to ensure adequate ground water protection. The applicant shall implement the approved report.

G. Existing uses in Category I CARA. The approval authority may require the owner of any existing use within a Category I CARA which involves the use, storage, handling or disposal of hazardous materials above the minimum quantity thresholds listed in TCC 24.10.140 to submit a hazardous materials management plan (see TCC 24.35.045) that will ensure adequate protection of ground water. The approval authority, in consultation with the appropriate water purveyor and, if warranted, others with expertise, shall review this plan and determine whether to approve the plan as proposed or approve it subject to conditions in order to ensure adequate ground water protection.

H. Decommissioning underground tanks. Underground storage tanks storing hazardous materials in the one-year time of travel zone for Category I CARA that do not meet current state and County standards (see chapter 173-360 WAC, chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, and TCC 24.10.220) shall be decommissioned or removed consistent with applicable regulations within one year of being notified by the approval authority, unless specified otherwise.

I. Expansion of prohibited uses in CARAs.

1. Uses prohibited by Table 24.10-1 in Category I-III CARA shall not be expanded unless the applicant demonstrates that all equipment/facilities involving hazardous materials will be brought into compliance with current standards and therefore pose less risk of ground water contamination than the existing use.

2. Applicants for any proposed expansion of an existing use in Category I CARA that is listed as an allowable use in Table 24.10-1 under Category I which uses, stores, handles or disposes of hazardous materials above the minimum quantities referenced in TCC 24.10.140 shall submit a BMP report, consistent with subsection D above, for County review and approval, and a Hazardous Materials Management Plan consistent with TCC 24.35.045. The approval authority will review the submitted materials and determine whether the proposed expansion shall be approved, denied, or approved with conditions as necessary to ensure adequate ground water protection.

J. A development proposal will be considered unacceptable if a hydrogeological report indicates that a ground water maximum contaminant level will be violated due to proposed development.
K. A development proposal will be considered unacceptable if a hydrogeological report concludes that it will reduce the assimilative capacity of the aquifer by more than 10 percent for a contaminant of concern.

L. Known spills, leakage, or other release of hazardous materials shall be remediated as determined by the approval authority. Unless otherwise specified, remediation activities shall begin within ninety (90) days of discovery of release.

24.10.040 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Abandoned wells.
Wells that cease to be used as a water source or are used, unmaintained, or in such disrepair as to be unusable shall be decommissioned, consistent with WAC 173-160 and Article III of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water Supplies, to prevent ground water contamination and remove any public safety hazards.

24.10.050 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Above ground tanks and distribution systems.
Above ground tanks and associated distribution systems for the storage or conveyance of hazardous materials, sewage sludge, fertilizers, or other chemical or biological substances defined as hazardous or dangerous waste in chapter 173-303 WAC are subject to the following:

A. Compliance with state and county requirements. New above ground tanks and distribution systems must comply with chapters 173-303 WAC and 173-360 WAC, chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, and Article VI of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Nonpoint Source Pollution.

B. Secondary containment. New above ground tanks and distribution systems that will contain a hazardous material shall either be double walled or have a separate, impervious secondary containment system constructed around and under the tank/distribution system. The containment system shall be covered or otherwise designed so it does not collect precipitation or stormwater runoff. Secondary containment systems shall be sized to hold at least 110% of the largest tank’s capacity and shall be designed and constructed with materials that are compatible with the substance to be stored in the tank.

C. Leak detection. Leak detection devices shall be required for all double walled tanks and, when possible, for other tanks.

D. Waiver. The approval authority may grant a waiver from one or more of the above requirements upon finding that the proposed above ground storage facility would not create a risk to ground water quality.

E. Residential above ground storage tanks and vaults are regulated by the International Fire Code.

24.10.070 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Asphalt plants/concrete plants.

A. Applicants for asphalt plants or concrete plants shall submit, in addition to other material required by this chapter, the following: the location of wells and wellhead protection areas within one mile down gradient of the proposed site or the two day time of travel, if known, whichever is greater; and a characterization of the proposed activity including a description of the industrial process, storage of materials, and discharge of water.
B. All process water from production, pouring, and equipment cleaning activities shall be discharged to a sump or a recycling system. Process water treatment or materials shall use the least toxic products and raw materials available.

C. The applicant shall submit a hazardous waste management plan consistent with TCC 24.35.045.

D. The approval authority may require monitoring wells to the extent necessary to determine if pollution associated with the permitted activity is occurring, periodic monitoring, and remedial action if the monitoring reveals that ground water contamination is occurring. Also see chapter 24.70 TCC regarding sureties.

24.10.080  **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Biosolid application.**
Biosolid application and uses shall be regulated by the Washington Department of Ecology and meet all applicable federal and state standards, including chapter 173-308 WAC; and the memorandum of understanding, or similar document, between Thurston County and the Washington Department of Ecology in regard to biosolids and critical areas.

24.10.090  **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Cemeteries.**
Applicants for a cemetery shall submit a hydrogeological report evaluating the risk the proposed cemetery poses to groundwater and surface water. The approval authority may condition the project as necessary to protect ground water quality. The approval authority shall deny the proposed cemetery if it is determined that it would likely contaminate potable ground water supplies.

24.10.100  **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Commercial and industrial uses – General standards.**
Commercial and industrial uses and activities are allowed in CARAs as specified in Table 24.10-1, subject to Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, as amended, and the following standards, as applicable:

A. Where floor drains are allowed, any floor drains in areas where hazardous materials are used, stored or otherwise present shall have a removable lip or barrier that will prevent spilled hazardous material from entering the drain, consistent with chapter 14.28 TCC, Uniform Plumbing Code. The approval authority may require that a sump or other device be used to ensure that hazardous material does not drain to the soil, sewage disposal system, or a water body.

B. Areas where hazardous materials are used or stored shall not drain to the soil, a stormwater system, water body, or a sewage disposal system. The approval authority may require that a sump or other device, as appropriate to address the contaminants of concern, be used to ensure protection of ground water quality.

C. All vehicle and equipment washing must be done in a self contained area (e.g., with recycling system) designed to ensure that hazardous materials do not reach the soil, a water body or a sewage disposal system. This does not apply to discharges to a sewer that were approved by the sewer utility, consistent with chapter 14.28 TCC. Water used in wash down areas shall be treated to remove contaminants prior to discharge. (See chapter 173-216 WAC and the BMPs for Vehicle and Equipment Discharges, Department of Ecology WQR 95-56, as amended).
D. An integrated pest management plan shall be drafted to be consistent with the integrated pest management policies approved by the Health Officer. The plan shall be implemented upon approval by the Department. The County may periodically verify compliance with the approved plan.

E. All new commercial and industrial land uses that involve the use, handling, storage, disposal, or transportation of hazardous materials or dangerous/extremely dangerous wastes, as defined in chapter 173-303 WAC, shall be required to prevent contact between the aforementioned materials and stormwater. This may not apply to materials applied in an outdoor setting as part of an approved activity’s landscaping maintenance plan. This includes, but is not limited to, gas stations, fuel distributors, car/truck washes, trucking companies, asphalt plants and paint shops. The generation of hazardous materials or dangerous waste is separated into two categories:

1. A small quantity generator can generate up to 220 pounds of dangerous waste, or up to 2.2 pounds of certain pesticides or poisons, each month. Small quantity generators can accumulate up to 2,200 pounds of dangerous waste, or 2.2 pounds of certain pesticides or poisons, at their site before sending the waste off-site for proper disposal or recycling.

2. Businesses that generate more than 220 pounds of hazardous wastes during any month must comply with the Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations, Chapter 173-303 WAC.

F. The applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed use or activity will not cause degradation of ground water quality exceeding the standards described in chapter 173-200 WAC (Water Quality Standards of the State of Washington) and comply with all other applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

G. The approval authority may require that the applicant install monitoring wells, to the extent necessary to determine if pollution is occurring, periodic monitoring at specified intervals, and remedial action if the monitoring reveals that ground water contamination is occurring. (See chapter 24.70 TCC regarding surety.)

H. The approval authority may require additional protective measures if necessary to protect surface and ground water quality, including but not limited to BMPs, devices or methods to provide a high level of nutrient removal from stormwater, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

24.10.103 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Composting facilities.
A. Composting shall be conducted in compliance with WAC 173-350-220, when applicable, and the requirements of Article V of the Thurston County Sanitary Code. Composting facilities required to obtain a permit from the health officer shall establish financial assurance in accordance with Article V, section 9 of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.

B. Home composting shall be exempt from the requirements of this title and Article V of the Thurston County Sanitary Code if conducted in a manner such that there is no evidence of vectors that affect neighboring property.
Appendix B

C. Composting facilities shall adhere to standards established in chapter 20.54 TCC for composting facilities, and TCC 24.10.100, where applicable.

24.10.105 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Dry cleaner facilities.
When permitted by the approval authority, dry cleaner facilities shall be consistent with standards established in TCC 24.10.100 and 24.10.140 and shall follow best management practices and control technologies for pollution prevention as described by the Washington State Department of Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or as otherwise required by state or federal law.

24.10.110 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Fuel dispensing.
Sites where fuel is dispensed shall be designed to contain fuel spills on site without contaminating stormwater systems, sewage disposal systems, soil or water. This can be accomplished, for example, by installing a roof structure that shields the fueling area from precipitation and sloping the area surrounding the fuel pumps toward a sump with capacity for at least 100 gallons of fuel or by surrounding the covered fueling area with a shallow curb that provides capacity for at least 100 gallons of fuel. The storage capacity for the containment method may be adjusted by the approval authority, depending on the scale of the fuel dispensing facility.

24.10.120 Critical aquifer recharge areas – (Unattended) Gasoline and diesel powered generators.
Gasoline and diesel powered backup generators in a CARA shall be placed in a secondary containment device, consistent with TCC 24.10.050(B), such that a fuel spill or leak will not reach the soil or a water body unless the site where the generator will be operated contains a full time residence or is occupied a minimum of eight hours per day, five days a week by trained employees associated with the facility.

24.10.130 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and landscaped areas exceeding one acre in size.
Fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide management practices for golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields and other public facilities and institutions with landscaped areas exceeding one acre in size shall comply with integrated pest management standards established in TCC 24.10.100.

24.10.135 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Greenhouse/Nursery.
Wholesale and retail greenhouses and nurseries (excluding facilities defined as agricultural activities in chapter 17.15 TCC) shall comply with integrated pest management standards established in TCC 24.10.100. Any fertilizers shall be applied at an agronomic rate in accordance with the timing and amount of crop demand for nitrate, unless the approval authority determines that a lower rate of application is appropriate to protect surface and groundwater quality.

24.10.140 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Hazardous materials.
A. Hazardous materials shall be used, handled, stored, and disposed of in accordance with the standards contained in this section, chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, and applicable state law (see RCW 70.105, chapter 173-303 WAC).

B. Operators of new and existing uses and activities that involve the use, handling, storage or generation of hazardous materials exceeding thresholds specified in the International Fire
Code (2009), as amended, shall submit for County review and approval a hazardous materials management plan that demonstrates that the use or activity will not have an adverse impact on ground water quality. Notwithstanding the requirements of the International Fire Code, if the approval authority determines that the proposed use or activity poses a risk to ground water, they shall require submission of a hazardous materials management plan to protect ground water quality. Approved hazardous materials management plans shall be implemented. Hazardous materials management plans shall include, at a minimum, the information listed in TCC 24.35.045.

C. Persons that possess liquid, soluble, or leachable hazardous materials shall contain such materials and the entire distribution system in a secondary containment device or system that will effectively prevent discharge on-site. Secondary containment may be achieved in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, use of sloping floors that provide capacity to contain spills or installation of a curb around the perimeter of the structure. (See Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, the Rules and Regulations Governing Nonpoint Source Pollution. Also see chapters 15.54 and 17.21 RCW regarding pesticide storage. Refer to chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, regarding seismic standards).

24.10.145 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Metal plating.
When permitted by the approval authority, metal plating operations shall be consistent with standards established in TCC 24.10.100 and 24.10.140 and shall follow best management practices and control technologies for pollution prevention as described by the Washington State Department of Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or as otherwise required by state or federal law.

24.10.150 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Mineral extraction – Gravel and sand.
See chapter 17.20 TCC and title 332 WAC.

A. In addition to other stormwater mitigation requirements, stormwater from the portion of the site where hazardous materials are stored and/or where fueling of equipment occurs shall be directed away from the pit.

B. Gravel mining shall not occur in locations where the approval authority determines, based on a hydrogeologic report, that proposed mining would likely diminish the volume of water in springs or shallow wells such that it would no longer meet the needs of dependent users, or influence water’s quality, quantity, temperature, or turbidity such that it would no longer be suitable for drinking. As an alternative to project denial, the applicant may, with the consent of the affected property owner, mitigate such impacts by providing the affected residents with a deeper well or a connection to an alternative water system. Also see chapter 17.20 TCC.

C. Mines shall be prohibited in areas with existing contamination that, if it were disturbed or exposed, could impair water quality, including water temperature, unless the applicant demonstrates that the proposed mining operation would be conducted in a manner that would not jeopardize ground and surface water quality. The approval authority may require a hydrogeologic report and soil testing and down gradient water testing for suspected toxic chemicals on the site.

D. Fueling. See TCC 17.20.050.
E. Monitoring. See TCC 17.20.160(B).

F. Mining is not allowed in the one-, five- and ten-year time of travel zone of wellhead protection areas. In CARA I, II and III soils, the mine operator shall maintain a buffer of unsaturated material five feet in depth between the bottom of the pit and the seasonal high groundwater table. The approval authority may adjust the depth of the buffer based a hydrogeologic report as warranted to protect ground water quality.

G. Redevelopment. The approval authority shall give protection of ground water the highest priority when considering proposed land uses at former gravel mine sites. The approval authority shall require, at the time of mine approval, that a note be filed with the title of the subject property indicating that use of the property subsequent to mine closure will be limited as the County determines necessary to protect ground water quality, consistent with the provisions of this section. In addition, gates and fencing shall be required at mine access points along public and private roads to prevent dumping.

24.10.160 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Onsite sewage disposal.
Onsite sewage disposal systems may be allowed subject to compliance with applicable County and state regulations (See Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code; chapters 246-272A and 246-272B WAC (large on-site sewage systems), the On-Site Sewage Regulations of the Washington State Board of Health; and chapter 173-200 WAC, the Water Quality Standards for Ground water of the State of Washington) and the following:

A. Applicants for large on-site sewage systems, or sewage disposal facilities with capacity for more than 3,500 gallons shall submit a hydrogeologic report demonstrating that the system will not degrade ground water quality, consistent with this section. The project must comply with the Health Department’s current Assimilative Capacity Policy, and in no case shall the project increase the nitrate concentration in the aquifer by more than ten percent (10%) above existing conditions. The approval authority shall condition or deny the project as necessary to maintain ground water quality.

B. Nitrate levels at the applicable monitoring well or down-gradient property line of proposed subdivisions, short subdivisions, or binding site plans in a Category I CARA and areas identified as having elevated nitrate levels on the map entitled Known Area of Soil or Groundwater Concern, dated April 2004, as amended, shall conform with the current adopted Thurston County Health Department Assimilative Capacity Policy, as amended. A hydrogeological report may be required as determined by the director. The report must be prepared by a licensed hydrogeologist.

C. Lots less than one acre in size shall not be created by subdivisions, short subdivisions, or binding site plans if they would use on-site sewage disposal systems in a Category I CARA, regardless of the proposed source of potable water, unless the applicant demonstrates, consistent with Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, that due to the proposed system design, vertical separation from ground water, and the existing soils, ground water quality will not be degraded. (Also see Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, section 22, and Areas of Special Concern).

D. Monitoring. See Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.
E. Hydrogeologic reports shall be required pursuant to Table 24.10-2 below. The report shall be prepared by a licensed hydrogeologist.

F. The Washington State Department of Health is the permit authority for larger on-site sewage systems (LOSS) through chapter 246-272B WAC.

**Table 24.10-2. Report Requirements For Subdivisions, Short Subdivisions, Multifamily Residential And Nonresidential Projects Proposed To Use On-Site Sewage Disposal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dwelling Unit Density and Volume Equivalent*</th>
<th>Report Requirements by Aquifer Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Unit or Less per 5.0 Acres</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Unit per Acre to One Unit per 5.0 Acres</td>
<td>HWD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One to Two Units Per Acre</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 Units per Acre or More</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Units per Acre, or more than 1,575 Gallons per Day of Sewage</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large On-Site Sewage Systems (LOSS) with capacity for 3,500 gallons or more per day</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Hydrogeologic reports are required for new/expanding development that create more than two new lots or generate/add 1,000 gallons of sewage per day or more.

**Legend**

X = Prohibited
H = Hydrogeological report required
HWD = Hydrogeological report required in areas of known water quality degradation

24.10.170 **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Pier foundations.**

Pier foundations that would extend more than twenty feet below the ground's surface that are proposed to be located within two-hundred feet of a well in a CARA shall be subject to review and approval by the approval authority. In the event the approval authority determines that the proposed foundation will pose a risk to the affected well's water quality, they may require that the proposed foundation be relocated, replaced with a shallow mat foundation, if feasible, or require other mitigation measures.

24.10.180 **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Pipelines.**

Applicants for pipelines that carry oil, gas, diesel, kerosene or any other liquid hazardous material shall identify spill prevention measures and submit a spill response plan that prioritizes response based on the susceptibility of the aquifer to contamination and its importance as a potable water supply, consistent with federal and state law. The approval authority shall require mitigative measures as necessary to minimize the risk of ground water contamination.

24.10.190 **Critical aquifer recharge areas – Reclaimed water.**
A. Irrigation with Class A reclaimed water at agronomic rates is permitted in all CARAs, subject to TCC 24.10.030.

B. Infiltration of reclaimed water (application to the land’s surface above agronomic rates) Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW).

Residential and appurtenant structures, and typical residential-scale activities are allowed subject to applicable sections of the Thurston County Code and Thurston County Sanitary Code. Onsite septic systems, including those associated with residential uses, are addressed in TCC 24.10.160.

24.10.200 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Sawmills.

24.10.205 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Solid waste.
The processing, handling, transferring, and recycling of solid waste shall be consistent with applicable provisions of chapter 173-350 WAC, Article V of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, TCC 24.10.100, and other applicable provisions of the Thurston County Code.

See 24.10.100(F) TCC regarding stormwater management for commercial and industrial sites. Also see the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC), the Northern Thurston County Ground water Management Plan (1991), the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance (chapter 15.07 TCC), and Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.

24.10.220 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Underground storage tanks and vaults.
A. Residential underground storage tanks and vaults are regulated by the International Fire Code.

B. Underground tanks and vaults for the storage of hazardous materials, fertilizers, or hazardous/dangerous waste, as defined in chapter 173-303 WAC, are allowed in a CARA only if they are designed and constructed consistent with state regulations (see chapter 173-360 WAC), chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, and Article VI, Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Nonpoint Source Pollution, so as to:

1. Prevent releases to the ground, ground water, and surface water due to corrosion, structural failure, or seismic activity for the operational life of the tank or vault. (See chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code);

2. Be protected against corrosion, constructed of non-corrosive material, or steel clad with a noncorrosive material, or contained in a secondary containment system to prevent the release of any stored substance;
3. Be composed of or lined with material that is compatible with the substance to be stored;

4. Prevent releases to the ground, ground water, and surface water due to spillage. The opening for filling the tank shall be surrounded with impermeable material designed and sized to prevent spilled hazardous material from reaching the soil, groundwater, or surface water; and

5. Provide for leak detection meeting state standards.

C. The applicant shall submit design and as built drawings of the facilities and keep records of required testing consistent with state law.

24.10.230 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Vehicle repair and servicing/body shops.
A. Vehicle repair/servicing shall be performed over an impermeable surface under cover from the weather.

B. Dry wells shall not be permitted in conjunction with such uses.

C. Use and storage of hazardous materials shall be consistent with standards established in TCC 24.10.100 and Article V of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.

D. The approval authority shall require that new hydraulic hoists be located in a vault to ensure that any leaks from such equipment are contained.

24.10.240 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Vehicle wrecking yards.
A. Vehicle wrecking yards shall conduct operations consistent with TCC 24.10.100.

B. The approval authority may require submission and implementation of a monitoring program to ensure that the operation is in compliance with Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code and any other conditions of County approval.

C. The approval authority may require monitoring wells, to the extent necessary to determine if pollution is occurring, periodic monitoring, and remedial action if the monitoring reveals that ground water contamination is occurring.

24.10.250 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Wood products preserving and treating.
Wood products preserving and treating shall comply with TCC 24.10.100 and 24.10.140, and the following:

A. Wood products preserving, treating, drying, and storage shall be conducted on an impermeable surface, consistent with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. section 6901 et. seq.

B. The approval authority shall require submittal of a monitoring plan for commercial/industrial wood products preserving and treating operations to ensure that the operation is in compliance with all applicable local, state and federal regulations pertaining to groundwater protection and any conditions of approval applied by the County. Remedial action shall be required if the monitoring reveals that ground water contamination is occurring.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category I Geologic Map Symbols</th>
<th>Geologic Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Qgyo3, Qgyo4 series</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sandy to Coarse Deposits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgokb – Vashon kettle bottom (silt, peat with some gravel bottoms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgok – Coarse kettle walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgon3 – Vashon recessional outwash gravels, Train 3 (sand and gravel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Very Coarse Deposits – Municipal Water Supplies, Drinking Water Aquifers</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgyo4 – Vashon recessional outwash (loose sand and gravel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgyo3 – Vashon recessional outwash (cobbles, boulders, gravel and sand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qga – Vashon advance outwash (sand, gravel, “drinking water aquifer”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgas – Vashon advance outwash (sandy outwash)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qa – Alluvium (sand and gravel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgm – Glacial moraine deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category II Geologic Map Symbols</strong></td>
<td><strong>Geologic Interpretation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Qga, Qgo series</strong></td>
<td><strong>Finer Sediments: Silty Sands and Thin Surficial Deposits Above Till</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qga – Vashon recessional outwash (surficial unit above till – 10 to 20 feet thick)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgo, Qgos, Qgosr – Vashon recessional outwash (sand, silty sand and gravel, silt)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgp – Pre-Vashon glacial outwash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgd – Glacial drift – Fraser Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Category III Geologic Map Symbols</strong></td>
<td><strong>Geologic Interpretation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Qgt – series E-series (Bedrock)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Till Units</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgto2 – Vashon till</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgtdi – Vashon till – Dead ice (associated with eskers and kettles)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Qgt – Vashon till – Drumlin ground moraine (clay, silt, sand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tertiary Igneous Rocks - Bedrock</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evcn – Northcraft Formation (Volcanic breccias, volcanic-lithic sandstones)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eig – Gabbros (minor exposure/occurrence in Thurston County)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emm – McIntosh Formation (marine sandstone and volcanic-lithic siltstones)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evc – Crescent basalt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 24.10-4. Critical Aquifer Recharge Area soil series.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY I SOIL SERIES</th>
<th>SCS Map Symbol #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldhill</td>
<td>5, 6, 7, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cagey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett</td>
<td>32, 33, 34, 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianola</td>
<td>46, 47, 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newberg</td>
<td>71, 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nisqually</td>
<td>73, 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilchuck</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pits, gravel</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puyallup</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanaway</td>
<td>110, 111, 112, 113, 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sultan</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenino</td>
<td>117, 118, 119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY II SOIL SERIES</th>
<th>SCS Map Symbol #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alderwood</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chehalis</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delphi</td>
<td>27, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eld</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giles</td>
<td>38, 39, 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maytown</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spana</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yelm</td>
<td>126, 127, 128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY III SOIL SERIES</th>
<th>SCS Map Symbol #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dupont</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everson</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galvin</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoogdal</td>
<td>43, 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapowsin</td>
<td>50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashel</td>
<td>62, 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKenna</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mukilteo</td>
<td>69, 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norma</td>
<td>75, 76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puget</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scammen</td>
<td>100, 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semiamoo</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalkar</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalkar Variant</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skippa</td>
<td>107, 108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tisch</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 24.15

GEOLOGIC HAZARD AREAS

Sections:
24.15.005 Geologic hazard areas – General purposes.
24.15.010 Geologic hazard areas – Applicability.
24.15.015 Geologic hazard areas – Standard buffer for landslide hazard areas and marine bluff hazard areas.
24.15.020 Geologic hazard areas – Nisqually hillside overlay district.
24.15.021 Geologic hazard areas – Nisqually hillside overlay district - Standards.
24.15.025 Geologic hazard areas – Standards and allowable uses and activities within geologic hazard areas and associated buffers.
24.15.030 Geologic hazard areas – General standards.
24.15.050 Geologic hazard areas – Boat ramp, or marine railway and associated vehicle access.
24.15.060 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – Maintenance and repair.
24.15.070 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – Expansion or replacement.
24.15.080 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – New.
24.15.090 Geologic hazard areas – Clearing and grading.
24.15.100 Geologic hazard areas – On-site sewage systems – New and replacement.
24.15.110 Geologic hazard areas – Piers.
24.15.115 Geologic hazard areas – Reclaimed water.
24.15.120 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation - Active.
24.15.125 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities – Exemptions.
24.15.130 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation facilities (Passive), trails/paths, elevated walkways, and associated facilities – New.
24.15.140 Geologic hazard areas – Roads/streets – New and expanded.
24.15.150 Geologic hazard areas – Slope stabilization – New.
24.15.155 Geologic hazard areas – Shoreline stabilization – Repair, maintenance, or renovation.
24.15.160 Geologic hazard areas – Stair tower, stairway, and mechanical lift.
24.15.170 Geologic hazard areas – Stormwater facilities on existing lots – New.
24.15.175 Geologic hazard areas – Stormwater facilities – Repair and maintenance.
24.15.178 Geologic hazard areas – Utility transmission lines and facilities – New.
24.15.180 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Generally.
24.15.190 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Forest practices permit.
24.15.200 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Hazard trees.
24.15.210 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds.
24.15.220 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Invasive plants.
24.15.230 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Other.
24.15.240 Geologic hazard areas – Wells – New and replacement.
24.15.005 Geologic hazard areas—General purposes.
The purposes of this chapter are to:

A. Protect public health and safety;
B. Avoid and minimize damage to property due to landslide, or other naturally occurring events;
C. Avoid and minimize impacts of erosion and landslide hazards on wetlands and important wildlife habitats and species; and
D. Identify and map geologic hazard areas.

24.15.010 Geologic hazard areas—Applicability.

A. The provisions of this chapter apply to the following types of geologically hazardous areas:
   1. Erosion hazard areas;
   2. Landslide hazard areas; and
   3. Marine bluff hazard areas.

B. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to the following types of geologically hazardous areas:
   1. Seismic Hazard Areas;
   2. Volcanic Hazard Areas; and

24.15.015 Geologic hazard areas—Standard buffer for landslide hazard areas and marine bluff hazard areas.
Development in a landslide and marine bluff hazard areas requires an undisturbed buffer of approved vegetation, except as otherwise provided for in this chapter. The required buffer shall be the greater amount of the following:

A. Fifty feet from toe and top of slope; or

B. A distance measured as follows:
   1. Landslide Hazard Areas. A buffer from the toe and top of slope equal to the following: The distance measured from the toe of slope upward at a slope of 2:1 (horizontal to vertical) to a point that intersects with the existing topography of the site; or
   2. Marine Bluff Hazard Areas. A distance from the ordinary high water mark landward at a slope of 2:1 (horizontal to vertical) which intersects with the existing topography of the site; or
C. The minimum distance recommended by the geotechnical professional in the geological assessment, based on review of the extent of unstable landform and definition of the potential hazard area from each site investigation, as measured outward from the toe and top of slope.

D. Buffers for marine bluff hazard areas shall also comply with TCC 24.25.045-055, and all applicable sections of the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended.

24.15.020 Geologic hazard areas – Nisqually hillside overlay district.
The Nisqually hillside overlay district is generally located on the bluff to the west of the Nisqually River, and is characterized as a special landslide hazard area in Thurston County due to past unstable slope conditions.

A. This area is depicted on the map entitled “Nisqually Land Use Categories and Zoning Districts,” a copy of which shall be on file with the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department.

B. This overlay district shall extend from the toe of McAllister Bluff to a point two hundred feet westerly of the top of McAllister Bluff, except as provided for in 24.15.021, below. The top of McAllister Bluff is as noted on the aforementioned map as “Bluff Line” as lies to the west of McAllister Creek. The actual bluff line is subject to field verification.

C. The criteria to field locate the top of McAllister Bluff is a distinct topographic break in the slope less than thirty percent and at least fifteen feet wide which is verified by the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department.

24.15.021 Geologic hazard areas – Nisqually hillside overlay district - Standards.
Any development permit within the aforementioned area shall be subject to the following standards:

A. Residential development within this overlay district is prohibited, however, the number of dwelling units, as calculated by the underlying residential zone (one unit per five acres), may be clustered on that portion of the parcel not within this overlay district or transferred to an adjacent parcel. Cluster development in the Nisqually hillside overlay district shall be developed consistent with the underlying zoning district and associated development requirements in chapters 20.30 or 20.30A TCC. No fractional units will be created in this calculation unless the parcel size is less than five acres.

B. The western two hundred feet of the Nisqually Hillside Overlay District is a buffer measured from the top of McAllister Bluff, except that portion of the bluff between I-5 and Martin Way which shall be fifty feet.

C. Some flexibility from subsection B above will be provided for areas of preexisting development along the bluff. These areas include lots less than one acre in size, undeveloped lots in a subdivision, and the portion of the slope between Martin Way and I-5. In those locations the buffer from McAllister Bluff shall be at least fifty feet wide, with the exact location on the bluff determined on a case by case basis through an administrative site plan review process. This buffer width must protect the stability of the bluff and maintain the visual integrity of the hillside.
24.15.025 Geologic hazard areas – Standards and allowable uses and activities within geologic hazard areas and associated buffers.

A. Those uses and activities listed in Table 24.15-1 are only allowed in geologic hazard areas or their buffers as set forth in that table, subject to the performance standards set forth in TCC 24.15.030-240;

B. All other land uses and activities not allowed pursuant to Table 24.15-1, or not mentioned in Table 24.15-1, are prohibited, unless determined otherwise pursuant to TCC 24.01.030(B);

C. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more critical areas are governed by chapter 24.01 TCC.

The general standards listed in TCC 24.15.030 apply to all uses in Table 24.15-1. The standards provided in TCC 24.15.040 – 24.15.240 apply only to those uses and activities in Table 24.15-1 when carried out within a geologic hazard area (i.e., landslide, marine bluff, erosion) or buffer. Where no specific performance standards are specified for the uses and activities in Table 24.15-1, the approval authority shall review projects based upon the purposes and provisions of this chapter. Table 24.15-1 contains the primary section references for each activity covered by this chapter.
### Table 24.15-1
Restricted Uses and Activities in Geologic Hazard Areas and Associated Buffers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Landslide Hazards</th>
<th>Marine Bluff Hazards</th>
<th>Erosion Hazards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antenna support structures regulated by chapter 20.33 TCC</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt batch plants</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat ramp or marine railway and associated vehicle access</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TCC 24.15.050</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – Maintenance or repair</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TCC 24.15.060</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – Replacement or expansion</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TCC 24.15.070</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – New construction</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TCC 24.15.080</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cemeteries</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearing and grading/timber harvest in conjunction with an approved development project <strong>TCC 24.15.090</strong></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of ponds &lt;1 acre <strong>TCC 24.15.030</strong></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of a ski lake</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical facilities--see Table 24.15-2</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drainage ditch maintenance <strong>TCC 24.15.030</strong></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling and testing for required report or engineering study <strong>TCC 24.15.030</strong></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### LEGEND

- **A** = Allowed without a Critical Area Review Permit, subject to requirements of this title
- **P** = Permitted, subject to a Critical Area Review Permit and requirements of this title
- **X** = Prohibited
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>Landslide Hazards</th>
<th>Marine Bluff Hazards</th>
<th>Erosion Hazards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency response</td>
<td>SEE CHAPTER 24.90 TCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing lots approved prior to [the effective date of this ordinance] – Construction of primary structures and associated, decks, garages, and appurtenant structures.</td>
<td>SEE CHAPTER 24.50 TCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fences (see chapter 24.60 TCC)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardening for personal consumption-existing</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat restoration/enhancement</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Infiltration of reclaimed water (application to the land’s surface above agronomic rates*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawfully established existing uses (see chapter 24.50 TCC)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawns, landscaping, golf courses, and cemeteries – Maintenance</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral extraction (Also see chapter 20.54 special uses, chapter 20.30B, and chapter 17.20 TCC – mineral extraction code)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitigation required by the county</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonconforming structures/uses – Maintenance, repair, alteration, expansion, replacement, or relocation</td>
<td>SEE CHAPTER 24.50 TCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-site sewage disposal system – Repair and replacement&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.100</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-site sewage disposal system – New construction&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.100</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open space (e.g., critical area tract)&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piers – Construction&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.110</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public park facilities, trails and developed recreation areas – Maintenance&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.120; 130</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public project of significant importance&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation activities (outdoors) – Passive and low impact outdoor recreation activities (e.g., bird watching, boating, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, jogging, photography, swimming, and similar activities).</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facilities (Passive), trails/paths, elevated walkways, and associated facilities – New&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.130</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facilities – Active (e.g., public and private parks, day camps and camping sites. This does not include clearing or structures).&lt;br&gt; <em>TCC 24.15.120</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facilities – Active – New golf courses, swimming pools, athletic fields, and other similar structures <em>TCC 24.15.120</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research (e.g., education, scientific, and site investigation) <em>TCC 24.15.030</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – Repair and maintenance <em>TCC 24.15.145</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – Replacement of lawfully established roads within maintained, improved (paved or railroad tracks) rights-of-way or easements <em>TCC 24.15.145</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – Expansion <em>TCC 24.15.140</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – New construction <em>TCC 24.15.140</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slope/shoreline stabilization – New <em>TCC 24.15.150</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slope/shoreline stabilization – Repair and maintenance <em>TCC 24.15.155</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signs (e.g., interpretation, critical area tract, and survey markers,)</td>
<td>See chapter 24.60 TCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stair tower, stairway or mechanical lift <em>TCC 24.15.160</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater conveyance system or detention/treatment facility – Maintenance/repair <em>TCC 24.15.175</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater retention/treatment facility – Construction</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater – Temporary sediment control ponds – Construction</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater – Surface water conveyance system – Construction</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater facilities on existing residential lots – New</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.170</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures-All other not addressed by this chapter</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subdivisions</td>
<td>See Chapter 24.55 TCC.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities – Maintenance, repair, or replacement</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.030</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility facility</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.178</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility transmission lines, utility corridors, outside of existing</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>improved roads and utility corridors – New construction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.178</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility lines and facilities in improved roads and utility corridors</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– New installation</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.030 and TCC 24.15.178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility service lines – Installation</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.030</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – Forest practices permit-Class IV. COHPs</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.190</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.15.210</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Vegetation removal – Invasive vegetation  
*TCC 24.15.220* | P | P | P |
| Vegetation removal – Removal of hazard trees  
*TCC 24.15.200* | P | P | P |
| Vegetation removal – Other  
*TCC 24.15.230* | P | P | P |
| Wells – New and replacement  
*TCC 24.15.240* | P | P | P |
| Wildlife blind or nesting structure | A | A | A |
| Uses allowed in the applicable zoning district/shoreline master program not listed elsewhere in this table | SEE TCC 24.15.030. | |

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24.15.030 Geologic hazard areas – General standards.
The following requirements apply, as applicable, to all uses and activities listed in Table 24.15-1.

A. Regulatory differences. See chapter 24.01 TCC.

B. Geologic assessments. Applications for all uses listed in Table 24.15-1 that require a development permit, with the exception of emergency responses provided for in chapter 24.90 TCC, shall submit a geologic assessment as specified in chapter 24.35 TCC.

C. Applications. Applications to undertake a use or activity within a geologic hazard area shall contain all information necessary to evaluate the proposed activity, its impacts, and its compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

D. Public health and safety. All development in geologic hazard areas shall be designed to protect public health and safety.

E. Avoid increased threat to adjacent properties. Development in geologic hazard areas shall be designed so it does not increase the threat of the geologic hazard to other properties that would likely be affected in the event of a slope failure, based on the professional opinion of a geotechnical professional.

F. Avoidance of impacts. All allowed uses and activities shall be designed and constructed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize negative impacts to geologic hazard areas and associated buffers. Applicants must first demonstrate an inability to avoid or reduce impacts, prior to the approval authority considering restoration and mitigation of impacts.

G. Avoid the need for shoreline stabilization. The approval authority shall deny proposed developments and uses, including subdivisions, if it is determined that the development or use would require structural shoreline stabilization measures at the time of construction/implementation or over the life of the development. Developments and uses that would require such structural shoreline stabilization must be approved through the reasonable use exception process (see chapter 24.45 TCC).

H. Surety. Applicants for proposals involving restoration or enhancement of degraded geologic hazard areas as a condition of permit approval shall submit to the county a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC.

I. Mitigation. Adverse impacts to geologic hazard areas and associated buffers shall be fully mitigated.

J. Any application of the Chapter to an existing use or structure assumes that such use or structure was legally established. A proposal to apply this Chapter to a use or structure that has not been legally established is prohibited.
24.15.050 Geologic hazard areas – Boat ramp, or marine railway and associated vehicle access.
Refer to the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, and TCC 24.25.110. Hand launching sites are not considered boat ramps under this section and are subject to the general standards in TCC 24.15.030.

24.15.060 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – Maintenance and repair.
A. Existing bridges and culverts can be maintained and repaired within the existing road bed/footprint provided best management practices are employed to avoid increasing the potential for a hazard area to fail, and to prevent erosion. Bridges and culverts must also be consistent with TCC 24.25.280-290, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas.
B. Clearing of culverts does not require a permit. Clearing of culverts shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet.

24.15.070 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – Expansion or replacement.
Expansion or replacement of a bridge or culvert is allowed if necessary to conform to current county or state standards and if:
A. The existing bridge or culvert was lawfully established; and
B. There is not another alternative available that has less adverse impact on the geologic hazard area or associated buffer; and
C. The bridge or culvert is designed to avoid or, if not possible, minimize impacts to the geologic hazard area and it is in compliance with the standards for new crossings contained in TCC 24.25.280.

24.15.080 Geologic hazard areas – Bridges and culverts – New.
New bridges and road culverts are allowed if:
A. There is not another alternative access available outside of the geologic hazard area(s) or associated buffer(s);
B. The bridge or culvert shall be designed and located in a manner that presents the lowest risk of exacerbating an existing geologic hazard or impacting the associated buffer; and
C. The bridge or culvert is designed in compliance with the standards for new crossings contained in TCC 24.25.280.

24.15.090 Geologic hazard areas – Clearing and grading.
Clearing and grading within landslide, marine bluff, and erosion hazard areas shall be limited to the area approved for development and shall not be allowed during the wet season (October 1st through May 1st) unless the approval authority determines that adequate provisions for wet season erosion have been identified in the geological assessment. All such erosion control
measures shall be implemented as a condition of wet-season clearing and grading. The approval
authority may require monitoring to ensure that the erosion control is functioning properly. The
County may further restrict grading between May 1st and October 1st and also require wet season
erosion control provisions if the site is particularly susceptible to erosion and sedimentation
that could create unstable conditions or jeopardize a wetland or important habitat. Also see chapter
14.20 TCC regarding grading requirements and the Drainage Design and Erosion Control
Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

24.15.100 Geologic hazard areas – On-site sewage systems – New and replacement.

A. New sewage systems. New on-site sewage systems shall be prohibited within geologic
hazard areas and associated buffers.

B. Replacement. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems shall be remedied through a
method that results in the least impact to the hazard area and associated buffer.
Replacement sewage disposal systems shall not be allowed within geologic hazard areas
or the associated buffers unless there is no alternative site available outside of such areas
to accommodate the facilities. This may require systems that provide a higher level of
sewage treatment. The approval authority may deny the request to replace a failing on-
site sewage system if it is determined, in consultation with a geotechnical professional,
that it poses a risk to public safety. Clearing of existing vegetation to remedy the failing
system shall be limited to the minimum extent practicable.

24.15.110 Geologic hazard areas – Piers.
Refer to the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended.

24.15.115 Geologic hazard areas – Reclaimed water.
Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston
County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and
information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act
(chapter 36.70A RCW).

24.15.120 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation – Active.
The approval authority may allow active recreation facilities, such as, but not limited to, public
and private parks and campgrounds within geologic hazard areas and associated buffers subject
to the following criteria and exceptions. Also see TCC 24.15.130,180-230, 24.25.270, and
24.30.260:

A. Active recreation facilities and access to them shall be designed and located to minimize
disturbance to the geologic hazard area and associated buffers.

B. Uses such as athletic fields, golf courses, operation of motorized recreational vehicles
(ORVs), and related structures, restrooms and parking areas shall not be located in
geologic hazard areas or associated buffers.
24.15.125 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities – Exemptions.

The following uses are exempt from the need for a critical area permit:

A. Construction and/or maintenance of a private ground trail using hand tools in the geologic hazard area, provided that the trail is three (3) feet or less in width, not impervious (e.g. gravel, rocked, paved), and constructed with minimal vegetation removal and minimal pervious material such as wood chips. Construction of the trail shall not cause a public safety risk.

B. Passive recreation activities.

24.15.130 Geologic hazard areas – Recreation facilities (Passive), trails/paths, elevated walkways, and associated facilities – New.

Trails and trail related passive recreation facilities shall only be authorized within geologic hazard areas subject to the following criteria (also see TCC 24.15.180-230, 24.25.270, and 24.30.260):

A. Trails and related passive recreation facilities shall be placed on existing levees, dikes, road grades, utility corridors, or any other previously disturbed areas to the maximum extent practicable, as determined by the director;

B. The width of trails extending through a geologic hazard area and/or buffer shall be minimized. Access paths extending through the geologic hazard area and buffer shall be no more than four feet in width unless they are designated for public access and designed to accommodate handicapped persons. In that case, the trail and associated clearing shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidance for trail construction.

C. Clearing shall be done with hand tools unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project necessitates mechanized equipment and its use will not increase the hazard associated with the geologic hazard area or buffer within and beyond the trail corridor;

D. Trails and related passive recreation facilities shall be planned to minimize vegetation removal;

E. Viewing platforms, interpretive signs, picnic areas, benches and access to them shall be designed and located to minimize disturbance;

F. Trails and related passive recreation facilities shall provide water quality protection measures to assure that runoff from them does not create channels or otherwise directly adversely affect the stability of the steep slope or marine bluff;

G. Native vegetation disturbed by trail construction shall be made available for salvage.

H. The removal or disturbance of vegetation, clearing or grading shall be prohibited:
1. During the wet season (November 1st to May 1st), or

2. During other wet time periods where clearing and grading may result in a public safety risk, as determined by the director;

I. The proposed trail shall not adversely affect existing slope conditions within the geologic hazard area, or any required buffer; and

J. Parking areas, structures, and restrooms shall be located outside the geologic hazard area and associated buffers.

24.15.140 Geologic hazard areas – Roads/streets – New and expanded.
New roads and streets are prohibited in marine bluff hazard areas and associated buffers. Proposed road crossings or encroachments into other geologic hazard areas or associated buffers shall follow all applicable local, state, and federal laws and the requirements listed below. These requirements also apply, as applicable, to road expansion within existing rights-of-way, footbridges, and private access roads.

A. Road alignments shall avoid landslide hazard areas and associated buffers, except where there is no alternative and safeguards will be employed to minimize the risk of slope failure and potential habitat degradation, consistent with a geological assessment. (See chapter 24.35 TCC).

B. Mitigation measures shall be provided that ensure the roadway prism and/or bridge structure will not be susceptible to damage from active erosion or seismically-induced ground deformation.

C. Expansion of roads in marine bluff hazard areas shall be prohibited unless it is needed for public safety. Expansion shall not result in an increase in road capacity and shall not exacerbate or create risks to public safety associated with the geologic hazard.

Roads, streets, highways, rights-of-way and other existing facilities, equipment, and appurtenances within approved rights-of-way may be maintained, repaired, resurfaced, replaced, installed, or constructed by the county or the holder of a current right-of-way use permit consistent with all applicable local, state, and federal laws. Such maintenance that involves road expansion, physical, or capacity, shall be subject to the requirements of TCC 24.15.140. Also see requirements in chapters 24.25 and 24.30 TCC.

24.15.150 Geologic hazard areas – Slope stabilization –New.
The approval authority may authorize stabilization of a steep slope or marine bluff only where they determine it to be necessary to protect lawfully established threatened existing structures as defined in this title and by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990) as amended and applicable, and that cannot be relocated with less impact to geologic hazard areas or other critical areas. Stabilization of marine shorelines is subject to standards within the
Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, TCC 24.25, and consistent with this section. Any proposal for slope/bluff stabilization must be supported by a geological assessment from a qualified geotechnical professional and a biologist and shall adhere to the following preferential order:

A. Nonstructural shoreline protective techniques. When stabilization methods are deemed necessary by the director, nonstructural shoreline protective techniques are preferred to concrete bulkheads or other types of shoreline armoring. Nonstructural techniques may include but are not limited to: beach nourishment, coarse beach fill, gravel berms, vegetation plantings and bioengineering. Best available science shall be used to evaluate the best techniques for protection as determined by the director. Refer to the Washington Department of Ecology publications “Slope Stabilization and Erosion Control Using Vegetation” (1993, Publication 93-30), and “Marine Shoreline Armoring and Puget Sound” (2010, Publication 10-06-003).

B. Bioengineering. If necessary, stabilization of slopes and marine bluffs shall be accomplished with bioengineering or similar “soft” stabilization techniques unless the applicant’s qualified engineer and biologist demonstrate that such techniques are not sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed above from erosion and slope failure. The stabilization shall be designed and installed to minimize adverse impacts on the habitat’s functions.

C. Combination of bioengineering and hard armoring. If the applicant’s qualified engineer and/or biologist demonstrates to the approval authority that bioengineering alone will not be sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed above, the approval authority may authorize a combination of bioengineering and structural solutions that is least damaging to the habitat. The stabilization shall be designed and installed to minimize any adverse impacts on habitat functions. The structural stabilization solutions shall comply with subsection D below.

D. Structural techniques (e.g., bulkhead, gabion, riprap, revetments, or wall). If the applicant’s qualified engineer and biologist demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the techniques provided above are not possible or will not be sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed above from erosion and slope failure, they may, in consultation with a biologist and qualified engineer at the applicant’s expense, approve a structural stabilization solution consistent with the following:

1. Hard armoring, such as rip-rap and bulkheads may only be allowed when the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority that a public facility, public road, utility (not individual service lines that can be relocated), sole access road, or occupied structure cannot be safely and practically maintained without such measures. The armoring shall be the minimum length necessary to protect the structure.
2. Structural techniques shall only be allowed along the toe of a marine bluff when:
   
   a. It is to protect a legally permitted threatened structure; and
   
   b. The residence and normal appurtenances are located within the 2:1 slope measured from the toe of the bluff or within the 50-foot top of slope buffer, whichever is greater; and
   
   c. Only if a marine bluff geotechnical assessment completed per chapter 24.35 TCC finds that the structure to be protected will be threatened based on the long-term erosion rate (30-50 year average) within the next three years if toe protection is not provided.

3. Hard armoring shall not be allowed along Type F and S waters in salmonid rearing areas unless it is necessary to protect critical public facilities, human life, or threatened dwellings.

E. Retaining Wall (Not a Bulkhead). The approval authority may allow retaining walls to provide protection for a threatened existing legally established single-family residence or public road where other nonstructural or bioengineering techniques have not been successful or would not be appropriate. Design, placement and mitigation shall be established by a geotechnical assessment and revegetation plan as described in chapter 24.35 TCC.

F. Designed by engineer. A professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington with demonstrated expertise regarding hydraulic actions along shorelines shall design stabilization projects along streams and marine shorelines in consultation with a qualified biologist.

G. Avoid intrusion into the important habitat area of a geologic hazard area. Any new or replaced shoreline protective structures shall be placed as close to the existing bank as possible and parallel to the natural shoreline. In areas where dry land has been previously created by fill behind the bulkhead, the replacement structure should be designed to remove the fill and place the new structure as close to the historical OHWM as possible.

H. Nontoxic materials. Approved stabilization shall only use materials that do not pose a risk to water quality, consistent with best available science.

I. Slope stabilization. Slope stabilization is only allowed in Geologic Hazards, if consistent with chapter 24.25 TCC, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas and chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas, and only where erosion or landsliding threatens a use listed in this section. Bioengineering shall be used where possible.

J. A mitigation plan for impacts to geologic hazard areas including the shoreline ecological functions as a result of the armoring shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and implemented immediately following construction. Mitigation measures may include
temporary or perpetual beach feeding with appropriate substrate, additional woody debris, revegetation of the adjacent upland area, or other measures designed to minimize the impacts to the nearshore environment from armoring.

K. Prior to any approval of shoreline armoring, the applicant shall demonstrate that other measures have been taken to address the erosion or other threats to the structure. This includes improving or installing a functioning drainage system, minimizing impervious areas, restoration of trees and other native vegetation on the adjacent buffer slope or bluff, possible relocation of structures, or other measures that would improve stabilization and reduce the threat to the structure.

24.15.155 Geologic hazard areas – Shoreline stabilization – Repair, maintenance, or renovation.
Repair, maintenance, or renovation of lawfully established shoreline stabilization structures is permitted consistent with state and federal regulations and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, provided that the facilities are not increased in height or length or expanded waterward. Replacement of existing shoreline stabilization structures shall be considered a new use subject to the requirements of 24.15.150 TCC, and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended.

24.15.160 Geologic hazard areas – Stair tower, stairway, and mechanical lift.
A. Stair towers, stairways, and mechanical lifts may be permitted consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), as amended, and TCC 24.25.110.

B. Stair towers, stairways, and mechanical lifts shall be designed and constructed to avoid adverse impacts to existing slope conditions.

24.15.170 Geologic hazard areas – Stormwater facilities on existing lots – New.
New stormwater facilities and swales proposed to store, treat and/or convey stormwater for single family residential development on existing lots may be constructed within geologic hazard areas and associated buffers consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC) under the following conditions:

A. No alternative. The applicant shall demonstrate that there is no alternative for accommodating stormwater with less impact to the hazard area and/or buffer due to topography or other physical constraint. The facilities shall be designed and located to minimize impacts on the geologic hazard area and associated buffer.

B. Geologic hazard areas and associated buffers. If there is no alternative with less impact, stormwater facilities shall be constructed as follows:

1. Surface drainage down the face of the slope must be avoided and must be consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County 15.05 TCC, as amended. If drainage must be discharged, it shall be collected upland of the top of the slope and conveyed by tight line drain through a
high-density polyethylene pipe with fuse-welded joints, or similar product that is technically equal or superior. The pipe shall be located on the surface of the ground and properly anchored so that it will continue to function in the event of an underlying slide or active erosion conditions. The stormwater shall be treated prior to release by a method that meets clean water standards and poses the least risk of destabilizing the slope (e.g. a compost filter).

2. If drainage must be discharged to a water body below the landslide or erosion hazard area, the conveyance system described in paragraph 1 above shall include an energy dissipating device at the edge of the water body and must comply with 15.05 TCC.

3. Surface drainage not discharged per paragraphs 1 or 2 above, must be directed away from the slope and collected in a tight line or other approved method for discharge to an acceptable natural drainage. The tight line drain should terminate at the drainage course rather than at a point upslope within the natural drainage course to avoid erosion or destabilization.

4. A maintenance and monitoring plan shall be developed for approved tight line drainages.

5. If tight lining is not possible, stormwater retention and detention systems, such as dry wells and infiltration systems (including those utilizing buried pipe, French drains, or swales), within a landslide or erosion hazard area or associated buffers shall require approval of a Reasonable Use Exception, in compliance with chapter 24.45 TCC and 15.05 TCC. Any such system receiving approval of a Reasonable Use Exception shall be designed by a licensed civil engineer and shall include a geological assessment indicating that such a system will not affect the stability of the slope. A monitoring plan shall be required through one wet season, at a minimum, for a proposed infiltration system and the results included in the geotechnical assessment.

6. Proposals in geologic hazard areas and associated buffers located within jurisdiction of the Shoreline Management Act shall comply with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended.

24.15.175 Geologic hazard areas – Stormwater facilities – Repair and maintenance. Repair and maintenance of existing stormwater retention, treatment and conveyance systems within a geologic hazard area or associated buffers is permitted subject to review.

24.15.178 Geologic hazard areas – Utility transmission lines and facilities – New. Installation of utility lines and facilities is permitted in existing rights-of-way and utility corridors consistent with applicable regulations (see title 13, TCC). The alignment of underground utility transmission lines outside of existing rights-of-way shall avoid geologic hazard areas to the greatest extent possible. The approval authority may allow underground utility lines within these areas when it is determined that there are no practicable alternatives or if
the utility lines will be consolidated with a road crossing or parallel to an existing utility crossing at the minimum separation distances established by the county for such uses.

A. Utility corridors. Utility corridor alignment, construction, restoration, and maintenance shall adhere to the following standards:

1. Utility corridor alignment shall fall outside of geologic hazard areas and associated buffers to the maximum extent possible where it would have the least impact on the functions of the geologic hazard area and associated buffers. The approval authority may require submission of a feasibility study that demonstrates that alternative routing with less impact on the geologic hazard is not possible.

2. The utility corridor shall have the minimum width practicable.

3. The utility corridor alignment and utility installation shall not cause an increased risk of landslide or significant erosion that would impact other critical areas or cause public safety issue.

4. Clearing shall be limited to the minimum necessary to locate the utility. Cutting of conifer trees greater than 12 inches in diameter (at four and one-half feet above the ground on the uphill side of the tree) shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible, consistent with the preservation of important habitats within or adjacent to the geologic hazard area.

5. The utility corridor shall provide for other necessary uses and facilities whenever possible. Conduit containing new utilities shall be sized to provide capacity for additional lines and cables.

6. Utility corridors shall be revegetated with appropriate native vegetation, compatible with the utility facility and, whenever possible, equivalent to preconstruction densities. Restoration shall occur immediately upon completion of construction or soon thereafter under seasonal constraints or work windows established pursuant to this chapter. The applicant shall submit a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure that such vegetation survives or is replaced.

7. Staging areas. Staging areas for equipment and materials shall be located outside of the geologic hazard area and associated buffers.

8. Maintenance plan. Applicants shall submit a maintenance plan for the corridor for approval by the county consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

B. Individual utility service lines. Overhead lines or cables serving an individual use are permitted if no alternative is available, they meet state and federal requirements and do not impair the functions of the geologic hazard area or associated important habitat area. Poles supporting such lines shall be located outside of the geologic hazard area when
feasible. If a pole is necessary within the geologic hazard area, it shall be located where it would be least damaging to the geologic hazard area, as determined by the approval authority.

Buried service lines serving an individual uses are permitted upon demonstration that they will not have an adverse impact on the geologic hazard area. The site shall be restored upon completion of the utility installation.

24.15.180 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – General.
Vegetation removal is prohibited in geologic hazard areas and associated buffers except as provided for in this chapter.

24.15.190 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Forest practices permit.
A. Class IV Forest Practices Permits and Conversion Option Harvest Plans (COHPs) are subject to the standards of this Chapter.

B. The harvesting of trees with an approved Class II or Class III forest practices permit is subject to review and approval by Washington Department of Natural Resources and shall not be subject to the standards of this Chapter.

C. Harvesting of trees within erosion hazard areas that do not meet the definition of landslide hazard or marine bluff hazard areas may be permitted. Removal of trees within an erosion hazard area shall not result in impacts to soil stability. This may require additional soils or geotechnical reports to evaluate impacts and/or identify mitigation measures.

24.15.200 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Hazard trees.
The approval authority may authorize the limbing, thinning or removal of hazard trees located within a geologic hazard area or buffer provided that:

A. The approval authority may require the applicant to submit a report from an appropriate professional(s) (certified arborist, geotechnical engineer, professional forester, etc.) that document the hazard. The professional arborist may recommend suitable replacement trees for any trees removed pursuant to this subsection.

B. Tree cutting is limited to limbing or crown thinning in compliance with National Arborist Association pruning standards, unless the tree has a disease that would jeopardize the survival of other trees, or felling the tree is otherwise justified by the landowner/expert to eliminate hazard trees or to otherwise protect the integrity of the bluff or slope.

C. Trees subject to wind throw that may increase slope instability if they blow down may be removed, subject to a report from the appropriate professional(s) (e.g., certified arborist, geotechnical engineer, professional forester, etc.) to confirm that there is a risk of wind throw and that removal of the tree(s) will not decrease slope stability.
D. The landowner shall replace any tree that is taken down in the buffer. Replacement trees shall be native, field grown, 15 gallon pot size, a height of four (4) feet, and be three (3) years old. Larger trees may be required when there are insufficient remaining trees in the buffer to ensure slope stability and prevent the creation of more hazard trees, as determined by the approval authority.

E. To ensure survival of replacement trees, replacement shall be at a ratio of 3:1 for each tree removed. The approval authority may require that the trees be planted from October to February and that watering, maintenance, and/or monitoring plans be submitted to ensure their survival. Demarcation and protection of planted trees may be required to ensure tree survival.

24.15.210 Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds.
Removal of noxious weeds, as defined by chapter 16-750 WAC, under the direction of the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board, is permitted in geologic hazard areas and associated buffers consistent with a county approved integrated pest management plan, applicable county and state regulations, any applicable approved farm plan, and this section. Prior to requiring removal of noxious weeds within a landslide or marine bluff hazard area or associated buffer that would involve the use of motorized equipment or broadcast spraying of herbicides, the Noxious Weed Control Board staff shall consult with the Resource Stewardship Department to evaluate alternative methods of weed removal and the associated risks to the stability of the landslide or marine bluff hazard area and buffer.

A. Plant removal shall be performed with hand labor, including the use of hand held non-motorized tools, unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project warrants use of small scale motorized equipment (e.g., riding mowers or light mechanical cultivating equipment) or other method (i.e., application of herbicide in accordance with state and federal law by a licensed applicator) and use of the equipment/method does not pose a significant risk to untargeted areas, slope stability, or habitat functions.

B. Plant removal that would expose more than 500 square feet of soil within a landslide or marine bluff hazard area or buffer shall require submission of a plan for county approval that identifies the proposed plant removal and site restoration consistent with the provisions of this section.

C. Erosion shall be effectively controlled and exposed areas shall be stabilized immediately following plant removal consistent with the chapter 15.05 TCC. If the area of exposed soil lies within the landslide or marine bluff hazard area or the buffer, the exposed area shall be planted with appropriate plant species present in the area at a density that will provide complete ground cover at maturity, unless the approval authority determines that the area will revegetate naturally without jeopardizing slope stability or habitat functions.

D. Vegetation removal shall be the minimum extent necessary; and shall not create a public safety risk.
24.15.220  Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Invasive plants.

Removal of invasive plants is permitted subject to all of the following:

A. Plant removal shall be performed such that it will not increase the likelihood of erosion or slope instability within marine bluff or landslide hazard areas and associated buffers, significantly damage untargeted vegetation, or impair any habitat functions.

B. Plant removal shall be performed with hand labor, including the use of hand held, non-motorized tools, unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project warrants use of small scale motorized equipment (e.g., riding mowers or light mechanical cultivating equipment) or other method (i.e., application of herbicide in accordance with state and federal law by a licensed applicator) and use of the equipment/method does not pose a significant risk to untargeted areas, slope stability, or habitat functions.

C. Plant removal that would expose more than 500 square feet of soil in a contiguous area within a landslide or marine bluff hazard area or buffer shall require submission of a plan for county approval that identifies the proposed plant removal and site restoration consistent with the provisions of this section.

D. Erosion shall be effectively controlled and exposed areas shall be stabilized immediately following plant removal consistent with the chapter 15.05 TCC. If the area of exposed soil lies within the landslide or marine bluff hazard area or the buffer, the exposed area shall be planted with appropriate plant species present in the area at a density that will provide complete ground cover at maturity, unless the approval authority determines that the area will revegetate naturally without jeopardizing slope stability or habitat functions.

24.15.230  Geologic hazard areas – Vegetation removal – Other.

Other vegetation may be removed from the hazard area and associated buffer, as follows:

A. Removal of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary for surveying or testing purposes is allowed, as determined by the approval authority.

B. Marine Bluff or Landslide Hazard Area. The approval authority may allow the trimming or limited removal of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary to provide a view corridor, provided that view corridors are limited to a maximum width of twenty feet. The trimming of limbs on individual trees is preferred to the removal of trees. Trimming shall be limited to limbing or crown thinning in compliance with National Arborist Association pruning standards. Trimming shall not include felling, topping, or removal of trees, or jeopardizing the tree’s survival. Prior to tree removal, the approval authority shall require the applicant to submit a report from the appropriate professional(s) (e.g., arborist, geotechnical engineer, professional forester, etc) to confirm that removal of the tree(s) will not increase the hazard.

C. Erosion Hazard Areas. The applicant shall comply with TCC 24.15.090 when removing vegetation within an erosion hazard area.
D. Other vegetation may be managed by the periodic mowing of previously cleared areas to maintain pasture vegetation or other vegetation management designed to stabilize the slope or bluff.

24.15.240 Geologic hazard areas – Wells – New and replacement.
New or replacement wells serving an approved individual use are allowed within geologic hazard areas and associated buffers, as specified in Table 24.15-1, provided that:

A. There is not minimally sufficient area on the property outside the hazard area and/or buffer to accommodate the well, as determined by the approval authority; and

B. New on-site wells shall be consistent with the applicable provisions of Articles III of The Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water Supplies; and

C. If a landslide or marine bluff hazard area is present on the site, the approval authority may require the applicant to demonstrate that the drilling will not destabilize the slope; and

D. Vegetation removal shall be consistent with this chapter; and

E. Pumphouses, wellhouses and any associated structures shall be located outside of geologic hazard areas and their associated buffers.
### Table 24.15-2--Critical Facilities for Thurston County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupancy Category</th>
<th>Nature of Occupancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IV. Essential</td>
<td>Hospitals and other medical facilities having surgery and emergency treatment areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fire, rescue and police stations and other emergency vehicle garages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water treatment facilities required to maintain water pressure for fire suppression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Designated earthquake, hurricane or other emergency shelters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Designated emergency preparedness, communication, and operation centers and other facilities required for emergency response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Power-generating stations and other public utility facilities required as emergency backup facilities for essential facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aviation control towers, air traffic control centers, and emergency aircraft hangars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Structures containing sufficient quantities of toxic materials or explosive substances to be dangerous to the safety of the general public if released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Hazardous</td>
<td>Buildings and other structures having critical national defense functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings and other structures where more than 300 people congregate in one area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings and other structures with elementary school, secondary school, or day care facilities with an occupant load &gt; 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings and other structures with an occupant load greater &gt; 500 for colleges or adult education facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health care facilities with an occupant load of 50 or more resident patients but not having surgery or emergency treatment facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jails and detention facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All structures with occupancy load &gt; 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Power-generating stations, water treatment for potable water, waste water treatment facilities and other public utility facilities not included as an Essential Facility, above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings and other structures not included as an Essential Facility, above, containing sufficient quantities of toxic or explosive substances to be dangerous to the public if released</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 24.15-3 -- Erosion Soils of Thurston County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Symbol</th>
<th>Soil Name</th>
<th>Percent Slope</th>
<th>Water Erosion Hazard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Alderwood gravelly sandy loam</td>
<td>30-50%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Baldhill very stony sandy loam</td>
<td>30-50%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Baumgard loam</td>
<td>40-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Baumgard-Pheeney complex</td>
<td>40-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Baumgard-Rock outcrop complex</td>
<td>40-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Dystric Xerochrepts</td>
<td>60-90%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Everett very gravelly sandy loam</td>
<td>30-50%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Jonas silt loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Kapowsin silt loam</td>
<td>30-50%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Mal clay loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Mashel loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>Pheeney gravelly loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Pheeney-Baumgard complex</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Pheeney-Rock outcrop complex</td>
<td>40-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Pheeney-Rock outcrop complex</td>
<td>65-90%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Rainier clay loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Rock outcrop-Pheeney complex</td>
<td>40-90%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td>Tenino silt loam</td>
<td>30-60%</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Vailton silt loam</td>
<td>30-65%</td>
<td>severe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 24.16

SEISMIC HAZARD AREA

Sections:
24.16.010  Seismic hazard area – General purposes.
24.16.020  Seismic hazard area - Applicability.
24.16.030  Seismic hazard area – Development standards and review.

24.16.010  Seismic hazard area – General purposes.
The purposes of this section are to:

A.  Protect public health and safety;
B.   Establish minimum requirements to address seismic hazards; and
C.   Identify seismic hazard areas in Thurston County.

24.16.020  Seismic hazard area - Applicability.
This chapter applies to all properties in Thurston County.  Seismic activity can be unpredictable and may exceed the scope of this title and other requirements of the Thurston County Code. Such events may cause serious personal or bodily injury, including death, and damage to or loss of property.  Too many uncertainties exist about the source, size and mobility of future events.  This chapter is not a guarantee against damage or injury due to seismic activity.

24.16.030  Seismic hazard area – Development standards and review.
A.  Buildings shall be subject to the design requirements and review process in Title 14 TCC, Buildings and Construction.

B.  Subdivision of property in an area that has a liquefaction susceptibility rating of high may occur provided that a geological report is provided that identifies sufficient buildable area outside of the area that has a liquefaction susceptibility rating of high.  The boundary of the area that has a liquefaction susceptibility rating of high shall be clearly shown on the map.

C.  New roads, bridges, and utilities shall only be allowed in an area that has a liquefaction susceptibility rating of high when there is no feasible alternative location.  Geotechnical analysis and design shall be provided to ensure the roadway, bridge and utility structures and facilities will not be susceptible to damage from seismic-induced ground deformation.  Proposals shall be designed consistent with other requirements in the Thurston County Code, including Title 13 TCC, Roads and Bridges, Title 14 TCC, Buildings and Construction, and other applicable regulations.
Chapter 24.17

VOLCANIC HAZARD AREA

Sections:
24.17.010 Volcanic hazard area – General purposes.
24.17.020 Volcanic hazard area – Applicability.
24.17.030 Volcanic hazard area – Development standards and review.
24.17.040 Volcanic hazard area – Additional reasonable use exception criteria.

24.17.010 Volcanic hazard area – General purposes.
The purposes of this section are to:

A. Protect public health and safety given current information on volcanic hazards;
B. Minimize damage to property due to volcanic events; and
C. Identify approximate locations of volcanic hazard areas.

24.17.020 Volcanic hazard area – Applicability.
This chapter applies to all properties in Thurston County meeting the definition for volcanic hazard area in chapter 24.03 TCC. However, because volcanic activity can be unpredictable and may exceed the scope of this title, other areas of the county may be affected. Such low-probability, high-consequence events and other events documented by the United States Geological Survey, the State of Washington, or Thurston County may cause serious personal or bodily injury, including death, and damage to or loss of property. Too many uncertainties exist about the source, size and mobility of future events to locate hazard-free zones with absolute confidence. This chapter is not a guarantee against damage or injury due to volcanic activity.

24.17.030 Volcanic hazard area – Development standards and review.
A. No new critical facilities as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC and listed in Table 24.15-2 TCC shall be constructed or located in Case 1 lahar volcanic hazard areas; and
B. Existing critical facilities may be expanded so long as the existing evacuation plan is amended to demonstrate that any additional people can be evacuated in an amount of time less than the anticipated time that it takes a lahar to reach the facility. The time that it takes a lahar to reach a given point is calculated from the source of the event to the given point; and
C. An evacuation plan shall be provided for all multi-family, subdivisions with more than four lots, lodging, and public assembly uses with posting of the plan in all occupied rooms; and
D. For all new permitted uses and structures approved under this title, recordation on the title with the Thurston County Auditor that:
1. Acknowledges that the development is within a Case 1 lahar volcanic hazard area for Mount Rainier, and is subject to debris flows and other hazards that potentially endangers property and life; and

2. The owner and all future owners take complete responsibility for development and occupation of the residence or structure and hold Thurston County and its employees harmless for any damage suffered because of volcanic hazards; and

3. Acknowledges that evacuation is the sole responsibility of the owner or occupant and that information on potential evacuation routes and holding areas is available from local emergency management agencies.

**24.17.040 Volcanic hazard area – Additional reasonable use exception criteria.**

In addition to the decision criteria in chapter 24.45 TCC for granting reasonable use exceptions, reasonable use exceptions for the critical facilities listed in Table 24.15-2 proposed to be located in volcanic hazard areas shall also comply with the following conditions:

A. The applicant shall show through submittal of travel time data the amount of time that is anticipated for a Case 1 lahar to reach the proposed project and evacuation route.

B. The applicant has demonstrated that through submittal of a volcanic hazard emergency evacuation plan that:

1. The proposed project is located near a safety zone (area completely located outside the limits of a Case 1 lahar) that is within walking distance in an amount of time less than the anticipated time that it takes a lahar and/or flood waters from the release of water from the Tacoma Power Structures (dams) to reach a given point, whichever is less. The time that it takes a lahar and/or flood waters to reach a given point is calculated from the source of the event to the given point. The time of walking distance will be calculated based upon the amount of time necessary for physically or mentally challenged individuals to get from the proposed project to the safety zone any lahars off of Mt. Rainier may be mitigated or enhanced by the Tacoma Power Structures (dams); and

2. The evacuation route is at a slope and surface to be considered handicapped accessible; and

3. The evacuation route has been determined not to contain any other potential natural hazards, such as landslide or flood hazards, to cause a blockage or destruction of the evacuation route during an event (i.e. seismic event causes the evacuation route to become impassible because of a landslide or soil liquefaction, or a release of water from the Tacoma Power Structures upstream that are likely to flood evacuation routes); and

4. The evacuation route is not located adjacent to any highways or arterial road networks that may cause a life safety threat to evacuating pedestrians; and
5. The safety zone is an area with adequate ingress/egress following an event, and that individuals have the ability to exit without going out of a safety zone.

C. Proposed critical facilities shall have an adequate contingency plan that identifies where occupants and emergency response equipment and vehicles will be relocated in the event that a lahar damages the facility to an uninhabitable condition.
Chapter 24.18

MINE HAZARD AREA

Sections:
24.18.010 Mine hazard area – General purposes.
24.18.020 Mine hazard area – Applicability – Permitted uses.
24.18.030 Mine hazard area – Maps.
24.18.040 Mine hazard area – Development standards and review.
24.18.050 Mine hazard area – Standards for mine hazards studies.

24.18.010 Mine hazard area – General purposes.
The purposes of this chapter are to:

A. Protect public health and safety given current information on mine hazards;

B. Minimize damage to property due to mine hazards; and

C. Identify approximate locations of mine hazard areas.

24.18.020 Mine hazard area – Applicability – Permitted uses.
A. Mine hazard areas in Thurston County are generally limited to coal mines in south central Thurston County.

B. This chapter applies to areas in Thurston County that may be designated as a mine hazard area as defined in Chapter 24.03 TCC, which include those areas within 100 horizontal feet of a mine opening at the surface or which are underlain at a depth of 300 feet or less by mine workings.

C. Permitted uses in mine hazard areas shall be the same as the underlying zoning district except that critical facilities listed in Table 24.15-2 shall not be permitted.

24.18.030 Mine hazard area - Maps.
Mine workings are identified in the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Earth Resources, Open File Report 94-7 “The Washington State Coal Mine Map Collection: A Catalog, Index, and User’s Guide,” Open File Report 84-6 “Inventory of Abandoned Coal Mines in the State of Washington,” and specific maps and surveys of mine workings on file with the Department of Natural Resources. General areas of coal mines have been delineated on maps provided by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. These maps relied on annual reports submitted by mining companies since about 1900. Mines abandoned prior to 1900, and some small and unregistered mines are not documented in filed reports. Maps note broad areas suspected of posing coal-mine hazards and may not show individual mines. Because the lack of a full historic record for coal mines leaves uncertainties on the location of all coal mine hazards, Thurston County cannot guarantee that all coal mine hazard areas are noted on maps. This chapter is not a guarantee against damage or injury due to coal mine hazards.
24.18.040 Mine hazard area – Development standards and review.

A. Development on or near a mine hazard area requires the applicant to first demonstrate that no hazards to health or safety exist at the proposed site.

B. Development within mine hazard areas shall be accompanied by technical studies by qualified professionals that assess the potential risk from mine entries, shafts and ventilation facilities; investigate potential future trough subsidence or sinkhole development due to collapse of abandoned coal mines; and identify specific measures to mitigate the risk in accordance with the criteria below:

1. Mine entries and shafts shall be permanently sealed using controlled backfill and/or grouting, or an approved, engineered seal and shall include permanent diversion of surface drainage away from the shaft or mine entry; and

2. Existing sinkholes and shallow prospect excavations shall be backfilled to surface using controlled placement of suitable backfill and shall include permanent diversion of surface drainage away from existing sinkholes and prospect excavations; and

3. Potential sinkhole hazards shall be assessed by a qualified professional utilizing direct subsurface investigations that demonstrate coal mine workings either do not exist, or that the workings have fully collapsed so that there is no remaining potential for sinkhole development, or show that the hazards associated with any voids that are identified are fully mitigated by backfilling, grouting, or other approved means such that the potential for sinkhole development is eliminated; and

4. Any coal mine waste dump shall be demonstrated to be stable through analysis by a qualified professional. If the coal mine waste dump does not meet the stability criteria, it shall be regraded or otherwise mitigated to meet stability criteria. If springs or seeps discharge from the coal mine waste dump, materials shall be removed or be covered with a minimum of two feet of clean soil and be revegetated with native vegetation. Development shall not be permitted within 100 feet of any coal mine waste dump that shows evidence of current or past combustion. Development may be permitted over coal mine waste material only if an investigation and analysis by a qualified professional identifies feasible construction criteria for foundation stability and performance; and

5. Mine gas hazards shall be mitigated by backfilling all mine entries, shafts and sinkholes and providing appropriate venting; and

6. Mine fire potential shall be assessed through analysis by a qualified professional. Development shall not be permitted within 100 feet of mine workings where investigations indicate the possibility of combustion or the possible presence of existing combustion in the underlying seam or seams.
C. As a result of geotechnical investigations, the director may require special studies to ensure proposed buildings, utilities, and roads are constructed to adequate engineering specifications to address subsidence effects, strains, tilts and other issues associated with mine hazards areas.

24.18.050 Mine hazard area – Standards for mine hazard studies.
In addition to the geologic hazard assessment requirements in Chapter 24.35 TCC for special reports, the following are also required in mine hazard areas:

A. A mine hazard assessment shall contain all available documentary information about mine workings and the results of a surface reconnaissance that shall identify any public safety mine hazards, mine waste dumps, or evidence of mine subsidence or sinkholes and shall include:

1. Historical mining data, including available copies of original mine records for mine workings; and

2. A map showing property boundaries, mine hazard boundaries, and any potential hazards identified within 100 feet of the property.

B. Shallow hazards such as entry portals, shaft collars, ventilation shafts, prospects, and mine waste dumps may be investigated by test pits or trenching, provided the method enables an investigation to an adequate depth for the hazard being investigated.

C. Site-Specific Evaluation of Potential Trough Subsidence:

1. Review of available records of original mine workings that could potentially influence the site by trough subsidence shall include:

   a. Locations, depths and thicknesses of such seams and workings; and

   b. Mine workings that could potentially influence the site shall be determined by projecting the downdip limit angle from the lowest limit of the documented workings to the ground surface. Mine workings are considered to potentially influence the property if the property lies within the line at which the limit angle intersects the ground surface.

2. Subsurface conditions may be evaluated by drilling. Drilling is the most acceptable method for providing information for reducing the remaining mine height value used in subsidence calculations to less than the height of the original workings. For these evaluations:

   a. Drillholes shall be logged continuously from 100 feet above to 20 feet below mine working, including lithology at five-foot intervals, drill fluid circulation, penetration rate, and free fall of the drill string; and
b. Greater confidence will be placed in core drilling logs than rotary drilling logs; and

c. As a guidelines, a minimum of one drillhole penetrating each seam that could potentially cause trough subsidence at the site should be drilled for each 200-foot length of the adit; and

d. Surface geophysics, or other indirect means, may be used to assist in projecting information between and beyond drillholes, but shall not be accepted as the sole method for evaluating the condition of underground mine workings and calculating remaining mine height.

3. Calculation of trough subsidence magnitudes, tilt and strains shall be in accordance with the empirical function method of the British National Coal Board, as presented in their Subsidence Engineers Handbook, adjusted to reflect the effects of inclined seams and downdip limit angles encountered, and shall be based on a conservative evaluation of site conditions developed from the review of available records, site investigation, and subsurface exploration. Calculations shall consider the following:

a. Calculations shall calculate the subsidence factor, and the downdip limit angle with direct field evidence or a review of detailed mine records; and

b. Remaining mine height shall be presumed to be equal to the seam thickness for the subsidence calculations unless evidence from drilling justifies modification; and

c. The calculation of potential tilts and strains shall consider effects of individual panel widths and barrier pillar widths. If direct subsurface investigation indicates that the mine workings are fully collapsed, an estimate of potential surface settlements due to consolidation of rubble and loose material shall be made for the cumulative effect of all seams that could induce trough subsidence at the site.

4. Site plans shall be prepared showing the proposed development and calculated magnitudes of potential subsidence, strains, and tilts at the property boundaries and at the location of any proposed structures. This also includes the following:

a. A map showing contours of potential subsidence magnitudes, strains, and tilts throughout the property shall be submitted for use in design of roads and utilities; and

b. Appropriate recommendations shall be provided for structural and civil design requirements.
D. Site-specific evaluation for potential sinkhole hazards:

1. Review of available records shall be as in subsection A (1) of this section.

2. Subsurface conditions for workings located within 200 feet of the ground surface shall be investigated by drilling. For this investigation:
   a. Drillhole sites shall be selected at representative locations and at representative working depths. A minimum of five drillholes shall be drilled along the alignment of any linear structure, such as proposed roads or utility lines designed to cross a mine hazard area. No fewer than one drillhole per acre shall be provided for a site.
   b. Core drilling is preferred, but is not compulsory. Rotary drilling is an acceptable method, provided it is used in combination with downhole geophysical logging, including caliper logs. Drilling shall penetrate immediately above and through the predicted mine workings locations to facilitate interpretation of the conditions of the mine workings.
   c. Drillholes shall be logged continuously throughout their length, including lithology at five-foot intervals for rotary drillholes, drill fluid circulation, penetration rate, and free fall of the drill string.

E. The director may waive or reduce engineering study and design requirements for alterations in mine hazard areas for the following:

1. Additions or alterations to legally existing structures meeting the requirements in place at the time of construction that do not increase occupancy or significantly affect the risk of structural damage or injury; and

2. Buildings that are defined as agricultural buildings in 14.46.010 TCC.
Chapter 24.20

FREQUENTLY FLOODED AREAS

24.20.005 Frequently flooded areas – Purposes.

The purposes of this section are to:

A. Augment development standards in chapter 14.38 TCC regarding development in flood hazard areas.

B. Identify areas affected by natural flooding and stream channel migration and minimize the amount of development at risk in such areas in order to protect human life and safety; minimize damage to homes and places of business; minimize business interruptions; avoid or minimize damage to public facilities and utilities including, but not limited to, water and
gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, roads and bridges; and to minimize the expenditure of public funds for flood control projects, rescue and relief efforts and repair of flood damage.

C. Preserve natural flood control by retaining the capacity of floodways to pass floodwaters and associated debris and by retaining the capacity of floodplains to store flood waters.

D. Restrict structures, facilities, flood loss reduction measures (including, but not limited to, hard armoring and stream channelization), grading, dredging, filling and other development in areas subject to flooding that could displace flood carrying capacity or increase flood heights or velocities.

E. Protect the quality and quantity of water sustaining humans, fish, shellfish and wildlife by avoiding or minimizing siltation and pollution associated with flooding. This includes, but is not limited to, prohibiting or restricting uses in flood prone areas that pose significant risks to water quality when they are inundated.

F. Minimize disruption of stream channel migration that forms fish and wildlife habitat by minimizing streambank stabilization and construction of new structures that would be affected by stream channel migration.

G. Maintain the linkages of the stream to the nutrient reserves in its floodplains.

H. Regulate frequently flooded areas as a critical area, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.030.

24.20.010 Frequently flooded areas – Applicability.
The provisions of this chapter apply to frequently flooded areas and one-hundred year channel migration hazard areas as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC.

24.20.015 High ground water flood hazard areas – Base flood elevation.
The base flood elevation (BFE) for high ground water flood hazard areas corresponds to the elevation of the outer edge of the high ground water flood hazard area. The map entitled “High Ground Water Flood Hazard Areas,” depicts the approximate location of the high groundwater flood hazard area. The actual location of the outer edge of the flood hazard area shall be determined consistent with TCC 24.20.030 and 24.20.035, as applicable.

24.20.020 High groundwater flood hazard areas – No development zone.
The no development zone (NDZ) is an area extending fifty feet, measured on a horizontal plane, from the outer edge of the high ground water hazard area or extending to a ground elevation two feet (vertically) above the base flood elevation, whichever is less. Development is prohibited in the no development zone.

24.20.025 High groundwater flood hazard areas – Restricted development zone.
In situations where the no development zone is based on elevation, there may not be a restricted development zone (see Figure 24.20-1). The restricted development zone (RDZ) extends from the outer edge of the no development zone to a ground elevation two feet (vertically) above the base flood elevation, except:
A. The approval authority may exclude areas less than two feet in elevation above the base flood elevation from the restricted development zone if the applicant’s registered professional civil engineer licensed in the State of Washington demonstrates that due to drainage patterns (including the location and size of any existing culverts and ditches), topography, physical barriers, geologic conditions, hydrology, distance from the high groundwater flood hazard area or other relevant factors that the area proposed to be removed from the restricted development zone and adjacent properties will not flood. The approval authority may consult with an engineering geologist, hydrogeologist, professional engineer, or other qualified professional as necessary, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate the flooding potential of the area proposed to be removed from the restricted development zone. The County shall provide the applicant with a cost estimate and obtain their approval prior to consulting with the experts. The application may be closed if the applicant chooses not to bear the cost of the evaluation; or

B. On sloping parcels where the topography does not reach two feet in elevation above the BFE before it falls in elevation below the base flood elevation, the approval authority shall set the outer boundary of the restricted development zone at the highest point above the base flood elevation (see Figure 24.20-2), if the applicant’s registered professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington demonstrates that the area beyond has no or negligible risk of flooding. The approval authority may consult with an engineering geologist, hydrogeologist, professional engineer, or other qualified professional as necessary, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate the flooding potential of the area proposed to be removed from the restricted development zone. The County shall provide the applicant with a cost estimate and obtain their approval prior to consulting with the experts. The application may be closed if the applicant chooses not to bear the cost of the evaluation; or

C. All new construction proposed in the restricted development zone shall comply with the provisions of this section and TCC 14.38.050.

Figure 24.20-1

Two feet above BFE
RDZ
(50 feet)
NDZ
BFE
High ground water flood hazard area
24.20.030  High groundwater flood hazard area – Delineation.

A. High groundwater flood hazard areas shall be delineated through a critical area review permit.

B. Applicants for development of an existing lot shall submit the base flood elevation, prepared by a licensed land surveyor, for review and approval of the director, consistent with TCC 14.38.040, as follows:

1. The applicant’s surveyor, in consultation with the director, shall stake and flag the recommended high ground water edge in the field based on the High Ground Water Flood Hazard Areas Map, topography, aerial photographs of flood events and other relevant factors.

2. After the director accepts the staked and flagged high ground water edge, the surveyor shall depict the BFE, NDZ, and RDZ on the site plan submitted to the director for review and approval.

24.20.035  High groundwater flood hazard area – Map amendments.

A. The High Groundwater Flood Hazard Area map shall be amended consistent with the review process and requirements specified in chapters 24.05 and 24.91 TCC.

B. All required hydrological studies shall be prepared by an engineering geologist or professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington with demonstrated experience, as appropriate, in hydrologic, hydrogeologic and hydraulic analysis.
24.20.040  River, marine, lake, and coastal flood hazard areas – Map amendments.
Map amendments of maps for frequently flooded areas that are identified on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by the Federal Insurance Administration, as supplemented by “The Flood Insurance Study for Thurston County,” dated November 17, 1980 shall follow the amendment procedure in TCC 14.38.090, Map correction procedures.

24.20.045  Channel migration hazard areas – Map.
The 100-year channel migration hazard areas are generally depicted on the map entitled “Channel Migration Hazard Areas” on file with the department in the Permit Assistance Center.

24.20.050  Channel migration hazard areas – Map amendments.
A. Maps of channel migration hazards areas shall be amended consistent with the review process and requirements specified in chapters 24.05 and 24.91 TCC.

B. The department shall periodically update the map as the County delineates or accepts delineations of 100-year channel migration hazard areas pursuant to this chapter.

1. The required data must be prepared by a qualified professional proficient in fluvial geomorphology (i.e., a person who possesses a graduate degree in Geology or Physical Geography with specialization in fluvial geomorphology and has at least two years of relevant professional experience).

2. Any third party review shall be performed by a qualified professional proficient in fluvial geomorphology. Based on this evaluation, the approval authority will modify the Channel Migration Hazard Areas Map if warranted.

24.20.055  Channel migration hazards areas – Delineation – Unmapped hazard areas.
If the approval authority determines that a proposed use along a Type S or F stream is within a historic channel migration zone, based on field conditions, historic information, LIDAR imagery or aerial photography, and the 100-year channel migration hazard area has not been mapped, the approval authority shall require the applicant to determine if a 100-year channel migration hazard area is present on the site and, if so, delineate its location and extent.

A. The determination as to whether the 100-year channel migration hazard area affects the subject property shall be based on the findings of a qualified professional proficient in fluvial geomorphology using a reliable methodology to determine channel migration accepted by the department (e.g., as described in the Washington Department of Natural Resources’ Forest Practices Board Manual, Standard Methods for identifying Channel Migration Zones and Bankfull Channel Features, dated 8/2001, as amended; or in “A Framework for Delineating Channel Migration Zones,” Washington Department of Ecology, 2003, as amended). Maps delineating the 100-year channel migration hazard area shall be of a scale and format specified by the department.

B. The following areas shall be considered outside of the 100-year channel migration hazard area:
1. Areas separated from the stream channel by a legally established structure that the approval authority, in consultation with a qualified professional, determines will block channel migration. This may include, but is not limited to, dikes, levees and public roads that extend above the 100-year flood elevation that are constructed to remain intact through a 100-year flood. Constraints to channel migration that do not extend above the 100-year flood elevation shall not be considered to limit channel migration unless demonstrated otherwise based on technical information; and

2. Areas separated from the stream channel by a geologic feature, such as a rock outcrop, that the approval authority determines, in consultation with a qualified professional, will stop channel migration.

24.20.060 Frequently flooded areas – Building setbacks – Coastal flood hazard areas.

A. Coastal flood hazard areas. Uses in coastal flood hazard areas are allowed landward of the reach of mean high tide, subject to the provisions of chapter 14.38 TCC. New construction, additions affixed to the side of an existing structure, and substantial improvement of any structure with a crawl space may only be located landward of a line three feet above the regulatory tidal base flood elevation, consistent with chapter 24.25 TCC and the Shoreline Master Program for Thurston Region.

B. Refer to chapter 14.38 TCC regarding crawl spaces.

24.20.065 Floodways – Development and uses.

Encroachments, including new construction, substantial improvements, fill and other development, are prohibited within designated floodways, unless otherwise authorized by this chapter.

A. In addition to the requirements of chapter 24.45 TCC, a reasonable use exception for development in a floodway shall be required to demonstrate the following:

1. Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed by a registered professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington, that demonstrate, in accordance with standard engineering practices, that the proposed project will not result in an increase in flood levels during discharge of the base flood.

2. New construction and substantial improvements, as defined in TCC 14.38.020 shall comply with all applicable flood hazard reduction provisions in chapter 14.38 TCC.

B. Recreational vehicles.

1. Recreational vehicles parked in the floodway shall not be left unattended for more than twenty-four consecutive hours during the flood season, between November 1 and March 15; and

2. Travel trailers parked in the floodway shall have the wheels and tongue attached for ease and rapidity of evacuation. Only quick disconnect utilities may be used. Permanent additions to travel trailers parked in the floodway are prohibited.
C. Temporary structures and hazardous materials shall be removed from the floodway during flood season (i.e., November 1 to March 15). If the approval authority determines that flooding is imminent and the owner is not present, they may, at the owner’s expense, move the structure(s), its contents, and any vehicles to higher ground.

D. For any approved development in the floodway, a notice shall be recorded on the property title indicating that its use is subject to title 24 TCC and chapter 14.38 TCC.

E. Projects specifically designed to protect, create or restore anadromous/native fish habitat may be allowed in or along Type S and F streams without hydrologic and hydraulic engineering analysis, if the approval authority determines that the project will not significantly obstruct flood flows or increase flood elevations. If the effect of the proposed project on flooding is in doubt, the approval authority may require that a qualified professional in the field of hydraulics review the proposed project consistent with Paragraph (A)(1) above, at the applicant’s expense, in order to determine if it will exacerbate flooding.

24.20.070 Frequently flooded areas – Standards and allowable uses and activities.
Table 24.20-1 identifies the land uses and activities that are allowable in frequently flooded areas (i.e., 100-year floodplains, 100 year flood zone (1% flood zone), floodways, high ground water hazard areas/restricted development zones, channel migration hazard areas, and coastal flood hazard areas) and 100-year channel migration hazard areas. All land uses and activities not allowed by or not mentioned in Table 24.20-1, except water dependent uses allowed under the Shoreline Master Program for Thurston Region, are prohibited within the flood and channel migration hazard areas regulated by this section, except as otherwise provided in chapter 24.01 TCC. In addition to this chapter, these allowable uses and activities may be subject to the following:

A. Other applicable provisions of this title and requirements of the applicable zoning district;

B. The provisions of chapter 14.38 TCC, Development in Flood Hazard Areas;

C. The Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region;

D. The Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC); and

E. All other applicable county, state, and federal regulations.
Table 24.20-1
Allowable Uses and Activities in Flood and Channel Migration Hazard Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses and Activities</th>
<th>Floodways</th>
<th>100-year Floodplains</th>
<th>Channel Migration Hazard Areas</th>
<th>High Ground water Hazard Areas/ RDZ</th>
<th>Coastal Flood Hazard Areas</th>
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**LEGEND**

A = Allowed, subject to applicable standards
P = Allowed, subject to applicable standards and Critical Areas Review Permit
X = Prohibited
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses and Activities</th>
<th>Floodways</th>
<th>100-year Floodplains</th>
<th>Channel Migration Hazard Areas</th>
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<th>Coastal Flood Hazard Areas</th>
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<td>Lawns, landscaping, golf courses, and cemeteries – Maintenance</td>
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<td>Nonconforming structure/use – Maintenance, repair, alteration, expansion, intensification, or replacement</td>
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<td>On-site sewage disposal system, drainfield, or well/pump – Maintenance or repair</td>
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<td>Open space (e.g., critical area tract)</td>
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<td>Piers – Construction</td>
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<td>Ponds – New creation &lt;1 acre (see chapter 17.15 TCC for agricultural ponds)</td>
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<td>Public park facilities, trails and developed recreation areas – Maintenance</td>
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<td><em>TCC 24.20.080</em></td>
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<th>Coastal Flood Hazard Areas</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Public project of significant importance</td>
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<td>Recreation (outdoors) – Passive and low impact activities (e.g., bird watching,</td>
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<td>boating, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, jogging,</td>
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<tr>
<td>photography, swimming, and similar activities)</td>
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<td>(Active) Recreation facilities (e.g., swimming access, public and private parks,</td>
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<tr>
<td>day camps and camping sites not including cabins)</td>
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<td>Research (e.g., education, scientific, and site investigation)</td>
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<td>Roads/railroads - Repair and maintenance</td>
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<td>Roads/railroads - Replacement of lawfully established roads/railroads within</td>
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<td>or railroad prism</td>
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<td>Uses and Activities</td>
<td>Floodways</td>
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<td>Utility service lines – Installation <em>TCC 24.20.165</em></td>
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<td>Utility facility – New facilities such as lift stations, substations and utility poles <em>TCC 24.20.165</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Enhancement projects <em>TCC24.20.170</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Invasive vegetation <em>TCC 24.20.170</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Hazard trees <em>TCC 24.20.170</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Aquatic weeds <em>TCC 24.20.170</em></td>
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<td>Wells – New construction <em>TCC 24.20.180</em></td>
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<td>Wildlife blind or nesting structure</td>
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<td>Uses allowed in the applicable zoning district/shoreline master program not listed elsewhere in this table</td>
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24.20.080  Frequently flooded areas – General standards.
The following requirements apply, as applicable, to all uses and activities listed in Table 24.20-1.

A. Applications to undertake a use or activity within frequently flooded areas or a 100-year channel migration hazard area shall contain all information necessary to evaluate the proposed activity, its impacts, its compliance with the applicable provisions of this chapter and chapter 14.38 TCC, Development in Flood Hazard Areas.

B. All development in frequently flooded areas and 100-year channel migration hazard areas shall be designed to avoid habitat degradation, consistent with chapter 24.25 TCC, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas.

C. Development in frequently flooded areas shall be designed so it does not increase flood hazards, except as provided for in this section and chapter 14.38 TCC.

D. The approval authority shall deny proposed developments and uses if it is determined that they would require structural flood hazard reduction measures including, but not limited to, channeling the floodway or creating a new impact upstream or downstream at the time of construction/implementation or anytime thereafter, except as provided for in chapter 24.25 TCC.

E. Excavation and development shall be prohibited in the 100-year floodplain of Type S and F streams if the approval authority determines that it would cause significant dewatering of the hyporheic zone (the saturated zone located beneath and adjacent to streams with subsurface flow between surface water and the water table), block ground water flow or significantly inhibit recharge of the hyporheic zone. The approval authority may require the applicant to submit data as necessary to determine if excavation, soil compaction, or impervious surfaces associated with the project would cause significant, detrimental disruption to the ground water system.

F. The degree of flood protection required by this chapter is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by manmade or natural causes. This chapter does not imply that land outside of frequently flooded areas or usages permitted within such areas will not be subject to flooding or flood damage. This chapter shall not create liability on the part of Thurston County, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Insurance Administration, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this chapter or any administrative decision lawfully made hereunder.

24.20.085  Biosolid application.
Biosolid application and uses shall be regulated by the Washington Department of Ecology and meet all applicable federal and state standards, including chapter 173-308 WAC; and be consistent with a memorandum of agreement (MOA), or similar document, between Thurston County and the Washington Department of Ecology in regard to biosolids and critical areas.
24.20.090  Frequently flooded areas – Clearing and grading.
Clearing and grading within frequently flooded areas, channel migration hazard areas, and in the
restricted development zone associated with high groundwater flood hazard areas is only allowed in
conjunction with a use permitted pursuant to this chapter if it complies with all of the following:

A. Clearing and grading are the minimum necessary to accommodate the permitted use, as
determined by the approval authority.

B. The soil duff layer shall remain undisturbed to the maximum extent practicable. In areas that
are disturbed during construction but will not be covered by impervious surfaces, the
moisture-holding capacity of the topsoil layer shall be maintained by minimizing soil
compaction, by amending the soil with compost (consistent with TCC 24.20.100) or by
stripping, stockpiling and reapplying the topsoil. Where feasible and appropriate, as
determined by the approval authority, graded soil shall be redistributed to disturbed areas on
the project site, provided it does not increase the flood elevation and complies with other
applicable provisions of this chapter and chapter 14.38 TCC.

C. The clearing limits shall be marked with a temporary fence authorized by the County.

D. Clearing and grading shall only occur between May 1 and September 30. The County may
temporarily suspend grading during this period if excessive rainfall could cause erosion and
sedimentation that would affect a wetland or water body. The County may allow clearing
and grading outside of this period if all drainage will flow away from all potentially affected
wetlands and water bodies, remain on site and the site is stabilized per chapter 15.05 TCC.

E. Clearing in channel migration hazard areas. See chapter 24.25 TCC regarding clearing
restrictions in riparian management zones.

24.20.100  Frequently flooded areas - Fill.

A. High groundwater flood hazard areas.

1. No fill may be placed within a designated high groundwater flood hazard area or no
development zone, except to the minimum extent necessary, as determined by the
approval authority, to elevate existing access roads serving existing, developed lots
to the base flood elevation. Any such fill material shall be stabilized consistent with
TCC 14.38.050(A)(5).

2. Fill may be used in the restricted development zone as follows:

   a. The approval authority may approve balanced cut and fill to the minimum
      extent necessary for construction of an approved use listed in Table 24.20-1,
      if a professional civil engineer licensed in the State of Washington
demonstrates that the fill or grading will not block natural drainage or
      increase flood hazards on or offsite.
Appendix B

b. Fill may be used to the minimum extent necessary, as determined by the approval authority, to construct a road to access essential public facilities or primary structures if no less damaging or hazardous alternative location exists for the access road outside of the restricted development zone. The access road’s surface shall be constructed to an elevation equal to the base flood elevation.

c. The approval authority may allow the road to be elevated up to two feet above the base flood elevation provided arched, bottomless culverts will be installed to allow passage of water and the applicant’s professional civil engineer licensed in the State of Washington demonstrates that flooding will not be increased offsite or inundate structures.

d. Fill material authorized pursuant to this section and any subsequent stabilization shall be such that the fill is stable during flooding, consistent with TCC 14.38.050(A)(5).

B. Floodplain. The approval authority may approve balanced cut and fill with compensatory flood storage within the 100-year floodplain, landward of the floodway, to the minimum extent necessary for construction of an approved use listed in Table 24.20-1 or to provide access to essential public facilities, if a qualified professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington and a qualified wildlife habitat biologist demonstrate that there is no other alternative method for constructing the proposed use and that such grading and filling will not block stream side channels, increase flood hazards, inhibit channel migration or degrade important habitats (see chapter 24.25 TCC).

C. Coastal flood hazard areas. Fill for structural support of buildings is prohibited in coastal high hazard areas.

24.20.110 Frequently flooded areas – Flood hazard reduction.
Proposals for flood hazard reduction shall be consistent with chapter 24.25 TCC.

24.20.120 Frequently flooded areas – Hazardous facilities and materials.

A. Storage of hazardous materials, sewage sludge, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, or chemical or biological substances defined as a hazardous/dangerous waste in chapter 173-303 WAC, or any other substances, solids or liquids in quantities regulated by TCC 24.10.140, shall be stored out of floodways and above the 100-year flood elevation consistent with Chapter 14.38 TCC where they are at least risk of being inundated with floodwater, consistent with chapters 173-303 WAC and 173-360 WAC, chapter 14.32 TCC, International Fire Code, and Article VI of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Nonpoint Source Pollution.

B. The director may require removal of temporary staging areas or stockpiles of equipment, materials or substances in the floodway and/or floodplain between November 1 and March 15 if it is determined that such use or activity is hazardous to the public health, safety or welfare.
Appendix B

C. Use and storage of hazardous materials at typical residential scale are allowed for legally approved residential uses, subject to applicable sections of the Thurston County Code and Thurston County Sanitary Code.

24.20.130 Frequently flooded areas – New on-site sewage disposal systems.

A. New on-site sewage disposal systems shall be located outside the 100-year floodplain, floodway, coastal high hazard areas, and high ground water flood hazard areas, including the no development and restricted development zones. This may require systems that provide a higher level of sewage treatment. The sewage disposal system shall be located as far from the frequently flooded area as possible. Also see Article IV, The Rules and Regulations of The Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage, and WAC 173-160-171.

B. New on-site sewage disposal systems shall be located outside the 100-year channel migration hazard area, except as provided in chapter 24.50 TCC. This may require systems that provide a higher level of sewage treatment. The sewage disposal system shall be located as far from the frequently flooded area as possible. Also see Article IV, The Rules and Regulations of The Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage, and WAC 173-160-171.

C. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems shall be immediately remedied consistent with The Rules and Regulations of The Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage, chapter 14.38 TCC, and, if applicable, chapter 24.25 TCC. The approval authority may require the applicant to demonstrate that due to physical constraints (e.g., topography, soil conditions or the configuration of the site), another site configuration would not allow the development to occur without intrusion or with less intrusion into the hazard area than the proposal.

24.20.132 Frequently flooded areas – Reclaimed water.
Section reserved for future critical area reclaimed water regulations. Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW).


A. Residential and appurtenant structures, and typical residential-scale activities are prohibited, except as allowed under chapters 24.50 and 24.55 TCC, this chapter, and other applicable sections of the Thurston County Code and Thurston County Sanitary Code. Onsite septic systems, including those associated with residential uses, are addressed in TCC 24.20.130.

B. Use and storage of hazardous materials at typical residential scale are allowed for legally approved residential uses, subject to applicable sections of the Thurston County Code and Thurston County Sanitary Code.
24.20.140 Frequently flooded areas – Roads, bridges and culverts.

A. New roads, bridges, and culverts shall be designed to minimize interruption of the downstream movement of wood and gravel, minimize fill, and allow passage of 100-year flood flows and associated debris. Bridge piers and abutments shall not be placed in either the floodway or between the stream’s ordinary high water marks unless there is no alternative placement, the placement results in zero increase in the backwater elevation or increase in downstream hazards during the 100-year flood, and the placement minimizes habitat degradation. (See chapter 24.25 TCC regarding road alignments in riparian habitat areas.)

B. Clearing of culverts does not require a critical area permit, though state and federal permits may still be required. Clearing of culverts shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet.

Replacement of a road, bridge or culvert is allowed if necessary to conform to current standards and if:

A. It was lawfully established;

B. There is not another alternative available that has less adverse impact on the frequently flooded area;

C. The bridge or culvert is designed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize impacts to the frequently flooded area and it is in compliance with chapter 14.38 TCC.

D. The replacement is consistent with the provisions of TCC 24.25.130.

24.20.150 Frequently flooded areas – Stormwater retention, treatment, and conveyance facilities.

A. Maintenance and repair of existing stormwater retention, detention, treatment, and conveyance systems is permitted.

B. New stormwater facilities and swales proposed to store, treat and/or convey stormwater may be constructed consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC), and chapter 24.25 TCC.

C. Temporary sediment ponds are allowed in the RDZ associated with high ground water hazard areas between March 16 and October 31. Temporary ponds may be located in other flood and channel migration hazard areas during this same time period if they comply with chapter 24.25 TCC.

24.20.160 Frequently flooded areas – Timber harvest.
The approval authority may authorize the cutting of hazard trees in floodways, 100-year floodplain, coastal high hazard areas, and 100-year channel migration hazard areas consistent with chapters 24.25 and 14.38 TCC.
24.20.165 Frequently flooded areas – Utilities.

A. New utility lines and facilities in rights-of-way. Installation of utility lines and facilities is permitted in existing rights-of-way within frequently flooded areas, channel migration hazard areas and associated buffers, consistent with applicable regulations (see title 13 and 14, TCC) and the provisions of this chapter. When possible, given physical and technical constraints, utility installation shall occur on the side of the utility corridor or road furthest from the hazard area. In the event that other critical areas are present, the approval authority, in consultation with others with expertise, shall determine where the proposed facilities would have the least impact on the critical areas and associated buffers. Mitigation of any impacts may be required consistent with the provisions of this title.

B. Individual service lines.

1. Overhead lines and cables serving an individual use are permitted in frequently flooded areas, channel migration hazard areas, and their associated buffers if:
   a. They meet state and federal requirements;
   b. The alignment has the least impact on the critical area and buffer;
   c. They do not adversely impact anadromous fish; and
   d. The alignment meets the requirement of chapter 14.38 TCC.

2. Buried service lines serving an individual use are permitted in frequently flooded areas and associated buffers, with the exception of floodways, consistent with this chapter. The construction of utility service lines shall not have more than a temporary adverse impact. The site shall be restored upon completion of the installation.

C. New transmission lines/utility corridors.

1. Where possible, new transmission and distribution lines, and cables crossing frequently flooded areas or buffers shall be contained within an existing roadbed, railroad bed, bridge, elevated walkway, conduit, or other disturbed area where they would have the least adverse impact. If the utility lines will be consolidated with or parallel to an existing utility crossing, they shall be located at the minimum separation distances established by the county for such uses, so long as the minimum distances so established also meet the applicable industry, state and national gas and electric safety standards.

2. The approval authority shall not authorize a new utility corridor within a frequently flooded area or channel migration hazard area unless the applicant demonstrates that there is no alternative available outside the critical area. When proposing to cross frequently flooded areas and channel migration hazard areas, the applicant shall demonstrate to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the crossing is essential and there is no alternative alignment or crossing method. This shall include identification
of the alternative alignments, crossing methods (including boring), their feasibility, and potential impacts.

3. When it is necessary to cross a frequently flooded area or channel migration hazard area, the corridor shall be in compliance with the following standards:

a. The corridor shall be aligned where it would have the least impact. Where crossing is permitted, the least damaging alternative method and alignment shall be used, including the minimum width practical.

b. The utility corridor shall provide for other necessary uses and facilities whenever possible. Conduit containing new utilities shall be sized to provide capacity for additional lines and cables in the future when feasible.

c. If the approval authority determines that overhead lines or lines buried in trenches would be detrimental to dependent fish or wildlife, the proposed crossings shall, when physically feasible, be accomplished by boring beneath the critical area. Entrance and exit portals shall be located outside of the critical area, if possible. Bore pits shall be restored upon project completion.

i. If trenching or boring is proposed to be used to accommodate utility lines, the applicant shall evaluate its effect on the flow of groundwater. As determined by the review authority, the applicant may be required to submit a hydrological study to determine whether ground water flows would likely be altered to the detriment of the frequently flooded area. The approval authority may call upon technical experts as needed, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate the report.

ii. Trenching and boring shall not be required/allowed if it would interrupt the ground water connection to the extent that the stream or dependent wildlife would be damaged.

d. Utility corridors shall be revegetated with appropriate native vegetation, at not less than preconstruction densities. Restoration shall occur immediately upon completion of construction or as soon thereafter as possible due to seasonal constraints or work windows established pursuant to this chapter. The applicant shall submit a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure that the planted vegetation survives or is replaced.

e. Staging areas for equipment and materials shall be located outside of the critical area and buffer.

f. Applicants shall submit a maintenance plan for approval by the county consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
24.20.170 Frequently flooded areas – Vegetation removal.
Harvesting of plants and plant materials is permitted in flood hazard and channel migration hazard areas consistent with chapters 24.25 and 24.30 TCC.

24.20.180 Frequently flooded areas – Wells.
New wells shall be located outside the 100-year floodplain, floodway, coastal high hazard areas, high ground water flood hazard areas, and the high ground water flood hazard area no development zone. Within 100-year channel migration hazard areas, new wells are permitted, subject to chapter 24.50 TCC. Wellheads shall be located a minimum of two feet above base flood elevation. The well and all approved appurtenances shall be located as far from the frequently flooded area as possible. Also see WAC 173-160-171.
Chapter 24.25

FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION AREAS

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24.25.010 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Applicability.
24.25.015 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Riparian habitat areas.
24.25.020 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Standard freshwater riparian habitat area width.
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24.25.400 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Other.
24.25.410 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Water dependent uses.
24.25.420 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Wells – New.

24.25.005 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Purposes.
The purposes of this section are to:

A. Protect habitat and healthy functioning ecosystems to support viable populations of priority and locally important fish, wildlife, and plants in Thurston County.
B. Preserve the functions and values of locally important habitat.

C. Protect the functions and values of priority habitats such as, but not limited to, prairies, Oregon white oak, and riparian areas along streams and marine waters.

D. Protect the function and values of marine habitats, including shellfish beds harvested for commercial use or personal consumption.

E. Provide for connectivity among fish and wildlife habitats.

24.25.010 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Applicability.
All property within unincorporated Thurston County containing fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas as defined and provided for in chapter 24.03 TCC and/or associated buffers and additional areas identified by this chapter are subject to this title. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas are typically identified either by known point locations of specific species or by habitat areas or both. The presence of a fish and wildlife habitat conservation area and/or buffer on a parcel triggers the requirements of this chapter, regardless of whether or not the habitat conservation area has been mapped.

24.25.015 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Riparian habitat areas.
Riparian habitat areas shall be established along all streams pursuant to this section. TCC 24.25.020 specifies the standard freshwater riparian habitat area widths. These standard widths may be reduced pursuant to TCC 24.25.025, increased pursuant to TCC 24.25.030, or reconfigured pursuant to TCC 24.25.035. Riparian habitat areas shall be retained in their existing condition except as explicitly authorized by this chapter.

24.25.020 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Standard freshwater riparian habitat area width.
Table 24.25-1 identifies the standard riparian habitat area widths.

A. Measurement. Riparian habitat area widths are measured on a horizontal plane, outward from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) on each side of the stream (see Figure 24.25-1).

![Figure 24.25-1](image-url)
### Table 24.25-1  Standard Freshwater Riparian Habitat Area Widths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STREAM TYPE</th>
<th>STANDARD RIPARIAN HABITAT AREA WIDTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type S streams</td>
<td>250’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type F streams greater than 20 feet in width (for all stream types, width is defined as bankfull width)</td>
<td>250’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type F streams from 5 - 20 feet wide</td>
<td>200’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type F streams less than 5 feet wide</td>
<td>150’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Np and Ns streams draining to Type S or F streams or directly to Puget Sound</td>
<td>150’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Np and Ns streams with high mass wasting potential</td>
<td>225’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other streams not listed above, including streams without a surface connection to other waters</td>
<td>100’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 24.25.025 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Reduced riparian habitat area width.

Except when inconsistent with TCC 24.25.030 below, the approval authority, in consultation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and others with expertise, may reduce the riparian habitat area width specified in Table 24.25-1. The applicant shall provide the approval authority with sufficient information to enable a determination as to whether the subject area qualifies for a habitat area or buffer reduction under this section. The approval authority may require technical review by a qualified professional, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate and verify the information submitted by the applicant.

A. Type Np and Ns streams and other streams not listed above. The width of standard riparian habitat areas along Type Np and Ns streams more than one quarter mile upstream from confluence with a Type F or S stream, Puget Sound, a Category I-III wetland (see chapter 24.30 TCC), or a lake or pond protected by this chapter may be reduced up to a total of twenty-five percent for Np streams and fifty percent for Ns streams and other streams not listed above, if:

1. The land use abutting the riparian habitat area will not generate pollutants or sediment that would reach the stream, elevate water temperature, or increase peak stream flows; and

2. Best management practices (BMPs) or other mitigation measures will be employed as warranted to protect all of the riparian habitat functions and prevent pollutants and sediment from reaching the stream.

3. The approval authority determines that the proposed reduction in buffer width, coupled with any the proposed mitigation plan, would result in protection of the stream and stream functions or improved buffer functions than the standard buffer without such enhancement. The approval authority shall make this determination.
based on the applicant’s proposed mitigation plan and a comparative analysis of all
stream and buffer functions under existing and enhanced conditions (e.g., filtration of
sediments, excess nutrients, and pollutants; flood storage; erosion control; moderation
of storm water impacts; and shading for water temperature moderation) prepared by
the applicant, or applicant’s consultant if appropriate.

Factors to be considered include, but are not limited to, the surface roughness of the
buffer (e.g., the presence of fallen trees and other material that slow the flow of water
and increase the buffer’s ability to retain sediment and infiltrate stormwater); the
composition and density of vegetation; the stream’s position in the landscape; slope;
and soils. The approval authority may consult with Ecology, WDFW or others with
expertise as necessary to evaluate the applicant’s proposal.

B. Isolated riparian areas/buffers.

1. If topographic breaks (e.g., bluffs) or a road (not including logging roads), railroad or
other lineal facility or barrier separates and functionally isolates a portion of the
riparian habitat area or buffer, the approval authority, in consultation with the WDFW,
may reduce the riparian habitat area or buffer width to the minimum extent necessary
to exclude the isolated area if:

   a. The barrier occurs naturally or the facility or barrier was legally established
      prior to [the effective date of this ordinance]; and

   b. The area proposed to be segregated from the riparian habitat area or buffer
      does not perform any biological, water quality, or hydrological functions
      related to the remainder of riparian habitat area, buffer, or adjacent waterbody.

C. Culvert and pipe removal. Applicants proposing to daylight or open up a stream by removing
a pipe or culvert from a stream shall submit a critical area report (see chapter 24.35 TCC)
demonstrating that no net loss of habitat or reduction in water quality would occur as a result
of such action, and what buffers are present to protect the stream functions. Water quality
protection methods may include, but are not limited to, a combination of a berm and
vegetation beside the stream, a stormwater treatment system; or dense, continuous vegetative
ground cover at least 100 feet in width. In order to protect water quality of the stream, a
proposed buffer with a slope of five percent or more or has a channelized drainage path that
would allow untreated stormwater to enter the stream, the approval authority may require that
a device (e.g., a perforated pipe) be installed at the outer edge of the buffer or that the slope be
graded to induce sheet flow of stormwater.

D. When evaluating the proposal, the approval authority shall consider the sensitivity of the
stream onsite and downstream, the potential of adjoining uses to contaminate the stream; the
ability of the existing and proposed vegetation to filter sediment and pollutants; slope;
drainage patterns; the likelihood that proposed water treatment method(s) will be effective in
maintaining water quality; and other relevant factors.
24.25.030  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Increased riparian habitat area width.

The approval authority shall require an increase in riparian habitat area, marine riparian habitat area, or buffer width beyond the distance specified in Table 24.25-1, TCC 24.25.050, or TCC 24.25.060(B) under the following circumstances:

A. Landslide hazard areas. When the riparian habitat area or buffer contains a landslide hazard area (see chapter 24.15 TCC), the riparian habitat area or buffer width shall be the standard width or it shall coincide with the landslide hazard area buffer at the top of the slope, whichever is greater. This width cannot be reduced pursuant to TCC 24.25.025 or 035.

B. Steep slopes not designated as landslide hazard areas. When the ordinary high water mark of a stream, Puget Sound, pond or lake subject to this chapter lies within fifty feet of the toe of a slope of thirty percent or greater that is at least fifteen feet in height (which is not designated as a landslide hazard area), the riparian habitat area or buffer shall be sized to be the larger of the widths specified in this subsection. This width cannot be reduced pursuant to TCC 24.25.025 or 035:

1. The standard riparian habitat area or buffer width; or

2. Whichever is less of two-hundred feet upslope from the toe of the slope, measured across the ground surface, or twenty-five feet beyond the top of the slope.

C. Inadequate vegetative cover to maintain water quality.

1. If the standard riparian habitat area specified in Table 24.25-1 or marine riparian habitat area, or pond buffer does not contain at least eighty-five (85) percent live tree canopy and/or understory coverage consisting of dense, continuous vegetation at least 100 feet in width (or, if applicable, the distance specified in subsections A or B above), the approval authority, in consultation with a qualified professional, may increase the standard riparian habitat area/buffer width up to twenty-five percent as needed to protect the stream from sedimentation and pollutants.

2. In lieu of increasing the riparian habitat area width, the approval authority may allow implementation of a planting plan. This planting plan shall provide for planting of all bare and sparsely vegetated areas of the habitat area/buffer on the subject site such that there will be continuous vegetation at least 100 feet in width between the water body’s ordinary high water mark and the outer edge of the habitat area/buffer. The plan shall provide for planting of native vegetation, including grasses, trees, and shrubs that are
compatible with existing vegetation in the habitat area-buffer at densities that will effectively filter/absorb pollutants, excess nutrients, and filter sediment.

a. The applicant shall submit a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC and provide for monitoring and maintenance at appropriate intervals to ensure survival or replacement of the planted vegetation.

24.25.035 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Reconfiguration of riparian habitat areas.

The approval authority may authorize or require reconfiguration of riparian habitat areas as follows:

A. Preservation of high quality habitat. If the riparian habitat area along a Type S or F stream contains variations in sensitivity or habitat quality or if the area adjacent to the riparian habitat area contains high quality habitat sustaining species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (64 FR 14307), state priority wildlife species, or species of local importance (see TCC 24.25.065(C)), the approval authority may reconfigure the riparian habitat area boundaries to preserve the higher quality/sensitive habitat or to provide a connection to the adjacent habitat.

B. Minimum dimensions. The reconfigured riparian habitat area shall be no less than 100 feet wide at any point and shall contain the same square footage as the standard riparian habitat area, as modified pursuant to TCC 24.25.025 and 030. The reconfigured riparian habitat area shall not exceed 100 percent of square footage of the standard riparian habitat area, as modified pursuant to TCC 24.25.025 and 030, without the landowner’s consent. The reconfiguration of the riparian habitat area shall be based on the recommendation of a qualified biologist or other qualified professional with consideration of the effects of the proposed reconfiguration on all riparian functions.

24.25.040 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Riparian management zones.

Riparian management zones shall be established along the outer boundary of riparian habitat areas of Type S and F streams as specified in this section. Consistent with Table 24.25-3 and TCC 24.25.220, uses and activities within riparian management zones shall be conducted to prevent damage to the riparian and stream habitat. Riparian management zones include the following:

A. Fifty-foot management zone. The area extending landward from the outer boundary of the riparian habitat area for a distance of fifty feet, measured on the horizontal plane; and

B. Channel migration zones. Where a potential channel migration hazard exists within the riparian habitat area, (see TCC 24.20.045 and .055), the riparian management zone shall extend 100 feet, measured on a horizontal plane, beyond the 100-year channel migration hazard area. (See Figure 24.25-2).
24.25.045 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Important marine habitats.
This section applies to marine shorelines of statewide significance and marine shorelines of the state (see chapter 90.58 RCW and related rules) consistent with WAC 220-110-020, as amended. It also applies to marine areas supporting kelp and eelgrass beds; herring spawning areas; intertidal areas supporting surf smelt and sand lance spawning, salmonids, and shellfish beds sustaining commercial or recreational harvest, including shellfish protection districts established pursuant to chapter 90.72 RCW.

24.25.050 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Marine riparian habitat.

A. Standard marine riparian habitat area width. Marine riparian habitat areas of 250 feet in width shall be established along all marine shorelines subject to this chapter, except for “Rural” shorelines (as designated by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990). These “Rural” shorelines shall be regulated by the Master Program. The riparian habitat areas shall be measured, on a horizontal plane, landward from the OHWM or, if the OHWM cannot be identified, the top of the bank. The marine riparian habitat areas shall be retained in their existing condition, except as explicitly authorized by this chapter.

B. Habitat area reduction. The approval authority may reduce the standard marine riparian habitat area to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate water-dependent uses allowed under the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, consistent with TCC 24.25.110.
In addition to any required Shoreline permit, the applicant shall submit a critical area report (see chapter 24.35 TCC) demonstrating that impacts to all marine riparian habitat area functions and marine riparian habitats protected by this chapter will be avoided or, where that is not possible, minimized and mitigated. The approval authority will review this report in consultation with the WDFW and, as warranted, others with expertise prior to approving or denying the proposed habitat area reduction.

Isolated sections of riparian habitat areas may be excluded, consistent with TCC 24.25.025(B).

C. Increased marine buffer. The width of the marine buffer shall be increased where there are steep slopes, the presence of important species or habitats, landslide hazard areas, or inadequate vegetation to protect water quality as provided for in TCC 24.25.030.

24.25.055 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Marine riparian management zone.

A marine riparian management zone shall be established which extends 50 feet, on a horizontal plane, landward from the landward edge of standard marine riparian habitat area, as configured prior to any reduction pursuant to TCC 24.25.050(B). The area where any riparian habitat area reduction occurred shall be included in the management zone. Development in the marine riparian management zone will be restricted as necessary to minimize adverse impacts to important marine habitats, consistent with Table 24.25-3 and related standards.

24.25.060 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Ponds and lakes.

Note: Most ponds will contain lake fringe wetlands or be considered high groundwater hazard areas regulated under chapters 24.20 and 24.30 TCC.

A. Applicability. This section applies to ponds between 1,000 square feet and twenty acres in surface area and their submerged aquatic beds that provide fish or wildlife habitat. Lakes shall be regulated by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990).

B. Pond buffers shall be 100 feet. Buffer widths shall be measured on a horizontal plane, outward from the OHWM or, if the OHWM cannot be identified, from the top of the bank. These buffers shall be maintained in an existing native vegetated or natural condition, except as explicitly authorized by this chapter.

C. Buffer reduction. The approval authority may allow the buffer width to be reduced to a minimum of 75 feet if the applicant demonstrates that the adjacent land use will not generate pollutants, sediment, or excess nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus); elevate water temperature; or significantly alter the pH of the water body and that BMPs will be employed to prevent impairment of water quality in the lake or pond.

D. Increased buffer. The width of the buffer shall be increased where there are steep slopes, landslide hazard areas, or inadequate vegetation to protect water quality as provided for in TCC 24.25.030.
24.25.065  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Important habitats and species.
Important animal and plant species, their habitats of primary association, and other important habitats protected under this chapter are:

A.  Federally Listed Species and Associated Habitats. Animal and plant species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (64 FR 14307) as endangered, threatened, or candidates for listing and their habitats of primary association. (Consult the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for current listings.)

B.  State Listed Species and Associated Habitats.

   1.  Priority species and their habitats of primary association. Priority species identified on the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) List and their habitats of primary association. (Consult the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the current PHS list).

   2.  Priority habitats. Priority habitats identified on the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) List. (Consult the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the current PHS list).

   3.  Prairies meeting the following criteria are priority habitats:
       a.  Prairie habitat, as defined in chapter 24.03 and Table 24.25-4 TCC;
       b.  Areas less than one acre in size with characteristics meeting the definition of prairie habitat which are functionally connected to another prairie habitat located within one-half (0.5) mile of the subject area.

   4.  Oregon white oak (Quercus garryana) woodlands, stands, and individual trees meeting the following criteria are subject to this section:
       a.  Oak woodlands, as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC.
       b.  Oak Savanna, as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC.
       c.  Individual oak trees and stands of oak or oak conifer associations less than one acre in size that are located within one-half (0.5) mile of a stand meeting the criteria in this subparagraph.

   5.  State listed plant species, such as those occurring on the Department of Natural Resources’ List of Known Occurrences of Rare Plants.

C.  Habitats and Species of Local Importance.

   1.  Habitats of local importance. Habitats of local importance in Thurston County are listed in Table 24.25-4 in Appendix 24.25-1.
2. Species of local importance. Wildlife species of local importance are listed in Table 24.25-5 in Appendix 24.25-1.

3. In addition to requirements of chapter 24.91 TCC, adding or removing habitats and species of local importance is subject to the following:

   a. Submission requirements. This chapter must be amended to add or remove a habitat or species of local importance. Any request to add or remove a habitat or species shall be submitted, in writing, to the Resource Stewardship Department and must include the following information:

      i. The nominator’s name, address, and contact information;
      
      ii. The common and scientific names of the nominated species or habitat;

      iii. Reasons, supported by best available science, why the habitat or species should be added or removed for the list of locally important habitats or species.

      iv. Maps or inventories of known occurrences of the nominated habitat or species within the county, dates of observation of the species and contact information for observers;

      v. Habitat management recommendations, based upon best available science, including potential uses and restrictions of the habitat; seasonally sensitive areas and other measures necessary for the protection of dependent species; and

      vi. Other supporting documentation that the approval authority determines is necessary to make a decision regarding the request.

   b. The approval authority shall evaluate the request and supporting data, with consideration of this subsection, in consultation with a professional biologist knowledgeable regarding the subject species or habitat. Staff will forward their recommendation about the requested addition or removal to the Board of County Commissioners as part of the proposed docket of code amendments. The County evaluation of the request will, at a minimum, consider:

      i. The scientific validity of the information submitted;

      ii. The sufficiency of the habitat to sustain the species over time; and

      iii. The versatility of the habitat to sustain species other than the one being nominated for designation.

24.25.070 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Tree protection.
In order to protect the root systems of protected trees, trees within important habitat areas with drip lines that extend beyond the landward edge of the marine riparian habitat area, riparian habitat area,
habitat areas for species of concern, or other habitats protected under this chapter shall be protected as follows.

A. A tree protection area extending a minimum of five feet beyond the dripline of conifer trees twelve inches or greater in diameter (at 4 ½ feet above the ground), stands of trees, and Oregon white oak, shall be established and protected from disturbance during site development. The approval authority may require that the protection area be extended for oak trees if necessary to ensure the trees’ survival, based upon a recommendation of an arborist or urban forester.

B. Tree protection areas shall be identified on all applicable site development and construction drawings submitted to the county.

C. Temporary fencing at least 30 inches tall shall be erected in areas of activity along the perimeter of the tree protection areas prior to the initiation of any clearing or grading. The fencing shall be posted with signage clearly identifying the tree protection area. If the perimeter of the tree protection area is more than 0.25 miles in length, the perimeter of the protection area may be staked and flagged rather than fenced. The fencing or stakes shall remain in place throughout site development.

D. Clearing, grading, filling or other development activities are prohibited within the tree protection area.

E. Vehicle travel, parking and storage of construction materials and fuel is prohibited in tree protection areas.

F. The county may approve the use of alternate tree protection techniques that provide an equal or greater level of protection.

**24.25.075 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Important habitats and species – Identification and buffers.**

A. Applications for uses and activities on sites containing a habitat or species subject to this section shall include a critical area report (see chapter 24.35 TCC) prepared by a qualified professional that evaluates the potential impacts of the proposed use or activity on the habitat and/or species, as applicable. The process for determining whether critical area reports are required, and the extent of information required is outlined in chapter 24.05.027 TCC. Critical area reports that pertain to important habitats and species may also be referred to as habitat management plans.

B. The approval authority shall establish buffers for the habitat or species on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the WDFW or others with expertise, based on the critical area report and the WDFW management recommendations for Washington’s priority habitats and species, if available. The buffers shall reflect the sensitivity of the specific habitat(s) and/or species to be protected.

C. No clearing, grading, or other activity shall occur prior to approval by the review authority.
D. Prairie habitat. The approval authority, in consultation with the WDFW and DNR Natural Heritage Program, shall establish buffers for prairie habitat that extend outward from the outer boundary of the habitat the greater of fifty feet, measured on the horizontal plane, or the minimum distance recommended in the critical area report, whichever is greater. When setting the buffer width, the approval authority shall consider the recommendation and supporting rationale in the applicant’s critical area report and the following:

1. The habitat functions and their sensitivity to disturbance, the risk that the adjacent proposed land use poses for those functions (e.g., from noise, light, stormwater runoff, introduction of invasive or non-native plant species, pesticides, herbicides, and domestic animals) and, if applicable,

2. The minimum buffer width necessary to protect adjacent properties from fire management practices on prairies. If fire is included within the critical area report as a management element for prairie habitat, the applicant shall:
   a. Submit a fire management plan to the Thurston County Fire Marshal and the appropriate Fire District for technical review and approval; and
   b. Notify the Thurston County Fire Marshal and the appropriate Fire District prior to setting fires as part of the fire management plan.

24.25.080 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Standards and approvable uses and activities within important habitats.

The land uses and activities listed in Table 24.25-3 are allowed in important habitats (i.e., streams; riparian habitat areas; lakes, ponds and associated buffers; priority habitats, habitats and species of local importance; priority species conservation areas, and important marine habitats) and associated buffers and management zones subject to the standards in TCC 24.25.090-420, the applicable zoning district and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region. Water dependent uses allowed by the Shoreline Master Program are permitted subject to the requirements of that program and this chapter. All other land uses and activities not allowed by Table 24.25-3 are prohibited within the important habitats regulated by this chapter.

The general standards listed in TCC 24.25.090 apply to all uses in Table 24.25-3. Standards provided in TCC 24.25.100 – 24.25.420 apply to specific uses in areas where important habitats and species exist, and are in addition to other requirements of this title. Table 24.25-3 contains the primary section references for each activity covered by this chapter.
### Table 24.25-3
APPROVABLE USES AND RESTRICTIONS WITHIN FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION AREAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses and Activities</th>
<th>Riparian Habitat Areas</th>
<th>Riparian and Marine Management Zones</th>
<th>Streams</th>
<th>Ponds and Buffers</th>
<th>Marine Habitat Areas and Buffers</th>
<th>Important Species and Habitats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt Plants <em>(TCC 24.25.240)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat launch site (hand launch) – New construction <em>(TCC 24.25.110)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat ramp, or marine railway and associated vehicle access <em>(TCC 24.25.110)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – Maintenance and repair by a governmental agency <em>(TCC 24.25.120)</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – Maintenance and repair by a nongovernmental entity <em>(TCC 24.25.120)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – Replacement and expansion <em>(TCC 24.25.130)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridges and culverts – New construction</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearing and grading in conjunction with an approved development project <em>(TCC 24.25.140)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical facilities</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drainage ditch maintenance <em>(TCC 24.25.150)</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Important Species and Habitats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drilling and testing for required report or engineering study – hand powered tools; scientific sampling, research and other low impact site investigation (<em>TCC 24.25.160</em>)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling and testing for required report or engineering study – mechanized equipment (<em>TCC 24.25.160</em>)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency temporary authorization</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancement/restoration – Streams (<em>TCC 24.25.180</em>)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancement – Riparian habitat (<em>TCC 24.25.180</em>)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancement – Priority upland habitat (<em>TCC 24.25.180</em>)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing lots vested prior to [<em>the effective date of this ordinance</em>] – Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish hatchery construction and maintenance (<em>TCC 24.25.190</em>)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Floats, floating dock, mooring buoy, navigational aid – Installation (<em>TCC 24.25.110</em>)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
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<th>Important Species and Habitats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood protection facilities – New construction <em>(TCC 24.25.200)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flow control facilities/dams – New construction <em>(TCC 24.25.200)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry – Class IV forest practices and COHP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardening for personal consumption <em>(TCC 24.25.230)</em></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golf course, new <em>(TCC 24.25.275)</em></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infiltration of reclaimed water (application to the land’s surface above agronomic rates)*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW). *(TCC 24.25.265)*

| Instream structures (e.g., stream flow control facilities/dams) – Maintenance or repair *(TCC 24.25.210)* | N/A | N/A | A | N/A | A | N/A |

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instream structures or instream work not otherwise addressed – New construction</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.200)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intensive uses</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.220)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawns, landscaping, golf courses, and cemeteries – Maintenance</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral extraction</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mitigation required by the county</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonconforming structure/use – Maintenance, repair, alteration, expansion, replacement</td>
<td>See chapter 24.50 TCC.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>On-site sewage disposal system or drainfield, well/pump – repair</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.260)</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-site sewage disposal system or drainfield – New/replacement</td>
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<td>(TCC 24.25.250; 260)</td>
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<td>Open space (e.g., critical area tract)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piers – Construction</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.110)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<th>Important Species and Habitats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public park facilities, trails and developed recreation areas – Maintenance</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>(TCC 24.25.230; 270)</td>
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<td>Public facilities</td>
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<td>Recreation, active</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation, passive and low impact activities (e.g., bird watching, nonmotorized</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>boating, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, jogging, photography,</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>swimming, and similar activities)</td>
<td>(TCC 24.25.270)</td>
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<td>(Uses in) Riparian management zones</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roads – replacement and minor expansion</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.290)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads/streets, railroads, and associated bridges and culverts – New and expanded</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(TCC 24.25.280)</td>
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<td>A</td>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shoreline protective structures/armoring (e.g., bulkhead, gabion, riprap, or wall) (TCC 24.25.300)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signs (e.g., interpretation, critical area tract, and survey markers)</td>
<td>See chapter 24.60 TCC.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Single family residential, new (TCC 24.25.295)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ski lake – Creation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P (Also see chapter 24.20 TCC)</td>
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<td>Slope stabilization or retaining wall (not a bulkhead) (TCC 24.25.300)</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stabilization techniques (nonstructural)/bioengineering (TCC 24.25.300)</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stair tower, stairway or mechanical lift (TCC 24.25.310)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P (BUFFER ONLY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater conveyance system or detention/treatment facility – Maintenance or repair (TCC 24.25.325)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater retention/treatment facility – Construction <em>(TCC 24.25.320)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater facilities – Surface water conveyance system – Construction <em>(TCC 24.25.325)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater Facilities – Temporary sediment control ponds – Construction <em>(TCC 24.25.320)</em></td>
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<td>Stream flow and elevation gages – Installation</td>
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<td>Stream relocation <em>(TCC 24.25.330)</em></td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>Subdivisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>See chapter 24.55 TCC.</td>
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<td>Trails/paths, elevated walkways, and associated facilities (interpretative site and viewing platform) – New construction <em>(TCC 24.25.270)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities – Maintenance, repair or replacement <em>(TCC 24.25.340)</em></td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility lines, utility corridors, and other facilities outside of existing improved roads and utility corridors – New construction <em>(TCC 24.25.340)</em></td>
<td>P</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility lines and facilities in improved roads and utility corridors – New installation <em>(TCC 24.25.340)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities – Installation of individual service lines <em>(TCC 24.25.340)</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Enhancement projects <em>(TCC 24.25.400)</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds <em>(TCC 24.25.380)</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Removal/thinning of hazard trees <em>(TCC 24.25.390)</em></td>
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<td>Vegetation removal – Aquatic weeds</td>
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<td>Wells – New <em>(TCC 24.25.420)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildlife blind or nesting structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other lawfully established existing uses not addressed in this table</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>P</td>
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24.25.090 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – General standards.
The following requirements apply, as applicable, to all uses and activities listed in Table 24.25-3.

A. Regulatory differences. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more critical areas or the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region are governed by chapter 24.01 TCC. All uses and activities subject to this section shall meet the requirements that provide the most protection to the critical areas involved. Uses and activities located in the jurisdiction of the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region are prohibited if they are inconsistent with the Shoreline Master Program.

B. Critical area reports. Applicants for uses listed in Table 24.25-3 that require county review and approval, with the exception of emergency responses provided for in chapter 24.90 TCC, shall submit a critical area report consistent with chapter 24.35 TCC.

C. Timing. Uses and activities authorized pursuant to this chapter shall be undertaken, constructed or installed during the time frame specified by the WDFW to minimize habitat impacts. This requirement does not apply to riparian and marine shoreline management zones that do not involve a priority or locally important habitat.

D. No net loss of habitat functions. Uses and activities carried out pursuant to this section shall result in equivalent or greater habitat functions, as determined by the approval authority consistent with best available science. All actions and uses shall be designed and constructed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize all adverse impacts to the important habitat area and associated buffers. Applicants must first demonstrate an inability to avoid or reduce impacts before impacts will be allowed. No activity or use shall be allowed that results in a net loss of important habitat functions; destroys, damages, or disrupts habitat supporting priority species; adversely affects water quality; creates unstable earth conditions; or erosion.

E. Mitigation. Adverse impacts to important habitats and associated buffers shall be fully mitigated (see chapter 24.35 TCC) using mitigation sequencing criteria established in chapter 24.01 TCC.

F. Intertidal/saltwater submerged lands. All uses and activities occurring in marine intertidal and submerged lands shall avoid impacts to eelgrass and kelp beds; commercial and recreational shellfish harvesting areas; and herring, surf smelt and sand lance spawning areas. If eelgrass or kelp is known or suspected to be present on the site proposed for development or where it would likely be affected by the proposed development, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with WDFW, the applicant shall submit an aquatic vegetation survey that identifies the location of the eelgrass and/or kelp. Applicants for uses that the approval authority determines could adversely impact kelp or eelgrass beds shall submit a critical area report identifying any unavoidable impacts to these beds and proposed mitigation measures for review and approval by Thurston County.

G. Surety. Applicants for proposals involving, as a condition of permit approval, mitigation of impacts, restoration or enhancement shall submit to the county a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC.
H. Temporary field marking. The perimeter of the habitat area and associated buffer and those areas to be disturbed pursuant to an approved permit or authorization shall be marked in the field and inspected by the approval authority prior to the commencement of permitted activities. This temporary marking shall be maintained throughout the duration of the development activity. Also see TCC 24.25.070 and 140.

I. Fencing and signage. The approval authority may require that the perimeter of the important habitat area be fenced and that identification signage be installed as warranted to protect sensitive species and degradation of habitat, consistent with chapter 24.60 TCC.

24.25.100 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Agricultural activities.
Reserved for future critical area agriculture regulations. Refer to chapter 17.15 TCC for regulations on new and existing agricultural activities.

24.25.105 Biosolids application.
Biosolids application and uses shall be regulated by the Washington State Department of Ecology and meet all applicable federal and state standards, including chapter 173-308 WAC; and be consistent with a memorandum of agreement (MOA), or similar document, between Thurston County and the Washington Department of Ecology in regard to biosolids and critical areas.

24.25.110 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Boat launching ramps, piers, docks and floats.
Boat launching ramps, piers, docks and floats may only be permitted consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, applicable federal, state, and local laws, the requirements of this section, and other applicable provisions of this title. For the purposes of this section, “float” shall include, but is not limited to: floating docks, mooring buoys, navigational aids and swimming floats.

A. Boat ramp spacing along Type S and F streams. Public and private boat launching ramps along Type S or F streams shall not be located closer than five miles (measured along the river) from another boat launching ramp along the stream that is accessible to the public. Boat launching ramps shall not be allowed in locations where the total number of existing boat ramps, road and surface utility corridor crossings, plus the proposed boat-launching ramp, would exceed two such encroachments per 0.6 mile (measured along the stream) in the affected stream segment. The approval authority may waive the spacing requirement if it is determined that the proposed location provides the least habitat impact of the available alternatives and that proposed mitigation measures will allow the project to occur without a net loss of riparian habitat area and stream functions.

B. Boat ramps along marine shorelines. Boat launching ramps may only be permitted along marine shorelines upon demonstration of the following:

1. Mitigation measures ensure that there is no net loss of the functions of intertidal habitat as a result of the proposed ramp, including no increased beach erosion or alteration of salmonid migration corridors;

2. The proposed ramp will not adversely impact important habitat areas;
3. The proposed ramp is not elevated and will be constructed to be flush with the elevation of the existing beach; and

4. The ramp’s footprint is the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.

C. Piers, docks, and floats. Piers, docks, mooring buoys, navigational aids and swimming floats are allowed subject to the following:

1. Overwater structures. Overwater and floating structures and associated moorings in marine waters shall be located a minimum of ten feet from any eelgrass (Zostera spp.) and designed to avoid shading eelgrass.

2. Avoid impacts to spawning beds and eelgrass beds. Docks, floats and rafts shall not ground on surf smelt, Pacific sand lance or herring spawning beds, or eelgrass (Zostera spp.). Flotation for the structure shall be fully contained to prevent the breakup or loss of the material.

3. Toxic substances. Only inert material or non-toxic treated wood approved by the county for use in water bodies shall be used in the construction of piers, ramps and floats and other structures proposed to be placed in, over, or within 100 feet of water.

4. Fill and armoring. Fill and armoring shall not be used in the in the construction of piers, ramps, and floats.

5. Vegetation. Loss and disturbance of existing vegetation shall be minimized, consistent with TCC 24.25.350-400.

D. Impacts. The applicant shall demonstrate that the boat ramp, pier, dock, float and associated parking area and access, coupled with any proposed mitigation, will result in no net loss to salmonid spawning, rearing and migration areas or documented priority wildlife habitats.

E. Related facilities. Parking areas, restrooms and other facilities related to boat launches, piers, floats, and docks shall be located outside of riparian habitat areas, pond buffers, and marine riparian habitat areas. The facility shall be designed to minimize direct, untreated stormwater runoff from the site into the water body.

F. Maintenance. Maintenance or replacement of piers, docks, mooring buoys, navigational aids, and swimming floats is permitted provided that hazardous materials are not used, except as provided for through a county approved Integrated Pest Management Plan or upon demonstration that the material does not pose a risk to water quality; and it does not involve an increase in the number of pilings or the overall width or length of the dock or pier.

G. Replacement. Boat launching ramps, piers, floats, and docks may be replaced provided they are not increased in length or width and the construction materials comply with the requirements for new ramps, piers, floats, and docks, as applicable. If the facility is located in marine waters, the proposed deck surface area shall be reduced to the maximum extent practical from the existing deck surface in waters between three feet and thirteen feet deep at ordinary high water.
24.25.120 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Bridge and culvert maintenance or repair.

A. Maintenance and repair of bridges and culverts is permitted provided:

1. All maintenance and repair is consistent with the Regional Road Maintenance ESA Program Guidelines, 2002, as amended, and the provisions of this section;

2. The county may allow use of other maintenance BMPs if they will protect water quality and avoid detrimental impacts on fish and priority wildlife species;

3. Maintenance of culverts in streams used by salmonids or that convey water to a stream used by salmonids shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet and stabilization of the disturbed bank and channel immediately adjacent to the culvert and shall not involve the excavation of a new sediment trap adjacent to the inlet;

4. Such maintenance shall not involve the use of herbicides, sealants, liquid oily substances or other hazardous materials;

5. The bridge or culvert is not located within Shoreline Master Program jurisdiction;

6. It meets the conditions of any required Hydraulic Project Approval from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, which shall be posted in a conspicuous location on site.

B. Clearing of culverts does not require a county permit, but may require review by state or federal agencies. Clearing of culverts shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet.

24.25.130 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Bridge and culvert replacement.

Replacement of a bridge or culvert is allowed if necessary to conform to current standards and if:

A. It was lawfully established;

B. There is not another alternative available that has less adverse impact on the important habitat or other critical areas;

C. The bridge or culvert is designed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize impacts to the important habitat and it is in compliance, to the greatest extent possible, with TCC 24.25.280;

D. In the case of culverts in a Type F or S stream, the culvert is made passable for fish in accordance with the WDFW Fish Passage Design at Road Culverts, 2003, as amended, and the National Marine Fisheries Service Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings, 2000, as amended;
E. If the culvert involves a ditch, the ditch is not increased in width at the culvert site unless it is narrower at that point than the rest of the ditch and would otherwise impede the flow of water. In that case, it may be widened to the minimum extent the approval authority deems necessary; and

F. Flood hazards are avoided and the proposal is consistent with chapter 24.20 TCC and other applicable regulations.

24.25.140 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Clearing and grading.
Also see chapter 14.34 TCC regarding grading requirements and chapter 15.05 TCC regarding stormwater and erosion control.

A. Important habitats. Clearing and grading within fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and associated buffers is only allowed to the minimum extent necessary for a use approved and permitted pursuant to this chapter, as determined by the approval authority.

Clearing and grading shall not occur within an area where a locally important or priority species has a primary association (e.g. nest sites and foraging and roosting areas), based on WDFW Management Recommendations and related information.

B. Clearing in freshwater riparian and marine riparian management zones. Clearing on lots in freshwater riparian management zones shall not exceed thirty-five percent of the portion of the lot or tract within the freshwater or marine riparian management zone. Priority shall be given to preserving forested areas contiguous to the marine riparian habitat area and riparian habitat areas.

C. Fencing the clearing limits. The clearing limits within the important habitat area shall be marked with temporary fencing. Signage shall be placed on the fence indicating that the area beyond is protected as a critical area. The fencing/signage is subject to inspection by the approval authority prior to the commencement of permitted activities. The temporary fencing/signage shall be maintained throughout construction and shall not be removed until permanent signs, if required pursuant to chapter 24.60 TCC, are in place.

D. Timing. Clearing and grading in important wildlife habitats shall only occur between May 1 and October 1, except as provided for in TCC 24.25.090(C). The county may temporarily suspend grading during this period if excessive rainfall might cause erosion and sedimentation that could affect a stream or marine waters, or dependent fish or wildlife. The county may allow clearing and grading outside of this period if all drainage will flow away from streams, lakes, ponds, and marine waters.

E. Preservation of the infiltration capacity of the site. The soil duff layer in the buffer shall remain undisturbed to the maximum extent practicable. The moisture-holding and infiltration capacity of the topsoil disturbed by permitted development shall be maintained in areas not approved for impervious surfaces by minimizing soil compaction or by stripping, stockpiling, and reapplying topsoil at predevelopment levels.
24.25.150  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Drainage ditches – Maintenance.  Lawfully established drainage ditches that flow to a Type F or S stream, Puget Sound, or a pond shall be maintained consistent with BMPs as follows:

A.  Maintenance of lawfully established drainage ditches (e.g., agricultural drainage ditches) created prior to February 1, 1994 or ditches under the management of Drainage Districts shall be consistent with NRCS standards, or as otherwise specified in a farm management plan approved by the WSU Cooperative Extension Office, USDA, the NRCS, or the Thurston County Conservation District and accepted by the county. Spraying of herbicide for ditch maintenance is prohibited. Ditch maintenance shall not involve enlarging the ditch lengthwise, in depth, or in width.

B.  If a ditch has not been in active use and maintained for the last five consecutive years (e.g., as evidenced by aerial photographs or the maturity of vegetation in the ditch), it shall be considered abandoned.

C.  Road side ditches. See TCC 24.25.325.

24.25.160  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Drilling.

A.  Drilling with human powered, non-motorized, hand-held equipment. Gauge installation and non-motorized site exploration, excavation for data collection or research and accomplished by human powered, hand-held equipment in accordance with state-approved sampling protocols is allowed. The associated spoils shall be contained and the disturbed area shall be restored upon completion of the activity.

B.  Motorized drilling and boring.  Motorized augering under the direction of a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Washington, well drilling allowed pursuant to TCC 24.25.420, and boring consistent with TCC 24.25.340 are allowed provided the approval authority determines, in consultation with a qualified biologist and engineer, that the drilling or boring is appropriate, subject to the following:

1.  The applicant shall identify and minimize potential impacts. This shall include demonstration that the drilling or boring will not dewater the water body;

2.  The access for delivering equipment to the drilling or boring site shall be aligned and constructed in a way that minimizes potential impacts to the important habitat area;

3.  The associated spoils shall be contained, the disturbed area shall be restored upon completion of the activity;

4.  Related equipment and materials shall be stored outside of the important habitat area except as necessary for daily operations; and

5.  Drilling shall not occur within an area where a priority or locally important species has a primary association (e.g. nest sites, foraging and roosting areas), based on WDFW Management Recommendations for Priority Species, unless the approval authority
determines, in consultation with the WDFW, that the scale and timing of the proposed activity would not be harmful to the wildlife.

24.25.170 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Existing, lawfully established uses. Existing, lawfully established uses not specifically addressed in this chapter may continue. However, existing uses in the important wildlife habitat areas and associated buffers should employ BMPs to minimize adverse impacts on the important habitat area(s).

24.25.180 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Habitat area enhancement/restoration. The approval authority may, in consultation with WDFW and other experts (such as tribal biologists or DNR botanists), approve restoration of important habitat areas and associated buffers subject to an approved critical area report and restoration plan (see chapter 24.35 TCC and applicable provisions of this chapter). Stream enhancement/restoration shall only be performed under a plan for the design, implementation, maintenance and monitoring of the project approved by a qualified fisheries biologist and, if needed, by a civil engineer with experience in stream hydrology. The project shall be carried out under the direct supervision of a qualified fisheries biologist, hydrologist, or engineer with demonstrated experience, as appropriate. (Also see chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas).

24.25.190 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Hatcheries. State and federal fish hatcheries are permitted if the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that there is not an alternative location with less adverse impact on the critical area and associated buffer than the proposed location and that the operation will not reduce water quality or increase water temperature to the detriment of native or planted game fish occupying the affected water body. The hatchery shall be consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990) and employ BMPs to avoid adverse impacts to the important habitat area and associated buffer.

24.25.200 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Instream structures – New and expanded.

A. New and expanded instream structures. New and expanded instream structures may be allowed as necessary to evaluate, restore or improve habitat. Installation of instream structures shall be done in the least impacting way practical, at the least impacting time of year, and in conformance with applicable local, state and federal regulations.

B. New and expanded public flood protection measures and other instream structures, such as, but not limited to, high flow bypasses, dikes, levees, tide gates, dams, weirs and other flood control structures may be allowed on Type S and F streams only when demonstrated to be necessary to protect human life or as part of a watershed basin restoration project approved by the county, consistent with state or federal requirements, in consultation with the WDFW and others with experience. These may also be allowed subject to chapter 24.90 TCC, Emergency Authorization.

C. Minimize impacts. The approval of a new or expanded instream structure shall be consistent with a critical area report (see chapter 24.35 TCC) prepared by a qualified biologist and engineer, if appropriate, that identifies and provides for the mitigation of any adverse habitat impacts, including restoration of all affected instream and riparian habitat features.
D. Species of concern. All structures, activities, uses, and alterations proposed to be located in Type S or F streams or in Type Np and Ns streams that drain to Type S or F streams, directly to Puget Sound, a pond regulated by this title, or habitat of any other species of concern shall be located and designed so that they will not degrade habitat or water quality, including water temperature. Fish bypass facilities shall be provided where needed to allow fish migration. Structures that would prevent the migration or travel of salmonids or other native fish shall not be allowed.

24.25.210 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Instream structures – Repair, maintenance or renovation.
Repair, maintenance or renovation of lawfully established instream structures including, but not limited to dams, dikes, levees, high flow bypasses and revetments, is permitted provided that the facilities are not increased in height or length or expanded waterward. Any necessary stabilization shall be accomplished with bioengineering techniques to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with TCC 24.25.300. The site shall be restored with appropriate native vegetation, as determined by the approval authority.

24.25.220 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Intensive uses.
Intensive uses on parcels containing fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas shall comply with the applicable requirements in this section.

A. Types of intensive uses. For the purposes of this section, intensive uses include those uses that store or use hazardous materials, pesticides, or herbicides in quantities regulated by TCC 24.10.140, or would generate excessive nutrients, sediments, or pollutants that could reach the important habitat area or associated buffer or significantly alter the quantity or the timing of water reaching a stream, lake or pond such that the survival of native or anadromous fish would be jeopardized.

B. Identify risks. Applicants for new intensive uses on sites that contain streams, lakes, ponds or priority species conservation areas or abut marine waters, that have potential to degrade such habitat areas, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with the WDFW and others with expertise, shall submit information that identifies and evaluates the potential risks the proposed use poses for the habitat areas.

This shall include, as applicable, whether sediment, effluents, altered pH, the amount, timing, or duration of groundwater flows or altered surface hydrology, noise, or glare would be harmful to aquatic life, birds, or other wildlife.

C. Protective measures. The approval authority shall require measures to avoid, or if that is not possible, minimize, potential adverse impacts on the important habitat area and any associated buffer.

1. The approval authority may require, as warranted, the use of BMPs for new and existing intensive uses. In addition, the approval authority may require applicants for new intensive uses to use integrated pest management; provide and maintain vegetative filter strips (up to fifty feet in width); install fencing; locate noisy activities away from the habitat area; require buildings on the site to be located or oriented
where they would have the least impact on the habitat; or employ other mitigation measures that would be effective in preventing pollutants and sediment from reaching a water body, preventing damage to the important habitat area and avoiding adverse impacts on dependent wildlife, including maintaining stream flows and temperature necessary to sustain fish.

2. If pollution or emissions from a type of proposed use (e.g., smoke stacks associated with asphalt plants, incinerators, or other industrial operations) have been demonstrated scientifically as causing damage to the important habitat or species, the approval authority may require use of BMPs and require that the use be located on the project site where the emissions would pose the least risk of polluting the important habitat area, consistent with best available science and protection of public health and safety.

D. Expert review. The approval authority may call upon experts, at the applicant’s expense, as necessary to help evaluate information submitted by the applicant.

24.25.230 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Landscaping and gardening - Maintenance.

A. Maintenance of lawfully established lawns, landscaping, gardens, athletic fields, playgrounds, parks and similar uses is permitted in important habitat areas and associated buffers provided it does not involve any expansion beyond the existing, developed area.

B. Gardening. Gardening for personal consumption within existing gardens is permitted. New gardens may be established within portions of priority upland habitat areas, marine riparian habitat area, pond buffers, and riparian habitat areas approved for development pursuant to this chapter. No clearing or tree removal outside of the area authorized for development shall be permitted to accommodate such gardens.

C. Landscaping and screening requirements for development under other county regulations such as the zoning code, shall include flexibility in design and vegetation when located adjacent to a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area. This may include incorporation of native, vegetation local to the area, consistent with the habitat area or species use, and/or alternate screening methods such as fencing rather than trees.

24.25.240 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Mineral extraction – Asphalt plants.

Mineral extraction and asphalt batch plants are allowed in the riparian management zone landward of any documented channel migration hazard area, subject to TCC 24.25.140. Mineral extraction and asphalt batch plant proposals on property containing streams or marine, lake or pond shorelines subject to this chapter shall be reviewed to determine if stormwater or sediment from the activity would be harmful to aquatic life in such waters. In addition, an analysis shall be performed to determine if mineral extraction or asphalt batch plants would diminish or change groundwater flows and temperatures to the water body such that elevated temperatures would adversely affect dependent fish and wildlife. Impacts to air quality, or lighting, noise or other impacts to specific species shall be evaluated and mitigated through the special use permit process. Mitigative measures shall be
required to avoid, or if that is not possible, minimize, the potential adverse impacts (Also see chapter 20.54 TCC, Special Uses and chapter 17.20 TCC, Mineral Extraction Code).

24.25.250 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – On-site sewage disposal systems and sewer lines – New.

A. New on-site sewage disposal systems and sewer lines serving an approved use may be allowed in fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas as specified in Table 24.25-3, subject to chapter 24.50 TCC.

B. New on-site sewage systems and sewer lines shall be consistent with applicable provisions of Article IV of The Thurston County Sanitary Code, and the applicable provisions of this chapter.

24.25.260 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – On-site sewage disposal systems – Repair/Replacement.

A. Failing on-site sewage disposal systems shall be remedied through compliance with Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code and the method that results in the least impact to the important habitat area and associated buffer. Replacement sewage disposal systems shall not be allowed within the riparian habitat area, marine riparian habitat area, or pond buffer unless there is no alternative site available outside of such areas to accommodate the facilities. Clearing of existing vegetation to remedy the failing system shall be limited to the minimum area necessary for the replacement system.

B. If the failing sewage disposal system must be replaced with a new on-site sewage disposal system, when possible, it shall be located on a portion of the site that has been disturbed by development and as far from any water body, priority species habitat, and any documented 100-year channel migration zone as possible (See chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas). The approval authority may require the applicant to demonstrate that due to physical constraints (e.g., topography, soil conditions, or the configuration of the site), another site configuration would not allow the development to occur without intrusion or with less intrusion into the important habitat area and associated buffer than the proposal.

C. If a suitable disturbed area is not available to accommodate the on-site sewage system, it shall be located where it would be least harmful to the important habitat, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with WDFW.

D. Replacement on-site sewage systems and sewer lines shall be consistent with applicable provisions of Article IV of The Rules and Regulations of The Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage, and the applicable provisions of this chapter.

E. Regular maintenance such as septic pumping, mechanical repairs and inspections are allowed without critical area review permits.

24.25.265 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Reclaimed water.

Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information
for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW).

24.25.267 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities – Exemptions.
The following uses are exempt from the need for a critical area permit:

A. Construction and/or maintenance of a private ground trail using hand tools in the riparian habitat area, provided that the trail is three (3) feet or less in width, not impervious (e.g. gravel, rocked, paved), and constructed with minimal vegetation removal and minimal pervious material such as wood chips. Construction of the trail shall not cause a public safety risk.

B. Passive recreation activities.

24.25.270 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities.

A. Trails and related facilities. Trails and related facilities shall avoid habitat sustaining priority species and species of local importance to the greatest extent possible. The approval authority may allow trails and trail-related, passive recreation facilities, such as, but not limited to, nature viewing areas, benches, identification and interpretive signs, viewing platforms, and fishing access within important habitat areas if it is determined that there is no practicable or reasonable alternative. Trail alignment, design, construction, and maintenance shall adhere to the following requirements:

1. Location.

   a. Trails and related facilities shall, to the extent feasible, be placed on existing levies, road grades, abandoned rail lines, utility corridors, or other previously disturbed areas.

   b. Except for access points for wildlife viewing, fishing, and recreational use authorized pursuant to this chapter, trails and trail related facilities shall be located outside or on the outside edge of important habitat areas to minimize disturbance and clearing.

   c. Trails and related facilities (e.g., viewing platforms and benches) allowed in important habitat areas shall be located, aligned and constructed to minimize disturbance to important habitat area functions, and to avoid the most sensitive and productive wildlife habitat (e.g., documented breeding, nesting, spawning and rearing areas). Trails and related facilities shall not be located where they would negatively impact a priority species or species of local importance. The approval authority may require signage to avoid intrusion into habitat areas at times when priority or locally important wildlife species are sensitive to disturbance. When necessary to avoid habitat impacts, footbridges shall be used to cross water bodies rather than culverts.
d. The trail alignment shall minimize removal of conifer trees twelve inches or greater in diameter, shrubs, and snags and preserve priority habitats.

e. Parking areas and other facilities associated with trails, not specifically provided for in this section or Table 24.25-3, shall be located outside of the important habitat area.

2. Trail width. Trails shall not exceed four feet in width unless they are designed to accommodate handicapped persons. In that case, the trail and associated clearing shall be the minimum width that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Clearing shall be done with hand tools unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project necessitates mechanized equipment and its use will not harm important habitat areas beyond the trail corridor.

3. Protect water quality. Trails and related facilities shall incorporate water quality protection measures (e.g., check dams or devices, such as a perforated pipe, to reduce sheet flow of stormwater runoff) as needed to assure that runoff from such trails/facilities does not create channels in the riparian habitat area, marine riparian habitat area, or buffer that directly discharge to a stream, pond, lake or Puget Sound.

4. Salvage plants. Native vegetation disturbed by trail construction shall be made available for salvage.

5. Impervious surfaces. Trails shall not be paved unless they are specifically designed to be accessible by handicapped persons. The approval authority may allow regional trails to be paved on former railroad rights-of-way extending through important wildlife habitat. Where impervious surfaces are used they shall be minimized consistent with applicable standards (e.g., ADA and Washington Department of Transportation standards). Raised boardwalks may be used in wet areas provided that they are not treated with hazardous materials that would be harmful to water quality or sensitive species. Viewing platforms shall not be made of continuous impervious materials or be treated with toxic substances that could leach into the important habitat area. The “footprint” of viewing platforms shall be as small as possible in order to minimize impacts (e.g., through the use of pin piles).

24.25.275 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Active recreation.

A. Active recreation. Water related active recreation, such as swimming areas, may be located within the buffers for ponds and marine habitat areas to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate the use, consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), or as amended, and as determined by the approval authority. Related restrooms and parking areas shall be located outside of such areas. Uses such as active use parks, athletic fields, golf courses, operation of motorized recreational vehicles (ORVs), campgrounds, picnic areas, and related restrooms and parking areas shall not be located in important habitat areas or associated buffers.

B. Golf courses. Important habitat areas shall not be adversely impacted in designated play areas of the golf course, but they may be included in the course design provided all other applicable
provisions of this chapter are met. Important habitat areas and associated buffers within golf courses shall remain in their existing condition, except as provided for in this chapter.

24.25.280 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Roads/streets, railroads, and associated bridges and culverts – New and expanded.

Proposed road and railroad crossings of streams, riparian habitat areas, marine riparian habitat areas, riparian and marine management zones, and lake and pond buffers and other important habitats shall follow all applicable local, state, and federal laws and the requirements listed below. These requirements also apply to private access roads.

A. New road, railroad and bridge crossings of the habitats and buffers listed above shall be prohibited except where there is no alternative for an essential crossing (e.g., to provide access to property where no other access is physically possible or available) with less impact on the important habitat area.

Where the approval authority determines that alternative access with less impact on the important habitat area is physically possible, prior to authorizing a new crossing, the applicant shall demonstrate that the necessary property or easement for the alternative access cannot be obtained at reasonable terms or that the alternative is otherwise cost prohibitive.

B. Alignment. Roads within habitat areas, where necessary, shall be aligned as follows:

1. Crossings shall occur, to the extent practical, where they would have the least adverse impact on important habitat. Proposed crossings that would degrade salmonid spawning or rearing areas, priority wildlife habitat, or stands of mature conifer trees (e.g., at least 100 years old) in riparian areas, shall not be allowed unless the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the crossing is essential and that no other crossing location would have less impact on habitat functions. Priority shall be given to protecting salmonid spawning and rearing areas from adverse impact. Crossings shall be located, to the greatest extent practical, to avoid fragmentation of priority habitats (e.g., prairie and oak woodlands).

2. Road alignments shall, to the extent possible and consistent with this section, avoid bends in the stream, areas with highly erodible soils and landslide prone areas (see chapter 24.15 TCC, Geologic Hazards), unless the approval authority determines that mitigation measures will allow the project to occur without a net loss of habitat functions or increased public safety risks. (See chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas and chapter 24.30 TCC, Wetlands).

3. New roads crossing riparian habitat areas or streams shall be aligned perpendicular to the channel where possible. If that is not possible, they shall be aligned as close as possible to perpendicular at an angle greater than sixty degrees to the centerline of the stream channel. The approval authority may allow a deviation from this standard to avoid impacting high quality riparian habitat (e.g., mature conifers and wetlands associated with streams) or other critical areas if the net effect of the alternative alignment would reduce impact on the affected critical areas or if necessary to preserve public safety. Roads in riparian habitat areas shall not extend parallel to the stream.
4. The road alignment shall avoid, to the maximum extent practical, conifer trees greater than twelve inches in diameter at four and one-half feet above the ground, measured on the uphill side of the tree and shall stay five feet outside of the dripline of oak trees.

5. Maintenance roads may be located in utility corridors if the approval authority determines that they are essential and they are located in the least impactive location in the outer half of the habitat area or buffer contiguous to the utility corridor on the side away from any water body. To the maximum extent practicable, access for utility maintenance within riparian habitat areas, marine riparian habitat areas, and pond buffers shall be limited to access points rather than by an access road extending parallel to the water body. The width of the maintenance road shall be minimized; in no event shall it be greater than fifteen feet.

C. Serve multiple properties. Crossings of Type S and F streams shall be aligned, whenever possible, to serve multiple properties and be designed to accommodate conduit for utility lines. The county shall require the applicant for a new road crossing, to the extent legally permissible, to work with the county to provide for a street layout and crossing location that will minimize the need for additional stream crossings in the future to serve surrounding property.

D. Spacing of crossings.

1. Crossings of Type S and F streams shall not be allowed if the number of existing road and utility corridor crossings plus the proposed crossing would equal or exceed two crossings per 0.6 river miles in the affected stream segment, unless:

   a. The approval authority determines that mitigation measures will allow the project to occur without a net loss of stream and riparian habitat functions. (For example, due to removal of an existing stream crossing at another location along the stream or restoration of degraded riparian area); or

   b. The absence of the requested crossing would landlock the property.

2. The approval authority may require that crossings spaced closer than called for in this subsection be accomplished with a bridge rather than a culvert if it would significantly reduce habitat impacts.

E. Minimize crossing width. Crossings of streams, riparian habitat areas, marine waters, marine riparian habitat areas, and pond or lake buffers shall have the narrowest width possible, consistent with applicable county road standards and protection of public safety. Clearing to accommodate the road shall be minimized, consistent with the protection of the most important habitat, as determined by the approval authority.

F. Bridge and culvert design. The design of stream crossings shall be consistent with the WDFW Fish Passage Design at Road Culverts, 2003, as amended, and the National Marine Fisheries Service Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings, 2000, as amended. Bridges are preferred on Type S and F waters unless physically infeasible. Culverts approved to be installed on Type S and F streams shall be arch/bottomless or the equivalent that provides
comparable fish protection, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with WDFW and others with expertise. Crossing in estuaries shall be designed to avoid interruption of tidal flows. The approval authority may require that crossings in estuaries be accomplished with a bridge rather than a culvert if it would significantly reduce habitat impacts.

G. Avoidance of flood hazards. See chapter 24.20 TCC.

H. Logging roads within sites proposed for development. Crossings of important habitat areas within sites proposed for development that were allowed by a State Forest Practices Permit but which do not meet the requirements of this chapter, and any unlawfully established roads, shall be removed. The former roadbed shall be restored to a condition consistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas. The approval authority may require soil amendment to enable plant survival and drainage in the restored area.

24.25.290 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Road replacement and minor expansion.
Existing public roads constructed prior to [the effective date of this ordinance] may be replaced or widened (e.g., for safety improvements) within the footprint of the existing road bed and in portions of the right-of-way that have been previously cleared or graded as part of permitted road work provided that all of the following criteria are met:

A. Capacity. The capacity of the road is not increased.

B. Minimize impact. When possible, road widening shall occur on the side of the road furthest from the important habitat area unless other critical areas are present, in which case the approval authority, in consultation with others with expertise, shall determine, given physical and technical constraints, where the proposed road expansion would have the least impact on the critical areas.

C. Expansion limits. Such road expansion shall not extend beyond the outer edge of existing roadside ditches, or encroach into areas that are predominately covered with native vegetation. In no case shall a road expansion authorized pursuant to this chapter extend more than ten feet beyond the existing roadbed. Only one minor expansion shall be allowed per road segment pursuant to this section.

24.25.295 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Single family residential, new.
New and existing single family residential uses are subject to chapter 24.50 TCC.

24.25.300 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Shoreline and slope stabilization.
The approval authority may authorize stabilization of stream banks, lakes, ponds, and marine shorelines only where it is determined that, it is necessary to protect lawfully established, existing threatened structures as defined in this title and by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990) as amended and applicable; and that cannot be relocated with less impact to fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas or other critical areas; or to protect unusually high value natural resources/wildlife habitat (e.g., or priority species locations or a wetland associated with a stream). Stabilization of pond, marine or stream shorelines, is only allowed as provided for in the Shoreline Master Program, as amended, and consistent with this section. Any proposal for slope/bluff
stabilization must be supported by a geological assessment from a qualified geotechnical professional and a biologist and shall adhere to the following preferential order:

A. Nonstructural shoreline protective techniques. When stabilization methods are deemed necessary by the director, nonstructural shoreline protective techniques are preferred to concrete bulkheads, riprap or other types of shoreline armoring. Nonstructural techniques may include but are not limited to: beach nourishment, coarse beach fill, gravel berms, vegetation plantings and bioengineering. Best available science shall be used to evaluate the best techniques for protection as determined by the director. Refer also to the Washington Department of Ecology publications “Slope Stabilization and Erosion Control Using Vegetation” (1993, Publication 93-30), and “Marine Shoreline Armoring and Puget Sound” (2010, Publication 10-06-003).

B. Bioengineering. Stabilization of stream, lake, pond and marine shorelines, if necessary, shall be accomplished with bioengineering or similar soft stabilization techniques unless the applicant’s qualified engineer and biologist demonstrates that such techniques are not sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed in this section from erosion and slope failure. (See Washington’s Integrated Stream bank Protection Guidelines for bioengineering designs.) The stabilization shall be designed and installed to minimize adverse impacts on the habitat’s functions.

C. Combination of bioengineering and hard armoring. If the applicant’s qualified engineer and biologist demonstrate to the approval authority’s satisfaction that bioengineering alone will not be sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed in this section, the approval authority, in consultation with a biologist and qualified engineer, at the applicant’s expense, may authorize a combination of bioengineering and structural solutions that is least damaging to the habitat. The stabilization shall be designed and installed to minimize adverse impacts on the habitat’s functions. The structural stabilization solutions shall comply with subsection D below.

D. Structural Techniques (e.g., bulkhead, gabion, riprap, revetments, or wall). If the applicant’s qualified engineer and biologist demonstrate to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the nonstructural techniques provided for in this section are not possible or will not be sufficient to protect structures and facilities listed in this section from erosion and slope failure, they may, in consultation with a biologist and qualified engineer at the applicant’s expense, propose a structural stabilization solution consistent with the following:

1. Hard armoring, such as rip-rap and bulkheads, may only be used when the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that a public facility, public road, utility (not individual service lines that can be relocated), sole access road, or occupied structure cannot be safely and practically maintained without such measures. The armoring shall be the minimum dimension necessary to protect the structure.

2. Hard armoring shall not be allowed along Type S or F streams, in marine habitat areas, or in salmonid spawning, migration or rearing areas unless it is necessary to protect critical public facilities, human life, or a threatened dwelling.
3. Structural Techniques shall only be allowed along riparian habitat areas when:

   a. It is to protect a legally permitted threatened structure; and
   b. The residence and normal appurtenances are located within the 2:1 slope measured from the toe of the bluff or within the 50 foot top of slope buffer, whichever is greater; and
   c. Only if a geotechnical assessment completed per chapter 24.35 TCC finds that the structure to be protected will be threatened based on the long-term erosion rate (30-50 year average) within the next three years if toe protection is not provided.

E. Designed by engineer. A professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington with demonstrated expertise regarding hydraulic actions along shorelines shall design stabilization projects along streams and marine shorelines in consultation with a qualified biologist.

F. Avoid intrusion into the important habitat area. Any new or replaced shoreline protective structures shall be placed as close to the existing bank as possible and parallel to the natural shoreline. In areas where dry land has been previously created by fill behind the bulkhead, the replacement structure should be designed to remove the fill and place the new structure as close to the historical OHWM as possible.

G. Repair, maintenance or renovation. Repair, maintenance, or renovation of lawfully established shoreline stabilization structures is permitted consistent with state and federal regulations and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, provided that the facilities are not increased in height or length or expanded waterward. Replacement of existing shoreline stabilization structures shall be considered a new use, except as provided for by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (see Section XVIII Shoreline Protection).

H. Nontoxic materials. Approved stabilization shall only use materials that do not pose a risk to water quality, consistent with best available science.

I. Slope stabilization. Slope stabilization is only allowed in important habitat areas, if consistent with chapter 24.15 TCC, Geologic Hazards and chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas, and only where erosion or landsliding threatens a use listed in this section. Bioengineering shall be used where possible.

J. A mitigation plan for impacts to fish and wildlife conservation areas including the shoreline ecological functions as a result of the armoring shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and implemented immediately following construction. Mitigation measures may include temporary or perpetual beach feeding with appropriate substrate, additional woody debris, revegetation of the adjacent upland area, or other measures designed to minimize the impacts to the nearshore environment from armoring.

K. Prior to any approval of shoreline armoring, the applicant shall demonstrate that other measures have been taken to address the erosion or other threats to the structure. This includes improving or installing a functioning drainage system, minimizing impervious areas, restoration of trees and other native vegetation on the adjacent buffer slope or bluff, possible
relocation of structures, or other measures that would improve stabilization and reduce the threat to the structure.

24.25.310 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Stair tower, stairway, and mechanical lift.
Stair towers, stairways, and mechanical lifts may be permitted consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, and the following requirements:

A. Avoid habitat impacts. Stair towers, stairways, and mechanical lifts shall not be located, designed, or constructed such that they would ground on smelt, Pacific sand lance or herring spawning beds, or on eelgrass beds (Zostera spp.).

B. Treated wood. Any treated wood proposed to be used in the construction of the stair tower, stairway and/or mechanical lift that would be placed in, over, or within 100 feet of the water is subject to county approval. Only treatments that pose a negligible risk to water quality shall be permitted.

C. Armoring. Riprap or other armoring shall not be placed on a beach to protect stair towers, stairways or mechanical lifts.

D. Footprint. The footprint of the stair tower, stairway, and mechanical lift shall be the minimum necessary to accommodate the proposed use.

24.25.320 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Stormwater facilities – New.
New and expanded stormwater facilities (e.g. detention, retention, treatment and conveyance facilities) shall not be constructed within priority prairie habitat. New stormwater facilities may be constructed within other important habitat areas and associated buffers consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC) and the Clean Water Act, under the following conditions:

A. No alternative. The applicant shall demonstrate that there is no alternative for accommodating stormwater with less impact on the important habitat area due to topography or other physical constraint. The facilities shall be designed and located to minimize impacts on the important habitat area.

B. Accommodation of stormwater generated within the habitat area. New roads and other development located adjacent to important habitat areas shall be designed and located so any associated stormwater facilities are located outside of the important habitat area. The approval authority may require that the proposed development be redesigned or reduced in scale to avoid or minimize impacts to the important habitat area.

Any new retention, detention, or treatment facilities shall be designed and sized to only accommodate stormwater generated from impervious surfaces (e.g., roads and bridges) within or immediately adjacent to the important habitat area or new impervious surfaces approved consistent with this chapter.

C. Size limits and location. Use of riparian habitat areas, marine riparian habitat area or pond or lake buffers for stormwater retention, detention or treatment shall be limited to the twenty-
five percent of the riparian habitat area, marine riparian habitat area, or buffer furthest from the water body, unless another location is necessary to accommodate stormwater from a road or bridge. In no case shall the size of the facility exceed twenty-five percent of the habitat area/buffer on the parcel(s) under development. The stormwater facility shall not cause an increase in water temperature or degradation of water quantity and quality of fish-bearing streams.

D. Roadside stormwater conveyance facilities. Roadside stormwater conveyance swales and ditches may be extended through important habitats within rights-of-way. When possible, they shall be located along the side of the road furthest from the habitat area. If the conveyance facility must be located along the side of the road closest to the important habitat area, it shall be located as close to the road/sidewalk as possible, consistent with public safety.

E. Open and vegetated. Stormwater detention, retention, and treatment ponds in important habitat areas shall be open and, to the extent possible, vegetated with native plants present in the area. Invasive vegetation shall not be planted. Stormwater conveyance facilities shall be open and vegetated with non invasive plants unless the approval authority determines, in consultation with the applicant’s qualified engineer, that design constraints or protection of public safety warrant burying the conveyance facility (e.g., underground storage is needed or the facility would span a steep slope and must be “tight lined” to avoid slope failure – see chapter 24.15 TCC, Geologic Hazards). Vegetation shall be maintained and, if necessary, planted adjacent to all open swales, channels, and ponds in order to retard erosion, filter sediments, pollutants, and (if warranted to maintain water temperatures necessary to sustain aquatic life) shade the water, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC), and the Clean Water Act.

F. Avoid channelization.

1. With the exception of conveyance facilities extending through the important habitat area and/or associated buffer, stormwater shall be dispersed as sheet flow at the outer edge of the important habitat area to avoid channelization and allow filtration of sediment, nutrients, and pollutants and infiltration of water. The approval authority may require, if slopes exceed five percent, that obstructions or devices (e.g., perforated pipe) be installed to maintain sheet flow within the important habitat area and associated buffer.

2. When an outfall to a stream, pond, or marine waters is necessary, it shall be designed to mitigate any adverse impacts to aquatic life. This may include, if warranted, a conveyance system and outfall structure that simulates natural conditions and provides habitat features necessary for fish feeding, cover and reproduction. If stabilization of an outfall along a Type S or F stream or marine shoreline is necessary, bioengineering techniques shall be used to the maximum extent practical, consistent with state and federal regulations (See TCC 24.25.300).

G. Treatment. All stormwater from stormwater systems shall be treated prior to release to a water body consistent with the Clean Water Act and chapter 15.05, TCC.
24.25.323 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Stormwater facilities – Engineered stormwater dispersion.

The dispersion area of storm water dispersion systems, as defined by the Thurston County DDECM, shall not be considered a stormwater facility as described in TCC 24.25.320, and regulated as such, unless a physical structure is incorporated within the design that impacts the FWHCA. Storm water dispersion facilities whose dispersion area includes any portion of a FWHCA are allowed as an element of a stormwater system under the following circumstances:

A. Dispersion of runoff from back yards of development and downspout dispersion, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, is allowed at the outside edge of the FWHCA.

B. Sheet flow and concentrated flow dispersion, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, of storm water meeting runoff treatment requirements of the Thurston County DDECM is allowed at the outside edge of the FWHCA.

C. The required dispersion area for sheet flow and concentrated flow dispersion from other pervious and impervious surfaces, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, may only include that portion of a FWHCA outside of the minimum area considered necessary for water quality protection or 150 feet whichever is greater.

D. Native vegetation in the FWHCA may be increased but shall not be cleared or altered to accommodate stormwater treatment.

E. In no case shall dispersion methods be approved that may cause water quality impacts to the FWHCA. If water quality impacts are anticipated or observed, additional stormwater treatment methods shall be implemented.

24.25.325 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Stormwater facilities – Maintenance or repair.

Maintenance and repair of existing stormwater retention, detention, treatment and conveyance systems is permitted in fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and associated buffers, consistent with the following:

A. Best management practices. County-owned stormwater facilities within riparian habitat areas, marine riparian habitat area, and pond/lake buffers accommodating runoff from county roads shall be maintained consistent with the BMPs listed in the Regional Road Maintenance Program Guidelines, January 2002, and, as applicable, the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, chapter 15.05, TCC.

B. Other stormwater facilities within marine riparian habitat areas, pond/lake buffers, and riparian habitat areas shall be maintained consistent with a maintenance plan approved by the Thurston County Department of Water and Wastewater Management in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County. The approved maintenance plan shall provide at least as much protection for the important habitat area as the provisions of this chapter.
C. No expansion. Maintenance of stormwater facilities shall not result in their expansion within the riparian habitat, priority habitat, or marine riparian habitat area or pond/lake buffers or result in channelized discharges of water to such areas.

**24.25.330 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Stream relocation.**

The approval authority, in consultation with state and federal agencies with jurisdiction, may only allow streams to be relocated subject to state permit requirements, provided the proposal complies with the following:

A. Plans. The applicant shall submit plans identifying the extent to which the stream would be altered. The plans shall depict the existing stream channel, the location of the proposed stream channel, site topography with contours at two-foot intervals or less, proposed uses or restoration of the original stream channel including any grading and filling, proposed stream bed design and materials, the channel migration zone, stream bank stabilization, riparian area enhancement/restoration, and methods to preserve and relocate existing fish and aquatic life affected by the project.

B. Equal or better habitat function. The replacement stream channel provides an equal or better habitat for all fish species, and affected important marine species, maintains or improves water quality, and does not have a net adverse impact on other critical areas.

C. Replicate or improve stream characteristics. The original ecological value of the stream and riparian habitat area shall be recreated or enhanced, to the extent feasible. The natural channel dimensions shall be replicated or improved including substantially identical depth, width, length, gradient, channel complexity and horizontal alignment (meander lengths) as the original location or the upstream and downstream channel. The stream bottom shall be restored with materials identical or similar to the original streambed. Removal of vegetation and large woody debris (logs) shall be minimized. However, the approval authority may allow deviation from the original conditions if it is determined that an alternative configuration or materials would improve habitat quality (e.g., by adding structure, cover, pools, spawning gravels, etc).

D. Flooding. The flood carrying capacity of the relocated stream and floodplain shall not be diminished, as demonstrated by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington. (Also see chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas.)

E. Channel migration zone. The applicant shall identify the channel migration zone for the watercourse at the project site and for the reach upstream and downstream of the site (for a distance of at least 500 feet). The design and construction of the project shall not preclude channel movement, except as necessary to protect public safety or existing structures, consistent with TCC 24.25.300.

F. Impacts on marine habitat. Stream relocation shall minimize impacts to important marine habitat protected by this chapter. Any impacts to such areas shall be mitigated. Relocated streams entering Puget Sound shall not be contained in pipes within the marine riparian habitat area, with the exception of road crossings permitted consistent with this chapter.
G. Riparian width and condition. Any stream that is relocated shall have a riparian habitat area width as specified in Table 24.25-1 or as modified pursuant to TCC 24.25.015-040. The stream bank configuration shall be restored to the original or improved conditions, consistent with the latest edition of WDFW’s Integrated Streambank Protection Guidelines. The riparian habitat area shall be replanted with native vegetation that replicates the natural, undisturbed riparian condition in species, size and densities.

H. Blockages. Stream alteration projects in Type S and F streams shall not result in blockage of side channels that would impede fish or adversely impact other priority wildlife species. Known fish barriers in side channels involved in the project site shall be removed as part of the approved stream alteration project.

I. Monitoring and surety. The applicant shall submit a monitoring plan for county approval to ensure that the project functions as approved. The applicant also shall submit a surety to the county, consistent with TCC 24.70, sufficient to correct any project failures or to replace any vegetation that does not survive.

24.25.340 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Utility lines and facilities – New. Installation of utility lines and facilities is permitted in existing rights-of-way and utility corridors consistent with applicable regulations (see title 13, TCC). The alignment of underground utility lines outside of existing rights-of-way shall avoid important habitat areas to the greatest extent possible. The approval authority may allow underground utility lines within these areas when it is determined that there are no practicable alternatives or if the utility lines will be consolidated with a road crossing or parallel to an existing utility crossing at the minimum separation distances established by the county for such uses.

A. Utility corridors. Utility corridor alignment, construction, restoration, and maintenance shall adhere to the following standards:

1. Utility corridor alignment shall fall outside of important habitat areas and associated buffers to the maximum extent possible where it would have the least impact on the functions of important habitat area and associated buffers. The approval authority may require submission of a feasibility study that demonstrates that alternative routing with less impact on important habitat areas is not possible. Utility corridors shall not be located in habitat used for salmonid rearing or spawning or by a species listed as endangered or threatened by the state or federal government unless there is no other crossing site with less impact on these species and the habitat functions.

2. Utility corridors shall not parallel a stream within a riparian habitat area unless there is no alternative.

3. The utility corridor shall have the minimum width practicable.

4. The utility corridor alignment and utility installation shall not cause an increased risk of landslide or significant erosion that would impact an important habitat.

5. Utility corridor construction and maintenance shall maintain and protect the hydrologic and hydraulic functions of streams.
6. Clearing shall be limited to the minimum necessary to locate the utility. Cutting of conifer trees greater than 12 inches in diameter (at four and one-half feet above the ground on the uphill side of the tree) shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible and priority habitats preserved, consistent with the preservation of the most important habitat.

7. The utility corridor shall provide for other necessary uses and facilities whenever possible. Conduit containing new utilities shall be sized to provide capacity for additional lines and cables when feasible.

8. Utility corridors shall be revegetated with appropriate native vegetation, compatible with the utility facility and, whenever possible, equivalent to preconstruction densities. Restoration shall occur immediately upon completion of construction or soon thereafter under seasonal constraints or work windows established pursuant to this chapter. The applicant shall submit a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure that such vegetation survives or is replaced.

B. Stream crossings. New utility lines and cables, sewer lines, and water lines are permitted to cross streams if they are in compliance with applicable local, state and federal regulations, and the following standards.

1. Dry streams. Dry, intermittent streams may be crossed with open cuts during a time period approved by the county and any agency with jurisdiction.

2. Existing crossings. Where possible, new lines and cables crossing perennial streams shall be contained within an existing roadbed, railroad bed, bridge, elevated walkway, conduit, or other existing structure.

3. Boring. When it is not possible to use existing crossings, new crossings shall, when physically and economically feasible, be accomplished by boring beneath the scour depth and hyporheic zone of the of the stream’s active channel and, where documented, the 100-year channel migration zone. (See TCC 24.20.045 and 055). Bore pits associated with the crossings shall be restored upon project completion.

4. Alignment. When use of existing structures or boring is not feasible to accommodate new utility lines, the stream/riparian habitat area crossing shall be aligned perpendicular to the channel where possible. If that is not possible, stream crossings shall be aligned at an angle greater than sixty degrees to the centerline of the stream channel consistent with the preservation of the most important habitat, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with the WDFW.

5. Staging areas. Staging areas for equipment and materials shall be located outside of the important habitat area.

6. Maintenance plan. Applicants shall submit a maintenance plan for the corridor for approval by the county consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
7. Overhead utility crossings of streams may be permitted if the review authority determines that it is method with the least impact on the critical area.

C. Individual service lines. Overhead lines or cables serving an individual use are permitted if no alternative is available, they meet state and federal requirements and do not impair wildlife use of the important habitat area. Poles supporting such lines shall be located outside of the important habitat area when feasible. If a pole is necessary within the important habitat area, it shall be located where it would be least damaging to the habitat, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with the WDFW.

Buried service lines serving an individual use are permitted upon demonstration that they will not have an adverse impact on the important habitat area. The site shall be restored upon completion of the utility installation.

24.25.350 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – General.
(For guidance regarding vegetation removal along marine bluffs, see the Vegetation Management Guide for Puget Sound Bluff Property Owners, Washington Department of Ecology.) Also see TCC 24.25.140.

24.25.360 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Native vegetation.
Removal of native vegetation within priority habitat, marine riparian habitat areas, and riparian habitat areas shall be prohibited except as provided for in this chapter.

24.25.370 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Oak woodlands.
Removal of Douglas fir trees within oak woodlands and thinning of oaks within oak savanna habitat is allowed subject to county approval based on a critical area report (e.g. Habitat Management Plan) that demonstrates that these activities will enhance the habitat.

24.25.380 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds and invasive plants.

A. Removal of noxious weeds, under the direction of the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board, is permitted in important habitat areas consistent with a county approved integrated pest management plan, applicable county and state regulations, and this section.

B. Removal of invasive plants is permitted subject to the criteria in this section. Plant removal shall be performed such that it will not increase the likelihood of stream bank erosion, marine bluff erosion (see chapter 24.15 TCC), significantly damage untargeted vegetation, or impair any habitat functions. The method of removal shall be approved in writing by Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department, consistent with applicable county, state, and federal regulations.

C. Hand tools shall be used for plant removal unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project warrants use of small scale equipment (e.g., riding mowers or light mechanical cultivating equipment) or other method (i.e., application of herbicide with a state and federally approved formulation by a licensed applicator in accordance with the safe
application practices on the label) and use of the equipment/method does not pose a significant risk to untargeted areas, habitat functions, or water quality.

D. Erosion shall be effectively controlled and exposed areas shall be stabilized immediately following plant removal consistent with chapter 15.05 TCC. If the area of exposed soil exceeds 100 square feet, it shall be planted with appropriate native plant species present in the area at a density that will provide complete ground cover at maturity, unless the approval authority determines that the area will revegetate naturally without jeopardizing water quality or the important habitat area.

24.25.390 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Hazard trees.

Hazard trees. The county may authorize the limbing, thinning or removal of hazard trees in important habitat areas and associated buffers provided that:

A. The county may require the applicant to submit a report from a certified arborist or professional forester that documents the hazard. If so, the arborist shall recommend suitable replacement trees for any trees that are removed pursuant to this subsection.

B. Tree cutting is limited to limbing or crown thinning in compliance with National Arborist Association pruning standards, unless the tree has a disease that would jeopardize the survival of other trees, or felling the tree is otherwise justified by the landowner/expert. Where limbing or crown thinning is not sufficient to address the hazard, the tree shall be pushed over into the important wildlife habitat and toward a stream or marine waters if present.

C. Snags shall be left in place to provide habitat unless they have a disease that would jeopardize other trees. All trees and branches cut in the important habitat area and buffer shall remain there unless the tree is diseased.

D. The landowner shall replace any tree that is taken down with field grown native trees at least two feet in height. In riparian habitat areas, replacement trees shall be native and appropriate to the location, such as Oregon white oak in prairie riparian habitat. Replacement ratios shall be based on the tree species impacted. Appropriate prairie adapted species shall be planted in prairie areas provided that they do not interfere with the integrity or survival of an oak stand. Replacement trees shall be planted from October to February. The county may also require that a watering, maintenance and monitoring plan be submitted to ensure their survival.

24.25.400 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Vegetation removal – Other.

Other vegetation may be removed from important habitat areas and associated buffers as follows:

A. Removal of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary for surveying or testing purposes, as determined by the approval authority.

B. Harvesting of plants and plant materials for restoration and enhancement projects provided the harvested material does not comprise more than twenty percent of any single plant, the species harvested comprises forty percent or more of the vegetation in the important habitat area/buffer on site, the harvested material consists of woody stems and twigs, and no root material is harvested, except as provided for in this section.
C. Salvage of whole plants in areas approved for development.

D. Removal of vegetation as part of an approved habitat restoration/enhancement project in the important habitat area.

E. Pruning and/or limb thinning

24.25.410 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Water dependent uses.
The approval authority may allow alteration of the riparian habitat area, marine riparian habitat area, or pond buffer to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate water dependent structures and uses (as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended) authorized by the Shoreline Master Program when no other practicable alternative exists. Such uses shall be designed and installed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize impacts on important wildlife habitat consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

24.25.420 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Wells – New.
A. New individual and community wells serving approved uses shall only be allowed within important habitat area if there is not sufficient buildable area on the property outside the habitat area to accommodate the well, as determined by the approval authority. New well houses are not permitted in riparian habitat areas, marine riparian habitat area, pond buffers or priority species conservation areas. Also see Article III of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water Supplies.

B. Access to wells in important habitat areas shall be by a pervious trail no more than four feet in width unless the approval authority determines that it is necessary to provide vehicular access to a community well. In that case, the approval authority may authorize an unimproved access of minimal width (no greater than eight feet) to provide access for maintenance vehicles.

C. Maintenance of the trail/access road shall not involve the use of herbicides or other hazardous materials.
# APPENDIX 24.25-1

## TABLE 24.25-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Purpose of Habitat/Basis for Listing</th>
<th>Related Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cottonwood Floodplains</td>
<td>Current floodplain regulations do not protect this habitat from being cleared for converting to agricultural uses. This is a habitat found only along the Nisqually River in Thurston County. Cottonwoods are a keystone species in many riparian zones (Johnson et al 2001).</td>
<td>Red-eyed vireo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balds (dry plant communities, grasslands)</td>
<td>Globally unique and rare plant community. Primarily located in SE corner of Thurston County, vicinity of Bald Hills. Similar to prairies, but smaller and shallower soils (associated with bedrock outcrops).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie, or Westside Prairie</td>
<td>Important prairie or westside prairie habitat means herbaceous, non-forested (forested means greater than or equal to 60% forest canopy cover) plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie where soils are well-drained or a wet prairie. Priority dry prairie areas have a minimum size of one acre. In addition, some areas dominated by Scot’s (Scotch) Broom (non-native shrub) or other invasive species to prairies shall be considered prairie if the area is restorable and when there are native prairie species in the understory below the shrubs. Such marginal and restorable areas can be less valuable, but may have significant value if they are large in area, or in a landscape that connects two or more prairies. Small areas less than one acre with characteristics meeting the definition of prairie habitat which are functionally connected to another larger prairie habitat within approximately one half mile are also important prairie habitat areas. Mima mounds shall be preserved to the greatest practicable extent as determined by the review authority. See the definitions for prairie habitat, dry prairie, and wet prairie.</td>
<td>Mazama pocket gopher, Taylor’s checkerspot bufferfly, Mardon skipper, streaked horned lark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon White Oak Habitat</td>
<td>Important Oak Habitat means stands of Oregon white oak (<em>Quercus garryana</em>) or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component of the stand is twenty-five percent (25%) or more; or where total canopy coverage of the stand is less than twenty-five percent (25%), but oak accounts for at least fifty percent (50%) of the canopy coverage. The latter is often referred to as oak savanna. Important oak habitat consists of stands greater than or equal to one (1) acre (0.4 hectares) in size. Single oaks or stands less than one (1) acre (0.4 hectares) shall also be considered an important habitat when found to be particularly valuable to fish and wildlife (i.e. they contain many cavities, have a large diameter at breast height, are used by priority species, or have a large</td>
<td>Western gray squirrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Purpose of Habitat/Basis for Listing</td>
<td>Related Species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>canopy), or are located in degraded habitat areas. Individual oak trees and stands of pure oak or oak conifer associations less than one (1) acre in size that are located in close proximity to an oak habitat larger than one (1) acre may also be considered an important habitat.</td>
<td>Band Tailed Pigeon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springs and seeps (includes mineral springs)</td>
<td>Forested springs/seeps are protected in the Forests and Fish Report to protect stream associated amphibians (SAA), protect water quality, etc. 50’ no cut buffer required. Mineral springs are important to Band-tailed pigeons, especially during breeding season.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE 24.25-5
Wildlife Species of Local Importance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Basis for listing as Locally Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Birds:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>The following bird species depend on prairie habitat and are declining in population due to loss of habitat. They serve as indicator species for relatively large and/or healthy prairie and may assist in protection of prairie habitat.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Meadowlark</td>
<td><em>Sturnell neglecta</em></td>
<td>Prairie species. Needs large open areas. Found on Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM), Mima Mounds, and Olympia Airport year round.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lazuli Bunting</td>
<td><em>Passerina amoena</em></td>
<td>Prairie species. Declining populations. Found near Scatter Creek and Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common nighthawk</td>
<td><em>Chordeiles minor</em></td>
<td>Prairie species. Population declining significantly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Bittern</td>
<td><em>Botaurus lengiinosus</em></td>
<td>State of Washington Birds classifies A. Bittern as a Species of Immediate Concern for wetlands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olive-sided Flycatcher</td>
<td><em>Contopus cooperi</em></td>
<td>State of Washington Birds classifies Olive-sided Flycatcher as a Species of Immediate Concern for forests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-eared owl</td>
<td><em>Asio flammeus</em></td>
<td>State of Wa Birds classifies Short-eared owl as a Species of High Concern for grasslands.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE 24.25-5 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Basis for listing as Locally Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amphibians and Reptiles:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>The following amphibian species ranges have been significantly reduced due to habitat alteration and development. Sensitive to site and landscape alterations, specifically that limit breeding and foraging site connectivity, and dispersal/seasonal corridors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic Torrent Salamander</td>
<td><em>Rhyacotriton olympicus</em></td>
<td>Three of the four species of Rhyacotritoninae occur in Thurston County - Olympic Torrent, Columbia Torrent, and Cascade Torrent. Cascade and Columbia Torrent salamanders are both listed as State Candidate Species by WDFW. Erik Neatherlin of WDFW and Bill Leonard, Biologist with WDOT, both recommend listing the Olympic Torrent Salamander as a Locally Important Species due to their association with old-growth forests and sensitivity to increased temperatures and sedimentation in streams and headwaters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailed Frog</td>
<td><em>Ascaphus truie</em></td>
<td>Sensitive to timber harvest. Survival may depend on protection of cool flowing streams required for breeding and larval development. Likely to be affected by increased water temperatures occurring after timber harvest. Headwater stream protection through buffers is important mitigation measure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cope's Giant Salamander</td>
<td><em>Dicamptodon copei</em></td>
<td>Cope's giant salamander (<em>Dicamptodon copei</em>) are sensitive to habitat change and fragmentation from development. Both species would be expected to occur in the extreme SE portion of the county, similar to the two PHS species, Cascades torrent salamander and Van Dyke's salamander. The SE portion of the county in the headwaters of the Deschutes systems and the Nisqually system in the vicinity of Alder lake should be considered a &quot;hot&quot; region for all four (2 PHS, 2 local species mentioned) as this area is the only place they are likely to occur in the county. (Source: E. Neatherlin, WDFW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Giant Salamander</td>
<td><em>Dicamptodon tenebrlosus</em></td>
<td>May be associated with old-growth forests. Found in moist coniferous forests. During breeding season found in or near streams. Closely associated with high gradient streams with coarse substrate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 24.25-6. Prairie soils.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series Name</th>
<th>SCS Map Symbol #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldhill</td>
<td>5, 6, 7, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cagey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett</td>
<td>32, 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianola</td>
<td>46, 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nisqually</td>
<td>73, 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spana</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanaway</td>
<td>110, 111, 112, 113, 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenino</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 24.25-7. Diagnostic wet prairie plants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Camassia leichtlinii</em></td>
<td>giant camas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Camassia quamash</em></td>
<td>common camas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex densa</em></td>
<td>dense sedge *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex feta</em></td>
<td>green-sheath sedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex tumulicola</em></td>
<td>foot-hill sedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex unilateralis</em></td>
<td>one-sided sedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Deschampsia cespitosa</em></td>
<td>tufted hairgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Deschampsia danthonioides</em></td>
<td>annual hairgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Downingia yina</em></td>
<td>Cascade downingia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eryngium petiolatum</em></td>
<td>Oregon coyote thistle *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lomatium bradshawii</em></td>
<td>Bradshaw’s lomatium * Federally Endangered Species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lotus pinnatus</em></td>
<td>bog bird's-foot-trefoil *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Lupinus polyphyllus</em></td>
<td>large-leaf lupine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Perideridia gairdneri</em></td>
<td>Gairdner's yampah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Plagiobothrys figuratus</em></td>
<td>fragrant popcorn flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Polemonium carneum</em></td>
<td>great polemonium *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Polygonum bistortoides</em></td>
<td>American bistort *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Potentilla gracilis</em></td>
<td>graceful (fanleaf) cinquefoil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ranunculus alismifolius</em></td>
<td>plantain-leaf buttercup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ranunculus orthorhynchus</em></td>
<td>bird's-food buttercup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Saxifraga integrifolia</em></td>
<td>northwestern saxifrage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Saxifraga oregana</em></td>
<td>bog saxifrage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sidalcea malviflora var. virgata</em></td>
<td>rose checkermallow *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Sisyrinchium idahoense</em></td>
<td>Idaho blue-eyed-grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Veratrum californicum</em></td>
<td>California false hellebore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Veratrum viride</em></td>
<td>American false hellebore *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Rare Wet Prairie Species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 24.25-8. Diagnostic dry prairie plants (common and rare).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Apocynum androsaemifolium</em></td>
<td>spreading dogbane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Balsamorhiza deltoidea</em></td>
<td>deltoid balsamroot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Brodiaea coronaria ssp. coronaria</em></td>
<td>harvest firecracker-flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Camassia quamash</em></td>
<td>common camas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carex inops ssp. inops</em></td>
<td>long-stolon sedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Castilleja levisecta</em></td>
<td>golden Indian paintbrush * Federal Threatened Species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Castilleja hispida</em></td>
<td>harsh Indian paintbrush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Danthonia californica</em></td>
<td>California oatgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Delphinium menziesii</em></td>
<td>Puget Sound larkspur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Delphinium nuttallii</em></td>
<td>upland larkspur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dodecatheon hendersonii</em></td>
<td>Henderson's shootingstar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eriogonum speciosum</em></td>
<td>showy fleabane (aspen fleabane)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eriophyllum lanatum var. lanatum</em></td>
<td>common woolly sunflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Festuca idahoensis v. roemeri</em></td>
<td>Roemer’s fescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fragaria virginiana</em></td>
<td>Virginia strawberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fritillaria affinis</em></td>
<td>chocolate lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Common Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hieracium scouleri</td>
<td>hound's-tongue hawkweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koeleria macrantha (cristata)</td>
<td>prairie Junegrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linanthus bicolor</td>
<td>bicolored desert-gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomatium triternatum</td>
<td>ternate desert-parsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomatium utriculatum</td>
<td>foothills desert-parsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomatium nudicaule</td>
<td>barestem biscuitroot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupinus albicaulis</td>
<td>sickle-keel lupine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupinus lepidus var. lepidus</td>
<td>prairie lupine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microseris laciniata</td>
<td>cut-leaf silverpuffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plectritis congesta</td>
<td>shortspur seablush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potentilla gracillis</td>
<td>fanleaf cinquefoil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranunculus occidentalis var. occidentalis</td>
<td>western buttercup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxifraga integrifolia</td>
<td>northwestern saxifrage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sericocarpus rigidus</td>
<td>aster Curtus (white topped aster)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silene scouleri</td>
<td>Scouler's catchfly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisyrinchium idahoense</td>
<td>Idaho blue-eyed-grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solidago missouriensis</td>
<td>Missouri goldenrod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solidago simplex var. simplex (S. Spathulata)</td>
<td>sticky goldenrod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solidago spathulata</td>
<td>spikelike goldenrod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trifolium willdenowii (T. tridentatum)</td>
<td>springbank clover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triteleia grandiflora</td>
<td>Howell's triteleia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triteleia hyacinthina</td>
<td>white triteleia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola adunca</td>
<td>early blue violet (sand violet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola praemorsa var. nuttallii</td>
<td>upland yellow violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zigadenus venenosus var. venenosus</td>
<td>meadow death-camas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 24.30

WETLANDS

Sections:
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24.30.005  Wetlands – General purposes.
The purposes of this chapter are to:

A.  Achieve no net loss of wetlands and minimize adverse impacts.

B.  Maintain wetland and buffer functions, such as, but not limited to, cleansing surface water, storing and conveying floodwater and providing fish and wildlife habitat, by avoiding or, where that is not possible, minimizing and mitigating impacts to wetlands and their buffers.

C.  Establish wetland buffers based on the wetland’s functions and values, sensitivity to impacts, rarity, whether or not it is replaceable, and site conditions.

D.  Provide for uses and activities in wetlands and associated buffers that have negligible impacts on such areas and provide for other uses that must be located in wetlands or buffers in a way that will avoid or minimize potential impacts.

E.  Provide for mitigation of impacts to wetlands and their buffers.

24.30.010  Wetlands – Applicability.
This chapter applies to all property within unincorporated Thurston County containing wetlands as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC, and/or associated buffers required by this chapter. The Thurston County Wetlands Inventory on file at the Resource Stewardship Department identifies the approximate location of many wetlands. However, it is the actual presence of a wetland and/or buffer on a parcel that triggers the requirements of this section, regardless of whether or not the wetland has been mapped.

In some cases there may be an administrative need to place size thresholds on wetlands that are to be regulated. It is not possible to conclude from size alone what functions a particular wetland may
be providing. If there are alternative mitigations options available, such as mitigation banking or in-lieu fee (ILF) programs, then small impacts within the service area of the bank or ILF should be mitigated by using the available alternative mitigation options. Wetlands exempted under this title may also be subject to state and federal regulation.

Until such time as alternative mitigation options are established for Thurston County, the following language applies:

A. Wetlands less than 1,000 square feet in size are exempt from this section if they meet any of the following criteria:

   1. They are not located in a riparian habitat area or critical area buffer as described in this title;

   2. They are not a functional part of a mosaic wetland (as described in the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington); or

   3. They do not provide essential habitat for priority wildlife species (see TCC 24.25.065).

If a wetland report is required, the determination of the wetland edge or boundary shall be carried out by a qualified wetland scientist, as described in TCC 24.35.370 in accordance with the 1987 US Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and the 2010 Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region, as amended.

The Washington State Department of Ecology’s most recently approved version of the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington shall be used to determine the wetland’s category and its score for habitat, water quality, and hydrologic functions. Wetland categories and function scores shall be determined, as the wetland exists at the time of the rating, with the exception of illegal modifications.

24.30.030 Wetland categories.
A. Category I. Category I wetlands include wetlands that are rare; particularly sensitive to disturbance; relatively undisturbed (as described in Ecology’s Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington) with ecological attributes that are impossible to replace within a human lifetime; or provide a high level of functions. They include:

   1. Estuarine wetlands larger than one acre that are relatively undisturbed, as described in Ecology’s Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington (e.g., no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and less than ten percent vegetative cover by non-native plant species);
2. Natural Heritage Wetlands designated by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural Heritage Program due to their high quality and relatively undisturbed condition (as described in Ecology’s Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington), or because they support plants listed by the DNR Natural Heritage Program as threatened or endangered;

3. All bogs;

4. Mature and old growth forested wetlands larger than one acre;

5. Wetlands in coastal lagoons; and

6. Wetlands with a total score for functions of 70 or more points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.

B. Category II. Category II wetlands provide high levels of some functions and are difficult, though not impossible, to replace. They include:

1. Estuarine wetlands smaller than one acre and estuarine wetlands larger than one acre that are altered to a greater extent than specified in TCC 24.30.030(A)(1);

2. Wetlands identified by the DNR Natural Heritage Program as containing "sensitive" plant species; and

3. Wetlands with functions scoring between 51 and 69 points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.

C. Category III. Category III wetlands have functions scoring between 30 and 50 points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington. Typically, they have been disturbed and contain less diverse wildlife habitat or are more isolated from other habitat than Category II wetlands.

D. Category IV. Category IV wetlands have levels of functions scoring 29 or fewer points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington. Typically, they are extensively altered.

24.30.035 Wetland buffers.
To retain the natural functions of wetlands and the adjacent associated riparian functions, buffers shall be established consistent with this section. TCC 24.30.045 identifies the standard wetland buffer widths. These standard buffer widths may be reduced pursuant to TCC 24.30.050, increased pursuant to section 24.30.055 TCC, or reconfigured pursuant to TCC 24.30.060. Buffers shall be maintained in their existing condition, except as provided for in this chapter.


A. Measurement. Buffer widths shall be measured on a horizontal plane outward from the outer edge of the wetland, established consistent with TCC 24.30.020, along a perpendicular line.
B. Buffers on created wetlands. All wetlands created, as mitigation for wetland impacts, shall have buffers consistent with Table 24.30-1, as modified by TCC 24.30.055, based on the expected wetland category and function scores upon completion of the mitigation. The approval authority in consultation with a qualified wetland scientist shall make this determination.

C. Buffers on enhancement sites. The approval authority may establish buffers for wetlands that were voluntarily enhanced or restored based on the wetland's pre-enhancement condition. Buffers shall remain in effect as long as the owner of the property at the time the county authorized the enhancement retains ownership. The approval authority may require that the wetland be rated prior to the enhancement or restoration. The Resource Stewardship Department shall record the approved buffer width and any associated rating with the Auditor on the property title.

Table 24.30-1 identifies the standard buffer widths. Buffer widths are specified for both water quality and habitat protection. The widest of the applicable buffers under habitat and water quality applies.
### Table 24.30-1 Standard Wetland Buffer Widths

The Larger of the Buffers for Habitat and Water Quality Applies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUFFER TO PROTECT HABITAT</th>
<th>Low Habitat Value</th>
<th>Moderate Habitat Value</th>
<th>High Habitat Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point score for habitat from the wetland rating form under the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.</td>
<td>0-18</td>
<td>19-21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer width for habitat for all wetlands except estuarine wetlands and coastal lagoons</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>120'</td>
<td>140'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer width with mitigation under 24.30.050 TCC</td>
<td>(See section on Water Quality below)</td>
<td>100'</td>
<td>100'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer width for estuarine wetlands and coastal lagoons</td>
<td>220'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BUFFER TO MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY**

| Natural heritage wetlands, bogs, and wetlands containing sensitive plant species documented by the DNR Natural Heritage Program | 250' |
| Wetlands less than 10,000 square feet in size that are not a functional part of a mosaic wetland, do not support priority wildlife species, and do not drain to a stream or a Category I or II wetland | 50' |
| All other wetlands not listed in the preceding two rows | 100' |

### 24.30.050 Wetland buffers – Reduced width.

The approval authority may reduce the buffer width specified in Table 24.30-1, except when prohibited by TCC 24.30.055, as provided for below. The applicant shall submit information demonstrating that the proposed project qualifies for a reduction under this section. The approval authority may require technical review by a qualified wetland scientist in consultation with Ecology, at the applicant’s expense, to verify and evaluate the information submitted by the applicant. The buffer reduction shall not adversely affect the functions of the adjacent wetlands. For a reduced buffer width, the applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all of the criteria below:
A. Reduced Impacts. If a wetland or buffer mitigation plan is submitted that meets the criteria in Table 24.30-2, the approval authority may reduce the standard buffer width required by Habitat Scores, not including estuarine or coastal lagoons, by twenty-five percent (25%), or to the extent that it equals the buffer width required in Table 24.30-1 to maintain water quality, whichever produces the wider buffer, if:

1. The approval authority determines that the proposed reduction in buffer width, coupled with the proposed mitigation plan, would result in better protection of the wetland or better wetland or buffer functions than the standard buffer without such enhancement. The approval authority shall make this determination based on the applicant’s proposed mitigation plan and a comparative analysis of all wetland and buffer functions under existing and enhanced conditions (e.g., filtration of sediments, excess nutrients, and pollutants; flood storage; erosion control; moderation of stormwater impacts; and shading for water temperature moderation) prepared by the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist.

Factors to be considered include, but are not limited to, meeting the criteria of Table 24.30-2, the surface roughness of the buffer (e.g., the presence of fallen trees and other material that slow the flow of water and increase the buffer’s ability to retain sediment and infiltrate stormwater); the composition and density of vegetation; the wetland’s position in the landscape; slope; and soils. The approval authority may consult with Ecology or others with expertise as necessary to evaluate the applicant’s proposal.

2. The degradation of the wetland and buffer was not caused while the property was in the applicant’s ownership or within the previous seven years, whichever is greater. This does not apply to damage from lawful land uses prior to [the effective date of this ordinance]; and

3. The applicant submits maintenance and monitoring plan and performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC.

4. The buffer reduction is consistent with all other applicable requirements of this chapter.

**Table 24.30-2 Required Measures to Mitigate Impacts to Wetlands**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disturbance</th>
<th>Required Measures to Minimize Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lights</td>
<td>• Direct lights away from wetland and buffers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise</td>
<td>• Locate activity that generates noise away from wetland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If warranted, enhance existing buffer with native vegetation plantings adjacent to noise source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• For activities that generate relatively continuous, potentially</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disturbance</td>
<td>Required Measures to Minimize Impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toxic runoff</strong></td>
<td>• Treat and contain any toxic runoff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Route all new, untreated runoff away from wetland while ensuring wetland is not dewatered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Establish covenants limiting use of pesticides within 150 ft of wetland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Apply integrated pest management standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stormwater runoff</strong></td>
<td>• To improve existing water quality runoff that may be impacting wetland functions. Retrofit existing storm water detention and treatment for roads and existing adjacent development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prevent channelized flow from lawns that directly enters the buffer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Use Low Intensity Development techniques (per PSAT publication on LID techniques).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in water regime</strong></td>
<td>• In order to maintain wetland hydrology and discharge only clean stormwater toward the wetland. Stormwater should be treated; then infiltrated, detained, and/or dispersed outside the wetland buffer for any new runoff from impervious surfaces and new lawns. Permanent improvements to the site hydrology that would improve wetland functions and not create offsite flooding. This may include, but is not limited to, removal of a lawfully established agricultural ditch draining a wetland or delivering sediment, pollutants or excess nutrients to a wetland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pets and human disturbance</strong></td>
<td>• Use privacy fencing at buffer edge OR plant dense vegetation to delineate buffer edge and to discourage disturbance using vegetation appropriate for the ecoregion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Place wetland and its buffer in a separate tract or protect with a conservation easement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dust</strong></td>
<td>• During construction or for commercial or industrial activities, use best management practices to control dust.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Disturbance | Required Measures to Minimize Impacts
---|---
Disruption of corridors or connections/Habitat enhancement | • In order to improve habitat quality and connectivity, a vegetation enhancement plan that improves areas with minimal trees and vegetation and proposes removal of invasive vegetation and replacing it with ground cover and shrubs that will provide dense vegetative cover at maturity. Planting noninvasive plants that provide improved filtration of sediment, excess nutrients, and pollutants that may be present.
  • Maintain habitat connections to offsite areas that are undisturbed.
  • Restore corridors or connections to offsite habitats by replanting.

B. Isolated buffers.

1. If topographic breaks (e.g., bluffs) or a legally established road (not including logging roads), railroad or other lineal facility or barrier physically separates and functionally isolates a portion of the wetland buffer, the approval authority may allow the buffer width to be reduced to the minimum extent needed to exclude the isolated area if:
   a. The facility or barrier was established prior to *the effective date of these regulations*; and
   b. The area to be segregated from the buffer does not perform any biological or hydrological functions related to the wetland or the unsegregated portions of buffer.

2. The applicant shall provide the approval authority with sufficient information to enable him/her to determine whether or not the subject area qualifies under TCC 24.30.050(B)(1) above. The approval authority may require technical review by a qualified professional, at the applicant’s expense, to verify and evaluate the information submitted by the applicant.

24.30.055 Wetland buffers – Increased width.

The approval authority shall require an increase in the buffer width specified in Table 24.30-1 when a wider buffer is necessary to protect wetland and buffer functions, specified in subsections A and B below. Buffer widths expanded pursuant to this section shall not be decreased through other provisions of this chapter.

A. Steep slopes. If the wetland buffer contains a slope greater than thirty percent that is at least fifteen feet high, the buffer shall be sized per Table 24.30-1 or the approval authority, in
consultation with a qualified professional, may increase the buffer width up to twenty-five percent to protect water quality and prevent impacts from erosion. Slopes defined as geologic hazard areas shall meet the standards of Chapter 24.15 TCC.

B. Inadequate vegetative cover to maintain water quality. If the standard buffer specified in Table 24.30-1 has inadequate vegetative cover to protect the wetland from sedimentation, excess nutrients, pollutants or damaging changes in pH, the approval authority, in consultation with a qualified professional, may increase the buffer width twenty-five percent to protect water quality. (For purposes of this section, inadequate buffers lack dense, continuous vegetation spanning a distance specified Table 24.30-1 for maintenance of water quality, or as modified by subsection A above).

In lieu of increasing the buffer width, the approval authority may allow implementation of a buffer planting plan as described in a revegetation/enhancement plan. This buffer planting plan shall provide for planting of all bare and sparsely vegetated areas within the portion of the buffer needed to maintain water quality (per Table 24.30-1 or as modified by Subsection A above) with grasses and native shrubs, at densities that will effectively filter/absorb sediment, nutrients and pollutants, as determined by the approval authority. The applicant shall submit a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC and provide for monitoring and maintenance to ensure survival or replacement of the planted vegetation.

The approval authority may authorize or require reconfiguration of wetland buffers as follows:

A. Preservation of high quality habitat.

1. If the wetland or buffer contains variations in sensitivity or habitat quality the approval authority, in consultation with WDFW or Ecology, may require reconfiguration of the buffer to preserve the higher quality/sensitive habitat.

2. If necessary to maintain connectivity to areas that provide important associated wildlife habitat, or if the area abutting the standard buffer contains habitat sustaining species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (64 FR 14307), state priority wildlife species, or species of local importance (see TCC 24.25.065(C), the approval authority may, in consultation with WDFW, require reconfiguration of buffers to provide connection to the adjacent habitat.

3. Reconfigured buffers authorized by this section shall be no less than the width specified in Table 24.30-1 to maintain water quality, or no less than 75% of the standard buffer, whichever is greater, and shall contain the same square footage as the standard buffer. The reconfigured buffer shall not exceed one hundred percent of the square footage of the standard buffer, as modified pursuant to TCC 24.30.050(B) or 24.30.055, without the landowner's consent.

B. Development consistent with preservation of wetland and buffer functions. The approval authority may reconfigure the buffer width, except for buffers associated with bogs and Natural Heritage Wetlands, to accommodate proposed development. If necessary, the
approval authority may have a qualified professional review and evaluate the submitted
information at the applicant’s expense. The applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all
of the criteria below.

1. The proposed use cannot be accommodated on the site without reconfiguration of the
buffer (see TCC 24.30.050).

2. The scale, design, or orientation of the proposed land use has been adjusted to the
extent practical to minimize buffer alteration.

3. Demonstration that the wetland and/or buffer contains variations in sensitivity due to
existing physical characteristics (e.g., variations in topography, soils, vegetation, or
wildlife usage), and that the wetland functions would benefit from a wider buffer in
places, and would not be adversely impacted by a narrower buffer in other places.

4. If the wetland has a wildlife habitat score of 20 or more points under Ecology’s
Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington, the applicant
shall submit a habitat assessment demonstrating that wildlife habitat will not be
significantly diminished and that documented habitat-sustaining priority or locally
important wildlife species (see TCC 24.25.065) will not be affected.

5. The reduction in buffer width will occur where it will have the least potential impact
on the wetland and buffer functions. Area will be added to portions of the buffer
where it would most benefit wetland and buffer functions. The reconfigured buffer
shall maintain all wetland functions.

6. Any landscaped area shall extend no more than fifteen feet from the edge of the
structure’s footprint (outside wall at the foundation) toward the wetland if the buffer
width reduction allows the landscaped area to intrude into the area that was formerly
buffer.

7. The reconfigured buffer shall be no less than one hundred feet wide at any point, or
no less than 75% of the standard buffer, whichever is more. The reconfigured buffer
shall contain the same square footage as the standard buffer. It shall not exceed one
hundred percent of square footage of the standard buffer, as modified pursuant to
TCC 24.30.050(B) or 24.30.055, without the landowner’s consent.

8. The reconfiguration is accomplished within the project site boundaries or in an
abutting conservation easement or tract approved by the county that protects the
buffer from alteration, except as provided for in this section.

C. Other buffer reconfigurations that do not meet the above criteria require a Reasonable Use
Exception (chapter 24.45 TCC).
24.30.065 Wetland buffers – Tree protection.
Trees within wetland buffers with driplines that extend beyond the upland edge (furthest from the wetland) of buffers with a wildlife habitat rating of 20 points or more under the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington shall be protected as follows:

A. A tree protection area extending a minimum of five feet beyond the dripline of trees twelve inches or greater in diameter (at 4½ feet above the ground) and stands of trees shall be established and protected from disturbance during site development.

B. Tree protection areas shall be identified on all applicable site development and construction drawings submitted to the county.

C. Temporary fencing at least 30 inches tall shall be erected along the perimeter of the tree protection areas prior to the initiation of any clearing or grading. The fencing shall be posted with signage clearly identifying the tree protection area as a no entry area. If the tree protection area spans more than 0.25 miles, the perimeter of the protection area may be staked and flagged rather than fenced. The fencing or stakes shall remain in place throughout site development.

D. Clearing, grading, filling or other development activities are prohibited within the tree protection area.

E. Vehicle travel, parking and storage of construction materials and fuel are prohibited in tree protection areas.

F. The county may authorize use of alternate tree protection techniques that provide an equal or greater level of protection.

24.30.070 Wetland mitigation.
All unavoidable adverse impacts to wetlands and associated buffers shall be mitigated consistent with the provisions of this section. A qualified wetland scientist shall identify the wetland functions using the best professional judgment and the best available technology, consistent with guidance from the Department of Ecology, including but not limited to the following documents: Wetland Rating System for Western Washington; Wetland Mitigation in Washington State, Parts 1 and 2; and Selecting Wetland Mitigation Sites Using a Watershed Approach.

A. Equivalent or improved wetland functions. Mitigation shall achieve equivalent or improved wetland and buffer functions. The applicant’s qualified wetland scientist shall demonstrate that the proposed mitigation will provide functions that are at least equal to the lost or diminished wetland and buffer functions or explain the reasons why that level of mitigation cannot be attained (e.g., it may not be possible to mitigate unavoidable impacts to a bog).

B. Location of mitigation. Mitigation shall be on-site unless the approval authority, in consultation with Ecology, determines that paragraphs 1-5 below apply. In that case, mitigation may be allowed offsite within the subwatershed of the impacted site. When considering off-site mitigation, preference should be given to using alternative mitigation, such as a mitigation bank, an in-lieu fee program, or advanced mitigation.
1. There are no mitigation opportunities available on-site due to physical constraints such as hydrology, soils, the size of the property, the location of existing development, the presence of noxious weeds or invasive plants; potential adverse impacts from surrounding land uses; or other factors; or

2. On-site mitigation would require elimination of high quality upland habitat; or

3. Off-site mitigation has a greater likelihood of providing equal or improved wetland and buffer functions than mitigation of the impacted wetland and buffer; or

4. The hydrology and ecosystem of the impacted site will not be substantially damaged by the proposed wetland and/or buffer impacts; or

5. County-adopted goals or policies for flood storage, flood conveyance, habitat or other wetland functions justify location of the mitigation measures at another site.

C. Mitigation in-kind. Mitigation for impacts to estuarine wetlands, coastal lagoons and associated buffers shall be as determined to be appropriate by the approval authority in consultation with the WDFW and Ecology. Mitigation for all other lost or diminished wetland and buffer functions shall be in-kind, unless the applicant demonstrates that:

1. Higher levels of wetland and buffer functions would result from an alternate approach; or

2. The impacted wetland and buffer provide minimal functions (e.g., they score less than twenty points for habitat and less than five points for water quality under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington) and the proposed mitigation action(s) will result in a wetland with greater functions or provide functions shown to be limiting within a watershed; or

3. Physical constraints make in-kind mitigation impossible; or

4. Out-of-kind replacement will best meet the county’s adopted goals or policies for the watershed; or

5. The impacted wetland cannot be mitigated in-kind, based on best available science.

D. Wetland mitigation timing. Where feasible, mitigation projects shall be completed prior to the related wetland alteration or immediately following temporary disturbance of a wetland or buffer. The approval authority may allow the required mitigation to begin up to one year following occupancy of the associated project or commencement of the permitted activity if the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the delay is warranted and will not create environmental degradation or be injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare. Reasons for the requested delay could include, but are not limited to, environmental conditions that could cause project failure, “work windows” specified by the WDFW to avoid fish or wildlife impacts, or seasonal
planting or grading constraints. The applicant shall submit a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure the completion and success of the required mitigation.

E. Protection of the mitigation site. The area where the mitigation occurred and any associated buffer shall be located in a critical area tract or a conservation easement consistent with chapter 24.65 TCC.

F. Mitigation for illegal alterations. See chapter 24.92, Enforcement – violations – penalties.

24.30.075 Wetland mitigation – Types.
Mitigation for lost or diminished wetland and buffer functions shall rely on a type listed below in order of preference. A lower preference form of mitigation shall only be used if the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that all higher ranked types of mitigation are not viable, consistent with the criteria in this section.

A. Restoration. Rectifying the impact by restoring the affected wetland and associated buffer. The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former or degraded wetland or its buffer. For the purpose of tracking net gains in wetland acres, restoration is divided into:

1. Re-establishment. Re-establishing a wetland and buffer on a site formerly occupied by a wetland. The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former wetland or buffer. Re-establishment results in a gain in wetland acres (and functions). Activities could include removing fill material, plugging ditches, or breaking drain tiles.

2. Rehabilitation: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural or historic functions of a degraded wetland. Rehabilitation results in a gain in wetland function but does not result in a gain in wetland acres. Activities could involve breaching a dike to reconnect wetlands to a floodplain or return tidal influence to a wetland.

B. Establishment (Creation). The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop a wetland on an upland or deepwater site where a wetland did not previously exist. Establishment results in a gain in wetland acres. Activities typically involve excavation of upland soils to elevations that will produce a wetland hydroperiod, create hydric soils, and support the growth of hydrophytic plant species.

1. If a site is not available for wetland restoration to compensate for expected wetland and/or buffer impacts, the approval authority may authorize creation of a wetland and buffer upon demonstration by the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist that:

   a. The hydrology and soil conditions at the proposed mitigation site are conducive for sustaining the proposed wetland and that creation of a wetland at the site will not likely cause hydrologic problems elsewhere;
b. The proposed mitigation site does not contain invasive plants or noxious weeds or that such vegetation will be completely eradicated at the site;

c. Adjacent land uses and site conditions do not jeopardize the viability of the proposed wetland and buffer (e.g., due to the presence of invasive plants or noxious weeds, stormwater runoff, noise, light, or other impacts); and

d. The proposed wetland and buffer will eventually be self-sustaining with little or no long-term maintenance.

C. Enhancement. The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a wetland site to heighten, intensify, or improve specific function(s) or to change the growth stage or composition of the vegetation present. Enhancement is undertaken for specified purposes such as water quality improvement, flood water retention, or wildlife habitat. Enhancement results in a change in some wetland functions and can lead to a decline in other wetland functions, but does not result in a gain in wetland acres. Activities typically consist of planting vegetation, controlling non-native or invasive species, modifying site elevations or the proportion of open water to influence hydroperiods, or some combination of these activities. Habitat enhancement is not eligible as a sole method of mitigation. Applicants proposing to enhance wetlands or associated buffers shall demonstrate how the proposed enhancement will increase the wetland’s/buffer’s water quality functions, how this increase in function will adequately compensate for the impacts, and how all other existing wetland functions at the mitigation site will be protected.

D. Protection/Maintenance (Preservation)
Removing a threat to, or preventing the decline of, wetland conditions by an action in or near a wetland. This includes the purchase of land or easements, repairing water control structures or fences. This term also includes activities commonly associated with the term “preservation”. Preservation does not result in a gain of wetland acres. Permanent protection of a Category I or II wetland and associated buffers at risk of degradation, will be used if:

1. The approval authority determines that the proposed preservation is the best mitigation option;

2. The proposed preservation site is under threat of undesirable ecological change due to permitted, planned, or likely actions that will not be adequately mitigated under existing regulations;

3. The area proposed for preservation is of high quality. The following features may be indicative of high quality sites:

   a. Category I or II wetland rating using the wetland rating system for western Washington.

   b. Rare wetland type (for example, bogs, mature forested wetlands, estuarine wetlands);

   c. The presence of habitat for priority or locally important wildlife species (see chapter 24.25.065 TCC); or
d. Priority sites in an adopted watershed plan.

4. Permanent preservation of the wetland and buffer will be provided through a conservation easement or tract held by a land trust, consistent with chapter 24.65 TCC and TCC 24.30.340-410.

5. Ratios for preservation in combination with other forms of mitigation generally range from 10:1 to 20:1, as determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the quality of the wetlands being impacted and the quality of the wetlands being preserved. Ratios for preservation as the sole means of mitigation generally start at 20:1.

24.30.078 Wetland mitigation-Approaches

Compensatory mitigation for lost or diminished wetland and buffer functions shall rely on an approach listed below in order of preference. A lower preference approach to mitigation shall only be used if the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that all higher ranked approaches to mitigation are not viable, consistent with the criteria in this section.

A. Permittee-responsible mitigation. In this situation, the permittee performs the mitigation after the permit is issued and is ultimately responsible for implementation and success of the mitigation. Permittee-responsible mitigation may occur at the site of the permitted impacts or at an off-site location within the same watershed.

B. Cooperative mitigation projects. The approval authority may encourage, facilitate and approve cooperative projects wherein a single applicant or other organization with demonstrated capability may undertake a mitigation project with funding from other applicants if:

1. Construction of one or several larger wetlands is preferable to several small wetlands; and

2. Persons proposing cooperative compensation projects submit a joint permit application; demonstrate the organizational and fiscal capability to act cooperatively; and demonstrate that land acquisition, construction, long-term monitoring and management can and will be provided consistent with the provisions of this section.

C. Wetland mitigation banks for unavoidable impacts to wetlands. An applicant may use credits from a wetland mitigation bank certified under chapter 173-700 WAC if:

1. The approval authority determines that it would provide appropriate compensation for the proposed impacts; and

2. The mitigation will occur within the service area where the wetland or buffer impact would occur; and
3. The proposed use of credits is consistent with the terms and conditions of the certified bank instrument; and

4. Replacement ratios for projects using bank credits shall be consistent with replacement ratios specified in the certified bank instrument; and

5. Credits from a certified wetland mitigation bank may be used to compensate for impacts located within the service area specified in the certified bank instrument.

D. In-Lieu Fee Mitigation. Is an alternative mitigation program for unavoidable impacts to wetlands. An approved in-lieu-fee program sells compensatory mitigation credits to permittees whose obligation to provide compensatory mitigation is then transferred to the in-lieu program sponsor, a governmental or non-profit natural resource management entity. Credits from an approved in-lieu fee program may be used when paragraph 1-6 below apply:

1. The approval authority determines that it would provide environmentally appropriate compensation for the proposed impacts.

2. The mitigation will occur on a site identified using the site selection and prioritization process in the approved in-lieu-fee program instrument.

3. The proposed use of credits is consistent with the terms and conditions of the approved in-lieu-fee program instrument.

4. Land acquisition and initial physical and biological improvements of the mitigation site must be completed within three years of the credit sale.

5. Projects using in-lieu-fee credits shall have debits associated with the proposed impacts calculated by the applicant’s qualified wetland scientist using the method consistent with the credit assessment method specified in the approved instrument for the in-lieu-fee program.

6. Credits from an approved in-lieu-fee program may be used to compensate for impacts located within the service area specified in the approved in-lieu-fee instrument.


A. Mitigation ratios. The ratio of impacted wetland acreage to mitigation acreage shall be determined using the ratios specified in Table 24.30-3. Buffer mitigation shall occur at a 1:1 ratio of buffer impact to mitigation impact. The approval authority, in consultation with Ecology, shall establish the ratio of impacted wetland acreage to mitigation acreage on a case by case basis, based on the factors listed in subsection B below. The ratio of impacted wetland and buffer acreage to mitigation acreage shall not be less than 1:1, provided that buffers for created wetlands are sized consistent with TCC 24.30.035-065.
B. The approval authority shall consider, at a minimum, the following when establishing the mitigation ratio:

1. The category and quality of the impacted wetland(s) and buffer(s) and, if the mitigation is proposed to occur at existing wetlands offsite, the quality of any wetlands at the mitigation site;

2. The direct and indirect impacts to the affected wetlands and buffers.

3. The degree to which the proposed alteration would destroy or reduce wetland and/or buffer functions at the impacted site, including consideration of impacts to hydric soil and disruption of groundwater or surface water flows. Hydric soils are shown in Table 24.30-5 at the end of this chapter.

4. The probable success of the proposed mitigation in fully replacing all lost and diminished wetland and buffer functions based on:
   a. The project team’s demonstrated success in designing, constructing, and monitoring the proposed type of mitigation in wetlands of the same hydrogeomorphic classification (e.g., slope, riverine, or depressional);
   b. Documentation indicating that the hydrologic and soil conditions at the mitigation site are supportive of the proposed mitigation and that the site is free of invasive plants and noxious weeds or will be made free of such plants;
   c. If the mitigation was conducted in advance of the impact, whether it is successful in achieving the performance standards specified in the mitigation plan;
   d. The long-term functions and values of the proposed mitigation;
   e. The timing of the proposed mitigation relative to the proposed wetland and buffer impacts and the time frame within which the wetland and buffer functions will be fully replaced;
   f. The quality and completeness of the applicant’s proposed mitigation plan (see TCC 24.35.380), and
   g. Other relevant factors.

C. Category III and IV wetlands. The maximum mitigation ratio for impacts to Category III and IV wetlands shall be 1:1 under the following circumstances:

1. The wetland is not located in a riparian habitat area (see TCC 24.25.015-040);
2. The wetland is not a functional part of a mosaic wetland (as described in the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington);

3. The wetland has a score for habitat of 19 or fewer points under the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington;

4. The applicant’s qualified professional has evaluated the wetland and determined that it does not provide essential habitat for priority wildlife species (see TCC 24.25.065);

5. A hydrologic analysis performed by a qualified professional demonstrates that the wetland does not provide important hydrological functions that cannot be replaced at another location (such as cleansing contaminated stormwater that would otherwise flow to a water body or preventing flooding of structures). The analysis shall be at the applicant’s expense; and

6. The impacted wetland is under 4,000 square feet in size.

D. Credit/debit method. To aid in the implementation of off-site mitigation, the County may develop a program which allows mitigation based on the “credit/debit” method developed by the Department of Ecology (“Calculating Credits and Debits for Compensatory Mitigation in Wetlands of Western Washington: Final Report (March 2012), Publication #10-06-011, or as revised).
**Table 24.30-3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Type of Wetland</th>
<th>MAXIMUM MITIGATION RATIOS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Re-establishment or Creation</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Category IV</td>
<td>1.5:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Category III</td>
<td>2:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category II - Estuarine</td>
<td>12:1 or case-by-case basis, whichever is greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Category II</td>
<td>3:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I – Mature/old growth forested wetlands</td>
<td>Not allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I - Scoring 70 points or more for functions</td>
<td>4:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I - Natural Heritage Wetland</td>
<td>Not allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I - Coastal Lagoon</td>
<td>Not allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I - Bog</td>
<td>Not allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category I - Estuarine</td>
<td>12:1 or case-by-case basis, whichever is greater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The acreage of compensating wetlands and buffers (calculated separately): The acreage of impacted wetlands and buffers (calculated separately) The ratio for buffer mitigation is 1:1.
24.30.085  Wetlands – Standards and allowable uses and activities within wetlands and associated buffers.

The land uses and activities listed in Table 24.30-4 are allowable in wetlands and associated buffers as specified in that table, subject to the standards of this title, the applicable zoning district, and the Shoreline Master Program, as amended. Water dependent uses allowed by the Shoreline Master Program are permitted subject to the requirements of that program and this chapter. Uses and activities inconsistent with the Shoreline Master Program and all land uses and activities not allowed or addressed by Table 24.30-4 are prohibited within wetlands and associated buffers. The general standards listed in TCC 24.30.090 apply to all uses in Table 24.30-4. Standards provided in TCC 24.30.100-420 apply to specific uses in wetlands and their buffers, and are in addition to other requirements of this title. Table 24.30-4 contains the primary section references for each activity covered by this chapter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wetland Category</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
<th>IV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural uses, existing and ongoing</td>
<td>Refer to chapter 17.15 TCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural uses, new</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.090 &amp; 24.01.055</em></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt batch plants</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat launching ramps, docks, piers and floats—New, maintenance and replacement</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.110</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge or culvert maintenance or repair</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.140</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge or culvert replacement</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.130</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge or culvert – new construction</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.280</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearing, grading, excavation, dredging or removal of soil, organic matter, or material in conjunction with a permitted activity</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.150</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical facilities</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destruction or alteration of wetland vegetation through shading, intentional burning, or planting of vegetation that would alter the character of the wetland that is not part of an activity approved under this chapter</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Table 24.30-2 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>Wetland Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draining or flooding a wetland or other activities that result in a significant change of water</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temperature, quality, physical or chemical characteristics (e.g., pH), quantity, timing, or duration</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the water entering the wetland or altering the wetland’s water level not addressed elsewhere</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in this table.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling and testing for a required report or study, scientific sampling, research, or other</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site investigation using hand powered tools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.160</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling and testing for required report or study, scientific sampling, research, or other</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site investigation using mechanized equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>TCC 24.30.160</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Temporary Authorization</td>
<td>Refer to chapter 24.90 TCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancement/restoration <em>TCC 24.30.170</em></td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing lots vested prior to [the effective date of this ordinance] – Development</td>
<td>Refer to chapter 24.50 TCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>Refer to chapter 24.60 TCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filling, dumping, or discharging not associated with a permitted activity</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry, except forest practices regulated by chapter 76.09 RCW</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardens for personal consumption *TCC 24.30.210</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>RESTRICTED USES AND ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>Wetland Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and expansive landscaped areas maintenance  
*TCC 24.30.190| P   | P   | P   | P   |
| Infiltration of reclaimed water (application to the land’s surface above agronomic rates)* | X   | X   | X   | X   |
| *Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW). |  |
| Intensive uses that involve use or storage of hazardous materials or would generate excessive nutrients, sediments, or pollutants on property containing wetlands and/or buffers  
*TCC 24.30.200| P   | P   | A   | A   |
| Lawfully established existing uses not addressed in this table | A   | A   | A   | A   |
| Mineral extraction – new and expanded operations  
*TCC 24.30.220| X   | X   | P   | P   |
| Mitigation required by the county  
*TCC 24.30.070 - .080| P   | P   | P   | P   |
| Nonconforming uses/structures – Maintenance, repair, alteration, expansion, replacement | Refer to chapter 24.50 TCC |
| On-site sewage disposal system or drain field – maintenance, repair, and replacement  
*TCC 24.30.240| P   | P   | P   | P   |

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-site sewage disposal system or drain field within 300 feet of Category I bogs or Natural Heritage Wetlands – new</td>
<td>I  II  III  IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open space (e.g., critical area tract)</td>
<td>A  A  A  A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public facility</td>
<td>X  X  X  X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public project of significant importance</td>
<td>X  X  X  X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation activities – passive and low impact (e.g., bird watching, nonmotorized boating, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, jogging, photography, and similar activities) TCC 24.30.250</td>
<td>A  A  A  A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities – new construction TCC 24.30.250, 260</td>
<td>P  P  P  P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation – swimming and fishing access TCC 24.30.250, 260</td>
<td>P  P  P  P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation facilities – active (e.g., athletic fields, playgrounds, golf courses, parks, day camps, and camping sites) TCC 24.30.260</td>
<td>X  X  X  X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – replacement and minor expansion TCC 24.30.270</td>
<td>P  P  P  P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – expansion TCC 24.30.280</td>
<td>P  P  P  P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads – new construction TCC 24.30.280</td>
<td>X  X  P  P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
<th>IV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signs</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Refer to chapter 24.60 TCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slope stabilization or retaining wall</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater conveyance system or detention/treatment facility – maintenance and repair</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.315</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stormwater retention/treatment facilities, temporary sediment control ponds, and surface water</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>conveyance systems – construction</td>
<td>TCC 24.30.300, 310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stream relocation</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subdivisions</td>
<td>Refer to chapter 24.55 TCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility service lines – new installation</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility lines and facilities in existing rights-of-way – new installation</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.320</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility transmission lines, utility corridors, and other facilities outside of existing</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>improved roads and utility corridors – new construction</td>
<td>TCC 24.30.320</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – enhancement projects</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCC 24.30.380</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<th>Wetland Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – noxious weeds</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.400 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – invasive plants</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.390 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – hazard trees</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.350 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation removal – aquatic weeds</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.410 )</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water dependent uses not specifically addressed in this table</td>
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<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.420 )</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water elevation gages – installation</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.090 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.330 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife blind or nesting structure</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( TCC \ 24.30.090 )</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGEND**

A = Allowed without a Critical Area Review Permit, subject to requirements of this title
P = Permitted, subject to Critical Area Review Permit and requirements of this title
X = Prohibited
24.30.090  Wetlands – General standards.
The following requirements apply, as applicable, to all uses and activities listed in Table 24.30-4.

A. Regulatory differences. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more critical areas or the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, are governed by chapter 24.01 TCC. All uses and activities subject to this section shall meet the requirements that provide the most protection to the critical areas involved. Uses and activities are prohibited if they are inconsistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, or as amended.

B. Avoidance of impacts to wetlands and associated buffers. All allowed uses and activities on sites containing wetlands or associated buffers shall be designed and constructed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize all adverse impacts to wetlands and associated buffers. Applicants must demonstrate an inability to avoid impacts as a prerequisite to the county authorizing impacts to wetlands or associated buffers. Impacts shall be minimized by sensitive site design, limiting the degree or magnitude of the use or activity, use of appropriate precautions and technology during construction and implementation of the permitted activity, or by taking other appropriate action.

C. Direct Impacts to Category III and IV wetlands. Uses and activities may directly impact Category III and IV wetlands between 1,000 and 4,000 square feet in size and their associated buffers with mitigation, pursuant to this chapter under the following circumstances:

1. Compliance with all of the criteria below shall be demonstrated:
   a. The wetland is not located in a riparian habitat area (see TCC 24.25.015-040);
   b. The wetland is not a functional part of a mosaic wetland, as described in Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington;
   c. The wetland has a score for habitat of 19 or fewer points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington;
   d. The applicant’s qualified professional has evaluated the wetland and determined that it does not provide habitat for priority wildlife species (see TCC 24.25.065); and
   e. A hydrologic analysis performed by the applicant’s qualified professional demonstrates that the wetland does not provide important hydrological functions that cannot be replaced at another location (e.g., cleansing contaminated stormwater runoff that would otherwise flow to a water body).

2. If there are alternative mitigations options available, such as mitigation banking or in-lieu fee (ILF) programs, then small impacts within the service area of the bank or ILF should be mitigated through the available mitigation options. If more than one...
option is available, then the most environmentally preferable option should be chosen for mitigation.

D. Timing. Uses and activities authorized in wetlands and buffers with a habitat score of 29 or more points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington shall be undertaken, constructed or installed during the time frame specified by the review authority in consultation with the WDFW and/or Ecology to minimize habitat impacts.

E. Mitigation. All adverse impacts to wetlands and associated buffers caused by approved uses and activities shall be mitigated consistent with TCC 24.30.070-080. The County may require a fee to recover the cost of monitoring mitigation projects required pursuant to this chapter.

F. Surety. Applicants for proposals involving, as a condition of permit approval, mitigation of wetland and/or buffer impacts shall submit to the County a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC.

G. Access. Pedestrian access to wetlands and buffers is allowed, unless the approval authority determines that sensitive conditions or wildlife warrant access limitations. The approval authority may require that the perimeter of wetland buffer be fenced if warranted to protect wildlife, habitat or sensitive plant species documented by the DNR Natural Heritage Program, consistent with chapter 24.60 TCC.

H. Temporary field marking. The perimeter of the wetland buffer and those areas to be disturbed pursuant to an approved permit or authorization shall be marked in the field and inspected by the approval authority prior to the commencement of permitted activities. The temporary markings shall be maintained throughout the duration of the development activity. Also see TCC 24.30.065 and 24.30.150.

24.30.100 Wetlands – Agricultural activities.
Refer to chapter 17.15 TCC for regulations on existing and ongoing agricultural activities.

24.10.105 Biosolids application.
Biosolids application and uses shall be regulated by the Washington Department of Ecology and meet all applicable federal and state standards, including chapter 173-308 WAC; and be consistent with a memorandum of agreement (MOA), or similar document, between Thurston County and the Washington Department of Ecology in regard to biosolids and critical areas.

24.30.110 Wetlands – Boat launching ramps, piers, docks and floats.
Boat launching ramps, piers, docks and floats are prohibited in estuarine wetlands and Category I wetlands. They may be permitted in lakes with Category II, III and IV wetlands consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, consistent with TCC 24.25.110, and all of the following:

A. New Docks, floats and piers. Floating docks, floats and piers in lakes may be permitted in Category II, III or IV wetlands and buffers where the lake fringe wetland vegetation is less than 16 feet wide. When possible, the dock/float/pier shall be located where there is a
natural gap in the wetland vegetation that does not require access maintenance. No treated wood or other hazardous material shall be used in the construction of the dock, float or pier or placed in, over, or beside (within 100 feet) of the water.

B. Boat launches. Public boat launches may only be permitted in lake fringe wetlands and buffers if there is no existing public access to the lake, and if there is no alternative location outside of the wetland or buffer to accommodate the boat launch. When possible, the boat launch shall be located where there is a natural gap in wetland vegetation. Parking areas, restrooms and other facilities related to boat launches shall be located outside of the wetland and/or wetland buffer. The facility shall be designed to minimize direct, untreated stormwater runoff from the site into the wetland.

C. Maintenance. Maintenance of legally established piers, docks, floats and boat launches is allowed provided that neither the width nor the length of the dock, pier, float, or boat launch is increased and hazardous materials are not used, except as provided for through a county approved Integrated Pest Management Plan or upon demonstration that the material does not pose a risk to water quality.

D. Replacement. Legally established boat launching ramps, piers, floats, and docks may be replaced provided they are not increased in length or width and the construction materials comply with the requirements for new ramps, piers, floats, and docks, as applicable. See the Shoreline Master Program, as amended, for other regulations that apply in shoreline jurisdiction.

E. For the purposes of this section, floats shall include, but are not limited to: floating docks, mooring buoys, navigational aids and swimming floats.

24.30.130 Wetlands – Bridge and culvert replacement.
Replacement of a bridge or culvert is allowed if necessary to conform to current standards or as part of a development approved consistent with this chapter, if:

A. The existing bridge or culvert was lawfully established;

B. There is not another alternative available that has less adverse impact on the wetland and buffer and any associated stream/riparian habitat area (see TCC 24.25.130);

C. The bridge or culvert is designed to avoid or, where that is not possible, minimize impacts to the wetland and any associated stream/riparian habitat area, and it is in compliance, to the greatest extent possible, with TCC 24.30.280 below. (In the case of culverts in a Type F or S stream see TCC 24.25.130);

D. In the case of culverts in wetlands associated with a Type F or S stream, the culvert is made passable for fish in accordance with the WDFW Fish Passage Design at Road Culverts, 2003, as amended, and the National Marine Fisheries Service Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings, 2000, as amended;
E. If the culvert involves a ditch, the ditch is not increased in width at the culvert site unless it is narrower at that point than the rest of the ditch and would otherwise impede the flow of water. In that case, it may be widened to the minimum extent the approval authority deems necessary; and

F. Flood hazards are avoided and the proposal is consistent with chapter 24.20 TCC and other applicable regulations.

24.30.140 Wetlands – Bridge and culvert maintenance or repair.

A. Maintenance and repair of bridges and culverts is permitted provided:

1. All maintenance and repair is consistent with the Regional Road Maintenance ESA Program Guidelines, 2002, as amended;

2. The county may allow use of other maintenance BMPs if they will protect water quality and avoid detrimental impacts on fish and priority wildlife species;

3. Maintenance of culverts in streams used by salmonids or that convey water to a stream used by salmonids shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet and stabilization of the disturbed bank and channel immediately adjacent to the culvert and shall not involve the excavation of a new sediment trap adjacent to the inlet;

4. Such maintenance shall not involve the use of herbicides, sealants, liquid oily substances or other hazardous materials;

5. The bridge or culvert is not located within Shoreline Master Program jurisdiction. Maintenance of a bridge or culvert within the Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with the SMP and may require a shoreline permit or review;

6. It meets the conditions of any required Hydraulic Project Approval from WDFW, which shall be posted in a conspicuous location on site.

B. Clearing of culverts does not require a permit. Clearing of culverts shall be limited to removal of sediment and debris from the culvert and its inlet, invert, and outlet.

24.30.150 Wetlands – Clearing and grading.

Clearing and grading within wetlands and buffers is only allowed to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate a use permitted pursuant to this chapter, as determined by the approval authority. Also see chapter 14.37 TCC regarding grading requirements and chapter 15.05 TCC regarding stormwater and erosion control.

A. Erosion control. Erosion control shall be done consistent with chapter 15.05 TCC. In no case shall sediment from clearing and grading or other development activities be allowed to reach wetlands or portions of the buffer not approved for development.
B. Fencing the clearing limits. The clearing limits within the wetland or buffer shall be marked with temporary fencing. Signage shall be placed on the fence indicating that the area beyond is a no entry area. If the perimeter of the area to be cleared spans more than 0.25 miles, the clearing limits may be staked and flagged rather than fenced. The fencing and stakes are subject to inspection by the approval authority prior to the commencement of permitted activities. The temporary fencing or stakes shall be maintained throughout construction and shall not be removed until permanent signs, if required pursuant to chapter 24.60 TCC, are in place.

C. Timing. Clearing and grading in wetlands and buffers shall only occur between May 1 and October 1. The county may temporarily suspend grading during this period if excessive rainfall might cause erosion and sedimentation that could affect a wetland or dependent fish or wildlife. The county may allow clearing and grading outside of this period if all drainage will flow away from the wetland. The approval authority may waive this requirement if the wetland will be eliminated consistent with the provisions of this chapter. If the wetland and buffer has a habitat score above 20 points or, absent a rating, the approval authority determines that the site supports breeding, nesting, or rearing of wetland dependent species, the clearing and grading shall be scheduled in compliance with TCC 24.30.090(D).

D. Preservation of the infiltration capacity of the site. The soil duff layer in the buffer shall remain undisturbed to the maximum extent practicable. The moisture-holding and infiltration capacity of the topsoil disturbed by permitted development shall be maintained in areas not approved for impervious surfaces by minimizing soil compaction or by stripping, stockpiling, and reapplying topsoil at predevelopment levels.


A. Drilling with human powered, non-mechanical, hand-held equipment. Gauge installation, non-mechanical site exploration and, excavation for data collection or research and accomplished by human powered hand-held equipment in accordance with state-approved sampling protocols is allowed. The associated spoils shall be contained and the disturbed area around the well shall be restored upon completion of the activity.

B. Mechanized drilling and boring. Mechanical auguring under the direction of a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Washington, well drilling allowed pursuant to TCC 24.30.330, and boring consistent with TCC 24.30.320 are allowed provided that the approval authority determines, in consultation with a qualified biologist and engineer, the drilling or boring is appropriate, subject to the following:

1. The applicant shall identify and minimize potential impacts to all wetland functions. This shall include demonstration that the drilling or boring will not dewater the wetland;

2. The access for delivering equipment to the drilling or boring site shall be aligned and constructed in a way that minimizes potential impacts to the wetland and associated buffer;
3. The associated spoils shall be contained, the disturbed area around the well shall be restored upon completion of the activity; and

4. Related equipment and materials shall be stored outside of the wetland and buffers except as necessary for daily operations.

**24.30.170 Wetlands – Enhancement/restoration.**
The approval authority may, in consultation with Ecology and WDFW and others with expertise as warranted, approve enhancement or restoration of wetlands and buffers. (See TCC 24.30.035-065).

**24.30.180 Wetlands – Existing lawfully established uses.**
Existing, lawfully established uses not specifically addressed in this chapter may continue to the extent that they are consistent with other provisions of this title. However, existing uses in wetlands and/or buffers shall employ best management practices to minimize adverse impacts on the wetlands and buffers.

**24.30.190 Wetlands – Golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and expansive landscaped areas – Maintenance.**
Maintenance of approved golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and expansive landscaped areas within the buffers of Category I wetlands, Category II bogs, Category II wetlands containing sensitive plants identified by the DNR Natural Heritage Program, and areas within 100 feet of associated Type S or F streams or within 100 feet of other wetlands or streams shall conform to the following:

A. Application of fertilizers and other chemicals. Fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide management practices for golf courses, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields and other landscaped areas of one acre or larger in size that encroach into the wetland buffer shall comply with the following:

1. Integrated Pest Management practices shall be used for pest control.

2. The applicant shall submit a maintenance plan for review and approval by the approval authority identifying the timing and amount of fertilizer, herbicide, or other chemicals proposed to be used on the site. The application rate for such substances shall not exceed the application guidelines on the product packaging. The approval authority may require a reduced application rate if necessary to prevent harmful effects on wetlands or dependent fish or wildlife. Applicable WSU Extension Office BMPs or other BMPs accepted by the approval authority shall be used for maintaining grassed areas and other landscaping. See Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas, TCC 24.10.140 regarding the storage of hazardous materials.

3. If necessary to maintain water quality in bogs, Natural Heritage Wetlands, or wetlands containing sensitive plants identified by the DNR Natural Heritage Program, the approval authority may require use of stormwater treatment methods that provide a high level of stormwater cleansing, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC). The approval authority may require an evaluation of the water quality at the...
outflow of stormwater facilities draining to wetlands identified in this section and require remedial action as necessary to sustain the wetland/sensitive plant species.

4. The approval authority may require additional protective measures as necessary to maintain water quality.

B. No expansion of disturbed area. Maintenance shall not involve expansion of the lawn, landscaping, ditch, or other disturbed area into the wetland or buffer.

New and existing intensive uses on sites containing Category I or II wetlands or associated buffers shall comply with the applicable requirements in this section. For the purposes of this section, intensive uses include those uses that store or use hazardous materials, pesticides, or herbicides in quantities regulated by TCC 24.10.140, or would generate excessive nutrients, sediments, or pollutants following initial construction that could reach the wetland and buffer or significantly alter the quantity, frequency or the timing of water reaching the wetland.

A. Identify risks. Applicants for new intensive uses on sites that contain a Category I or II wetland or associated buffer that have potential to degrade the wetland or buffer, as determined by the approval authority, shall submit information that identifies and evaluates the potential risks the proposed use poses for the wetland and buffer. This shall include, as applicable, whether noise, glare, sediment, effluents, altered pH, the amount, timing, or duration of groundwater flows or altered surface hydrology would be harmful to aquatic life, birds, or other wildlife or sensitive plants listed under the DNR Natural Heritage Program.

B. Protective measures. The approval authority shall require measures to avoid potential adverse impacts on wetlands and buffers. (Also see chapter 20.54 TCC, Special Uses).

1. The approval authority may require the use of best management practices for new and existing intensive uses to mitigate existing and potential impacts in order to protect water quality, wetland functions, and sensitive plants listed by the DNR Natural Heritage Program. In addition, the approval authority may require applicants for new intensive uses to employ integrated pest management; install and maintain vegetative filter strips (up to fifty feet in width) at the outer edge of the wetland buffer; install fencing; direct lights away from the wetland(s); locate noisy activities away from the wetland; require buildings on the site to be located or oriented where they would have the least impact on the wetland and associated buffer (this may include orientation of a building so that the building itself acts as a shield to buffer the wetland); or employ other mitigation measures that would be effective in preventing pollutants and sediment from reaching the wetland, preventing damage to the wetland and buffer and avoiding adverse impacts on dependent wildlife.

2. Harmful pollution. If pollution or emissions from a type of proposed use (e.g., smoke stacks associated with asphalt plants, incinerators, or other industrial operations) have been demonstrated scientifically as causing damage to wetland plants, aquatic life or wildlife, the approval authority may require use of BMPs and require that the use be located on the project site where the emissions would pose the least risk of
polluting Category I and II wetlands, consistent with best available science and protection of public health and safety.

C. Expert review. The approval authority may call upon experts, at the applicant’s expense, as necessary to evaluate information submitted by the applicant.

D. Monitoring. The approval authority may require that uses on property containing Category I wetlands be reviewed at five-year intervals to ensure that it is operating consistent with this Section and any conditions of approval. The approval authority may require remedial action as warranted to protect water quality, wetlands, and associated buffers consistent with the provisions of this section.


Maintenance of legally existing landscaping and gardening for personal consumption is permitted within existing gardens and new gardens located within the portion of a buffer approved for residential development pursuant to this chapter (see also chapter 24.50 TCC) subject to the standards listed in this section.

A. Clearing or tree removal to accommodate gardens or lawns shall not be permitted in the wetland, wetland buffer, or outside of the portion of the site authorized for development pursuant to this chapter;

B. Integrated Pest Management practices shall be used for pest control;

C. Best management practices shall be used for fertilization and weed control;

D. The approval authority may require other protective measures as necessary to maintain water quality and protect wildlife; and

E. For landscaping in areas larger than one acre, see TCC 24.30.190.

24.30.220 Wetlands – Mineral extraction.

Mineral extraction may only be permitted within designated areas pursuant to the designation requirements for mineral lands (chapter 20.30B TCC), the mineral extraction code (chapter 17.20 TCC), and with a special use permit (chapter 20.54 TCC). Within designated mineral lands, mineral extraction and asphalt batch plants are prohibited within Category I and II wetlands and their buffers. Mineral extraction and asphalt batch plants may be permitted in Category III and IV wetlands eligible for mitigation replacement under the provisions of TCC 24.30.090.


New on-site sewage disposal systems are subject to all of the following:

A. New on-site sewage disposal systems. Onsite sewage disposal systems shall be located outside wetlands and their buffers. This may require systems that provide a higher level of sewage treatment. The sewage disposal system shall be located as far from the wetland as possible and have the least adverse impact on water quality and to the wetland and buffer.
Also see Article IV, The Rules and Regulations of The Thurston County Board of Health Governing Disposal of Sewage.

B. Separation from bogs and Natural Heritage Wetlands. New on-site sewage disposal systems shall not be allowed within 300 feet of Category I bogs, Natural Heritage Wetlands, or wetlands draining to a stream listed by the Washington Department of Ecology under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as impaired for nutrients unless the applicant demonstrates that due to soil conditions, surficial geology, the direction of ground water flow or other relevant factors, the sewage disposal system will not adversely impact the wetland or sensitive plants identified by the Washington Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Program. The approval authority shall review the information submitted by the applicant and consult with the Washington Department of Ecology and others with expertise, as needed, prior to allowing the proposed sewage disposal system within 300 feet of such wetlands. Any approved sewage disposal systems shall be located as far from the wetland as possible.

C. For lots created prior to [the effective date of this ordinance] that cannot meet the above criteria, refer to chapter 24.50 TCC.


A. Maintenance of approved functioning septic systems is allowed as recommended by the Thurston County Health Department.

B. Failing sewage disposal systems. Failing on-site sewage disposal systems in wetland buffers shall be remedied through the method that results in the least impact to the wetland and buffer, including relocation to an alternate site. This may require methods and/or systems that provide a higher level of sewage treatment. Replacement of failing, or substandard, sewage disposal systems shall not be allowed within the wetland or wetland buffer unless there is no alternative site available outside of such areas to accommodate the facilities. Clearing of existing vegetation to remedy a failing sewage disposal system shall be minimized. The approval authority may require the applicant to demonstrate that due to physical constraints (e.g., topography, soil conditions, or the site’s configuration), another configuration would not allow the development to occur without intrusion or with less intrusion in the wetland and/or buffer than the proposal.

C. If the failing sewage disposal system must be replaced with a new on-site sewage disposal system within a buffer, it shall be located on a portion of the site that has been previously disturbed by development and as far from the wetland as possible. If a suitable disturbed area is not available to accommodate the on-site sewage system, it shall be located where it would be least harmful to the wetland and buffer, as determined by the approval authority.

D. Replacement of sewage septic systems for new development shall be considered a new septic system under TCC 24.30.230.
24.30.245 Wetlands – Reclaimed water.
Critical area regulations will be proposed when more information is available to Thurston County from the Regional Groundwater Recharge Scientific Study, and using other studies and information for reclaimed water following the requirements of the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW).

The following uses are exempt from the need for a critical area permit:

A. Construction and/or maintenance of a trail in the wetland buffer, provided that the trail is three (3) feet or less in width, not paved and constructed with minimal pervious material such as wood chips.

B. Passive recreation activities.

24.30.260 Wetlands – Recreation facilities, trails, and trail-related facilities – Administrative approval.

A. Passive recreation. The approval authority may allow trails and trail-related, passive recreation facilities, such as, but not limited to, identification and interpretive signs, nature/wildlife viewing platforms, and fishing access within wetland buffers if it is determined that there is no alternative outside the buffer. Trail alignment, construction, and maintenance shall adhere to all of the following requirements:

1. Location.

a. Trails and related facilities shall, to the extent feasible, be placed on existing levees, road grades, abandoned railroad lines, utility corridors, or other previously disturbed areas.

b. When trails cannot be located outside of the wetland buffers or on existing disturbed corridors within the buffers, they shall be located as far from the wetland as possible, except for access points for wildlife viewing, fishing, and recreational use authorized pursuant to this chapter.

c. Trails and related facilities (e.g., viewing platforms and benches) allowed in wetland buffers shall be located, aligned and constructed to minimize disturbance to wetland functions, avoid the most sensitive and productive wildlife habitat (e.g., documented breeding, nesting, and rearing areas), and minimize removal of trees, shrubs, snags, and other significant wildlife habitat.

d. Parking areas and other facilities associated with these trails, not specifically provided for in this section and Table 24.30-4, shall be located outside of the wetland and/or wetland buffer.
2. Stair tower, stairway, and mechanical lift. See chapter 24.25 TCC, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas; and chapter 24.15 TCC, Geologic Hazards and the Shoreline Master Program, as amended.

3. Protect water quality. Trails and related facilities shall incorporate measures (e.g., check dams or devices to induce sheet flow of stormwater runoff) as needed to assure that runoff from such trails/facilities does not create channels in the buffer or directly discharge to wetlands or streams.

4. Trail width. The width of trails extending through a wetland buffer shall be minimized consistent with any applicable state or federal standards. Access paths extending through the wetland buffer to the water’s edge shall be no more than three feet in width unless they are designated for public access and designed to accommodate handicapped persons. In that case, the trail and associated clearing shall be the minimum width that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Clearing shall be done with hand tools unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project necessitates mechanized equipment and its use will not harm the wetland or buffer beyond the trail corridor.

5. Impervious surfaces. Trails shall not be paved unless they are specifically designed to be accessible by handicapped persons. Trails shall be designed for nonmotorized use, with the exception of motorized wheelchairs. The approval authority may allow regional trails on former road or railroad beds to be paved when they extend through wetland buffers. Where impervious surfaces are used, they shall be minimized consistent with applicable standards (e.g., ADA and Washington Department of Transportation standards.) Raised boardwalks shall be used in wet areas provided that they are not treated with hazardous materials that would be harmful to wetland water quality, dependent wildlife, or sensitive wetland plants documented by the DNR Natural Heritage Program. Viewing platforms shall not be made of continuous impervious materials or treated with toxic materials that could leach into the wetland or associated buffer. The “footprint” of viewing platforms shall be as small as possible in order to minimize impacts (e.g., through the use of pin piles).

Fill shall not be allowed in wetlands.


7. Parking areas and other facilities associated with trails, not specifically provided for in this section or Table 24.30-4, shall be located outside of the wetland and/or wetland buffer.

B. Active recreation. If there is no alternative location, public swimming and fishing access may be located within wetland buffers to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate the use, as determined by the approval authority. Non water-dependent active recreational uses
such as playgrounds, athletic fields, campgrounds, picnic areas and related restrooms and parking areas shall be located outside of wetlands and wetland buffers.

C. Golf courses. Wetlands and associated buffers within proposed new golf courses shall be protected and remain in natural condition, except as provided for by TCC 24.30.090(C). They shall not be designated as play areas of the golf course, but may be included in the course design provided all other applicable provisions of this chapter are met.

24.30.270 Wetlands – Road replacement and minor expansion.
Existing roads and driveways constructed prior to [the effective date of this ordinance] may be replaced or widened (e.g., for safety improvements) within the footprint of the existing road bed and in portions of the right-of-way that have been previously cleared or graded as part of permitted road work, consistent with state and federal regulations, provided that all of the following criteria are met:

A. Capacity. The capacity of the road is not increased;

B. Minimize impact. No wetlands are filled or degraded, except as provided for in this chapter. When possible, given physical and technical constraints, road widening shall occur on the side of the road furthest from the wetland. In the event other critical areas are present, the approval authority, in consultation with others with expertise, shall determine where the proposed road expansion would have the least impact on the critical areas; and

C. Expansion limits. Such road expansion does not extend beyond the outer edge of existing roadside ditches, or encroach into areas that are predominately covered with native vegetation. In no case shall a road expansion authorized pursuant to this section extend more than ten feet beyond the existing roadbed. Only one minor expansion shall be allowed per road segment pursuant to this section.

Proposed road and railroad crossings of wetlands and/or associated buffers shall be avoided unless the approval authority determines that it is not possible. Proposed road or railroad crossings of wetlands and buffers and expansion of existing roads exceeding the limitations of TCC 24.30.270 shall follow all applicable local, state, and federal laws and the applicable requirements listed below. These requirements also apply to private access roads and driveways. (Also see TCC 24.25.280).

A. Public safety. Expansion of existing roads is allowed in all wetlands and buffers to the minimum extent necessary to protect public safety, consistent with subsection D below. This provision does not apply to expansion for capacity. Expansion for additional capacity shall comply with the criteria for new or expanded roads.

B. Criteria for allowing crossings. The approval authority may authorize new and expanded road crossings in wetlands and buffers as follows:

1. Category I and II wetlands and buffers. Category I and II wetlands shall not be crossed unless it is necessary to accommodate public safety improvements to an
existing road. Category I and II wetlands and the inner seventy-five (75) percent of their standard buffers may only be crossed by roads through a Reasonable Use Exception and by meeting all of the criteria in this section.

2. Category III - IV wetlands and buffers. The most suitable type of new crossing shall be determined by the approval authority on a case-by-case basis. New and expanded roads are permitted in Category III and IV wetlands and their buffers that meet the criteria for replacement under TCC 24.30.090(C). New and expanded roads may be permitted in Category III-IV wetlands and buffers not meeting the criteria in TCC 24.30.090(C), if:

a. The wetland is not a functional part of a mosaic wetland (as described in Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington);

b. The road complies with subsection D below.

C. Access roads and driveways shall be subject to the following requirements, as well as subsection D below.

1. Utility maintenance access. The director may allow maintenance roads for utility corridors accommodating transmission lines, pipelines, and similar major utilities when the applicant demonstrates to the director’s satisfaction that the road is necessary. Maintenance roads shall not be allowed where they would adversely impact bogs, Natural Heritage Wetlands, or wetlands with a score for habitat of 29 or more points under Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.

If allowed, maintenance roads shall be located in the least impactful location in the outer twenty-five percent of the buffer contiguous to the utility corridor, on the side away from the wetland. To the maximum extent practicable, access for utility maintenance within wetland buffers shall be limited to access points rather than by a continuous access road extending through the buffer. The width of the maintenance road shall be minimized; in no event shall it be wider than fifteen feet.

2. Agricultural access. Refer to chapter 17.15 TCC for regulations on existing and ongoing agricultural activities.

D. Road crossings, including private access roads, shall comply with all of the following requirements:

1. Wetlands not meeting TCC 24.30.090(C): New and expanded roads shall not be allowed in wetlands and/or buffers unless the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority that:

a. It is essential (e.g., to provide access to property where no other access is physically possible or available with less impact on the wetland), or in the case of a road expansion, is needed for public safety;
b. There is no alternative crossing location that would have less impact on wetland and buffer functions, dependent fish and wildlife, and sensitive wetland plant species documented by the DNR Natural Heritage Program. The applicant shall demonstrate that alternative access with less impact on the wetland and buffer is not physically possible, or that an easement allowing use of the alternative alignment cannot be obtained at reasonable terms as determined by the approval authority; and

c. It meets the requirements for existing lots in chapter 24.50 TCC.

2. Proposed crossings that would negatively impact Category I or II wetlands or associated buffers, or wetlands in riparian habitat areas shall not be allowed unless the applicant demonstrates to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the absence of the requested crossing would landlock the property and leave it with no economically viable use. The approval authority may require that crossings be accomplished with a bridge rather than a culvert if it would significantly reduce wetland impacts.

3. If allowed pursuant to this section, new crossings and associated facilities shall:

   a. Serve multiple properties and be designed to accommodate conduit for utility lines whenever possible. To the extent legally permissible, as part of the development approval process, the developer shall work with the county to provide for a street layout and wetland and buffer crossing location that will minimize the need for additional crossings in the future to serve surrounding property. The approval authority may waive this requirement if the additional road width required to serve multiple properties would be more detrimental to the wetland, associated buffer, or other critical area than individual access roads/driveways; and

   b. Have the narrowest width possible, consistent with applicable county road standards and protection of public safety. Clearing to accommodate the crossing shall be minimized, consistent with the protection of the most important habitat, as determined by the approval authority.

4. Crossings using culverts shall use superspan or oversize culverts sufficient to allow wildlife passage, consistent with chapter 24.25 TCC.

5. The design of crossings in wetlands associated with streams shall be consistent with the WDFW Fish Passage Design at Road Culverts, 2003, as amended, and the National Marine Fisheries Service Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings, 2000, as amended. Culverts installed on Type S and F streams shall be arch/bottomless or the equivalent that provides comparable fish protection, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with WDFW and others with expertise. Approved crossings in estuaries shall be designed to avoid interruption of tidal flows. The approval authority may require that crossings in estuaries be accomplished with a bridge rather than a culvert if it would significantly reduce habitat impacts.
6. Bridges are preferred for spanning Category I and II wetlands.

E. Logging roads. Crossings of wetlands and/or buffers within areas proposed for development that were allowed by a State Forest Practices Permit but do not meet the requirements of this chapter, and any unlawfully established roads, shall be removed. The roadbed shall be restored to a condition consistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas.

Slope stabilization is allowed in wetland buffers, consistent with the provisions of this title, only where erosion or landsliding threatens a primary structure, including but not limited to houses, barns and places of business, utility facilities, including wells, or a roadway. Bioengineering shall be used where possible consistent with TCC 24.25.300.

Stormwater facilities (e.g., detention, retention, treatment, and conveyance facilities) associated with new roads and other development shall be designed and located outside of wetlands and wetland buffers, except as otherwise provided in TCC 24.30.310. Stormwater facilities shall not be allowed in the buffers of Category I and II wetlands, including bogs or Natural Heritage Wetlands, with the exception of stormwater conveyance pipes extending through the outer twenty-five (25) percent of the standard buffer when there is no alternative. No discharges of stormwater shall be allowed to flow to bogs or Natural Heritage Wetlands.

New and expanded stormwater facilities (e.g., detention, retention, treatment, and conveyance facilities) may only be allowed in the outer twenty-five percent (25%) of Category III and IV wetland buffers, or in wetlands meeting the criteria of TCC 24.30.090(C) if all of the following are met:

A. The facilities are consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

B. The facilities are designed and sized to only to accommodate stormwater from:

1. Development allowed in the buffer pursuant to this chapter; and/or

2. Existing or new impervious surfaces within or adjacent to the buffer when there is no available alternative outside of the buffer for accommodating stormwater due to topographic or other physical constraints.

C. Design and location.

1. The facilities shall be designed and located to minimize impacts on the wetland or buffer; and

2. The approval authority may require that the proposed development be redesigned or reduced in scale to avoid or minimize impacts to the wetland or buffer; and
3. No other location is feasible; and

4. The location of such facilities will not degrade the functions of the wetland and buffer; and

5. Stormwater facilities shall be limited to the twenty-five percent of the standard buffer furthest from the wetland, unless another location is necessary to accommodate stormwater from a road or bridge.

6. Stormwater facilities shall not be allowed in portions of the buffer that have been reduced in width pursuant to TCC 24.30.050.

7. Portions of buffers expanded pursuant to TCC 24.30.055 shall not be used to accommodate stormwater facilities.

D. Treatment. All stormwater from stormwater facilities, with the exception of conveyance facilities extending through the buffer, shall be treated prior to release to a wetland buffer, consistent with the Clean Water Act, the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC), and other applicable state and federal standards pertaining to water quality and treatment of stormwater. Direct stormwater outfalls to wetlands are prohibited.

E. Avoid channelization. Stormwater flows released to wetland buffers, with the exception of conveyance facilities extending through the buffer, shall be dispersed as sheet flow at the outer edge of the buffer to avoid channelization and allow filtration of sediment, nutrients, and pollutants and infiltration of water. The approval authority may require, if slopes exceed five percent, that obstructions or devices be installed outside of the buffer to maintain sheet flow within the buffer.

F. Open and vegetated. Stormwater detention, retention, and treatment ponds in wetland buffers shall be open and, to the extent possible, vegetated with native plants. Invasive vegetation shall not be planted. Stormwater conveyance facilities shall be open and vegetated with non-invasive plants unless the approval authority determines, in consultation with the applicant’s qualified engineer, that design constraints or protection of public safety warrant burying the conveyance facility (e.g., underground storage is needed or the facility would span a steep slope and must be “tight lined” to avoid slope failure – see chapter 24.15 TCC). Vegetation shall be maintained and, if necessary, planted adjacent to all open swales, channels, and ponds in order to retard erosion, filter sediments and pollutants, and (if warranted to maintain water temperatures necessary to sustain aquatic life) shade the water, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC), and the Clean Water Act.

G. Protection of wetland hydrology. Wetland hydrology shall be protected through the development process, as determined by the director and pursuant to the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC). Post-development wetland hydrology shall match pre-development wetland hydrology unless the approval authority determines that changes in hydrology will not harm wetland functions.
The approval authority may require a hydrologic study if it is determined that the project has potential to significantly impact a wetland. The approval authority may call upon experts as needed, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate the study.

H. Roadside stormwater conveyance facilities. Roadside stormwater conveyance facilities (e.g., swales, ditches, and pipes) may be extended through wetland buffers within rights-of-way. When possible and practical, they shall be along the side of the road furthest from the wetland. If the conveyance facility must be located along the side of the road closest to the wetland, it shall be located as close to the road/sidewalk as possible, consistent with public safety. In no case shall facilities that infiltrate stormwater be less than 100 feet from a Category I-III wetland or 50 feet from a Category IV wetland.

Stormwater conveyance facilities shall be designed and constructed consistent with the BMPs listed in the Regional Road Maintenance ESA Program Guidelines, 2002, and, if applicable, the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

I. Use of wetlands for stormwater storage. Use of Category II-IV wetlands for storage of stormwater (not including stormwater facilities) is only allowed for public projects designed to halt or improve deteriorated wetland conditions, consistent with TCC 24.30.300, other applicable provisions of this chapter, and the following:

1. The project shall be for the purpose of solving an existing problem, not to accommodate stormwater generated from new impervious surfaces; and

2. The alteration in the timing, amount, duration and quality of stormwater reaching the wetland shall not be harmful to wetland functions, dependent aquatic life, wildlife, and native plants.

3. Category I wetlands shall not be used for stormwater storage.

J. Temporary stormwater management facilities. If there is no alternative to avoid impacts to wetlands and buffers, surface water discharges may be allowed from new temporary sediment control ponds, retention/detention facilities, or other temporary surface water management structures located beyond the buffer and, if necessary, within the outer twenty-five (25) percent of Category III and IV wetland buffers.

The dispersion area of storm water dispersion systems, as defined by the Thurston County DDECM, shall not be considered a stormwater facility as described in TCC 24.30.300-310, and regulated as such, unless a physical structure is incorporated within the design that impacts the standard wetland buffers. Storm water dispersion facilities whose dispersion area includes any portion of a wetland buffer are allowed as an element of a stormwater system under the following circumstances:

A. Dispersion of runoff from back yards of development and downspout dispersion, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, is allowed at the outside edge of the wetland buffer.
B. Sheet flow and concentrated flow dispersion, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, of storm water meeting runoff treatment requirements of the Thurston County DDECM is allowed at the outside edge of the wetland buffer.

C. The required dispersion area, calculated under the DDECM, for sheet flow and concentrated flow dispersion from pervious and impervious surfaces, done in accordance with the Thurston County DDECM, may only include that portion of a wetland buffer outside of the minimum area considered necessary for water quality as shown in Table 24.30-1.

D. Native vegetation in the wetland and buffer may be increased but shall not be cleared or altered to accommodate stormwater treatment.

E. In no case shall dispersion methods be approved that may cause water quality impacts to the wetland. If water quality impacts are anticipated or observed, additional stormwater treatment methods shall be implemented.


A. Best management practices. Maintenance and repair of existing stormwater retention, detention, treatment and conveyance systems is permitted in wetlands and associated buffers. County owned stormwater facilities within wetlands or buffers accommodating runoff from county roads shall be maintained consistent with the BMPs listed in the Regional Road Maintenance Program Guidelines, January 2002, as amended. Other stormwater facilities within wetland buffers shall be maintained consistent with a maintenance plan approved by the Thurston County Department of Water and Wastewater Management in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC). The approved maintenance plan shall be consistent with the wetland and buffer protection provisions of this chapter.

B. No expansion. Maintenance of stormwater facilities shall not result in their expansion within the wetland or buffer or result in additional or channelized discharges of water to a wetland or buffer.


A. New utility lines and facilities in rights-of-way. Installation of utility lines and facilities is permitted in existing rights-of-way within wetlands and associated buffers, consistent with applicable regulations (see title 13, TCC) and the provisions of this chapter. When possible, utility installation shall occur on the side of the utility corridor or road furthest from the wetland. In the event that other critical areas are present, the approval authority, in consultation with others with expertise, shall determine where the proposed facilities would have the least impact on the critical areas and associated buffers. Mitigation of any impacts may be required consistent with the provisions of this title.
B. Individual service lines.

1. Overhead lines and cables serving an individual use are permitted in wetland buffers if:
   a. They meet state and federal requirements;
   b. The applicant demonstrates that an alternative location with less impact on the wetland and buffer is not available (e.g. new service line cannot be combined with a legally existing driveway, approved road crossing, or another utility’s existing crossing);
   c. The alignment has the least impact on the wetland and buffer; including minimizing vegetation removal and avoiding wildlife habitat impacts; and
   d. Paths or roads are not needed in the wetland or buffer to install or maintain the facilities.

2. Poles supporting overhead lines shall be located outside of the wetland. They shall be located outside of the buffer to the greatest extent possible. If a pole is necessary within the buffer, it shall be located as far from the wetland as possible where it is least damaging to the wetland and dependent wildlife, as determined by the approval authority. Disturbance of the buffer shall be minimized and no herbicides, pesticides or other hazardous materials shall be applied to the buffer or wetland in the course of installing the line(s) and pole(s). Poles in wetland buffers shall not be treated with toxic substances that could harm the wetland, buffer, dependent wildlife, or sensitive plants documented by the DNR Natural Heritage Program.

3. Buried service lines serving an individual use are permitted in the outer twenty-five (25) percent of standard wetland buffers consistent with this chapter upon demonstration that they will not have more than a temporary adverse impact on the wetland or buffer. The site shall be restored upon completion of the installation. Buried service lines within the inner seventy-five (75) percent of standard wetland buffers and in wetlands require a Reasonable Use Exception.

C. New transmission lines/utility corridors.

1. Where possible, new transmission, distribution lines and cables crossing wetlands or buffers, shall be contained within an existing roadbed, railroad bed, bridge, elevated walkway, conduit, or other disturbed area where they would have the least adverse impact on wetland and buffer functions. If the utility lines will be consolidated with, or parallel to, an existing utility crossing, they shall be located at the minimum separation distances established by the county for such uses, so long as the minimum distances so established also meet the applicable industry, state and national gas and electric safety standards.
2. The approval authority shall not authorize a new utility corridor within a wetland and buffer unless the applicant demonstrates that there is no alternative available outside of the wetland and buffer. New transmission lines and utility corridors within Category I and II wetlands and the inner seventy-five (75) percent of their standard buffers require a Reasonable Use Exception. When proposing to cross wetlands and/or buffers, the applicant shall demonstrate to the approval authority’s satisfaction that the crossing is essential and there is no alternative alignment or crossing method with less impact to the wetland, associated buffer and other critical areas. This shall include identification of the alternative alignments, crossing methods (including boring), their feasibility, and potential impacts.

3. When it is necessary to cross the wetlands or buffers outside of the locations identified above, the corridor shall be in compliance with the following standards:

   a. The corridor shall be aligned where it would have the least impact on the wetland functions and associated buffers using the least damaging alternative method.

   b. The utility corridor within the wetland and buffer shall have the minimum width practicable, as determined by the approval authority, while still adhering to safe operating clearances and industry standards. Clearing shall be limited to the minimum necessary to locate the utility.

   c. The utility corridor within the wetland and buffer shall provide for other necessary uses and facilities whenever possible. Conduit containing new utilities shall be sized to provide capacity for additional lines and cables in the future.

   d. If the approval authority determines that overhead lines or lines buried in trenches would be detrimental to the wetland, buffer or dependent fish or wildlife, the proposed crossings shall, when physically feasible, be accomplished by boring beneath the wetland and buffer. Entrance and exit portals shall be located outside of the wetland and buffer, if possible. Bore pits shall be restored upon project completion.

   i. If trenching or boring is proposed to be used to accommodate utility lines, the applicant shall evaluate its effect on the flow of groundwater sustaining the wetland. As determined by the review authority, the applicant may be required to submit a hydrological study prepared by a geologist licensed in the State of Washington or a professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington with experience in hydrogeologic analysis to determine whether ground water flows would likely be altered to the detriment of the wetland. The approval authority may call upon technical experts as needed, at the applicant’s expense, to evaluate the report.
ii. Trenching and boring beneath a wetland and buffer shall not be required/allowed if it would interrupt the ground water connection to the wetland to the extent that the wetland or dependent wildlife would be damaged.

e. Utility corridors shall be revegetated with appropriate native vegetation, at not less than preconstruction densities. Restoration shall occur immediately upon completion of construction or as soon thereafter as possible due to seasonal constraints or work windows established pursuant to this chapter. (See 24.30.090(D) and 24.30.150 TCC). The applicant shall submit a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure that the planted vegetation survives or is replaced.

f. Staging areas for equipment and materials shall be located outside of the wetland and buffer.

g. Applicants shall submit a maintenance plan for approval by the county consistent with the provisions of this chapter.


A. New individual and community wells serving approved uses shall only be allowed within the outer 25% of buffers of Category II-IV wetlands if there is not sufficient buildable area on the property outside the buffer to accommodate the well, as determined by the approval authority. Well houses are not permitted in wetlands and buffers. Also see Article III of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water Supplies, as amended, and chapter 24.50 TCC.

B. Access to wells approved within buffers shall be by a pervious trail no more than four feet in width unless the approval authority determines that it is necessary to provide vehicular access to a community well. In that case, the approval authority may authorize an unimproved access of minimal width (no greater than ten feet) to provide access for maintenance vehicles. Mitigation for impacts to wetland buffers may be required, including increased buffers in adjacent areas or enhanced vegetation.

C. Maintenance of the trail/access road shall not involve the use of herbicides or other hazardous materials.

Removal of vegetation within wetlands and buffers shall be prohibited except as provided for in this chapter. Also see TCC 24.30.150.

A. Hazard trees. The county may authorize limbing, thinning or removal of hazard trees located in the wetland or buffer provided that compliance with all of the criteria below can be met:

1. The county may require the applicant to submit a report from a certified arborist or professional forester that documents the hazard. If such a report is required, the arborist shall recommend suitable replacement trees for any trees that are removed pursuant to this subsection.

2. Tree cutting is limited to limbing or crown thinning in compliance with Tree Care Industry Association (formerly the National Arborist Association) pruning standards, unless the tree has a disease that would jeopardize the survival of other trees, or felling the tree is otherwise justified by the landowner/expert. Where limbing or crown thinning is not sufficient to eliminate the hazard, disease-free trees shall be pushed over into the wetland buffer. Snags shall be left in place to provide habitat unless a communicable disease or invasive pest that threatens adjacent habitat is present.

3. All vegetation severed from the tree shall be left within the buffer unless removal is warranted due to the presence of invasive pests or potential for disease transmittal to healthy vegetation.

4. Hazard tree removal in wetlands shall be mitigated as required by this chapter. At minimum, mitigation shall include replacement with native tree species at a ratio of 3:1 for each tree removed. The replacement trees shall have a minimum 15 gallon pot size, a height of four (4) feet, and be three (3) years old. Additional mitigation may be required based on site conditions, habitat type and wetland functions as determined by the Resource Stewardship Director. The applicant may be required to submit reports for maintenance and monitoring of planted vegetation at the discretion of the director.

B. Forest practices. Harvesting of trees under an approved Class II or Class III forest practices permit is not subject to this chapter.


The approval authority, in consultation with the Washington Departments of Natural Resources (Natural Heritage Program), Fish and Wildlife, and Ecology or United States Fish and Wildlife Service staff, may allow harvesting of plants and plant materials provided compliance with all of the criteria below can be met:

A. The harvest shall not comprise more than twenty percent of any single plant;

B. The species harvested must comprise forty percent or more of the vegetation in the wetland or buffer area.
C. Harvested material shall not consist of any threatened or endangered species pursuant to chapter 24.25 TCC.

D. No root material shall be harvested, except as provided for TCC 24.30.370.

Salvage of whole plants is allowed in wetlands and buffers approved for impacts from development.

24.30.380 Wetlands – Vegetation removal – Other allowed vegetation removal.
Removal of vegetation is allowed as part of an approved habitat restoration or enhancement project in the wetland or associated buffer. Other vegetation may be removed from wetlands and associated buffers provided compliance with all of the criteria below can be met:

A. Removal of vegetation shall be the minimum extent necessary for surveying or testing purposes.

B. The approval authority may allow trimming of vegetation to provide a view corridor in the outer (furthest from the wetland) twenty-five (25) percent of the standard buffer of Category III and IV wetlands with a wildlife habitat rating of 19 points or less under the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington, provided that trimming is limited to view corridors with maximum widths of 20 feet. Trimming shall be limited to limbing or crown thinning in compliance with Tree Care Industry Association (formerly the National Arborist Association) pruning standards. No more than 30% of the live crown of a tree may be removed in any three year period. Trimming shall not include felling, topping, or removal of trees or jeopardize the tree’s survival. Snags shall be left in place except as provided for in TCC 24.30.350(A).

When removing invasive species, removal of native vegetation within wetlands and buffers shall be prohibited, and shall be in compliance with all of the criteria below. Also see TCC 24.30.150.

A. Plant removal shall be performed such that it will not cause significant damage to untargeted vegetation, impair water quality or any wetland or buffer function.

B. Activity that would expose more than 100 square feet of soil within 100 feet of the wetland shall require submission of a plan for county approval that identifies the proposed plant removal and site restoration consistent with the provisions of this section. The method of vegetation removal must be approved in writing by the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department, consistent with this section and all applicable county, state, and federal regulations prior to initiation of any such vegetation removal.

C. Hand tools shall be used for plant removal unless the approval authority determines that the scale of the project warrants use of small scale equipment (e.g., riding mowers or light mechanical cultivating equipment) or other method (i.e., application of herbicide with a state and federally approved formulation by a licensed applicator in accordance with the safe application practices on the label) and use of the equipment/method does not pose a significant risk to untargeted areas, habitat functions, or water quality.
D. Erosion shall be effectively controlled and exposed areas shall be stabilized immediately following plant removal consistent with the chapter 15.05 TCC. If the area of exposed soil exceeds 100 square feet and lies within 100 feet of a wetland, it shall be planted with appropriate native plants at a density that will provide complete ground cover at maturity, unless the approval authority determines that the area will revegetate naturally without jeopardizing water quality or wetland and buffer functions.

24.30.400 Wetlands – Vegetation removal – Noxious weeds.
A. Removal of noxious weeds, as defined by Chapter 16-750 WAC, under the direction of the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Agency, is permitted in wetlands and associated buffers consistent with a county approved integrated pest management plan, applicable county and state regulations, and TCC 24.30.390(A), (C) and (D). Prior to requiring removal of noxious weeds within a Category I wetland or associated buffer, the noxious weed control staff shall consult with the Planning and Environmental Division of the Resource Stewardship Department to evaluate alternative methods of weed removal and the associated risks to the wetland and buffer.

B. When removing noxious weeds, removal of native vegetation within wetlands and buffers shall be prohibited. Also see TCC 24.30.150.

24.30.410 Wetlands – Vegetation removal – Aquatic weed removal.
Aquatic weed removal consistent with an integrated pest management plan is only allowed subject to applicable local and state regulations (e.g., HPA and NPDES permits).

When there is no practicable alternative outside of the wetland and associated buffer, the approval authority may allow alteration of wetlands and buffers subject to and defined by the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate water dependent structures and uses. Such uses shall be designed and installed to minimize impacts on wetlands and buffers consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
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Source: Soil Survey of Thurston County, Washington
Chapter 24.35

SPECIAL REPORTS

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24.35.012 Critical area report determination process.
24.35.015 Mitigation sequencing.
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24.35.080 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Grading plan.
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24.35.120 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Flood elevation certificate.
24.35.130 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Geologic assessment.
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24.35.150 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in erosion hazard areas.
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24.35.250 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Special reports.
24.35.260 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Critical area reports required.
24.35.270 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Waiver of special reports.
24.35.010 Purpose – Special reports.
The purpose of this chapter is to establish provisions governing the submittal requirements of special reports associated with development that impacts critical areas and/or their associated buffers.

24.35.012 Critical area report determination processes.
The sequence of review and determining whether critical area reports shall be required is described in TCC 24.05.027 and through the specific chapters of title 24.

24.35.015 Mitigation sequencing.
All proposals that require submittal of a mitigation plan due to impacts to a critical area or buffer shall employ the following sequence in order to reduce those impacts. Redesign, reconfiguration or relocation of a proposal to avoid impacts shall be preferable to submittal of a mitigation proposal. Mitigation actions associated with development proposals impacting critical areas shall adhere to the following mitigation sequence:

A. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;

B. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, by using appropriate technology, or by taking affirmative steps to avoid or reduce impacts;

C. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;

D. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action;

E. Compensating for the impact by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources or environments; and/or

F. Monitoring the impact and taking appropriate corrective measures.
24.35.017 Monitoring and contingency requirements.

A. A contingency plan shall be established for compensation in the event the mitigation project is inadequate or fails. The contingency plan is to provide specific corrective measures for such common mitigation plan failings as plant mortality, undesirable vegetation, vandalism, damage due to wildlife grazing, grading errors, damage caused by erosion, settling, or other geomorphological processes, and hydro-regime problems. A financial guarantee shall be provided per chapter 24.70 TCC. Financial guarantees shall be based on an estimate submitted to the County detailing the work to be accomplished and the current cost.

B. Requirements of monitoring programs are as follows:

1. Scientific procedures are to be used for establishing the success or failure of the project.

2. Monitoring reports prepared by a fish or wildlife biologist are to be submitted for department review. Monitoring reports generally will include discussions of wildlife utilization of the site, habitat structure establishment, water quality, and existing or potential degradation.


4. For critical aquifer recharge areas, the approval authority may require water quality or quantity monitoring as a condition of approval and to document compliance with permit conditions. This may include establishment of baseline conditions for water quality and quantity. Said monitoring shall be performed by a qualified individual or entity approved by the county. Monitoring may also be delegated to an appropriate county department and paid for by the applicant. The approval authority shall periodically review the need for continued monitoring and shall authorize termination of the monitoring if it is determined that it is no longer warranted.

5. Monitoring may include, but is not limited to:

   a. Evaluation of the project’s status relative to the project’s performance standards and goals in the approved mitigation plan.

   b. Evaluation of vegetation plots to track changes in plant species composition and density over time;

   c. Using photo stations to evaluate vegetation community response;

   d. Sampling surface and subsurface waters to determine pollutant loading and changes from the natural variability of background conditions (e.g., pH, nutrients, heavy metals);
e. Measuring base flow rates and stormwater runoff to model and evaluate water quality predictions, if appropriate;

f. Measuring sedimentation rates, if applicable;

g. Wildlife utilization of the site. If warranted, sampling fish and wildlife populations may be required to determine habitat utilization, species abundance and diversity;

h. Existing degradation; and

i. Hydric soil characteristics monitored through the use of one or a combination of the following: Munsell soil color, pH, particle size, redox potential, organic content, microbial activity, time and duration of saturation or ponding, and alkalinity. The duration and extent of water on site can be approximated by periodic field visits to verify depth and extent of hydrology. Alternatively, continuous data loggers could be installed that monitor the hydrotperiod.

6. Monitoring reports for mitigation projects specific to vegetative restoration or enhancement shall comply with the following:

a. Monitor for a period of time appropriate to the nature of the project (single family versus commercial) and the complexity of the mitigation project. The majority of monitoring programs will last a minimum of five years (ten years for forested and scrub-shrub communities) and are to be submitted according to the following schedule:

i. At completion of construction of mitigation project (as-built report);

ii. Thirty days after completion;

iii. Early in the first growing season after construction;

iv. End of the first growing season after construction;

ev. Twice the second year; and

vi. Once in years 3, 5, 7 and 10.

b. Deviation from this schedule may be allowed based upon project specific conditions.

7. Monitoring reports for mitigation projects whose goals are other than vegetative restoration or enhancement are to be submitted to the department for a period of time, and upon a schedule, appropriate for the species or habitat of concern. The specifics of such mitigation projects will be determined on a project by project basis.
C. As a condition of approval for permits requiring monitoring, the County shall be provided the ability to enter property to verify monitoring reports and compliance with conditions of permit approval.

D. Failures in the mitigation project shall be corrected as required by the County, such as, but not limited to:

1. Replace dead or undesirable vegetation with appropriate plantings.

2. Repair damage caused by erosion, settling, or other geomorphological processes.

3. If necessary, redesign the mitigation project and implement the new design.

E. Correction procedures shall be approved by the fish or wildlife biologist and the Director or designee.

24.35.020 Third party review.
Any submission made to the County as part of an application subject to this title may be subject to third party review, as outlined in TCC 24.05.022.

24.35.022 General qualifications for report preparers.
Special reports required by this chapter shall be prepared by professionals licensed, certified, or otherwise qualified to collect and analyze pertinent data and present a determination regarding the nature of a given critical area, its habitat value, threats posed to the critical area functions, threats posed to public safety, slope stability, or other relevant information, as determined by the director. Criteria for determining qualification are also found in specific sections of this chapter.

24.35.025 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Required reports.
Critical area review permits under chapter 24.40 TCC, where the underlying permit application requires a Type III review process (See chapter 20.60 TCC) within a CARA, shall provide the following special reports:

A. Drainage and erosion control plan; and

B. Hydrogeological report. In addition to the specific requirements for individual uses in chapter 24.10 TCC, the approval authority may require a hydrogeological report as part of other applications if:

1. There is insufficient information regarding ground water to perform an adequate review to assure aquifer protection;

2. The project is likely to possess, store, use, transport, or dispose of hazardous materials; or

3. There is evidence of ground water degradation, or known ground water contamination, in the vicinity of the proposed project and the project would influence or be influenced by the water quality degradation. For example, where the identified quality degradation may render the proposed water source non-potable, or when the
The proposed project may add to existing quality degradation in excess of 10% of the Assimilative Capacity standard (see TCC 24.10.030).

C. The director may waive the hydrogeological report requirement or limit the scope of the report if the nature of the project and its impacts are generally known, or the impacts of the project have been mitigated by source control strategies.

24.35.030 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Special reports requirements.
Special report required in critical aquifer recharge areas shall include the following when relevant.

A. Drainage and Erosion Control Plan. This plan shall address methods to minimize erosion and contain soil within the project boundaries during construction and to provide for stormwater management from the site and its surroundings during and after construction, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

B. Hydrogeological Report.

1. The hydrogeological report shall identify the proposed development plan and the risks associated with on-site septic systems and other on-site activities which may degrade the ground water beneath or down gradient from the site.

2. The hydrogeological report shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer or hydrogeologist, licensed in the State of Washington, qualified to analyze geological and hydrological information and ground water systems.

3. The approval authority may waive the requirements of this section when there is persuasive evidence and reason that the issue(s) pertinent in a specific case, either site conditions or project mitigations, have been or can be adequately addressed in the technical report and supporting documentation.

4. The hydrogeological report shall contain:

   a. A description of the soil, geological and hydrological characteristics of the area under permit application consideration, including the relationships between ground water and surface water including stream flows and wetlands; the character of the unsaturated zone, the depth to groundwater and, if reasonably possible, direction of groundwater flow.

   b. A site plan depicting the location of all existing and proposed structures; the boundaries of the property proposed to be developed; adjoining roads and site access; topography with 2-foot contours; the hydrogeologic context including water bodies, wetlands, springs, seeps, wells, ditches, culverts, stormwater facilities and other relevant features; and the location of all existing and proposed public and on-site utility structures and lines, including on-site sewage systems, sewer lines and water lines.

   c. A discussion of how the characteristics described in subparagraph (a) above will influence drainage and the movement of water and contaminants in the...
ground water, and a discussion of how the proposed project will influence surface water including instream flows and wetlands;

d. A description of conditions prior to project development, which may include baseline conditions for water quality and quantity;

e. A description of conditions as they are likely to exist after complete development of the proposed project, and their impact on ground water quality and quantity;

f. If determined to be necessary to evaluate the proposed activity or use, the approval authority may require the following information regarding the hydrogeologic characteristics of the site and the predicted behavior of contaminants: background water quality compiled over at least a one year period, contaminant transport modeling based on potential releases to ground water, and modeling to determine the effects of ground water withdrawals.

g. A list of those recommendations to be used to mitigate any of these potential ground water impacts. This shall include the effects of sewage disposal, lawn and yard activities, agricultural and animal husbandry, household chemical use, stormwater impacts and any other impacts reasonably associated with the project type described.

h. The post development description shall include the effects of the activities likely to occur as a result of the complete development and use of the project at final equilibrium.

5. Review and evaluation of the report may be delegated to other county departments and to qualified private consultants, at the applicant’s expense, under the direction of the approval authority.

C. Pier Foundations in critical aquifer recharge areas. The applicant shall submit the following information, certified by a qualified engineer, for foundations subject to review in accordance with TCC 24.10.170.

1. The proposed depth of the foundation below the ground surface.

2. The depth to the aquifer that any well within two-hundred feet of the proposed foundation draws upon.

3. If the aquifer drawn upon is less than fifty feet below the bottom of the hole proposed to be excavated to accommodate the foundation, then the applicant shall submit the following additional information.

   a. The distance from the proposed foundation to the subject wells.

   b. The foundation design and materials, including the concrete mix and the specific components of any additives, and the composition of any sealer/slurry proposed to be employed in construction of the foundation.
c. Proposed construction techniques, such as use of a casing to mitigate potential groundwater contamination.

24.35.040 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Performance monitoring and reporting.
Monitoring requirements are established in TCC 24.35.017.

24.35.045 Critical aquifer recharge areas – Spill plan – Hazardous materials management plan.
Spill plans and hazardous materials management plans shall include, at a minimum, the following:

A. A list of the locations, amounts, and types of hazardous materials/waste, stored on site;

B. A description of inspection procedures for hazardous material storage areas and containers and the minimum inspection intervals. An inspection logbook shall be maintained for periodic review by the County;

C. Provision of an appropriate spill kit with adequate spill supplies and protective clothing;

D. Detailed spill cleanup and emergency response procedures identifying how the applicant will satisfy the requirements of the Dangerous Waste Regulations, chapter 173-303 WAC, in the event that hazardous material is released into the ground, ground water, or surface water;

E. Procedures to report spills immediately to the Department of Ecology and the Environmental Health Division of the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department, in that order;

F. A list of emergency phone numbers (e.g., the local fire district and ambulance);

G. Procedures to ensure that all employees with access to locations where hazardous material are used or stored receive adequate spill training. A training logbook shall be maintained for periodic review by the County;

H. Documentation of proper disposal, recycling, or onsite treatment of hazardous waste; and

I. Additional information the approval authority determines to be necessary to demonstrate that the use or activity will not have an adverse impact on ground water quality.

24.35.050 Geologic hazards – Types of special reports.
The following special reporting requirements may apply to development proposals which contain a use or activity subject to Table 24.15-1 within a geologic hazard area and/or the associated buffer, as determined by the approval authority.

A. Erosion hazard areas.


   2. Drainage and erosion control plan.
3. Grading plan.
4. Revegetation plan.

B. Landslide hazard areas and marine bluff hazard areas.
2. Drainage and erosion control plan.
3. Grading plan.
4. Revegetation plan.
5. Structural mitigation plan.

C. Mine hazard areas.

D. Seismic hazard areas.

24.35.060 Geologic hazards – Waiver of special reports.
The director may waive the requirement for, or limit the scope of, any special reports upon a written finding in the Geological Assessment that the potential for landslide activity is low and that the proposed development would not cause significant adverse impacts, as determined by the director, or that there is adequate geological information available on the area proposed for development to determine the impacts of the proposed development and appropriate mitigating measures.

24.35.070 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Drainage and erosion control plan.
The Drainage and Erosion Control Plan shall comply with the requirements of the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

24.35.080 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Grading plan.
A. The grading plan shall identify the proposed development project including the movement of material on-site along with the proposed and existing contours of the site and cross sections thereof.

B. The grading plan shall be prepared by a registered design professional, as defined in TCC 14.37.020.

C. The grading plan shall comply with the standards in chapter 14.37 TCC.
24.35.090 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Revegetation plan.

A. The revegetation plan shall include a detailed site plan drawn to scale showing the placement of all plants to be used, the quantities of each species, distance on-center for planting, list of all species to be used with both botanical and common names, size of the nursery stock to be used, and any details for planting procedures including timing and maintenance. Once the revegetation plan has been installed, an as-built shall be submitted to the County that shows the results of the installation including any necessary modifications and reasons for those modifications.

B. The revegetation plan shall be prepared by a person who is knowledgeable about regional soil and climatic conditions as well as native plant materials suitable for installation on or near an erosion, landslide, or marine bluff hazard area or associated buffers.

C. The revegetation plan shall use a predominance of native, non invasive species, appropriate to the area. It shall document why the species chosen for the site will be appropriate, will function in the capacity as designed (i.e., soil and bluff stabilization, or runoff distribution), and will be likely to survive in the location with a minimum of maintenance once established.

D. The approval authority may waive the requirement for the revegetation plan if it can be demonstrated that disturbance of the site is so minor that it will regenerate on its own within a reasonable time or that the size of the project does not necessitate such plan.

24.35.100 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Structural mitigation plan.

A. The structural mitigation plan shall be prepared by a registered design professional, as defined in TCC 14.37, with demonstrated geotechnical experience, geologist, or engineering geologist licensed to practice in the State of Washington.

B. The owner or agent shall provide for review, a minimum of two copies of a structural mitigation plan, including but not limited to, the following information:

1. Project Information
   a. Permit and/or application number,
   b. Tax Parcel number,
   c. Plan number or other identification of project.

2. Registered Design Professional Information
   a. Name, mailing address, and phone number of registered design professional,
   b. Type of registration of the design professional,
   c. Date the design was completed.
3. Project Site Plan Information
   a. Existing and proposed topographic contours at 2 foot intervals,
   b. Erosion control and drainage measures for the construction period and final disposition of the parcel,
   c. Proposed slope stabilization methods consistent with chapter 24.15 TCC, if necessary.

4. Soils Investigation Report. The structural mitigation plan shall include a soils investigation report conforming to the provisions of the Thurston County Building Codes, as amended. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:
   a. A plot showing the location of test borings and/or excavations.
   b. A complete record of the soil samples.
   c. A record of the slope profile before and after construction drawn at an identifiable scale.
   d. Elevation of the water table, if encountered.
   e. Recommendations for foundation type and design criteria, including but not limited to: bearing capacity of natural or compacted soil; provisions to mitigate the effects of expansive soils; mitigation of the effects of liquefaction, differential settlement and varying soil strengths; and the effects of adjacent loads.
   f. Expected total and differential settlement.
   g. Pile and pier foundation information in accordance with TC building codes, as amended.
   h. Special design and construction provisions for foundations located in adverse soils, as necessary.
   i. Compacted fill material properties and testing in accordance with the TC building codes as amended.

5. Construction Drawings. Drawings submitted for review shall be annotated to call out and identify location of details, sections, and other specifics of the plan.

6. Details and Section Drawings. The registered design professional shall provide all details and sections needed to communicate the specific requirements of the structural mitigation plan to reviewers, inspectors, and field personnel responsible for installation of construction. All details and sections shall be clearly labeled.
7. Materials and Specifications. The registered design professional shall identify and provide specifications for all construction materials to be used.

8. Method of Approval for Changes to Structural Mitigation Plan. The registered design professional shall provide details of steps taken to review, submit, and approve changes.

9. Special Inspections and Structural Observation Programs. When applicable, the Building Official may require a P.E., Architect, or other qualified person to perform specific special inspections or structural observation programs.

24.35.120 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Flood elevation certificate.

A. A Flood Elevation Certificate shall be required for a structure when a property lies within the one-hundred-year floodplain (flood hazard zone) of any river, lake, pond, wetland, or marine waters within Thurston County consistent with TCC 14.38.

24.35.130 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Geologic assessment.

A geologic assessment, as outlined below, shall be required when the Resource Stewardship Department’s mapping, source documents, and/or field investigations indicate a proposed activity is located within or adjacent to an erosion, landslide, marine bluff, seismic, or mine hazard area.

A. A geological assessment shall be submitted to the review authority for review and approval together with the appropriate permit application and associated fees.

B. A geological assessment shall include a field investigation and may include review of available geologic hazard maps, historical air photo analysis, public records, and any other pertinent documentation, as required by the County.

C. A geological assessment shall be prepared, signed, sealed, and dated by an appropriately licensed geotechnical professional, as defined in chapter 24.03 TCC and as applicable to the specific geologic hazard identified on or near the project site.

D. A geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter, geotechnical evaluation, or geotechnical report, as determined in this chapter.

E. After reviewing the geological assessment submitted by the applicant, the approval authority may request additional information or studies specific to the conditions of the development proposal site.

F. A geological assessment for a specific site may be valid for a period of up to five years when the proposed land use activity and surrounding site conditions are unchanged. If any environmental surface or subsurface conditions associated with the site change during that five-year period, the applicant may be required to submit an amendment to the geological assessment.
G. When a development has the potential to impact slope stability on, below, or above adjacent property, particularly where public health and safety are at risk, the geotechnical studies presented must comply with the guidelines defined as standard of practice under the Washington State Geology Licensing program, as presented in the Washington State Department of Licensing "Guidelines for Preparing Engineering Geology Report in Washington", as amended. Such reports must include an assessment of each of the following parameters:

1. Slope gradient and existing slope stability conditions.
2. Stratigraphy (affecting infiltration rates, transmissivity, and groundwater flow paths).
3. Precipitation patterns (regional, seasonal and storm-related).
4. Land cover (vegetation type and density as it affects water available for infiltration -- evapotranspiration and interception loss).
5. Previous and proposed land use (affecting percent infiltration versus run-off).
6. Specifically, a geologic assessment shall include analysis that addresses the following questions:
   a. How will the project affect the stability of the slope?
   b. What are the expected effects on groundwater levels during different seasons from development?
   c. What specific mitigation actions will be used to minimize or avoid effects of the development?
   d. What is the geologic/hydrologic basis for any proposed structural stabilization?
   e. Do alternatives exist that would better protect the functions and values of the critical area?

H. All geological assessments submitted under this chapter shall include the following information:

1. The dates when the geological assessment was conducted and when the assessment letter was prepared.
2. The parcel number(s) of the subject property.
3. Site address of the subject property.
4. The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the geotechnical professional who prepared the letter.

5. The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the property owner.

6. A description of the proposed project and the area to be developed.

7. A map showing the property lines for the site, existing two-foot contours of the existing topography, and the location of any existing structures, utilities, wells, stormwater or septic systems, or other development.

8. A site plan delineating the boundaries of the proposed development site and the location of all areas of the site subject to the potential geologic hazard, and if applicable, limits of associated buffers.

9. If a site plan is required pursuant to this title, the site plan shall be prepared at a scale of 1" = 50' (or other scale deemed appropriate by the Department). The Department may require that the site plan information listed below be based on a field survey by a licensed surveyor. The site plan shall include:
   a. The limits/location of the geologic hazard area(s), including adjacent lots if necessary.
   b. The location of any existing structures, utilities, on-site septic systems, wells, and stormwater management facilities.
   c. The location of any proposed structures, utilities, on-site septic systems, wells, and stormwater management facilities.
   d. The full geographical limits of the proposed project area (area to be developed).
   e. Dimension of the closest distance between the identified geologic hazard area boundary (and associated buffers, if applicable) and the proposed project area.
   f. Existing contours on the site at two-foot intervals.
   g. Property lines for the site.
   h. North arrow and scale.

10. Detailed discussion of the technical information, best available science and site-specific data on which the determination of hazard was based, including background assumptions. References to any sources of best available science used shall be included.
11. A paragraph that states the following:

a. A statement that the assessment was prepared under the responsible charge of (Individual’s Name) and that the individual meets the qualifications defined for a geotechnical professional in chapter 24.03 TCC to prepare a geological assessment for the specific type of geologic hazard.

b. A statement that a(n) (erosion, landslide, marine bluff, mine, or seismic) hazard geological assessment, including a field investigation, and research of available historic records, has been completed by the geotechnical professional on the subject site.

c. A statement that the scope of services completed for this project is adequate to meet the requirements of this title.

d. For geotechnical letters: A statement that it does not appear that a hazard area exists within the following areas adjacent to a development proposal.  
   i.) within 200 feet for erosion hazards areas;
   ii.) within 300 feet for landslide, marine bluff, or mine hazard areas;
   iii.) within the development proposal site for seismic hazard areas.

e. For geotechnical evaluations: A statement that it does not appear that a(n) (erosion, landslide, marine bluff, mine, or seismic) hazard area exists within 200 feet for erosion hazards areas; 300 feet for landslide, marine bluff, or mine hazard areas; within the proposed project area for seismic hazard areas of the proposed project area.

12. All geological assessments proposing infiltration or dispersion of storm water that are submitted under this chapter in relation to landslide and marine bluff hazards shall include the following additional information regarding the applicant’s proposed solutions for handling storm water:

a. An estimate of the amount and percentage increase of added stormwater that will be infiltrated as a result of the proposed development, both during peak storm events and month-by-month over an average one-year period.

b. Detailed discussion of the science, site-specific data on which the estimate of infiltrated stormwater was based, including background assumptions regarding groundwater incorporated into analysis.

c. A professional estimate of where the added water is expected to flow under the ground, and where and in what volumes it will daylight on the slope or bluff during peak storm events.

d. Detailed discussion of the science and site-specific data on which the hypothesized stormwater flows were based, including background assumptions incorporated into the analysis.
e. An analysis of whether the added stormwater daylighting the slope during peak storm events will increase the frequency, duration and severity of landslide events on the slope.

f. Detailed discussion of the science and site-specific data on which the estimate of the landslide risk was made, including background assumptions incorporated into the analysis.

g. A discussion of the alternative approaches to handling stormwater which were considered in the development process and discussion of why the proposed approach was chosen.

h. A discussion of the long-term impacts of stormwater and other sources of added water due to development (e.g. onsite sewage treatment systems and underground springs altered by development).

24.35.140 Geologic hazards – Minimum standards for special reports – Third party review.

The approval authority may require a third party review of the geological assessment by a geotechnical professional at the applicant’s expense.

A. If a third party review is required, the approval authority will notify the applicant in writing of an intent to retain a qualified third-party to review the information provided by the applicant.

B. At the time the applicant is notified of the requirement for third party review, the approval authority shall also provide written notice that the geotechnical report is available for review to property owners within one thousand (1,000) feet of the project site. The approval authority shall accept public comment during a 30 day period and shall forward the comments to the third party reviewer.

C. Landslide and marine bluff hazard areas. The approval authority shall require third party review, at the applicant’s expense, to assess the adequacy of the proposal and the cumulative impacts of stormwater infiltration on slope stability. This is accomplished by evaluating the applicant’s proposal as well as previous geotechnical reports prepared for properties within one thousand (1,000) feet of the project site.

The approval authority may waive this requirement if the applicant demonstrates that the development proposal site is hydrologically disconnected to the landslide or marine bluff hazard area.

D. Third party review – report requirements. Third party review reports submitted under this section shall include the following information:

1. An analysis of the adequacy of methods used and the uncertainty and risk involved in the estimates.

2. Review and comment on the applicant’s proposed methods for handling stormwater.
3. In addition to paragraphs 1 and 2 above, third party review reports for landslide and marine bluff hazard areas shall include a thorough discussion of the cumulative stormwater impacts on the ground water flowing into the proposed development and the geologic hazard area from prior developments built or proposed to be built within one thousand (1,000) feet of the project site.

4. In light of these analyses, the third party reviewer shall answer the following question:

   a. For landslide and marine bluff hazard areas: “In your professional opinion, does this development, as proposed, along with adjacent development within one thousand (1,000) feet, create a probable significant adverse impact from increased geological hazard risk?” If the answer is yes, the approval authority shall deny approval of the project, as proposed.

   b. For seismic, volcanic, mine, or erosion hazard areas: “In your professional opinion, does the development, as proposed, create a probable significant adverse impact from increased geological hazard risk?” If the answer is yes, the approval authority will consider denial of the project, as proposed, based on the third party review findings.

24.35.150 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in erosion hazard areas.
In addition to the requirements in TCC 24.35.130, the following shall be required for geologic assessments in erosion hazard areas, as specified:

A. The geological assessment shall be prepared by a geotechnical professional, such as an engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer, who is experienced and licensed to assess erosion hazard areas.

B. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter when the geotechnical professional finds that no erosion hazard area exists within 200 feet of the development proposal site. A geotechnical letter shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The letter shall be labeled identifying the submittal as an “Erosion Hazard Geotechnical Letter” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

C. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical evaluation when the geotechnical professional finds that an erosion hazard area exists, but is located more than 200 feet away from the proposed project area, and in their opinion, will not impact the subject site. A geotechnical evaluation shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as an “Erosion Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).
D. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical report when the geotechnical professional finds that 1) an erosion hazard area exists within 200 feet of the proposed project area or 2) an erosion hazard area is located more than 200 feet away from the proposed project area, but in their opinion, will impact the subject site. A geotechnical report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as an “Erosion Hazard Geotechnical Report” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, soils, and vegetation on the site; conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of geologic conditions on the proposed development; assessments and conclusions regarding the stability or instability of the site for the existing conditions and the developed conditions over the life of the project.

3. A detailed description of any previous grading activity, soil instability, or slope failure.

4. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

**24.35.160 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in landslide hazard areas.**

In addition to the requirements in TCC 24.35.130, the following shall be required for geologic assessments in landslide hazard areas, as specified:

A. The geological assessment for a landslide hazard area shall be prepared by a geotechnical professional who is licensed as a professional engineer or engineering geologist with a minimum of four years of relevant professional employment, as determined by the director.

B. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter when the geotechnical professional finds that no landslide hazard area exists within 300 feet of the development proposal site. A geotechnical letter shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The letter shall be labeled, identifying the submittal as a “Landslide Hazard Geotechnical Letter” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. The geotechnical letter shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

C. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical evaluation when the geotechnical professional finds that a landslide hazard area exists, but is located more than 300 feet away from the proposed project area, and in their opinion, will not impact the subject site. A geotechnical evaluation shall, at a minimum, include the following:
1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a "Landslide Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation" and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, soils, and vegetation on the site, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of geologic conditions on the proposed development, the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions, and opinions and recommendations on the stability or instability of the site over the life of the project.

D. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical report when the geotechnical professional finds that 1) a landslide hazard area exists within 300 feet of the proposed project area; or 2) a landslide hazard area is located more than 300 feet away from the proposed project area, but in their opinion, will impact the subject site. A geotechnical report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a "Landslide Hazard Geotechnical Report" and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, and soils on the site; a list of the landslide hazard indicators; conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of geologic conditions on the proposed development and the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions;

4. Assessment of the role of existing vegetation on maintaining slope stability on site;

5. Subsurface characterization data must be provided. The data shall be based on both existing and new information that may include soil borings (SPT or other appropriate driven sample collection methods), test pits, geophysical surveys, or other appropriate subsurface exploration methods, as approved by the director, development of site-specific soil and/or rock stratigraphy, and measurement of groundwater levels including variability resulting from seasonal changes, alterations to the site, and other factors as determined by the director.

6. The geotechnical or boring data shall provide sufficient information for the geotechnical professional to determine slope stability. A written explanation shall be provided and include the logs outlining how the work was performed (equipment, company, drillers, etc.), weather, classification systems, and other information that incorporates all of the variables related to project performance.

7. The soil classification shall meet the requirements of title 14 TCC, Buildings and Construction.
8. The three-dimensional subsurface conditions at the site shall be included in the report.

9. Soil strength and index properties (i.e., unit weight, cohesion, etc.) shall be provided for each soil unit interpreted from the subsurface characterization of the site.

10. A detailed description of any prior grading activity, soil instability, or slope failure.

11. Assessments and conclusions regarding slope stability for both the existing and developed conditions shall be presented and documented. These assessments and conclusions shall include:
   a. Evaluation of the potential types of landslide failure mechanisms (e.g., debris flow, rotational slump, translational slip, etc.) that may affect the site.
   b. Quantitative stability evaluation of slope conditions of the various failure mechanisms using state-of-the-practice modeling techniques as determined by the director. Limiting equilibrium methods of analysis shall state the stability conditions as a factor of safety. The most unstable failure geometry(ies) shall be presented in the form of a cross-section(s), with the least stable failure geometry for each failure mechanism clearly indicated. The stability evaluation shall also consider dynamic (earthquake) loading, and shall use a minimum horizontal acceleration as established by title 14 TCC, Buildings and Construction.
   c. An analysis of slope regression rate shall be presented in those cases where stability is impacted or influenced by erosional processes (e.g., wave cutting, stream meandering, etc.) acting on the toe of the slope.

12. Mitigation recommendations using engineered measures and any relevant best available science to protect the proposed structure(s) and any adjacent structures, infrastructure, adjacent wetlands, or critical fish and wildlife habitat from damage or destruction as a result of proposed construction activities shall be designed by a professional engineer. The Geotechnical Report shall contain:
   a. Design plans and associated design calculations for engineered structures or drainage systems (e.g., structural foundation requirements, retaining wall design, etc.).
   b. Recommendations and requirements pertaining to the handling of surface and subsurface runoff in the developed condition.
   c. Identification of necessary geotechnical inspections to assure conformance with the report mitigation and recommendations.
   d. Proposed angles of cut and fill slopes, site grading requirements, final site topography (shown as 2’ contours), and the location of any proposed structures, on-site septic systems, wells, and stormwater management features or facilities associated with the development detailed within the body of the...
report and shown on a site map at the same scale as required by the review authority.

e. Soil compaction criteria and compaction inspection requirements.

f. An analysis that indicates how the proposal meets the standards outlined in TCC 24.15.030-240.

g. Structural foundation requirements and estimated foundation settlement shall be provided if structures are proposed.

h. Lateral earth pressures.

i. Suitability of onsite soil for use as fill.

j. Mitigation measures for building construction on each lot for short plats, large lots, or formal plats such that additional geotechnical professional involvement is minimized during building construction.

24.35.170 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in marine bluff hazard areas.

In addition to the requirements in 24.35.130 TCC, the following shall be required for geologic assessments in marine bluff hazard areas, as specified:

A. The geological assessment for a marine bluff hazard area shall be prepared by a geotechnical professional who is licensed as a professional engineer or engineering geologist with a minimum of four years of relevant professional employment, as determined by the director.

B. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter when the geotechnical professional finds that no marine bluff hazard area exists within 300 feet of the development proposal site (i.e. legal lot). A geotechnical letter shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The letter shall be labeled, identifying the submittal as a “Marine Bluff Hazard Geotechnical Letter” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in 24.35.130 TCC.

2. The geotechnical letter shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

C. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical evaluation when the geotechnical professional finds that a marine bluff hazard area exists, but is located more than 300 feet away from the proposed development, and in their opinion, will not impact the subject site. A geotechnical evaluation shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a “Marine Bluff Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in 24.35.130 TCC.
2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A general description of the on-site geology and shoreline processes affecting the subject property as well as a detailed discussion of how the site could be developed without the use of a bulkhead along the shoreline.

4. Assessments and conclusions of the stability or instability of the site including past slope failures if any, their timing, size, frequency, and mechanism; assessment of the likelihood of future failures, and identification of those aspects of the potential development that may contribute to future failures.

D. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical report when the geotechnical professional finds that 1) a marine bluff hazard area exists within 300 feet of the proposed project area; or 2) a marine bluff hazard area is located more than 300 feet away from the proposed project area, but in their opinion, will impact the subject site. A geotechnical report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a “Marine Bluff Hazard Geotechnical Report” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in 24.35.130 TCC.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, and soils on the site, as well as a detailed discussion of how the site could be developed without the use of a bulkhead along the shoreline.

4. Assessment of the role of existing vegetation on maintaining slope stability on site.

5. Subsurface characterization data must be provided. The data shall be based on both existing and new information that may include soil borings (SPT or other appropriate driven sample collection methods), test pits, geophysical surveys, or other appropriate subsurface exploration methods, as approved by the director, development of site-specific soil and/or rock stratigraphy, and measurement of groundwater levels including variability resulting from seasonal changes, alterations to the site, and other factors as determined by the director.

6. Soil strength and index properties (i.e., unit weight, cohesion, etc.) shall be provided for each soil unit interpreted from the subsurface characterization of the site. Refer to requirements under TCC 24.35.160.

7. Shoreline processes including an evaluation of erosion and bluff retreat over the past decade, and an estimate of probable rate of erosion over the useful life of the development (normally fifty years).

8. A detailed description of any prior grading activity, soil instability, or slope failure.
9. Assessments and conclusions regarding slope stability for both the existing and developed conditions shall be presented and documented. These assessments and conclusions shall include:

a. Evaluation of the potential types of landslide or bluff failure mechanisms (e.g., debris flow, rotational slump, translational slip, etc.) that may affect the site.

b. Quantitative stability evaluation of slope conditions of the various failure mechanisms using state-of-the-practice modeling techniques. Limiting equilibrium methods of analysis shall state the stability conditions as a factor of safety. The most unstable failure geometry(ies) shall be presented in the form of a cross-section(s), with the least stable failure geometry for each failure mechanism clearly indicated. The stability evaluation shall also consider dynamic (earthquake) loading, and shall use a minimum horizontal acceleration as established by title 14 TCC, Buildings and Construction.

c. An analysis of the slope regression rate shall be presented in those cases where stability is impacted or influenced by erosional processes (e.g., wave cutting, stream meandering, etc.) acting on the toe of the slope.

10. Assessments and conclusions of the stability or instability of the site including past slope failures if any, their timing, size, frequency, and mechanism; assessment of the likelihood of future failures, and identification of those aspects of the potential development that may contribute to future failures.

11. Evaluation of site development alternatives that use nonstructural erosion control measures such as vegetation alone or in combination with rock at the toe of the marine bluff, beach berm, an earthen berm, logs anchored at the toe of the slope or beach nourishment.

12. Mitigation recommendations using engineered measures to protect the proposed structure(s) and any adjacent structures, infrastructure, adjacent wetlands, or critical fish and wildlife habitat from damage or destruction as a result of proposed construction activities shall be designed by a professional engineer. The geotechnical report shall contain:

a. Design plans and associated design calculations for engineered structures or drainage systems (e.g., structural foundation requirements, retaining wall design, etc.).

b. Recommendations and requirements pertaining to the handling of surface and subsurface runoff in the developed condition.

c. Identification of necessary geotechnical inspections to assure conformance with the report mitigation and recommendations.

d. Proposed angles of cut and fill slopes, site grading requirements, final site topography (shown as 2’ contours), and the location of any proposed
structures, on-site septic systems, wells, and stormwater management features or facilities associated with the development detailed within the body of the report and shown on a site map at the same scale as required by the review authority.

e. Soil compaction criteria and compaction inspection requirements.

f. An analysis that indicates how the proposal meets the standards outlined in TCC 24.15.030-240.

g. Structural foundation requirements and estimated foundation settlement shall be provided if structures are proposed.

h. Lateral earth pressures.

i. Suitability of onsite soil for use as fill.

j. Mitigation measures for building construction on each lot for short plats, large lots, or formal plats such that additional geotechnical professional involvement is minimized during building construction.

24.35.180 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in mine hazard areas.

In addition to the requirements in chapter 24.18 TCC and TCC 24.35.130, the following shall be required for geologic assessments in mine hazard areas, as specified:

A. The geological assessment for a mine hazard area shall be prepared by a geotechnical professional who is licensed as a professional engineer or engineering geologist with a minimum of four years of relevant professional employment, as determined by the director.

B. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter when the geotechnical professional finds that no mine hazard area exists within 300 feet of the development proposal site. A geotechnical letter report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The letter shall be labeled, identifying the submittal as a “Mine Hazard Geotechnical Letter” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. The geotechnical letter shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

3. A description of historical data and information required by chapter 24.18 TCC and other information used in the assessment.

C. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical evaluation when the geotechnical professional finds that a mine hazard area exists, but is located more than 300 feet away from the proposed project area, and in their opinion, will not impact the subject site. A geotechnical evaluation report shall, at a minimum, include the following:
1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a “Mine Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, soils and vegetation of the site and a list of the mine hazard indicators found on or in the vicinity of the site.

4. A summary of the results, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the geological assessment of the mine hazards on or in the vicinity of the site.

5. A summary of the data and methods of analysis used to support the conclusions and recommendations presented in the geotechnical evaluation.

6. The review authority may waive the requirement for this report if it can be proven that the mine hazard no longer exists.

7. The geotechnical evaluation shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

8. A description of historical data and information required by chapter 24.18 TCC and other information used in the assessment.

D. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical report when the geotechnical professional finds that a mine hazard area exists within 300 feet of the proposed project area or when the results of the site investigation by the geotechnical professional indicate that mitigation measures are necessary in order to construct or develop within a mine hazard area. A geotechnical report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a “Mine Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. A description of the surface and subsurface geology, hydrology, soils and vegetation of the site and a list of the mine hazard indicators found on or in the vicinity of the site.

4. A description of the analytical tools and processes used to develop the geotechnical report.

5. A detailed description of any prior grading activity, soil instability, or ground failure.
6. Data from surface exploration such as borings, drill holes, test pits, wells, geologic reports, and other relevant reports or site investigations that may be useful in making conclusions or recommendations about the site under investigation.

7. A description of historical data and information required by chapter 24.18 TCC and other information used in the evaluation, together with sources, to include:
   a. Topographic maps at a scale and contour interval of sufficient detail to assess the site. The site boundaries and proposed development site shall be overlain with the mine plan view map.
   b. Aerial photography, as appropriate.
   c. Geologic cross-sections and other illustrative data, as appropriate.

8. A summary of the results, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the geological assessment of the mine hazards on or in the vicinity of the site.

9. The review authority may waive the requirement for this report if it can be proven that the mine hazard no longer exists.

10. The geotechnical report shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

**24.35.190 Geologic hazards – Additional requirements for geologic assessments in seismic hazard areas.**

In addition to the requirements in TCC 24.35.130, the following shall be required for geologic assessments in seismic hazard areas, as specified:

A. The geological assessment for a seismic hazard area shall be prepared by a team that includes a geotechnical professional who is licensed as an engineering geologist specializing in seismic hazards with a minimum of four years of relevant professional employment, as determined by the director.

B. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical letter when the geotechnical professional finds that no seismic hazard areas exist within the development proposal site. A geotechnical letter shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The letter shall be labeled identifying the submittal as a “Seismic Hazard Geotechnical Letter” and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. The geotechnical letter shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

C. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical evaluation when the geotechnical professional finds that a seismic hazard area exists but is located outside the
proposed project area. A geotechnical evaluation shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a "Seismic Hazard Geotechnical Evaluation" and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9).

3. Verification that a seismic hazard exists on the property, but is located outside the proposed project site.

4. A description of the geology of the site, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of geologic conditions on the proposed development, and opinions and recommendations for compensating for the seismic hazards present.

5. The geotechnical evaluation shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

D. The geological assessment shall be submitted in the form of a geotechnical report when the geotechnical professional finds that a seismic hazard area exists within the proposed project area. A geotechnical report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The cover letter for the document shall clearly identify the submittal as a "Seismic Hazard Geotechnical Report" and shall include all mandatory elements listed in TCC 24.35.130.

2. A site plan, as defined in TCC 24.35.130(H)(9). The site plan shall also include any set-backs from the defined locations of the seismic hazard area, as determined by the geotechnical professional(s), to protect any portion of the proposed development activity from damage caused by liquefaction-induced ground displacement.

3. Verification that the proposed project site falls within a seismic hazard area.

4. The field investigation shall include subsurface characterization using conventional geotechnical borings and Standard Penetration Testing (SPT) or using Cone Penetration Testing (CPT).

5. The geotechnical report shall include a detailed assessment of the liquefaction and/or dynamic settlement hazard based on an analysis of all available SPT or CPT data using state-of-the-practice methodologies, such as provided by Youd and Idriss (1997) or subsequent technical publications. The methodology used in the analysis shall be documented, and all results of intermediate and final calculations and results, including factors of safety, shall be included.

6. The geotechnical report shall contain an assessment of the potential for large lateral spreads or flow failures, bearing failures, settlement, limited lateral displacement, and floatation of buried facilities. The methodologies used must be, at a minimum,
state-of-the-practice, and where applicable, should employ more than one method of analysis. All results of intermediate and final calculations and conclusions regarding the potential and severity of the possible liquefaction and/or dynamic settlement induced failure modes shall be presented.

7. Alternative mitigation measures including structural and foundation design options and/or soil improvement techniques shall be evaluated and compared for their effectiveness in reaching the level of performance specified in the report. Final designs and specifications and plans for structural and/or foundation design shall be included if applicable. Effectiveness of soil improvement techniques shall be specified in terms of post-treatment densification or strength improvement as measured by appropriate subsurface investigation and testing. The extent of post-treatment verification testing shall be provided on a site map at the same scale as required by the approval authority.

8. A description of the geology of the site, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of geologic conditions on the proposed development, and opinions and recommendations for compensating for the seismic hazards present.

9. The geotechnical report shall be prepared under the responsible charge of a geotechnical professional(s) and be signed, sealed and dated by the geotechnical professional(s).

24.35.200 Frequently flooded areas – Special reports.
The following special reports are required for uses and activities proposed to be located within flood or channel migration hazard areas, including the NDZ and RDZ associated with high ground water hazard areas: drainage and erosion control plan; topographic survey of the site plan; and flood elevation certificate from a licenced surveyor. If the subject site contains a channel migration zone identified pursuant to TCC 24.20.045 and .055, the applicant shall submit a 100-year channel migration hazard area report.

24.35.210 Frequently flooded areas – Drainage and erosion control plan.
The applicant shall submit a Drainage and Erosion Control Plan which addresses methods to minimize erosion and contain soil within the project boundaries during construction and to provide for stormwater management from the site and its surroundings during and after construction, consistent with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

24.35.220 Frequently flooded areas – Grading plan.

A. An applicant shall submit a grading plan which identifies the proposed development project including the movement of material on-site along with the proposed and existing contours of the site, and cross sections thereof.

B. This report shall be prepared by a civil engineer licensed in the state of Washington, consistent with title 14 TCC.
24.35.230  Frequently flooded areas – Topographic survey.

A.  An applicant shall submit a topographic survey when development on the subject property lies within the 100-year floodplain of any river, lake, wetland or marine waters within Thurston County pursuant to chapter 14.38 TCC, as amended; or within a high ground water hazard area/NDZ/RDZ; or in a 100-year channel migration hazard area. The survey shall indicate the 100-year floodplain elevation above mean sea level of the site or BFE, as applicable (see chapter 24.03 and TCC 24.20.015) and the location and first floor elevation of any proposed structures as required by TCC 14.38, as amended or above the BFE consistent with TCC 24.20.015-035.

B.  Where elevation data is not available from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps a licensed surveyor shall establish an approximate flood elevation based upon other sources of information as described in TCC 14.38.040, as amended.

24.35.240  Frequently flooded areas – Channel migration hazard area report.

If the approval authority determines that a proposed project is in an historic channel migration zone of a Type S or F stream and the 100-year channel migration hazard area has not been mapped for the site, the applicant shall identify the location of the 100-year channel migration hazard area on the site as follows:

A.  A determination as to whether the 100-year channel migration hazard area is located on site and, if so, the extent of its location, shall be made by a qualified professional proficient in fluvial geomorphology (e.g., possess a graduate degree in Geology or Physical Geography with specialization in fluvial geomorphology, and have at least two years of professional experience) using a reliable methodology to determine channel migration accepted by the Resource Stewardship Department (e.g., as described in Forest Practices Board Manual, Standard Methods for identifying Channel Migration Zones and Bankfull Channel Features, dated 8/2001, as amended, or as described in “A Framework for Delineating Channel Migration Zones,” Washington Department of Ecology, 2003 as amended). Maps delineating the 100-year channel migration zone shall be of a scale and format specified by the Department.

B.  The following areas shall be considered outside of the 100-year channel migration hazard area:

1.  Areas separated from the stream channel by a legally established structure that the approval authority, in consultation with a qualified professional, determines will block channel migration. This may include, but is not limited to, dikes and public roads that extend above the 100-year flood elevation which are constructed to remain intact through a 100-year flood. Constraints to channel migration that do not extend above the 100-year flood elevation shall not be considered to limit channel migration unless demonstrated otherwise based on scientific and technical information; and

2.  Areas separated from the stream channel by a natural geologic feature, such as a rock outcrop, that the approval authority, in consultation with a qualified professional, determines will stop channel migration.
24.35.250  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Special reports.
Applications for development proposals on property containing an important species or habitat shall provide: a critical area report; a drainage and erosion control plan; and a grading plan as indicated in this chapter. Applications for development proposals that are within 600 feet of a point location of an important species may be required to submit special reports described in this chapter if the approval authority determines that the project location and nature may have an impact on an important species. If restoration is proposed in exchange for reduced habitat area width, the applicant shall submit a habitat restoration plan consistent with TCC 24.35.310.

24.35.260  Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Critical area reports required.
All applications for projects requiring a Critical Area Review Permit (see chapter 24.40 TCC) on sites containing important habitats and species areas or associated buffers shall include a critical area report as specified in this section. The critical area report for important habitats and species may also be referred to as a habitat management plan. If the use or activity is proposed to be located within an important habitat area or an associated buffer, a mitigation plan shall also be submitted.

A. Critical area reports shall be prepared by a qualified professional biologist with experience preparing reports for the relevant species or type of habitat. The report shall be prepared in consultation with staff from the appropriate state agency, such as WDFW or DNR.

B. The approval authority shall verify compliance with the applicable standards contained in chapters 24.01, 24.25, 24.65 TCC, and 24.70, prior to authorizing the proposed use or activity.

C. All proposals for land development activities, including land clearing, on a prairie soil type shown in Table 24.25-6 (chapter 24.25 TCC), or in an area that could be classified as a prairie or oak habitat under this Chapter, or are within six hundred feet of those habitats, shall be subject to the requirements of this chapter, except where one of the following conditions exist:

1. Proposals for which there is no expansion of the structural footprint of an existing structure, or where there is no change in the location and area of existing impervious surfaces; or

2. Minor road and street improvements (refer to WAC 197-11-800(2)(c)); or

3. Developed parcels less than one (1) acre in size for which an accessory structure or an addition to the primary structure is proposed, and which are surrounded by similarly sized and similarly developed lots, where developed means the presence of a primary structure(s), with associated paving, lawns, or non-native landscaping; or

4. New development is proposed on vacant parcels less than one half (0.5) acre in size surrounded by similar sized developed lots, where developed means the presence of a primary structure(s), with associated paving, lawns or non-native landscaping.

For the purposes of this section, a structure shall not include sheds, agriculture buildings, buildings less than two-hundred (200) square feet, or similar structures as determined by the approval authority.
24.35.270 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Waiver of special reports.
The director may waive the submittal of any and all of the fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas special reporting requirements identified in this chapter under the following conditions:

A. The removal of vegetation is minimal and will not impact the values or functions of an important habitat area or associated buffer;

B. Project activities will not impact the values or functions of an important habitat area or associated buffer; and

C. In the judgment of the director, any waived special reporting requirements would not be required to adequately address the potential critical area impacts and required mitigation.

24.35.280 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Critical Area Reports – Minor Projects.

A. A Critical Area Report for Minor Projects shall be submitted for:

1. Small scale projects with less than 5,000 square feet of impervious surface that will not encroach into an important habitat area or associated buffer; and

2. Other projects on sites containing important habitat areas where all of the proposed development would be located at least 400 feet from all important habitat areas, as verified in the field. This does not include priority species conservation areas or intensive uses identified in TCC 24.25.220.

B. Applicants for projects that do not qualify under this section must comply with TCC 24.35.290.

C. The Critical Area Report for Minor Projects shall contain the following information, as applicable:

1. The applicant’s name, address, and contact information;

2. The name, contact information, and qualifications of the report’s primary author;

3. The site address and tax parcel number;

4. A vicinity map with driving directions;

5. A site map including:

   i. A north arrow;

   ii. Scale;
iii. The approximate location of the important habitat area on site and an approximate delineation of the other critical areas and associated buffers onsite and within 300 feet of the site;

iv. Topographic contours at two-foot intervals;

v. Existing physical features, including, but not limited to, buildings, fences and other structures, roads, parking lots, utilities, and water bodies, etc.;

vi. Property lines, rights-of-way, and easements; and

vii. The location of the proposed activity or use, including proposed structures, grading and clearing limits, and any other site development and modifications.

6. Text outlining, as applicable:

i. Site acreage and general site characteristics; and

ii. A description of the proposal.

D. Based on the quality and detail of information provided, the site’s complexity or the use’s potential to impact important habitat areas or associated buffers, the approval authority may require additional information listed in TCC 24.35.290 as necessary to make a decision regarding the proposal.

24.35.290 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Requirements for critical area reports.

Applicants for projects that do not qualify for a Critical Area Report-Minor Projects shall submit a report and accompanying plan/data sheets containing, at a minimum, the relevant information specified in this section.

A. Maps. The report shall contain a vicinity map with detailed driving instructions to the subject site and site map setting forth the following, as applicable:

1. A north arrow and scale;

2. The location of important habitat areas and any marine or riparian management zones on-site, the point location of an important species within 600 feet of the development proposal site, and other critical areas that extend onto the property proposed for development and within 300 feet of the project area. The important habitat areas and any established and proposed buffers shall be staked and flagged in the field. A professional land surveyor shall survey the boundary of the important habitat area or, if applicable, associated buffer after the approval authority has determined that it is located correctly. The habitat area and management zone delineations shall be submitted to the approval authority in a format acceptable to the Resource Stewardship Department.

3. Property lines, rights-of-way, and easements;
4. Topographic contours at two-foot intervals;

5. Patterns of surface water movement and, if relevant (e.g., for streams, lakes, ponds, Puget Sound, and riparian habitats), known subsurface water movement into, through, and out of the site;

6. All existing physical features including, but not limited to, buildings, fences and other structures, roads, parking lots, utilities, and water bodies;

7. A depiction of the proposed activity or use and other proposed modifications to the site including the grading and clearing limits and proposed stormwater management facilities.

B. The important habitat area, associated buffer, and any management zone boundary shall be identified on all grading, landscaping, site, utility or other development plans submitted for the project.

C. Text. The report shall contain the following information, as applicable:

1. The applicant’s name and contact information;

2. The name, contact information, and qualifications for the primary report author(s);

3. The site address and tax parcel number;

4. A description of the proposal;

5. Identification of all the local, state, and federal permit(s) required for the project;

6. Assessment of existing conditions including, as relevant, vegetative types and complexity, hydrology, soil conditions, general site conditions, acreage and identification and characterization of the important wildlife habitat and any other critical areas onsite;

7. If a stream, Puget Sound, pond or lake is affected, a hydrological analysis, including existing surface and known significant sub-surface flows into and out of the important habitat area;

8. Identification of the important habitat area’s functions and documentation of fieldwork and literature reviewed pertaining to functional assessments;

9. An analysis of site development alternatives and a discussion of measures proposed to avoid impacts and preserve the important habitat area/buffer and associated functions; and

10. A description of the nature and extent of the proposed use or activity’s potential direct or indirect impacts to the important habitat area and associated buffer,
including a description of impacted vegetation, hydrology, soil conditions, and other relevant factors.

24.35.300 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Requirements for mitigation plans.
If important habitat areas or associated buffers would be impacted, a mitigation plan shall be submitted with the critical area report. The mitigation plan shall identify proposed measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate the proposed project’s impacts to the important habitat areas and associated buffers. The mitigation plan shall include, as applicable:

A. Mitigation proposal. The general mitigation scheme and justification that provides for restoration or mitigation of the projects impacts, approximate project sequencing and schedule, proposed plant selection, and maintenance program;

B. Performance standards. Performance standards for evaluating whether or not mitigation is successful. These standards shall address all of the relevant habitat functions being mitigated including, but not limited to, water quality, habitat diversity, establishment of viable plant communities, vegetative complexity, and vegetative survival rates;

C. Monitoring and contingency measures. Proposed monitoring and contingency measures shall be provided per TCC 24.35.017.

24.35.310 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Requirements for restoration plans.
Habitat restoration plans shall be prepared by a qualified biologist or other qualified professional and shall identify all measures needed to improve the habitat functions. Priority and locally important habitats and species, if present, shall be addressed in the plan. The restoration plan shall be prepared, consistent with best available science, by the applicant’s qualified biologist. Restoration measures shall include, as applicable, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Planting a mix of conifers and other native trees in degraded riparian habitat areas that will provide structural diversity and a source of large woody debris (e.g., fallen trees) for the stream, marine areas, and productive upland habitat. The trees shall be appropriate to the habitat, field grown, at least two feet in height, and planted between October 1 and April 1. The applicant shall provide a watering plan indicating how the trees will be watered during the first two years following planting to ensure survival.

B. Replacing invasive or nonnative plant species with native vegetation that occurs in the habitat.

C. Replacing rip-rap, concrete, tires or similar stream bank armoring along a Type F or S stream with anchored logs or another appropriate form of bioengineering consistent with the latest edition of WDFW’s Integrated Stream bank Protection Guidelines. (Also see chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas).

D. Planting vegetation appropriate and consistent with the surrounding habitat to increase root density along stream banks that are eroding or are vulnerable to erosion, as determined by the approval authority. Unless otherwise recommended by a qualified professional, such vegetation shall be planted between October 1 and April 1. The applicant shall provide a
watering plan indicating how the plants will be watered during the first two years following planting to ensure survival.

E. Off channel habitat restoration or enhancement (e.g., sloughs) that significantly improves the productivity of a stream section.

F. Installing rot free, slow decomposing tree trunks with root balls (e.g., red cedar, Douglas fir, big leaf maple) and/or large rocks in appropriate locations in Type F or S streams that lack such structure, as determined by the approval authority in consultation with the WDFW and others with expertise. The approval authority may require that a qualified engineer review the proposal to assure that it will function as intended without exacerbating flooding risks. Also see chapter 24.20 TCC, Frequently Flooded Areas.

Unless otherwise recommended by a qualified professional consistent with best available science, logs placed in streams between 16 and 32 feet wide shall be at least 22 inches in diameter. Trees placed in streams wider than 32 feet shall be at least 26 inches in diameter.

Large woody debris shall not be installed in the following locations unless it is anchored:

1. Streams that have a history or high potential for debris torrents or other mass wasting;

2. Within 50 feet upstream from culverts or bridges;

3. Confined streams where the width of the valley floor is less than twice the bankfull width;

4. In areas that have a known history of log jams that threaten structures or roads.

(For guidance on tree selection and placement, see the Forest Practices Board Manual, Section 26, dated August 2001, Guidelines for Large Woody Debris Placement Strategies, as amended).

G. Removal of roads within the habitat area and revegetation of the roadbeds with appropriate native vegetation. The approval authority may require soil amendment to enable plant survival and drainage in restored roadbeds.

H. Removal of structures within the habitat area and revegetation of the building sites with appropriate native vegetation. The approval authority may require soil amendment on the compacted building site to enable plant survival and drainage.

I. Removal or replacement of culverts or facilities that are a barrier to fish migration.

J. Elimination of channels and ditches in a habitat area or buffer that convey stormwater to a waterbody and installation of a device (e.g., a perforated pipe) to induce sheet flow of stormwater at the outer edge of the habitat area or buffer, as applicable.

K. Planting native vegetation appropriate and consistent with the surrounding habitat in degraded habitat areas that will provide structural diversity for the habitat and associated
species. The plants shall be appropriate to the habitat, native to the area and planted between October 1 and April 1. The applicant shall provide a watering plan indicating how the plants will be watered during the first two years following planting to ensure survival.

24.35.320 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Requirements for drainage and erosion control plans.
The applicant shall submit a Drainage and Erosion Control Plan that addresses methods to minimize erosion and contain soil within the project boundaries during construction. The plan shall also provide for stormwater management from the site and its surroundings during and after construction consistent with the chapter 17.15 TCC, Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County, as amended (chapter 15.05 TCC).

24.35.330 Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas – Requirements for grading plans.
The applicant shall submit a Grading Plan. This plan shall identify the proposed development project including the movement of material on-site along with the proposed and existing contours of the site, and cross sections thereof. The report shall be prepared by a civil engineer licensed in the state of Washington, consistent with chapter 14.37 TCC.

Wetland reports shall be valid for a period of five years, or the duration of the underlying permit. This excludes subdivisions, which are regulated under title 18 TCC and chapter 58.17 RCW. A wetland report may be submitted for other types of permits if the report is less than five years old. The approval authority may require the wetland report to be updated if site conditions or regulatory requirements have changed.

24.35.350 Wetlands – Special reports.
A wetland critical area report is required as part of the application for projects proposed to be located on sites containing wetlands and/or associated buffers. If the use or activity is proposed to be located within a wetland or buffer, the applicant shall also submit a wetland mitigation plan (see TCC 24.35.380). The director may waive, or limit the scope of, any special reports with a written finding that the potential for wetland or buffer impacts are low and that the proposed development would not cause significant adverse impacts, or that there is adequate biological/ecological information available on the area proposed for development to determine the impacts of the proposed development and appropriate mitigating measures.

24.35.360 Wetlands – Critical area report – Minor projects.
A. A wetland Critical Area Report - Minor Projects shall be submitted for:

1. Projects with less than 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces that will not encroach into a wetland or buffer; and

2. Other projects on sites containing wetlands or buffers where all of the proposed development would be located at least 400 feet from all wetlands, as verified in the field. This does not include intensive uses identified in TCC 24.30.200.

B. Applicants for projects exceeding the size limits in this section, involving intensive uses, or all projects that would encroach upon a wetland or associated buffer must comply with TCC 24.35.370.
C. The wetland Critical Area Report - Minor Projects shall contain the following information as applicable:

1. The applicant’s name and contact information.

2. The submitting wetland scientist’s name, contact information, and qualifications.

3. The site address and tax parcel number.

4. A vicinity map with driving directions.

5. A site map including:
   a. A north arrow and scale;
   b. For projects at least 400 feet from a wetland: The wetland’s category, if known, and its approximate location and the approximate location of other critical areas and their buffers onsite and within 300 feet offsite;
   c. For projects within 400 feet of a wetland: identification of the wetland’s category, delineation of the wetland boundary and the recommended buffer consistent with Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington;
   d. Topographic contours at two-foot intervals;
   e. All existing physical features, including, but not limited to, buildings, fences and other structures, roads, parking lots, utilities, and water bodies;
   f. Property lines, rights-of-way, and easements; and
   g. The location of the proposed activity or use, including proposed structures, grading and clearing limits, and any other site modifications.

6. Text outlining:
   a. Site acreage and general characteristics;
   b. A description of the proposal;
   c. For projects within 400 feet of a wetland: the wetland’s hydrogeomorphic class, category, and function scores consistent with Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington; and the proposed wetland buffer and reasoning; and
   d. A description of the wetland review process including when field work was conducted, data that was used, and general observations.
D. Based on the quality and detail of information provided, the site’s complexity or the use’s potential to impact wetlands and buffers, the approval authority may require additional information listed in TCC 24.35.370 as necessary to make a decision regarding the proposal.

24.35.370 Wetlands – Critical area report.
Applicants for projects that do not qualify under TCC 24.35.360 shall submit a report and accompanying plan/data sheets containing, at a minimum, the information specified in this section.

A. Preparation by a qualified professional. Certified professional wetland scientists or non-certified professional wetland scientists with a minimum of five years experience in the field of wetland science, including experience preparing wetland reports, shall prepare wetland critical area reports. The wetland report shall be signed and dated by the primary author.

B. Maps. The report shall contain a vicinity map with detailed driving instructions to the subject site and site map setting forth the following, as applicable:

1. A north arrow and scale;
2. Property lines, rights-of-way, and easements;
3. All existing physical features including, but not limited to, buildings, fences and other structures, roads, parking lots, utilities, and water bodies;
4. The location of wetlands and associated buffers on-site, consistent with TCC 24.30.020. The wetland boundaries shall be staked and flagged. A professional land surveyor shall survey the wetland boundary after the approval authority has determined that it is located correctly. The final wetland and buffer delineations shall be submitted to the approval authority in a format acceptable to the Resource Stewardship Department;
5. Wetlands and buffers offsite within 300 feet of the site boundaries in as much detail as possible;
6. Topographic contours at two-foot intervals;
7. Patterns and direction of surface water movement and known subsurface water movement into, through, and out of the site;
8. A depiction of the proposed activity or use and other proposed modifications to the site, including grading and clearing limits and proposed stormwater management facilities, including outlets;
9. Identification of areas where proposed impacts to the wetland and buffer would occur, the size of the impacted wetland and buffer in square feet, and discussion of potential impacts, including any anticipated hydro period alterations;
10. The wetland boundary, wetland buffer, and all critical area tracts and easements on the subject site shall be identified on all grading, landscaping, site, utility or other development plans submitted for the project.

C. Text. The report shall contain the following information, as applicable:

1. The applicant’s name and contact information;

2. The name, qualifications, and contact information for the primary report author(s);

3. A description of the proposal;

4. Identification of all the local, state, and federal wetland related permit(s) required for the project;

5. The site address and tax parcel number;

6. General site conditions and size;

7. Identification and characterization of all wetlands and buffers onsite and within 300 feet of the site proposed for development. If the affected property owner does not grant access to the area within 300 feet of the project site, the wetland scientist shall estimate the site conditions using the best available information;

8. For each wetland on-site, the wetland’s hydrogeomorphic classification, category, and function scores, consistent with the Wetland Rating System for Western Washington, the recommended wetland buffer, consistent with TCC 24.30.035-065, and the rationale;

9. Documentation of any fieldwork performed on the site such as field data sheets for delineations and functional assessments;

10. A hydrological analysis, including existing surface and known sub-surface flows into and out of the subject wetland(s), the location and condition of inlet/outlets (if they can be legally accessed), estimated water depths within the wetland, and estimated hydroperiod patterns based on visual cues such as algal mats, drift lines, and flood debris;

11. Identification and evaluation of all wetland and buffer functions at the subject site (e.g., removing sediment, excess nutrients and pollutants from water; storing floodwater; moderation of stormwater impacts; providing cover, refuge, foraging and breeding habitat for fish and wildlife; sustaining sensitive plant species; and providing shade that moderates water temperature and produces micro-climate effects), consistent with Ecology’s Wetland Rating System for Western Washington;

12. A description of the proposed use or activity’s potential direct or indirect impacts to the wetland(s), associated buffer(s) and related functions, including stormwater-related impacts to wetland hydrology; and the size of the impacted area;
13. Demonstration of compliance with applicable provisions of this chapter.

24.35.380 Wetlands — Special reports — Wetland mitigation plan.
Wetland impacts shall be mitigated consistent with an approved mitigation plan. The applicant shall submit a conceptual wetland mitigation plan generally containing the information listed below, as applicable. The county may require use of a standardized wetland mitigation report format.

If the approval authority approves the conceptual mitigation plan, the applicant shall submit a detailed mitigation plan to the approval authority for review and approval, consistent with the provisions of this section. Prior to submitting detailed wetland mitigation plan, the applicant shall meet with the approval authority to discuss the submittal requirements.

A. Demonstrate qualifications. A professional wetland scientist shall prepare the mitigation plan. This scientist shall be knowledgeable of wetland conditions within Thurston County and have experience designing wetland mitigation projects, at least some of which have been installed and monitored for a minimum of two years. The design team may include other participants as needed.

Applicants proposing a wetland mitigation project shall demonstrate that the individuals designing, constructing, and monitoring the project have sufficient expertise, supervisory capability, and financial resources to carry out the proposed project. A project manager shall be named, and the qualifications of each team member involved in preparing the mitigation plan and implementing and supervising the project shall be provided, including educational background, areas of expertise, training, and experience with comparable projects. The approval authority, in consultation with Ecology, shall verify the success of the mitigation

B. Report. Wetland mitigation plans shall include a written report and a site plan, commensurate with the scope of the development proposal, including the relevant components listed below: (Also see the Draft Guidance on Wetlands Mitigation in Washington State, Washington State Department of Ecology publication number 04-06-013B Part 2, 2004).

1. The applicant’s name and contact information;
2. The name, qualifications, and contact information for the primary report author(s);
3. The location and parcel number of proposed mitigation area;
4. Identification of all the local, state, and federal wetland related permits required for the project;
5. A description of the impacted wetland including, at a minimum:
   a. The wetland’s landscape position and the geomorphology of the impacted site;
   b. The wetland’s category, consistent with TCC 24.30.030;
c. The wetland’s hydrogeomorphic class;

d. A characterization of existing wetland and buffer functions;

e. Existing wetland acreage;

f. Vegetative communities, affected Cowardin classes;

g. Hydrologic characteristics;

h. Soil and substrate conditions; and

i. Topography.

6. A description of the compensation site, if different from the impacted wetland site, including at a minimum:

a. Site size;

b. Plant communities/Cowardin classes present on site, including any invasive plants or noxious weeds;

c. Existing wetland and buffer functions;

d. Soil and substrate conditions; and soils (e.g., soil pit data – hand dug or mechanically trenched, soil boring data; not soil survey data);

e. Topography;

f. General hydrologic patterns on the site including identification of groundwater availability; frequency, depth, duration, and timing of flooding; the field data collected to document existing conditions on which future condition assumptions will be based for the hydroperiod; the site’s relationship to the watershed/water bodies and demonstration that the site will have an hydrogeomorphic class appropriate for its position in the landscape. Hydrologic monitoring and analysis may be required to document that the proposed source of water and predicted hydroperiod are attainable and suitable for the site and will not adversely impact an existing wetland. If the proposed project could affect Category I wetlands, the approval authority may require computer modeling in determining the hydroperiod;

g. For those sites that have been recently altered or degraded, a description of historic conditions;

h. The adjacent site conditions and any known proposed use;
7. An estimate of future conditions at the proposed compensation site if the compensation actions are not undertaken (i.e., how would this site progress through natural succession);

8. A summary of the proposed wetland and buffer impacts and the proposed compensation concept, including:
   a. Site selection criteria;
   b. Demonstration that the proposed mitigation replaces all lost and diminished wetland and buffer functions;
   c. A complete description of the structure and functional relationships sought in the new wetland and buffer;
   d. For years 1, 3, 5, 10 and 25, and post-installation, conditions expected from the proposed actions on the compensation site including future hydrogeomorphic types, vegetation community types by dominant species (wetland and upland), and including the succession of vegetation community types and dominants expected;
   e. An assessment of the potential changes in wetland hydroperiod due to the proposed project and how the design has been modified to avoid, minimize or reduce adverse impacts to the wetland hydroperiod;
   f. The successional sequence of expected changes in hydroperiod for the compensation site(s) for years 1, 3, 5, 10, 25 and post installation;
   g. The change in habitat characteristics expected over the same 25-year time period;
   h. An analysis of the likelihood of persistence of the created or restored wetland based on such factors as surface and groundwater supply and flow patterns, dynamics of the wetland ecosystem, sediment or pollutant influx and/or erosion, periodic flooding and drought, presence of invasive flora or fauna, and potential human or animal disturbance.

9. Identification of the mitigation goals, objectives, and the performance standards that will be used to evaluate whether the mitigation is achieving the project goals and objectives.

Identify of the reference wetland used to develop the project goals, objectives and performance standards.

The performance standards shall provide a measurable benchmark for determining whether the project is meeting the mitigation goals and objectives at various stages in the project and establish thresholds for triggering remedial action or contingency measures. At a minimum, performance standards shall address the following:
a. Wetland size;

b. The water regime, (e.g., establishment of wetland hydrology, permanently ponded, seasonally inundated); designed hydroperiods; and water quality. Including identification of the proposed method by which the hydroperiod will be evaluated;

c. Vegetative structure and establishment of viable plant communities (e.g., percent cover with wetland species, area of various Cowardin classes, multispecies, mixed canopy community comprised of emergent, scrub-shrub, and tree species); and survival rates of planted vegetation and coverage for each vegetative stratum;

d. Hydric soil formation;

e. If relevant, wildlife habitat (species abundance and diversity targets, habitat diversity indices), or other ecological, geological or hydrological factors;

10. The dates for beginning and completing the project;

11. For wetland restoration and creation projects, a review of the available literature and/or experience to date in restoring or creating the type of wetland proposed;

12. Maintenance plan. A maintenance plan shall be submitted that describes proposed management practices that will protect the wetland and buffer after the project site has been developed. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, the removal and control of invasive vegetation and noxious weeds, replacement of dead or dying planted vegetation and trash and debris removal;

13. Monitoring and contingency plans. Monitoring and contingency plans shall be submitted consistent with TCC 24.35.017.

C. Construction plans. If the detailed mitigation plan is approved, the applicant shall submit construction plans consistent with the approved mitigation plan, and a sequence of construction activities. Wetland mitigation shall occur consistent with a schedule approved by the approval authority.

Written specifications and descriptions of compensation techniques shall be provided including, but not limited to, the proposed construction sequence, grading and excavation details, erosion and sediment control features needed for wetland construction and long-term survival, a planting plan specifying plant species, quantities, locations, size, spacing, and density; source of plant materials, propagules, or seeds; water and nutrient requirements for planting; where appropriate, measures to protect plants from predation; irrigation requirements; specification of substrate stockpiling techniques and planting instructions; descriptions of water control structures and water-level maintenance practices needed to achieve the necessary hydrocycle/hydroperiod characteristics;

These written specifications shall be accompanied by detailed site diagrams, scaled cross-sectional drawings, and topographic maps showing slope percentage and final grade elevations, and any other drawings appropriate to show construction techniques or the
anticipated final outcome. The plan shall provide for elevations which are appropriate for the desired habitat type(s) and which provide sufficient tidal prism and circulation data. The scaled plan sheets for the compensatory mitigation must contain, at a minimum:

1. Existing wetland and buffer boundaries, proposed areas of wetland and/or buffer impacts, location of proposed wetland and/or buffer compensation actions;

2. Approximated site topography before and after alteration at one-foot contour intervals in the zone of the proposed compensation actions if any grading activity is proposed to create the compensation area(s).

3. A planting plan prepared by a wetland specialist including plant selection, planting densities, placement, planting instructions, water and nutrient requirements, and provision for an irrigation system, if necessary, until plants are established.

D. Construction monitoring. The wetland scientist who designed the mitigation project shall be onsite to provide construction oversight as warranted to ensure that the project is constructed as designed.

E. As-built. Upon completion of construction for the wetland mitigation project, the applicant shall submit an as-built report to the county for review and approval.

F. Budget. A detailed budget for implementing the mitigation plans, including construction, monitoring, maintenance, and contingency phases shall be submitted.

G. Surety. A surety estimate for the entire compensatory mitigation including the following elements: site preparation, plant materials, construction materials, installation oversight, maintenance twice/year for up to five years, annual monitoring field work and reporting, and contingency actions for a maximum of the total required number of years for monitoring. Separate estimates shall be prepared for the installation phase and monitoring and maintenance phase of the project; a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC is required for the duration of the monitoring period.
Chapter 24.40

CRITICAL AREA REVIEW PERMIT

Sections:
24.40.010 Critical area review permit – Generally.
24.40.020 Critical area review permit – Review process.
24.40.030 Critical area review permit – Application requirements.
24.40.040 Critical area review permit – Director decision – Required findings.
24.40.050 Critical area review permit – Review criteria.
24.40.060 Critical area review permit – Subject to conditions.
24.40.070 Critical area review permit – Limitation on review.
24.40.090 Critical area review permit – Amendments.

24.40.010 Critical area review permit – Generally.
Unless otherwise provided in this Title, a critical area review permit is required for all development permits for properties that may be impacting critical areas and associated buffers or critical area evaluation areas on their property. A critical area review permit will not be required for reasonable use exceptions in chapter 24.45 TCC, initial emergency authorizations in chapter 24.90 TCC, critical area determinations in TCC 24.05.070, and county initiated amendments to this title or the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan (Type IV permits). The critical area review permit shall comply with all provisions of this title.

24.40.020 Critical area review permit – Review process.

A. Type I critical area review permits shall include permits:
   1. Where the underlying permit or application for review would be classified as a Type I permit as defined in title 14 TCC, title 17 TCC, title 18 TCC, title 20 TCC, title 21 TCC, title 22 TCC, and title 23 TCC; and
   2. Where there is no underlying permit for review and SEPA review under chapter 17.09 TCC is not required.

B. Type II critical area review permits shall include permits:
   1. Where the underlying permit or application for review would be classified as a Type II or Type III permit as defined in, title 14 TCC, title 17 TCC, title 18 TCC, title 20 TCC, title 21 TCC, title 22 TCC, and title 23 TCC; and
   2. Where there is no underlying permit for review and SEPA review under chapter 17.09 TCC is required.
C. Review processes and procedures are described in chapter 24.05 TCC. Coordination requirements for critical area review permits are located in TCC 24.05.030. Where there is no underlying permit, a Type I review process shall be used.

24.40.030 Critical area review permit – Application requirements.
The application for a critical area review permit shall be filed with the Resource Stewardship Department in accordance with chapter 24.05 TCC.

24.40.040 Critical area review permit – Decision – Required findings.
A. The approval authority shall enter a decision in conformance with this title. In making the decision, the approval authority shall enter written findings of fact upon which the decision is based. The findings of fact shall address each critical area requirement separately and the review criteria in TCC 24.40.050.

B. The approval authority shall confirm the nature and type of the critical and shall evaluate any special reports submitted by consultants who are professionals in the pertinent field.

24.40.050 Critical area review permit – Review criteria.
In addition to any review criteria required for State Environmental Policy Act reviews in chapter 17.09 TCC, or any other required permit reviews, the approval authority shall approve, or approve with conditions, the critical area review permit if:

A. The critical area review permit is consistent with the requirements, purposes, and intent of this title, and other requirements of the Thurston County Code; and

B. The requested development activity is consistent with the goals and policies of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan; and

C. The requested development activity results in no net loss of the functions and values of critical areas as defined in this title. If the approval authority determines that it is necessary, the proposal shall include a mitigation plan consistent with this title and credible scientific evidence as determined by the director. Mitigation measures shall address any impacts and shall occur onsite first, or if necessary, offsite.

24.40.060 Critical area review permit – Subject to conditions.
The approval authority may grant a critical area review permit subject to conditions and safeguards designed to ensure no net loss to critical area functions and values. The written conditions shall not violate the purpose and intent of this title and the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan. The conditions shall be included with the decision and findings required by TCC 24.40.040.

24.40.070 Critical area review permit – Limitation on review.
The fact that property may be utilized more profitably than allowed based on strict interpretation of this title shall not be an element of consideration in any review of a critical area review permit. Except as authorized by this title, an approval for a critical area review permit shall not result a waiver or variance of the requirements of this title, and shall not permit a use variance.
Knowledge of the time limits and expiration of a critical area review permit is the responsibility of the applicant. The duration of a critical area review permit within critical areas, which includes associated buffers, shall be as follows:

A. Authorization to undertake regulated uses and activities shall be valid for the specific time period established for any associated development permit (e.g., building permit and special use authorization); or

B. For permits not associated with any development permit, authorization to undertake regulated uses and activities shall expire if the use or activity for which it is granted a building permit has not been issued within three (3) years of final approval. An extension of the three (3) year period shall not be permitted; and

C. The critical area review permit shall also expire when the use or activity specifically allowed through a critical area review permit is vacated for a period of three years.

24.40.090 Critical area review permit – Amendments.
Any amendment or modification of an approved project shall require a new application and review following the same process as the initial approval unless the amendment or modification is minor in nature and is within the scope of the original critical area review permit, as determined by the director.
Chapter 24.45

REASONABLE USE EXCEPTION

Sections:
24.45.010 Reasonable use exception – Generally.
24.45.020 Reasonable use exception – Certain properties not eligible.
24.45.025 Reasonable use exception – Eligible properties.
24.45.030 Reasonable use exception – Review criteria.
24.45.040 Reasonable use exception – Hearing and review process.
24.45.050 Hearing examiner decision – Required findings.
24.45.060 Reasonable use exception – Subject to conditions.
24.45.070 Reasonable use exception – Application requirements.
24.45.080 Reasonable use exception – Limitation on review.
24.45.090 Reasonable use exception – Time limits – Expiration.

24.45.010 Reasonable use exception – Generally.
A reasonable use exception is required when adherence to the provisions of this title would deny all reasonable use of the subject property as a whole, due to the property’s size, topography, or location relative to the critical area and any associated buffer. A reasonable use exception shall only be granted if no other reasonable alternative method of development is provided under this title and the Thurston County Code. The reasonable use exception shall comply with all provisions of this chapter.

24.45.020 Reasonable use exception – Certain properties not eligible.
The inability of an applicant to derive reasonable use shall not be a result of a self-created hardship such as subdividing the property, adjusting a boundary line, or other actions thereby creating the undevelopable conditions after [the effective date of this title], or a self-created hardship created under the applicable standards of chapter 17.15 TCC after February 1, 1994.

24.45.025 Reasonable use exception – Eligible properties.
Except as otherwise prohibited by this chapter, any property owner may apply for a reasonable use exception to carry out a use or activity not permitted by this title or for which approval has been denied under this title on legally created lots, including but not limited to lots created through subdivisions, short subdivisions, large lot subdivisions, binding site plans, and other legal property divisions.

24.45.030 Reasonable use exception – Review criteria.
The hearing examiner shall approve, or approve with conditions, the reasonable use exception if:

A. No other reasonable use of the property as a whole is permitted by this title; and

B. No reasonable use with less impact on the critical area or buffer is possible. At a minimum, the alternatives reviewed shall include a change in use, reduction in the size of the use, a change in the timing of the activity, a revision in the project design. This may
include a variance for yard and setback standards required pursuant to titles 20, 21, 22, and 23 TCC; and

C. The requested use or activity will not result in any damage to other property and will not threaten the public health, safety or welfare on or off the development proposal site, or increase public safety risks on or off the subject property; and

D. The proposed reasonable use is limited to the minimum encroachment into the critical area and/or buffer necessary to prevent the denial of all reasonable use of the property; and

E. The proposed reasonable use shall result in minimal alteration of the critical area including but not limited to impacts on vegetation, fish and wildlife resources, hydrological conditions, and geologic conditions; and

F. A proposal for a reasonable use exception shall ensure no net loss of critical area functions and values. The proposal shall include a mitigation plan consistent with this title and best available science. Mitigation measures shall address unavoidable impacts and shall occur onsite first, or if necessary, offsite; and

G. The reasonable use shall not result in the unmitigated adverse impacts to species of concern; and

H. The location and scale of existing development on surrounding properties shall not be the sole basis for granting or determining a reasonable use exception.

24.45.040 Reasonable use exception – Hearing and review process.
The hearing and review process for reasonable use exceptions shall be as provided in chapter 24.05 TCC. Along with a recommendation made by the department, the application shall be heard by the hearing examiner pursuant to chapter 2.06 TCC. Notice of the hearing shall be given in the manner required by TCC 20.60.020(3).

24.45.050 Hearing examiner decision – Required findings.
Following the closure of a public hearing on a reasonable use exception, the hearing examiner shall enter a decision in conformance with chapter 2.06 TCC. In making the decision, the hearing examiner shall enter findings of fact upon which the decision is based. The findings of fact shall address each criterion in TCC 24.45.030 separately.

24.45.060 Reasonable use exception – Subject to conditions.
The hearings examiner may grant a reasonable use exception subject to conditions and safeguards designed to ensure no net-loss to critical area functions and values. The written conditions shall not violate the purpose and intent of this chapter. The conditions shall be included with the decision and findings required by TCC 24.45.050.
24.45.070 Reasonable use exception – Application requirements.
The application for a reasonable use exception shall be filed with the Resource Stewardship Department in accordance with chapter 24.05 TCC. The report shall also address the other criteria in this section.

24.45.080 Reasonable use exception – Limitation on review.
The fact that property may be utilized more profitably than allowed based on strict interpretation of this title shall not be an element of consideration in any review of a reasonable use request. Reasonable use exceptions shall not be permitted for the subdivision of land.

24.45.090 Reasonable use exception – Time limits – Expiration.
A reasonable use exception shall expire if the use or activity for which it is granted is not commenced within three (3) years of final approval by the hearings examiner. The reasonable use exception shall also expire when the use or activity is vacated for a period of three years. Knowledge of the expiration date is the responsibility of the applicant.
Chapter 24.50

NONCONFORMING USES, STRUCTURES AND LOTS

Sections:
24.50.010 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Purpose.
24.50.020 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Alteration or expansion of legally established nonconforming structures – General rules.
24.50.025 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Expansion of impervious surfaces in riparian areas and pond buffers.
24.50.030 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Alteration, expansion, repair, and maintenance – Frequently flooded areas.
24.50.035 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Intensification.
24.50.040 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Destruction and restoration.
24.50.050 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Discretionary replacement or relocation of nonconforming structures.
24.50.060 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Development of existing lots – Critical areas excluding frequently flooded areas.
24.50.065 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Development of existing lots – Frequently flooded areas.
24.50.070 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Replacement of mobile or manufactured home – Discretionary.

24.50.010 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Purpose.
The purpose of this chapter is to establish provisions governing the development and redevelopment of existing uses, structures and lots affected by critical areas that do not conform to this title. Other requirements in the Thurston County Code and/or state/federal law may also apply that further restrict development of nonconforming uses, structures, and lots.

24.50.020 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Alteration or expansion of legally established nonconforming structures – General rules.
Alteration or expansion of legally established nonconforming structures or uses, including structures or uses that do not require a permit, is allowed subject to all of the following:

A. Maintenance. All legally established, nonconforming structures can be maintained (e.g., painting and repairs);

B. Alteration. Legally established nonconforming structures may be altered within their existing building footprint. Additionally, attached decks, porches, and patios may be altered in their existing footprint, excluding the addition of permanent roof structures. If applicable, also see chapter 24.20 TCC regarding limitations in frequently flooded areas. Legally established, attached nonconforming decks, porches, or patios shall not be enclosed for use as livable space, unless the deck, porch, or patio is already covered by an existing permanent roof structure as determined by the approval authority;

C. Expansion of conforming portions of a legally established nonconforming structure. If only a portion of the structure is nonconforming (e.g. lies within an important habitat area),
expansion of the conforming portion of the structure is permitted provided the expansion
does not extend into the critical area or associated buffer; and

D. Vertical additions. Expansion of the established nonconforming portion of the structure is
prohibited, except for vertical additions consistent with applicable height regulations in the
zoning district. Additions shall not be cantilevered to extend beyond the existing structure’s
footprint (outside wall at the foundation) into a critical area or associated buffer. Vertical
additions to legally established portions of a nonconforming structure are only allowed within
marine bluff or landslide hazard areas, or their buffers, if a geological assessment
demonstrates that it will not negatively impact slope stability.

E. Cantilevered alterations, expansions or additions to nonconforming portions of structures
shall not extend beyond the existing building footprint into the critical area or its associated
buffer.

24.50.025 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Expansion of impervious surfaces
in riparian areas and pond buffers.
The approval authority may allow up to a five hundred (500) square foot expansion of
impervious surface, including an existing structure’s footprint, within a riparian habitat area or
pond buffer if it is determined that:

A. All new impervious surfaces, which include structures, will be sited at a distance that is
greater than or equal to the original structure(s) setback from the water body;

B. The expansion would occur at least one hundred feet from a Type “S” or “F” stream and
Type “N” stream draining to a Type “S” or “F” stream or marine waters;

C. The area proposed for the expansion was lawfully developed prior to [the effective date
of this ordinance] or, if not, the unlawful development was not caused by the present
landowner or did not occur within the past seven years;

D. If the riparian habitat area or pond buffer on the site between the water body and the
primary structure has been degraded, the degraded area, or a portion of the degraded area
equal to the size of the expansion, whichever is less, will be restored with native
vegetation. The degraded area chosen must be the area nearest the most sensitive habitat
as determined by the approval authority;

E. The expansion, coupled with any proposed mitigation, would be at least as effective in
protecting all of the riparian habitat or pond buffer’s functions as under current
conditions;

F. The proposed expansion would be consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the
Thurston Region, as amended, the impervious surface limits in the applicable zoning
district, and other applicable provisions of this title;

G. The applicant provides a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to ensure
survival or replacement of plants used in the restoration;

Attachment B
H. No previous expansion has been allowed pursuant to this subsection; and

I. The applicant will record a document with the subject property’s title indicating that no further expansion of the structure’s footprint or impervious surface is allowed within the riparian habitat area or pond buffer on the property.

24.50.030 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Alteration, expansion, repair, and maintenance – Frequently flooded areas.
Repair, maintenance, alteration, or expansion of a lawfully established nonconforming structure in frequently flooded areas shall only be allowed in the 100-year flood plain, channel migration hazard area, or a high groundwater hazard area no development zone (NDZ) when consistent with all of the following:

A. Alteration within existing footprint. Alteration, repair, and maintenance of a legally established nonconforming structure are allowed within the existing building footprint (outside wall at the foundation) including attached decks, porches, and patios. However, within the floodway, repair, maintenance, alteration, expansion or improvements to a structure shall not increase the ground floor area, and the cost of repairs shall not exceed fifty percent of the structure’s market value as determined by an accredited appraisal or the Assessor’s valuation, at the owner’s option. The value shall be determined based on the value of the structure either before the repair, maintenance, alternation, or expansion is started, or if the structure has been damaged, and is being restored, before the damage occurred. Work done on structures to comply with existing health, sanitary or safety codes or to structures identified as historic buildings is not subject to the value limit above. The cumulative value of all past known alterations, repairs, and expansions conducted on or after [the effective date of this ordinance] shall be included when determining the cost of a proposed project;

B. Vertical addition. Expansion of the nonconforming portion of a structure (i.e., the portion of the structure in the critical area) is prohibited with the exception of vertical additions consistent with applicable height regulations in the zoning district and the value limits specified in subsection “A” of this section. However, such additions shall not be cantilevered to extend beyond the existing structure’s footprint into a flood or channel migration hazard area;

C. Enclosing decks, porches, and patios. Enclosing legally established nonconforming decks, porches, or patios for use as livable space is not permitted, unless the deck, porch, or patio is already covered by an existing, permitted, permanent roof structure, as determined by the approval authority consistent with the value limits specified in subsection “A” of this section; and

D. Expansion of conforming portions of the structure. If only a portion of the structure is nonconforming, expansion of the conforming portion of the structure is permitted provided the expansion does not extend into the critical area consistent with chapter 14.38 TCC.
24.50.035  **Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Intensification.**
An intensification of a legally established nonconforming use is permitted provided that it is consistent with all of the following:

A. The use is contained within the existing or expanded (per this title for nonconforming structures and uses) structure, or an area that has been legally used to accommodate the use;

B. It is not different in kind from the legally existing nonconforming use; and it would not cause increased harm to the critical area, or increase the risk associated with the hazard, as determined by the approval authority;

C. Intensification of a legally established nonconforming use shall not exacerbate flood or channel migration hazards, or pose an increased risk of water contamination in the event the site is inundated with flood waters, as determined by the approval authority;

D. Intensification of legally established nonconforming uses shall not increase the net amount of impervious surface within a critical area and its associated buffer; and

E. The approval authority may require use of best management practices to avoid potential impacts associated with the more intensive use.

24.50.040  **Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Destruction and restoration.**
Restoration or rebuilding of legally established nonconforming structures and/or related appurtenances damaged or destroyed by accident, fire, explosion, act of God, or public enemy may be allowed pursuant to the applicable requirements of this chapter, and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, provided that:

A. Restoration or replacement of legally established nonconforming structures and/or related appurtenances shall not be allowed in the floodway;

B. The structure may be restored or rebuilt in a nonconforming manner to the same extent (e.g. building footprint, impervious surface and square footage) that, but no more than, the pre-existing structure was nonconforming, as determined by the approval authority, unless the nonconforming structure is located in a 100-year floodplain, 100-year channel migration hazard area, or high groundwater flood hazard area NDZ, where restoration or reconstruction of a nonconforming structure is only permitted in accordance with chapter 14.38 TCC. The cumulative value of all past known restorations or replacements conducted on or after [the effective date of this ordinance] shall be included when determining the cost of a proposed project;

C. The building permit application for repair or reconstruction shall be submitted within twenty-four (24) months of the occurrence of damage or destruction;

D. The building or structure is not voluntarily destroyed; and

E. If the building or structure is proposed to be relocated from the original building site, then the original building site and other degraded areas immediately adjacent to the building site shall be restored with native vegetation as a condition of the relocation, as required.
by the approval authority. Important wildlife habitats and areas regulated by the Shoreline Master Program, as amended, may have additional vegetation requirements.

24.50.050 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Discretionary replacement or relocation of nonconforming structures.
Discretionary replacement of legally established nonconforming structures and/or related appurtenances may be allowed pursuant to the applicable requirements of this chapter, and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, provided that:

A. Discretionary replacement of legally established nonconforming structures within frequently flooded areas, 100-year channel migration hazard areas, and high groundwater flood hazard area NDZ is prohibited;

B. There is no alternative outside of the critical area and associated buffer, or there is not minimally sufficient buildable area (not to exceed 5,000 square feet) on the property outside the critical area and associated buffer to accommodate the building/structure, as determined by the approval authority;

C. The replacement of a nonconforming structure and/or related appurtenances shall be prohibited if located within the shoreline management jurisdiction pursuant to the Shoreline Master Program, as amended;

D. If there is no alternative location outside of the critical area and associated buffer to accommodate the structure, then replacement/relocation would occur consistent with this section and provisions for the development of existing lots in TCC 24.50.060 and TCC 24.50.065, if applicable;

E. When possible and practical, driveways, patios, and walkways located within a critical area buffer shall be made of pervious materials and roof top runoff shall be dispersed and directed into bioretention facilities. See Chapter 15.05 TCC for additional requirements. In geologic hazard areas, the approval authority may require stormwater to be treated, tight lined and/or infiltrated, as warranted, to avoid destabilizing a slope or bluff (See TCC 24.15.170); and

F. If a structure is relocated, the original building site and other degraded habitat immediately adjacent to the original building site shall be restored. The applicant shall submit a restoration plan that employs native trees and vegetation. The applicant shall provide a performance surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC to insure that the vegetation used in the restoration project survives or is replaced.

24.50.060 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Development of existing lots – Critical areas excluding frequently flooded areas.
Existing, undeveloped lots with critical areas and their associated buffers, excluding frequently flooded areas, for which a complete application for a short plat, large lot subdivision, or subdivision, as defined in chapter 18.08 TCC, was submitted before the effective date of the
ordinance] and other legally existing lots may be developed as follows with a critical area review permit:

A. Except for seismic, volcanic, and mine hazard areas, all new construction of structures, facilities, utilities, access driveways and appurtenances shall be located outside of the critical area and the associated buffer unless otherwise permitted in this title;

B. New development may be permitted on legal lots containing wetlands or buffers, consistent with other applicable provisions of this title.

C. No new development or construction of structures, facilities, utilities, access driveways and appurtenances shall create a public safety risk, as determined by the approval authority;

D. Enhancement or restoration (mitigation) of the affected critical area or associated buffer shall be required to offset the impacts of the proposed development, as approved by the approval authority;

E. If a legal lot has less than 3,500 square feet of buildable area outside of the critical area and its associated buffer, to accommodate the single family residential development including the primary structure, ordinary appurtenances, landscaping, and accessory structures, the approval authority may, with a critical area review permit, allow development to occupy a portion of the critical area buffer to the minimum extent necessary to provide a development site totaling no more than 3,500 square feet provided:

1. The development site shall be located in the outer 50 percent of the standard critical area buffer, except for wetlands and riparian habitat areas, where the development site shall be located in the outer 25 percent of the standard buffer. Development in the critical area and the inner 50 percent of the associated critical area buffer—or inner 75 percent of wetland and riparian area buffers—will require a reasonable use exception;

2. The applicant shall demonstrate that due to physical constraints (e.g., topography, soil conditions, or the site’s configuration), another configuration would not allow the development to occur without intrusion or with less intrusion into the critical area or buffer than the proposal;

3. The location and scale of existing development on surrounding properties shall not be the basis for granting or determining the location, scale and impact of a single family use allowed under this section;

4. The encroachment into the critical area buffer shall be consistent with other requirements of this section for development on existing lots, requirements for a critical area review permit, and shall not have an adverse impact on species of concern, as determined by the approval authority;
5. Site development, including clearing, grading, construction of structures, utilities, related appurtenances, and landscaping shall occupy the minimum area necessary to accommodate the use;

6. Native tree and vegetation removal shall only be permitted to the minimum extent necessary to accommodate the proposed development, and shall not create a public safety risk;

7. A revegetation plan consistent with this title for disturbed areas shall be submitted with the development application, and shall be completed prior to final occupancy or use;

8. Landscaping shall not extend more than fifteen feet from the primary structure toward the important habitat or wetland;

9. Any new structures within a critical area buffer shall be sited to avoid the creation of hazard trees;

10. The approval authority may establish a construction setback to avoid encroachment into portions of the buffer not authorized for development, consistent with TCC 24.01.030;

11. The approval authority may authorize use of additional area to the minimum extent necessary in a critical area buffer to accommodate an onsite sewage disposal system or well, consistent with other requirements of this title, only if there is no alternative;

12. The use of this single-family residential exception shall not be a result of a self-created hardship such as subdividing the property, adjusting a boundary line, or other actions thereby creating the undevelopable conditions after [the effective date of this title], or a self-created hardship created under the applicable standards of chapter 17.15 TCC after February 1, 1994; and

F. All other development or construction of primary structures, accessory structures, and appurtenances in the critical area and associated buffer is prohibited.

24.50.065 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Development of existing lots – Frequently flooded areas.
Existing, undeveloped lots within 100-year channel migration hazard areas, frequently flooded areas and their associated buffers, for which a complete application for a short plat, large lot subdivision, or subdivision, as defined in chapter 18.08 TCC, was submitted before [the effective date of the ordinance] and other legally existing lots may be developed as follows:

A. All new structures, facilities, utilities and appurtenances shall be located out of the 100-year floodplain and area that falls below the base flood elevation;
B. All new nonresidential structures, facilities, utilities and appurtenances shall be located out of the high groundwater flood hazard area;

C. No new construction of structures, facilities, utilities and appurtenances shall create a public safety risk, as determined by the approval authority, and new construction shall be consistent with chapter 14.38 TCC; and

D. Construction of structures, utilities and appurtenances located in the high groundwater hazard area restricted development zone shall meet the following:

1. All new residential structures shall be constructed to have the lowest floor, materials, and systems susceptible to flood damage, including mechanical support systems, located a minimum of two vertical feet above the base flood elevation;

2. All new non-residential construction shall be elevated a minimum of two vertical feet above the base flood elevation; and

3. Structures shall be located where they are least likely to be flooded.

24.50.070 Nonconforming uses, structures, and lots – Replacement of mobile or manufactured home – Discretionary.

A mobile or manufactured home with nonconforming placement may be replaced with a new or improved manufactured home subject to applicable county regulations. However, if the size of the structure is increased by more than five hundred (500) square feet, it shall conform to TCC 24.50.050. Mobile or manufactured homes may only be increased in size once pursuant to this section.
Chapter 24.55

SUBDIVISION IN CRITICAL AREAS

Sections:

24.55.010 Subdivision in critical areas – Generally.
24.55.020 Subdivision in critical areas – Areas not eligible for subdivision.
24.55.030 Subdivision in critical areas – Areas eligible for subdivision.
24.55.040 Subdivision in critical areas – Minimize risk of damage.
24.55.050 Subdivision in critical areas – Utilities.
24.55.060 Subdivision in critical areas – Plat map.
24.55.070 Subdivision in critical areas – Practices for the use of pesticides to protect critical areas.
24.55.080 Subdivision in critical areas – Landscaping maintenance.

24.55.010 Subdivision in critical areas – Generally.
The subdivision of land with designated critical areas, including but not limited to subdivisions, short plats, large lot subdivisions, binding site plans, and conservation lots, requires careful consideration to meet the purposes of this title in addition to other requirements of the Thurston County Code. Some areas may be deemed ineligible for subdivision and others eligible.

24.55.020 Subdivision in critical areas – Areas not eligible for subdivision.
Lots that are located wholly within a critical area or associated buffer shall not be subdivided, except as otherwise provided for TCC 24.55.030 or in this title. Assessor’s plat maps under chapter 58.18 RCW are not permitted unless it can be demonstrated that enough area exists to permit building sites, structures, and uses that conform to this title.

24.55.030 Subdivision in critical areas – Areas eligible for subdivision.
Parcels that are located wholly within critical aquifer recharge areas, erosion hazard areas, volcanic hazard areas, mine hazard areas, seismic hazard areas or partially within other critical areas and associated buffers, may be divided provided the applicant demonstrates all of the following:

A. A contiguous portion of each proposed lot is located outside of the critical area, hazard area or associated buffer that is of sufficient size and configuration to contain all structures and all related appurtenances associated with the allowed use. Sufficient size means the minimum required by the Environmental Health Division for an onsite sewage disposal system. If the lot will be served by sewer, it shall be at least 5,000 square feet or the minimum lot size, if less than 5,000 square feet;

B. The proposed lots shall be accessible by a legally existing road or a proposed road located outside of critical areas or hazard areas, or as otherwise provided for by this title;

C. If sewer does not serve the site, the proposed lots must also have a suitable sewage disposal system location and a reserve drainfield location outside of the buffer;
D. Where possible, subdivisions must be able to be designed to maintain adequate habitat connectivity, as determined by the review authority; and

E. Also see requirements for critical area tracts and easements (chapter 24.65 TCC).

24.55.040 Subdivision in critical areas – Minimize risk of damage.
All subdivisions shall be designed in accordance with chapter 14.38 TCC and located to minimize flood damage without new structural flood protection (structural flood protection may include but is not limited to floodwalls, berms or levees) and shall not exacerbate geologic hazards.

24.55.050 Subdivision in critical areas – Utilities.
All subdivision of land under this title shall provide for the location and construction of public utilities and facilities, such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems, in a manner that eliminates or, where that is not possible, minimizes potential for flood damage, consistent with chapter 14.38 TCC, and avoids adverse impacts to critical areas and their associated buffers.

24.55.060 Subdivision in critical areas – Plat map.
See TCC 18.10.050, Contents of Application, and TCC 18.16.020, Specific Requirements. Base flood elevation data and other critical areas and associated buffers shall be identified on the preliminary and final plat maps of land by a licensed engineer or surveyor. A note shall be placed on the plat identifying any use restrictions on individual lots required pursuant to the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) and indicating that future development may be subject to review for compliance with chapter 14.38 TCC.

24.55.070 Subdivision in critical areas – Practices for the use of pesticides to protect critical areas.
Residents of subdivisions with more than eight lots and that have critical areas within the subdivision boundaries shall be required to use Integrated Pest Management practices for pest control to protect critical areas and their species. The requirement to use integrated pest management shall be noted on the plat and the title of all lots. As a condition of subdivision approval, the applicant shall provide educational materials pertaining to Integrated Pest Management to each initial home owner in the subdivision.

24.55.080 Subdivision in critical areas – Landscaping maintenance to protect critical areas.
Washington State University Extension Office best management practices (BMP), Thurston County BMPs or other BMPs accepted by the approval authority shall be used for fertilizing landscaping, and managing weeds near or adjacent to critical areas.
Chapter 24.60

CRITICAL AREA SIGNS AND FENCING

Sections:
24.60.010 Critical area signs and fencing – Generally.
24.60.020 Critical area signs and fencing – Allowed signage.
24.60.030 Critical area signs and fencing – Required signage.
24.60.040 Critical area signs and fencing – Fencing – Wetlands and geologic hazard areas.
24.60.050 Critical area signs and fencing – Fencing – Habitat area or buffer.

24.60.010 Critical area signs and fencing – Generally.
To further the purposes and requirements of this title for protecting critical areas, signs and fencing may be necessary to mark the boundaries of certain designated critical areas. The purpose of critical areas signage and fencing is to note the location of the designated critical area and inform the general public and private landowners about wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, and special hazards designated as critical areas in this title.

24.60.020 Critical area signs and fencing – Allowed signage
Within wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and their associated buffers, signs shall be limited to interpretive signage approved by the approval authority, street signs within rights-of-way, critical area identification signs, and survey markers and monuments. (Also see the signage requirements for the applicable zoning district).

24.60.030 Critical area signs and fencing – Required signage.
Within wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, landslide hazard areas, marine bluffs and their associated buffers, signs are required as a condition of any permit or authorization issued pursuant to this chapter. Signs and their locations shall be inspected by the director, or designee, prior to commencement of any permitted activity. The applicant shall be required to install permanent signs along the boundary of a critical area tract or along the edge of the buffer. Permanent signs shall consist of an enamel-coated metal face attached to a metal post or another non-treated material of equal durability. The signs shall be worded as follows or with alternative language approved by the approval authority.

(Critical Area)
Do Not Disturb
Contact the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department
Regarding Uses and Restrictions

These signs shall be located at the point where lot lines intersect with the buffer, at corners where the buffer makes a change of direction, and not less than every three hundred feet. The approval authority may allow the signage to be at larger intervals when the sign would be visible from an adjacent sign and installation of a sign at a shorter distance would interfere with reasonable use of the property. The property owner shall maintain the signs.
24.60.040 Critical area signs and fencing – Fencing – Wetlands and geologic hazard areas.
A. Design. Fences shall be designed and placed to minimize impacts to wetlands, geologic hazard areas, wildlife habitat, and wildlife travel. The fence type and height shall be subject to county approval unless superseded by Federal or State approvals.

B. Fencing the perimeter of the buffer. Fences are permitted along the outer boundary of the wetland buffer and geologic hazard area buffer.

C. Fencing within the buffer. Fencing shall not encroach into wetlands, marine hazard areas or buffers except along the perimeter of lawful development within the wetland or buffer. The approval authority may allow fencing along property lines within the wetland, marine bluff hazard areas, and associated buffers only if it would protect wetland and marine bluff functions as determined through review of a Critical Area Permit.

D. Required fencing/thorny shrubs. The approval authority shall require permanent fencing to be placed along the outer boundary of the critical area buffer if it is determined that a proposed use adjoining the buffer poses a threat to the critical area and buffer functions, or there is a public safety issue (e.g., when livestock or people would otherwise enter and damage the area or disturb sensitive wildlife or areas or there is an unstable geologic area). If the approval authority determines that it would better protect wetland and buffer functions, planting of densely spaced, noninvasive, thorny shrubs to restrict access to the buffer may be required, rather than fencing.

24.60.050 Critical area signs and fencing – Fencing – Habitat area or buffer.
A. Fencing the perimeter of the habitat area/buffer. Fences are permitted along the outer boundary of the important habitat area, unless a buffer is required. In that case, the fence may only be located along the perimeter of the buffer, except as provided for by subsection (B) below.

B. Fencing within the buffer. Fencing may encroach into the important habitat area along the perimeter of lawful development within the important habitat area and buffer. The approval authority may allow fencing along property lines within the important habitat areas only if it would protect habitat functions.

C. Design. Fences shall be designed and placed to minimize impacts to wildlife habitat, wildlife, and wildlife travel. The fence type and height shall be subject to county approval unless superseded by Federal or State approvals. Signs identifying the important habitat area shall be attached to such fencing consistent with this chapter.

D. Required fencing/thorny shrubs. The approval authority shall require permanent fencing to be placed along the outer boundary of the important habitat or the boundary of legally established development within the important habitat area if s/he determines that a proposed use adjoining the important habitat area poses a threat to the important habitat area (e.g., when livestock or people would otherwise enter and damage the habitat area or...
disturb sensitive wildlife). If the approval authority determines that it would better protect habitat functions, s/he may require planting of densely spaced, noninvasive, thorny shrubs to restrict access to the habitat/buffer, rather than fencing.

Figure 24.60-1 Buffer Sign Example
Chapter 24.65

CRITICAL AREA TRACTS AND DELINEATIONS

Sections:
24.65.010  Critical area tracts and delineations – Conservation Lots - Generally.
24.65.020  Critical area tracts and delineations – When required.
24.65.030  Critical area tracts and delineations – Maintenance.
24.65.040  Critical area tracts and delineations – Recordation of restrictions and notices.

24.65.010  Critical area tracts and delineations – Conservation Lots - Generally.
Critical area tracts and delineations allow for conservation of sensitive habitat areas and for ensuring that hazardous areas are not developed with incompatible uses. These shall also include conservation lots exempted under title 18 TCC.

24.65.020  Critical area tracts and delineations – When required.
A. Applicants for cluster developments, subdivisions under title 18 TCC, and binding site plans shall create one or more critical area tracts containing all critical areas and associated buffers on the property proposed for development. The tract(s) shall be on a separate lot(s) owned in common by all of the owners of the separate lots within the development, delineated on the face of the applicable plat map or binding site plan, and identified as critical areas. Critical areas 1,000 square feet or less that are not adjacent to or functionally connected to another critical area may be delineated on the applicable map or binding site plan rather than a tract, as determined by the director.

B. Applicants for short plats and large lot subdivisions under title 18 TCC, and development proposals subject to site plan review, special use, and other reviews not otherwise addressed in subsection A above, shall establish one or more delineated areas containing all critical areas and their associated buffers on the property under development. The critical areas and their buffers shall be delineated on the face of the applicable plat map, and identified as critical areas. The director may waive this requirement for non-jurisdictional critical areas 1,000 square feet or less if it is shown that the critical area is not adjacent to or functionally connected to another critical area, or can be adequately protected through other methods consistent with this title, as determined by the director.

24.65.030  Critical area tracts and delineations – Maintenance.
Critical areas and their buffers contained in separate tracts and delineated areas on maps shall be maintained in their existing condition, except as provided for by this title.

24.65.040  Critical area tracts and delineations – Recordation of restrictions and notices.
A. The following note shall appear on the face of all plats, short plats, large lot subdivisions, binding site plans, maps, or lots created to protect critical areas as part of a cluster development containing critical area tracts, critical area easements, delineation areas, conservation areas, or conservation lots:
“Critical area tracts or conservation lots containing critical areas and/or associated buffers shall not be altered except as provided for under the Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 of the Thurston County Code). The owner(s) of a critical area tract or lot containing critical areas and/or associated buffers is responsible for ensuring that no alterations occur within such tract or lot and that all vegetation remains undisturbed unless the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department provides express written authorization for such alteration.”

B. A map shall be recorded depicting critical area delineations created through a site plan review permit, variance permit, special use permit, or approved site plans where critical areas may be impacted, with the following note appearing on the face of the map:

“Critical areas and/or associated buffers shall not be altered except as provided for under the Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 of the Thurston County Code). The owner(s) of a lot containing critical areas and their associated buffers is responsible for ensuring that no alterations occur within such tract and that all vegetation remains undisturbed unless the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department provides express written authorization for such alteration.”

C. A restriction shall be recorded on the title of all critical area tracts and lots containing critical area easements created pursuant to this chapter. The restriction language shall be substantially similar to the following:

“Prior to and during the course of any grading, building construction or other development activity on a lot or development site containing or abutting a critical area and/or associated buffer or conservation area, the area of development activity must be fenced or otherwise marked to the satisfaction of the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department. The critical area shall be maintained in its existing condition, except as provided for by title 24 of the Thurston County Code, the Critical Areas Ordinance. Yard waste, debris, fill, equipment, vehicles, and materials shall not be placed within a critical area tract or delineated critical area and associated buffer.”
Chapter 24.70

SURETY AGREEMENTS AND BONDS

Sections:
24.70.010 Surety agreements and bonds – Purpose.
24.70.020 Surety agreements and bonds – Surety agreement in lieu of completion of permit approval requirements.
24.70.030 Surety agreements and bonds – Exception.
24.70.040 Surety agreements and bonds – Amounts for surety agreements and bonds.
24.70.060 Surety agreements and bonds – Forms of surety agreements.
24.70.070 Surety agreements and bonds – Forfeiture of surety.
24.70.080 Surety agreements and bonds – Release of surety.

24.70.010 Surety agreements and bonds – Purpose.
The purpose of this chapter is to establish financial surety requirements for (1) the installment of improvements required by this title to mitigate impacts to critical areas or associated buffers or to restore such area, and (2) to ensure the replacement or repair of such improvements which are damaged during development or over a time specified by the approval authority or hearing examiner as a condition of permit approval.

24.70.020 Surety agreements and bonds – Surety agreement in lieu of completion of permit approval requirements.
A. Installation.
   1. The property owner, applicant, or legal designee, shall install improvements as required by the approval authority as a condition of permit approval under this title and replace any such improvements damaged during development prior to final approval for occupancy and/or use; or

   2. If the required improvements are not installed prior to final approval for occupancy and/or use, the property owner, applicant, or legal designee, shall execute and file with the county a surety agreement guaranteeing and covering the completion of such improvements within a time specified by the approval authority. In no case shall final approval for occupancy and/or use be allowed by the approval authority if improvements remain uninstalled that constitute a hazard to public health and safety as determined by the approval authority.

B. The property owner, applicant, or legal designee, shall execute and file with the county a surety agreement guaranteeing and covering the construction, installation, and monitoring of such improvements together with a reasonable amount to cover possible needed replacements or repairs for a time specified by the approval authority as a condition of permit approval.
C. The director may approve such agreements made under this chapter.

24.70.030 Surety agreements and bonds – Exception. 
If the county agrees, by action of the Board of County Commissioners, to accept the obligation for maintenance or monitoring of the improvements, then the property owner, applicant, or legal designee’s obligation to perform maintenance or monitoring functions shall terminate.

24.70.040 Surety agreements and bonds – Amounts for surety agreements.

A. Surety agreements required under this chapter for installation of improvements shall be an amount equal to one hundred and twenty five percent of the fair market cost of installation, including materials and labor.

B. Surety agreements required under this chapter for monitoring such improvements required by this title shall be an amount equal to one hundred and twenty five percent of the cost of monitoring.

C. Surety agreements required under this chapter for maintenance and repair of such improvements required by this title shall be an amount equal to one hundred and twenty five percent of the cost of installation, including materials and labor.

D. Amounts required for the various surety agreements under this chapter shall be calculated separately.

E. The amount of the surety agreement or bond shall not be accepted by the county if the review authority determines that it will be inadequate to cover the costs related to fulfillment of the conditions of approval for the permit.

F. The approval authority may utilize various methods to calculate the amount necessary for the surety agreement to fulfill the requirements of the permit approval or mitigation plan. The property owner, applicant, or designee shall submit to the approval authority receipts, contractor bids/estimates, or other documentation that establishes the cost.

G. Such agreement shall not relieve the property owner or designee of liability for the substandard or defective condition of any required improvements discovered following the effective term of the surety or bond.

H. If costs incurred are related to issues or circumstances undiscovered or undisclosed at the time the surety agreement is accepted by the county, the property owner or applicant shall be responsible for all additional costs.

24.70.060 Surety agreements and bonds – Forms of surety agreement.
The property owner, applicant, or designee shall include with the agreement set forth in this chapter one or more of the following at the discretion of the approval authority:

A. A surety bond executed by a surety company authorized to transact business in the State of Washington on a form approved by the prosecuting attorney;
B. Cash, deposited with the Thurston County treasurer;

C. A letter of credit or irrevocable assignment of savings executed by a financial institution stating that the money is held for the stated purpose of the installation, monitoring, and/or maintenance and repair.

24.70.070 Surety agreements and bonds – Forfeiture of surety.
If the property owner, applicant or designee fails to complete all required work within the period specified, including any approved extensions of time by the approval authority, the county may take steps to demand performance of said obligations within a reasonable time not to exceed ninety days from the date of demand. If the required improvements are not substantially completed within that time, the county may take action to forfeit the financial surety. The county shall be entitled to recover all costs taking of such action, including reasonable attorney fees. The county shall use the financial surety to complete the required improvements and pay the costs incurred. Should the proceeds of the financial security be insufficient for completion of the work and payment of the costs, the county shall be entitled to recover the deficiency from the property owner, applicant, or designee.

24.70.080 Surety agreements and bonds – Release of surety.

A. The surety agreement shall specify that the surety cannot be terminated or cancelled without written release by the approval authority. The approval authority shall release all or part of the unexpended portion of the surety, as appropriate, upon determining that activities subject to the surety agreement or bond have been completed in compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit and the requirements of this title.

B. Surety agreements for monitoring of such improvements together with any needed replacements or repairs as required under this title shall not be fully released for at least three years, five years for wetlands, following final acceptance of the improvements by the approval authority.
Chapter 24.90

EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION

Sections:
24.90.040  Surety agreements and bonds – Temporary authorization in lieu of critical areas permit.
24.90.050  Surety agreements and bonds – Standards during emergencies.
24.90.060  Surety agreements and bonds – Permits required.
24.90.070  Surety agreements and bonds – Termination.

Activities within critical areas by public agencies and utility companies to protect public health or safety in response to an emergency may proceed prior to County authorization. However, such actions are subject to TCC 24.90.050.

24.90.040  Surety agreements and bonds – Temporary authorization in lieu of critical areas permit.
For emergency situations other than in TCC 24.90.020, the approval authority may issue temporary emergency authorization for an activity otherwise requiring a Critical Area Permit (CAP) to respond to an emergency in a critical area or associated buffer if it is determined that:

A.  One or more of the following would likely occur if emergency authorization were not granted:

1.  Loss of human life; or

2.  Imminent loss or damage of primary structures, such as dwellings and places of business, and structures significant to the continuation of a legally established business, including barns. This does not include minor accessory structures, such as but not limited to tool and equipment sheds; potting sheds; dog houses; tree houses; or

3.  Imminent loss or damage of public roads; sole access private roads; bridges; septic systems; wells; or other essential facilities, as determined by the approval authority; or

4.  Imminent significant environmental degradation (e.g., a structure at risk of flooding containing hazardous materials that pose a contamination hazard); or

5.  Imminent loss or damage to high value wildlife habitat, such as wetlands associated with streams; and
B. The anticipated loss or impact listed above is likely to occur before a CAP can be issued or modified under the procedures otherwise required by this chapter and other applicable laws; and

C. The authorized activities are the minimum necessary to alleviate the emergency, as determined by the approval authority.

24.90.050 Surety agreements and bonds – Standards during emergencies.
Any emergency activity shall incorporate, to the greatest extent practicable and feasible, but not inconsistent with the emergency situation, the standards and criteria required for nonemergency activities under this title and shall:

A. Be limited in duration to the time required to complete the emergency activity, not to exceed ninety days;

B. Require the restoration of any affected critical area and associated buffer altered as a result of the emergency activity within this ninety-day period, except when the approval authority determines that more time will be needed, based on a written request from the responsible party; and

C. Avoid impacts to adjacent properties.

24.90.060 Surety agreements and bonds – Permits required.
Within thirty days following the emergency action, the property owner/responsible party shall apply for all required permits and approvals required under this chapter for nonemergency action. The issuance of an emergency authorization by the county does not preclude the necessity to obtain any necessary approvals from appropriate federal and state authorities.

24.90.070 Surety agreements and bonds – Termination.
The emergency authorization may be terminated at any time without prior notice upon determination by the approval authority that the action did not or does not meet the requirements of TCC 24.90.040.
Chapter 24.91

AMENDMENTS

Sections:
24.91.010 Amendments – Initiation.
24.91.030 Amendments – Map amendments – Procedure.
24.91.040 Amendments – Criteria.

24.91.010 Amendments – Initiation.
A. Amendments or modifications to the text of this title may be proposed through the legislative process described in chapter 2.05 TCC for comprehensive plan or development code amendments.
B. Amendments or modifications to the critical areas maps may be initiated as follows:
   1. By the board of county commissioners;
   2. By the planning commission;
   3. By the director; or
   4. By a member of the public.

Text amendments to this title shall follow the legislative process outlined in chapter 2.05 TCC, Growth Management Public Participation.

24.91.030 Amendments – Map amendments – Procedure.
A. The director maintains official critical areas maps. Timely amendments are necessary to critical areas maps as new information becomes available to ensure the highest degree of accuracy. The director, or designee, shall periodically update and correct the maps administratively as warranted. Administrative decisions of the director may be appealed as set forth in TCC 24.05.050.
B. The property(s) and adjacent owner(s) to any parcel subject to a map amendment shall be provided written notice of the map amendment. Map amendments shall be justified in writing, and shall be posted electronically to the County’s internet page. The director or designee shall maintain records of map amendments.
C. Maps may also be amended due to information provided through a development application where notice to adjacent property owners is required. This includes Type II and III applications and permits, legislative text and comprehensive plan amendments. In
each of these instances, maps may be amended by the director following the final
decision/action without further notification specified in TCC 24.90.030(B).

D. Notice regarding any proposed High Groundwater Flood Hazard Area Map amendment
shall be sent to property owners within 500 feet of the subject site in urban growth areas
and within 1,000 feet of the subject site outside of urban growth areas, and others that
would be directly affected by the map amendment, as determined by the director. Those
receiving notice shall be given twenty days prior to a decision to provide relevant
information for consideration by the approval authority.

E. Map amendments not initiated by Thurston County shall follow the Type II review
process in chapter 24.05 TCC. Applicable fees for map amendments are identified on the
fee schedule, which is adopted by reference, and incorporated in this section.

F. In addition to other notice requirements in this section, notice regarding any proposed
Critical Aquifer Recharge Area map change or wellhead protection boundary change
shall be sent to nearby water purveyors.

G. Special reports and/or studies may be requested by the director prior to a decision on a
map amendment. These may include but are not limited to, detailed topographic maps,
surface drainage patterns including culvert and ditch locations, hydrogeological and
hydraulic modeling, statistical or mathematical analysis, and other data necessary to
evaluate the applicant’s request. The department may consult, as necessary, with
technical experts at the applicant’s expense. The County shall provide the applicant with
a cost estimate and obtain their approval prior to consulting with the experts. The
application shall be closed if the applicant chooses not to bear the cost of the evaluation.
Prior to submitting an application for a map amendment, the proponent shall participate
in a presubmission conference. See the applicable critical area chapter for additional map
amendment requirements.

24.91.040 Amendments – Criteria.
Critical areas text and map amendments are subject to the following criteria:

A. Amendments shall be consistent with the best available science requirements of the
Growth Management Act; and

B. Amendments shall be consistent with the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), and
determined in consideration of against the specific goals and requirements therein; and

C. Amendments shall be consistent with the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan, and
determined in consideration of against the specific goals and policies therein; and

D. Amendments shall be consistent with the stated purposes of this title.
Chapter 24.92

ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS, AND PENALTIES

Sections:
24.92.010  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Generally.
24.92.020  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Calculation of penalties and damages.
24.92.030  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Violation remedies.
24.92.040  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Stop work orders.
24.92.070  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Civil infractions.
24.92.080  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Liability for violations.

24.92.010  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Generally.

A. The director shall administer and enforce this title. For the purposes of chapter 7.80 RCW, the director is the enforcement officer for this title. If the director finds that any of the provisions of this title are being violated, it shall notify in writing the person responsible for such land use violation, indicating the nature of the land use violation and ordering the action necessary to correct it. The director shall take any action authorized by this title to ensure compliance with or to prevent a land use violation of its provisions, including the issuance of orders to stop work.

B. Adherence to the requirements of this title and to any permit conditions or orders issued pursuant to this title is required throughout the construction period and thereafter. No use or activity subject to this title may be carried out within a critical area, buffer, or management zone where a violation occurred, until the County determines that all violations of this title in the affected critical area, buffer, or management zone have been fully remedied.

C. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section.

D. A permit approval may be granted if conditioned on having the violation remedied within a reasonable time as provided by the approval authority. If a permit or approval is conditioned on remedial action, a bond, surety or similar instrument that meets the requirements of chapter 24.70 TCC may be required.

E. Permits may be granted to remedy a violation.

F. For the purposes of this chapter, a land use violation is a violation of this title, the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 TCC), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (chapter 17.25 TCC), the Thurston County...
Zoning Ordinances (titles 20, 21, 22, and 23 TCC), the Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (title 18 TCC), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program (title 19 TCC), or the Buildings and Construction Code (title 14 TCC).

24.92.020 Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Calculation of penalties and damages.

A. Each violation of this title or any permit, permit condition, or order issued pursuant to this title is a separate offense.

B. Each day in which such a violation is not remedied is a separate and distinct violation.

C. The approval authority is not required to issue a notice of the violation or civil infraction for each day of the violation.

D. The initiation of a singular remedy under this chapter for a violation does not preclude the initiation of a separate remedy.

E. The County shall recover all costs, fees, and expenses in connection with enforcement actions as damages against the violator. Costs, fees, and expenses may include, but are not limited to, costs of restoration, abatement, or cleanup, including staff time and court expenses.

24.92.030 Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Violation remedies.

If the review authority finds that any person, whether owner, lessee, principal, agent, employee or otherwise, violates any of the provisions of this title, or permits any such violation of this title, or fails to comply with any of the requirements hereof, or who erects any building or uses any land in violation of this title, the approval authority may:

A. Issue a stop work order to halt any activity which is in violation of this title;

B. Issue a restoration order for complete or partial restoration, rehabilitation, or replacement of the critical area by the property owner. It is the property owners’ responsibility to contact and seek a remedy from any other person(s) who may be responsible for the violation;

C. Revoke a permit or approval;

D. Issue a notice of civil infraction to the property owner(s) of record under TCC 24.92.070; and

E. Request that the prosecuting attorney commence a criminal prosecution, seek a temporary restraining order or seek equitable relief to enjoin any act or practices and abate any conditions which constitute or will constitute a violation to this title.

24.92.040 Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Stop work orders.
Stop work orders shall become effective immediately upon receipt by the person to whom the order is directed. Failure to comply with the terms of a stop work order may result in additional enforcement actions including, but not limited to, the issuance of a civil infraction, or referral to the prosecuting attorney. The stop work order shall set forth the following terms and conditions:

A. A description of the specific nature, extent, and time of the land use violation and the damage or potential damage; and

B. A notice that the violation or the potential violation of this title cease and desist or, in appropriate cases, the specific corrective action to be taken within a given time.


A. Restoration orders shall become effective immediately upon receipt by the person to whom the order is directed. Failure to comply with the terms of a restoration order may result in additional enforcement actions including, but not limited to, the issuance of a civil infraction, or referral to the prosecuting attorney.

B. If warranted due to the scale of the damage or the sensitivity of the affected critical area, associated buffer or dependent fish and wildlife, the county may require submission of a restoration plan and implementation schedule prior to initiation of the restoration activity. If so, any development activity on the site where the violation occurred shall cease until the county approves the restoration plan and schedule. The plan shall be prepared by a qualified professional as determined by the approval authority, and shall describe how the proposed actions meet the requirements of this title. Restoration activities shall be reviewed by the approval authority under the requirements for a Critical Area Review Permit (chapter 24.40 TCC). Inadequate plans as determined by the approval authority shall be returned to the violator/property owner for revision and resubmittal.

C. Restoration plans shall comply with the following requirements unless the property owner/violator demonstrates that equal or greater critical area and buffer functions can otherwise be obtained.

1. The pre-violation structure, condition, and functions of the critical area, associated buffer and management zone, as applicable, shall be restored including, but not limited to, topography; soil types; vegetation types, sizes and densities (not including noxious weeds or invasive plants); water quality; hydrologic functions; habitat functions; and other relevant conditions.

2. If information is not available regarding pre-violation conditions at the violation site, the county shall determine the restoration goals based on similar sites.

D. The property owner/violator shall submit a surety consistent with chapter 24.70 TCC and with the requirements of this title to ensure that restoration is successful.

E. The property owner/violator shall be responsible for all costs associated with the restoration plan, including review costs.
Unless otherwise provided or restricted by law, the director may, in writing, suspend or revoke a permit or approval required by this title whenever the permit is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect information, or in violation of an ordinance or regulation or any provision of this title, or when a use or building is being maintained in a manner contrary to the terms and conditions of the permit or approval.

24.92.070  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Civil infractions.  
A. Use of the civil infraction procedure will better protect the public from the harmful effect of violations, will aid enforcement, and will help reimburse the county for the expenses of enforcement.

B. The violation of any provision of this title is designated as a Class 2 civil infraction pursuant to Chapter 7.80 RCW. After the expiration of any period granted by the county for remedying a violation, each day of any such continued violation is a separate offense.

C. Civil infractions shall be heard and determined according to chapter 7.80 RCW, as amended, and any applicable court rules.

D. An enforcement officer issuing a notice of civil infraction may send the notice by mail, or another hand delivery method to the property owner(s) of record.

E. A notice of civil infraction may be recorded upon issuance with the Thurston County auditor against the property on which the violation took place.

F. The recording of a notice of civil infraction shall be removed when:

1. The civil infraction proceeding has been dismissed or decided in favor of the person to whom the notice was issued; or

2. Any monetary penalty assessed for the infraction has been paid and the violation has been remedied to the satisfaction of the county.

G. The auditor shall record any notice of civil infraction submitted for recording under this chapter.

24.92.080  Enforcement, Violations, and Penalties – Liability for violations.  
The owner of property on which a violation of this chapter has occurred and the persons or entities carrying out actions in violation of this chapter are each responsible and liable for the violation.
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance

Update

Attachment C:

Chapter 17.15 – Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance

July 24, 2012

Board of County Commissioners
Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code is hereby renamed the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and amended to remove references to nonagricultural activities, add references to the Voluntary Stewardship Program, and other matters properly related thereto as follows:

A. Section 17.15.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.100 - Purpose—Statement of policy for critical areas.
It is the policy of Thurston County to accomplish the following in relation to agricultural lands and uses, along with the purpose statements within each of the critical area categories:
A. To protect the public from natural hazards;
B. To minimize the need for emergency rescue;
C. To protect unique, fragile, and vulnerable elements of the environment;
D. To minimize the cost of replacing public facilities;
E. To alert the public of these critical areas;
F. To avoid public subsidy of private development impacts;
G. To assist property owners in developing their property by promoting innovative land use techniques;
H. To work in concert with other land use regulations;
I. To minimize the reliance on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) to identify appropriate mitigating measures for agricultural lands and uses;
J. To encourage the voluntary enrollment of agricultural lands and uses parcels into the Open Space Tax Program and the Voluntary Stewardship Program;
K. To implement the policies and guidelines of the Washington State Growth Management Act for agricultural uses and lands; and
L. To carry out the goals and policies of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan (1994), as amended, for agricultural uses and lands.

B. Section 17.15.110 TCC shall be added to Chapter 17.15 to specify that this chapter only applies to agricultural activities and reads as follows:

17.15.110 Applicability.
A. This chapter shall apply to agricultural lands and uses as defined as “Agricultural Activities” in the Growth Management Act, as amended (RCW 36.70A.703).
B. The Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24) applies to all other uses, structures, and lands.
C. State and federal laws may also apply to activities allowed or not regulated by this chapter. It is the property owners’ responsibility to ensure compliance with other state and federal requirements for activities allowed under this chapter.

D. Agricultural Activities in a special flood hazard area as defined in chapter 14.38 TCC that would be defined as development in chapter 14.38 TCC may need further habitat assessment as required by chapter 14.38 TCC to ensure compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

C. Section 17.15.115 TCC shall be created and read as follows:

17.15.115 Chapter name.
This chapter shall be known as the Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance.

D. Section 17.15.200 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.200 Definitions – Critical areas, categories and terms.

“Department” when used by itself in this title means the resource stewardship department, unless otherwise indicated in the specific section.

"Review authority" means the director of the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department, or his/her designee, for administrative permits and the hearings examiner for proposals requiring a public hearing.

E. Section 17.15.300 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.300 - Review standards—Purpose.
It is the policy of Thurston County to accomplish the following:

A. To review agricultural uses and developments which lie within a critical area, or its buffer;

B. To minimize the delays associated with multiple development reviews; and

C. To assist property owners in using developing their property for agricultural uses consistent with this chapter by promoting the use of innovative land use techniques such as the Voluntary Stewardship Program.
F. Section 17.15.305 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.305 - Review standards—General review requirements.
A. No action shall be undertaken by any person which results in any alteration of a critical area except in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

B. Those agricultural uses or activities listed in Tables 2 and 5 are allowed in a critical area or its buffer only if:
   1. The agricultural use or activity is in compliance with all requirements of this chapter including Tables 2 and 5; and
   2. The agricultural use or activity is in compliance with all other applicable provisions of the Thurston County Code (TCC).

C. Agricultural activities listed in Tables 2 and 5 that would be allowed by this chapter may be prohibited by state and federal laws.

G. Section 17.15.310 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.310 - Review standards—Coordination with other permit reviews.
A. This chapter does not require any permit in addition to those otherwise required by county ordinances.

B. The performance standards and other requirements of this chapter shall be applied to agricultural uses and activities as shown in Tables 2 and 5 through any permit review or approval process otherwise required by county ordinances.

C. Agricultural uses and activities in a critical area or buffer for which no permit or approval is required by any other county ordinance remain subject to the performance standards and other requirements of this chapter. However, this chapter does not require any review or approval process for such uses and activities.

D. Thurston County may approve, approve with conditions, or deny any permit application for an agricultural use or activity listed in Tables 2 and 5 in order to comply with the requirements of this chapter.

E. Compliance with this chapter shall be interpreted as meeting the mitigation standards of TCC chapter 17.09 TCC for the purpose of implementing the State Environmental Policy Act—SEPA (chapter 43.21C RCW) for these critical areas.

H. Section 17.15.335 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.335 - Review standards—Calculation of residential density.
A. The use of clustered lot subdivision, described in the Planned Rural Residential Development and the Planned Residential Development chapters of the Thurston County Zoning Code, is strongly encouraged for projects including critical areas.
B. The calculation of the maximum number of dwelling units allowed in a residential development which contains critical areas shall be determined by using the following formulas within the specific geographic regions of unincorporated Thurston County:

1. Within the city of Lacey urban growth area (UGA):
   The maximum number of dwelling units (DU) for a lot or parcel which contains wetlands and wetland buffers shall be equal to:

   \[
   \text{Buffer area in wetland buffer (acres)} \times \text{Dwelling units/acre by zoning} \times \text{Wetland buffer density credit (see Table 1)} \]

   Upland nonbuffer area (acres out of wetland buffer) \times \text{Dwelling units/acre by zoning}

   = Maximum dwelling unit potential

   No density may be transferred from the wetland area, and density may only be transferred within the development proposal site.

2. Within the city of Olympia urban growth area (UGA):

   Total site area (acres) - Landslide hazard areas, streams and its buffer within a ravine and/or wetland (acres) \times \text{Dwelling units/acre by zoning} = Maximum Dwelling unit potential

3. Within the city of Tumwater urban growth area (UGA):

   For the purpose of calculating residential densities for sites containing regulated wetlands and/or wetland buffer areas refer to the density transfer provisions found within each residential zoning category of the Tumwater Urban Growth Area Zoning Ordinance.

4. Within all other unincorporated areas of Thurston County, except as provided for in Subsection (a) below:

   Applicants for a short subdivision, large lot subdivision, preliminary plat, Planned Residential Development or Planned Rural Residential Development shall determine the maximum number of dwelling units allowed on the site by subtracting all submerged land of lakes from the area of the parcel and then applying the allowed zoning density.

   a. Within the Rural Residential Resource One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres (RRR 1/5) and the Rural Residential One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres (RR 1/5) districts, the maximum number of dwelling units allowed in short subdivisions, large lot subdivisions, preliminary plats, Planned Residential Developments and Planned Rural Residential Developments shall be determined by subtracting from the parcel area: documented high groundwater hazard areas, wetlands, marine bluff hazard areas to the top of the bluff and landslide hazard areas (all protected under Chapter 17.15); all rivers, streams and marine shorelines up to the ordinary high water
mark: 100-year floodplains; and submerged land of lakes. (Critical area buffers shall not be subtracted from the parcel for purposes of making the density calculation.) The zoning density will be applied to the remainder of the parcel.

I. Section 17.15.340 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.340 - Review standards—Critical area tracts.
The Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) addresses subdivision of land, planned rural residential development, and planned residential development.

A. The applicant may be required to create a separate critical area tract or tracts containing critical areas or their buffers as defined by this chapter, as a condition of a planned rural residential development, planned residential development, or subdivision (refer to Figure 1).

B. Critical area tract or tracts shall be created by one or both of the following methods:

1. A conservation easement for the protection of native vegetation within a critical area and/or its buffer shall be dedicated to the Thurston County parks department or other public or nonprofit entity (e.g., Land Trust) specified by the review authority; or

2. A deed restriction shall be recorded on the title of all lots containing a critical area tract or tracts created as a condition of this permit.

C. The deed restriction language shall be similar to the following:

NOTE: Before beginning and during the course of any grading, building construction, or other development activity, on a lot or development site subject to restriction and the area of development activity must be fenced or otherwise marked to the satisfaction of Thurston County development services resource stewardship department.

D. Regardless of the method chosen, responsibility for maintaining the tracts shall be held by a homeowners' association, adjacent lot owners, the permit applicant or designee, or other appropriate entity as approved by the review authority.

E. The following note shall appear on the face of all plats, short plats, planned rural residential developments, or other approved site plans containing separate critical area tracts, and shall be recorded on the title of all affected lots:

NOTE: All lots adjoining critical area tracts are responsible for maintenance and protection of the tracts. Maintenance includes insuring that no alterations occur and that all vegetation remains undisturbed unless the express written authorization of the Thurston County resource stewardship development services department has been received.
J. Section 17.15.345 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.345 - Review standards—Access limitations, signs and fencing of critical areas and tracts.

... 

E. The sign shall be worded as follows or with alternative language approved by the review authority.

(Critical Area)
Do Not Disturb
Contact Thurston County Resource Stewardship Development Services Department
Regarding Uses and Restrictions

... 

K. Section 17.15.360 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.360 - Review standards—Bonding.

... 

D. The principal or surety cannot be terminated or cancelled without written release of the bond by the Thurston County development services department or its designee.

... 

L. Section 17.15.365 TCC shall be created and read as follows:

17.15.365 Review Standards - Voluntary stewardship program

A voluntary stewardship program was added to the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.700 to 760) in 2011 for the protection of critical areas in relation to agricultural uses. The intent is to balance productive use of agricultural resource lands and associated regulatory requirements for the protection of critical areas. A program has not been fully developed as of [date of adoption]. Once a voluntary stewardship program county watershed work plan has been developed for Thurston County, a property owner may opt in to participate in the program to protect critical areas. Regulations in chapter 17.15 TCC shall serve as the minimum requirements for agricultural enrolled in the voluntary stewardship program until new regulations are adopted by Thurston County to address the program.

M. Section 17.15.412 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.412 - Administrative actions—Critical area administrative review (CAAR).

A. An application for an agricultural land use, commercial building and grading permits that meets the criteria for categorical exemption from SEPA and that has critical areas
or buffers affecting the project site shall apply for a critical area administrative review (CAAR) on a form provided by the county.

B. CAAR applications shall contain all information necessary to evaluate the proposed activity, its impacts and its compliance with the provisions of this chapter, including any special reports.

C. The review authority shall confirm the nature and type of the critical areas by an on-site inspection and shall evaluate any special reports submitted by consultants who are professionals in the pertinent field.

D. The review authority may condition the activity as necessary to serve the purposes of this chapter.

N. Section 17.15.415 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.415 - Administrative actions—Reasonable use exception.

...  

B. The application for a reasonable use exception and any special reports required by this chapter shall be filed with the Thurston County development services department on a form provided by that department. Along with a recommendation made by the department the application shall be heard by the Thurston County hearing examiner, who shall render a decision on the matter pursuant to TCC chapter 2.06 TCC Notice of the hearing shall be given in the manner required by TCC Section 20.60.020(3).

...  

O. Section 17.15.430 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.430 - Administrative actions—Enforcement.

...  

G. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24) the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 TCC of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (chapter 17.25 TCC of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 TCC of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (title 18 TCC of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or title 14TCC of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).
P. Section 17.15.435 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.435 - Administrative actions—Violations.

D. The enforcement officer for violations of this chapter for civil infraction purposes is the director of the Thurston County development services department or his or her designee.

F. The director of the Thurston County development services department is responsible for assuring county compliance with RCW 7.80.150.

Q. Section 17.15.445 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.445 - Administrative actions—Official maps.

A. The Thurston County development services department shall update and maintain the official critical area maps.

R. Section 17.15.515 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.515 - Aquifer recharge areas—Uses and activities.

A. Those uses and activities listed in Table 2 related to a primary agricultural use are allowed in aquifer recharge areas as set forth in that table. All non-agricultural uses are governed by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24).

B. Those uses and activities listed in Table 2 which involve the use, handling, storing, or generation of hazardous materials may be allowed only when there will be no significant risk to groundwater.

C. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more critical areas are governed by TCC Section 17.15.405.

D. Should conflicts arise between the requirements of TCC Section 17.15.540 and the Northern Thurston County Groundwater Management Plan adopted pursuant to WAC chapter 173-100 WAC, the standards which would produce the more effective controls shall govern.
E. The possession of those materials listed in Table 4 of this chapter, for which "any amount" is listed as the permit amount, is subject to review under this chapter. The possession of other hazardous materials in Table 4 in quantities less than those listed as the permit amount, is not subject to review under this chapter.

S. Section 17.15.520 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.520 - Aquifer recharge areas—Performance standards for allowed uses and activities. The following performance standards apply to those uses and activities in Table 2 related to an agricultural use when carried out within an aquifer recharge area. Where no performance standards have been developed for the uses and activities in Table 2, the review authority shall review projects based upon the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

A. To protect the public health and safety, prevent aquifer contamination, and preserve the groundwater resource for continual beneficial use, uses shall be most limited in those areas which have the highest degree of risk.

B. Agricultural impacts shall be mitigated through implementation of the Northern Thurston County Groundwater Management Plan (1991) as amended, where applicable and Article VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code, the Rules and Regulations Governing Nonpoint Source Pollution. In areas not covered by this plan, the review authority and the health officer shall employ technically sound methods that result in protection from aquifer contamination.

C. Hazardous Materials.

1. Review for presence and containment of hazardous materials shall be performed and conditions set during the Groups A and B permit processes by the health officer and others having expertise and jurisdiction.

2. Persons that possess hazardous materials as defined in TCC Section 17.15.200 shall provide a secondary containment method that will effectively contain all liquid and soluble hazardous materials and that will effectively prevent discharge on-site.

3. Hazardous materials as defined in this chapter, and as defined in the International Fire Code (2009), as amended, Uniform Fire Code (1994), shall be handled in accordance with the standards contained in this chapter, the International Fire Code, Article 80 of the Uniform Fire Code, and applicable state law. At quantities below the permit limits set by the International Fire Code, Uniform Fire Code, these materials shall be used, possessed, stored and disposed of in accordance with the International Fire Code, Uniform Fire Code, Articles V and VI of the Thurston County Sanitary Code and applicable state law. Administrative procedures for coordinated review shall be devised and implemented by the review authority, the health officer, the Thurston County fire marshal, and state agencies that have applicable jurisdiction.
4. Gas powered backup generators are not permitted in recharge areas designated as extreme (Type 1) or high (Type 2) sensitivity unless such site contains a full time residence or is occupied a minimum of eight hours per day, five days a week by employees associated with the facility.

F. Mining, Gravel.
Gravel mining is regulated by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24).

1. The prevention of detrimental impacts on groundwater shall be a primary goal when reviewing or permitting gravel mining activities. Correction or mitigation of groundwater impacts shall be a primary goal in reviewing applications for the expansion of existing gravel mining facilities or when periodic review that has been established in permit conditions.

2. Best management practices as described in Section 20.54.070(21) of the Thurston County Zoning Ordinance and TCC Chapter 17.20 shall be employed. These practices shall be employed until superseded by state law or modified by local action. Performance monitoring shall be included in gravel mining permits.

3. The protection of groundwater shall be given the highest priority in the approval of land uses after cessation of use as a gravel mine.

T. Section 17.15.525 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.525 - Aquifer recharge areas—Consideration of agricultural activities, residential densities, and sewage loading of nonresidential projects.
Any residential density or use or agricultural activity allowed by the current zoning of Thurston County as limited by Table 3, may be approved when the following standards are met:

A. The requirements of chapter 246-272 WAC, the On-Site Sewage Regulations of the Washington State Board of Health;

B. The requirements of Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code;

C. The requirements of chapter 173-200 WAC, the Water Quality Standards for Groundwater of the State of Washington;

D. When the sewage system's performance, including operation and maintenance, is adequately monitored; and

E. When the evidence presented, including that from any hydrogeological report required to be submitted as in TCC Sections 17.15.535 and 17.15.540, and the mitigation of impacts approved by the health officer, indicate that the project will not have a significant adverse impact on groundwater quality.
U. Section 17.15.615 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.615 - Geologic hazard areas—Performance standards for allowed uses and activities. The following performance standards apply only to those existing and ongoing agricultural uses and activities in Table 5 when carried out within a critical area or its buffer. Where no performance standards have been developed for the uses and activities in Table 5, the review authority shall review projects based upon the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

... 

N. Vegetation Removal—Native and Forest Practices.
   1. Within a marine bluff hazard area or its buffer:
      Native vegetation removal is limited and may only occur after review and written permission from the Thurston County development services department and is subject to the standards of TCC Section 17.15.620B1.

... 

V. Section 17.15.625 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.625 - Residential density. For purposes of calculating residential densities within these critical areas the provisions of Section 17.15.335 shall apply.

W. Section 17.15.635 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.635 - Geologic hazard areas—Special report requirements. The following describes the requirements of each special report:
   A. Drainage and Erosion Control Plan.
      1. This plan shall address methods to minimize erosion and contain soil within the project boundaries during construction and to provide for stormwater management from the site and its surroundings during and after construction.
      2. The design standards for this plan are contained in the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County (1994), as amended.
      3. This plan shall be reviewed by the Thurston County development services department.

   ... 

C. Grading Plan.
   1. This plan shall identify the proposed development project including the movement of material on-site along with the proposed and existing contours of the site and cross sections thereof.
2. This report shall be prepared by a civil engineer licensed in the state of Washington.

3. The standards for this report are found in chapter 70 of the Uniform Building Code as amended.

4. This plan shall be reviewed by the Thurston County development services department.

E. Marine Bluff Geotechnical Report.

7. This report shall be reviewed by the review authority and the Thurston County development services department.

X. Section 17.15.705 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.705 - Important habitats and species of Thurston County.
A. The important habitats of Thurston County are identified on Table 8, located at the end of this chapter. These habitats are important to the long-term viability of the important species of Thurston County identified on Table 9 located at the end of this chapter, or are habitats which are unique or rare in Thurston County. The location of these important habitats shall be maintained as part of the Thurston County critical area inventory.

B. The important species of Thurston County are identified on said Table 9. These important species were selected from those State Priority Species which are known to occur in Thurston County. Not included on this table are game species (e.g., elk), or federally protected marine mammals (e.g., harbor seal). The known point locations (such as the den or nest) of these important species shall be maintained as part of the Thurston County critical area inventory and development proposals which lie within six hundred feet of a point location shall be subject to review under this chapter.

C. Implementation of this chapter shall not apply to the following species listed on said Table 9 until such time as management recommendations have been prepared and added to the Management Recommendations for Washington's Priority Habitats and Species (1991). These species include the Mountain Quail, Red Tailed Hawk, Mardon Skipper and Whulge Checkerspot.
Y. Section 17.15.710 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.710 - Important habitats and species—Allowable uses and activities.
A. Those agricultural land uses and activities listed in Table 5 and commercial and industrial uses that are not listed in Table 5 are allowed in important habitat areas or within six hundred feet of a mapped point location of an important species as set forth in that table and subject to the performance standards set forth in TCC Section 17.15.715.

B. All other agricultural land uses and activities not allowed pursuant to subsection A, above, are prohibited.

C. Differences in critical areas regulations for agricultural uses because of the overlap of two or more critical areas are governed by TCC Section 17.15.405.

Z. Section 17.15.725 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.725 - Residential density.
For the purpose of calculating residential densities within these critical areas the provisions of Section 17.15.335 shall apply.

AA. Section 17.15.805 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.805 - Special management areas—Designation.
Special management areas shall be designated for the following geographic areas:
A. Summit Lake;
AB. Nisqually hillside overlay;
C. Noxious weed containment areas;
BD. Wellhead protection areas;
CE. High ground water flood hazard areas.

AB. Section 17.15.815 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.815 - Special management areas—Summit Lake map.
The Summit Lake special management area shall include all lands which drain into Summit Lake and are so located on the map entitled "Summit Lake Watershed." A copy of this map shall be on file with the Thurston County development services department and a reduced copy is attached as Figure 7. This map shall indicate the location of "shoreline lots" and "upland lots," both of which must abut Summit Lake Shore Road.

AC. Section 17.15.820 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.820 - Special management areas—Summit Lake standards.
"Garages" as defined by the Uniform Building Code (1994), as amended, may be constructed on upland lots identified on Figure 7 within the Summit Lake special management area subject to the following standards:
A. The upland lot must be owned by a person who also owns a shoreline lot identified in Figure 7 and must have a residence on it.

B. In the case of a single-family residence the garage shall be a single structure, one story in height and no greater than one thousand eight hundred square feet in size. In the case of a multifamily residence it shall also be a single structure, one story in height and limited to five hundred square feet per multifamily unit.

C. Uses within the garages shall be limited to those allowed by the Uniform Building Code, with the following uses expressly prohibited:
   1. Separate living unit;
   2. Family member unit;
   3. Home occupation; and
   4. Home based industry.

D. All garages constructed on upland lots which lie directly across the road from the shoreline lot in common ownership or within one upland lot on either side shall meet the setback standards of the underlying zone (refer to Figure 8).

E. Garages constructed on any other upland lot shall meet the following standards:
   1. Hold a public hearing for a special use permit pursuant to Chapter 20.54 of the Thurston County Zoning Code; and
   2. The standards for garages with a site plan review shall be as follows:
      a. Meet the setback standards of the underlying zone,
      b. Provide buffers of native vegetation (either existing or replanted) of thirty feet along the front property line and twenty feet along the side property line, with this buffer to be located on the upland lot and not within the right-of-way (refer to Figure 9), and
      c. Be compatible in design, color, shape, landscaping and size to surrounding upland garages or residences within one-fourth mile.

F. A covenant shall be recorded with the titles of both the shoreline lot and the upland lot, prohibiting the sale of either lot separately. This covenant shall be substantially in the same form as Appendix D. This covenant will be released by the Thurston County development services department when:
   1. The upland garage is demolished; or
   2. The upland garage site has a contract to be sold for new residence and a building permit is part of the transaction; or
3. The upland garage site is sold to another Summit Lake shoreline lot owner subject to the following standards and a new covenant is filed for those properties:

   a. Those upland lots described in TCC Section 17.15.820D above, may only be sold to a property owner for whom it would also meet those standards (refer to Figure 10); and

   b. Those upland lots described in TCC Section 17.15.820E above, may be sold to any other Summit Lake shoreline lot owner.

AD. Section 17.15.825 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.825 - Special management areas—Nisqually Hillside overlay map.
A. This area is located on the map entitled "Nisqually Land Use Categories and Zoning Districts," a copy of which shall be on file with the Thurston County development services department.

B. This overlay district shall extend from the toe of McAllister Bluff to a point two hundred feet westerly of the top of McAllister Bluff. The top of McAllister Bluff is so noted on the aforementioned map as "Bluff Line" and lies to the west of McAllister Creek.

C. The criteria to field locate the top of McAllister Bluff is a distinct topographic break in the slope less than thirty percent and at least fifteen feet wide which is verified by the Thurston County development services department.

AE. Section 17.15.830 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.830 - Nisqually Hillside overlay standards.
Any development permit for an agricultural activity within the aforementioned area shall be subject to the following standards:

A. Residential development within this overlay district is prohibited, however, the number of dwelling units, as calculated by the underlying residential zone (one unit per five acres), may be clustered on that portion of the lot not within this overlay district or transferred to an adjacent parcel. No fractional units will be created in this calculation unless the parcel size is less than five acres.

B. The western two hundred feet of the Nisqually Hillside Overlay District is a buffer measured from the top of McAllister Bluff except that portion of the bluff between I-5 and Martin Way which shall be fifty feet.

C. Some flexibility from subsection B above will be provided for areas of preexisting development along the bluff. These areas include lots less than one acre in size, undeveloped lots in a subdivision, and the portion of the slope between Martin Way and I-5. In those locations the buffer from McAllister Bluff shall be at least fifty feet wide,
with the exact location on the bluff determined on a case by case basis through an
administrative site plan review process. This buffer width must protect the stability of the
bluff and maintain the visual integrity of the hillside.

AF. Section 17.15.835 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.835—Noxious weed containment area—Boundary.
The boundary of any noxious weed containment area shall be established by the Thurston
County noxious weed control board and shall be part of the yearly adoption of the Pest and
Vegetation Management Policy (1993) as amended. When it is necessary to add or amend this
boundary within the year, such additions or amendments will be made in a public hearing before
the noxious weed control board.

AG. Section 17.15.840 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.840—Noxious weed containment area—Target species.
Special containment areas shall be adopted for the following target species:
A. Gorse (Ulex Europaeus);
B. Purple and Wand Loosestrife (Lythrum Salicaria and Lythrum Virgatum); and
C. Italian and Slenderflower Thistle (Carduus Pycnoephalus and Carduus Tenuiflorous).

AH. Section 17.15.845 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.845—Noxious weed containment area—Management standards.
A. Group A and B permits within a noxious weed containment area shall be reviewed by the
Thurston County noxious weed control agency.
B. Conditions may be added to the permit which will lead to the eventual eradication of the
target species infestation.
C. Removal of soil from the site is prohibited.
D. All equipment to be used in the infestation area shall be cleaned before entering the
county.
E. All equipment used within the infestation area shall be thoroughly cleaned prior to
leaving the site.
F. The proposed means of vegetation disposal from the site shall be identified.
G. An approved disposal option would be to place all vegetation in double plastic bags, tied
securely and transported to the Thurston County landfill for burial. Extreme care must be
taken to assure that the bags are not ripped or torn in such handling.
AI. Section 17.15.850 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.850 - Special management areas—Wellhead protection areas map.
The requirements of Sections TCC 17.15.855, 17.15.856 and 17.15.857 shall apply to agricultural uses and lands within the one, five and ten year time of travel zones of those wellhead protection areas depicted on the map entitled "Designated Wellhead Protection Areas." A copy of this map shall be on file with the Thurston County development services department. Refer to Figures 30 and 31 for a general location of these designated areas.

AJ. Section 17.15.855 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.855 - Special management areas—Wellhead protection area standards.
The following standards shall apply to new agricultural land uses proposed to be located within the designated wellhead protection areas defined in Section TCC 17.15.850.

A. The following uses shall be prohibited within the designated one-year time of travel zone:
1. Land spreading disposal facilities (as defined by WAC chapters 173-304 and WAC 173-308 WAC, disposal above agronomic rates);
2. Agricultural operations with over two hundred animal units. For purposes of this section, one animal unit is the equivalent number of livestock and/or poultry as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service Animal Waste Field Handbook; and
3. Gas stations, petroleum products refinement, reprocessing, and storage (except underground storage of heating oil or agricultural fueling in quantities less than one thousand one hundred gallons for consumptive use on the parcel where stored), and liquid petroleum products pipelines;
4. Automobile wrecking yards;
5. Wood waste landfills; and
6. Dry cleaners, excluding drop-off only facilities.

B. The following uses shall be prohibited within the designated one, five and ten year time of travel zones:
1. Landfills (municipal sanitary solid waste and hazardous waste);
12. Hazardous waste transfer, storage and disposal facilities;
23. Wood and wood products preserving; and
34. Chemical manufacturing.

...
AK. Section 17.15.856 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**17.15.856 - Special management areas—Wellhead protection area standards for expansion of existing uses.**
The following shall apply to expansion of agricultural use of facilities located within the designated wellhead protection areas defined in Section TCC 17.15.850.

A. Expansion of the following uses will be prohibited within the designated one year time of travel zone:
   1. Land spreading disposal facilities (as defined by WAC chapters 173-304 and WAC 173-308, disposal above agronomic rates);
   2. Gas stations (fuel related uses), petroleum products refinement, reprocessing, and storage (except underground storage of heating oil or agricultural fueling in quantities less than one thousand one hundred gallons for consumptive use on the parcel where stored), and liquid petroleum products pipelines; and
   3. Automobile wrecking yards;
   4. Wood waste landfills; and
   5. Dry cleaners, excluding drop off only facilities.

36. Agricultural operations with less than two hundred animal units cannot expand to over two hundred animal units. For purposes of this section, one animal unit is the equivalent number of livestock and/or poultry as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service Animal Waste Field Handbook.

B. Expansion of the following uses related to an agricultural use shall be prohibited within the designated one, five and ten year time of travel zones:
   1. Landfills (municipal sanitary solid waste and hazardous waste);
   12. Hazardous waste transfer, storage and disposal facilities; and
   23. Wood and wood products preserving; and

...
AL. Section 17.15.860 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.860 - Special management areas—High ground water flood hazard areas resource map.
The requirements of Section TCC 17.15.865 shall apply to lands depicted on the resource map entitled "High Ground Water Flood Hazard Areas Resource Map." A copy of this map shall be on file with the Thurston County development services department.

AM. Section 17.15.925 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.925 - Floodplains, Streams, and wetlands—Allowable uses and activities within floodplains, streams, wetlands, and their buffers.
A. Those agricultural land uses and activities listed in Table 5 are allowed in floodplains, streams, wetlands or their buffers as set forth in that table and subject to the performance standards set forth in TCC Section 17.15.930.

B. All other land uses and activities not allowed pursuant to Table 5 are prohibited.

C. Differences in regulations because of the overlap of two or more critical areas are governed by TCC Section 17.15.405.

D. Agriculture uses and lands must meet the requirements of chapter 14.38 TCC.

AN. Section 17.15.930 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.15.930 - Floodplains, streams, and wetlands—Performance standards for allowed uses and activities.
The following performance standards apply to those agricultural uses and activities in Table 5 when carried out within a critical area or its buffer. Where no performance standards have been developed for the uses and activities in Table 5 the review authority shall review projects based upon the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

...
2. An intensification of use is permitted provided that the use is contained within the existing structure, or area that has been used, and is not different in kind from the existing nonconforming use.

3. Alteration, repair and maintenance of a nonconforming, nonresidential structure is permitted within the current building footprint.

H. Pier. Refer to the "General Regulations" and specific "Environmental Designation and Regulations" for "IV. Boating Facilities" contained within the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), as amended.

Gl. Agricultural Access Road/Street—Repair and Maintenance. Refer to "Agricultural Access Road/Street—New Agricultural Access Road Facility."

J. Road/Street—Expand Within Existing Right-of-Way. Refer to "Road/Street—New Facility."

HK. Agricultural Access Road/Street—New Agricultural Access Road Facility. Crossings of streams, wetlands, or floodplains shall be avoided to the extent possible. Crossings shall follow all applicable local, state, and federal laws and the following criteria:

1. Crossings or new facilities shall be located, if possible, in the buffers of streams or wetlands, rather than within this area;

2. Bridges are preferred for Type 1, 2 and 3 streams and Class I wetlands. For other streams or wetlands, the most suitable type of new crossing shall be determined on a case by case basis;

3. Crossings using culverts shall use superspan or oversize culverts;

4. Crossings shall be constructed and installed during summer low flow between June 15th and September 15th;

5. Crossings shall not occur in salmonid spawning areas unless no other feasible crossing site exists;

6. Bridge piers or abutments shall not be placed in either the floodway or between the ordinary high water marks unless no other feasible alternative placement exists;

7. Crossings shall minimize the potential for creating a dam in the floodplain and public road crossings may not increase the floodway elevation more than one foot immediately upstream of a crossing;

8. Crossings shall provide for maintenance of culverts, bridges, and utilities;
9. Crossings shall serve multiple properties whenever possible; and

10. Crossings of critical areas allowed by the state through a Forest Practices Permit which do not meet the requirements of this chapter, shall be removed and that area restored as a condition of the development proposal.


M. Shoreline Access—Stair Tower, Stairway, and Mechanical Lift. Refer to the "General Regulations" and specific "Environmental Designation and Regulations" for "XVI. Residential Development" contained within the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), as amended.

N. Shoreline Access—Boat Ramp, Vehicle Access or Marine Railway. Refer to the "General Regulations" and specific "Environmental Designation and Regulations" for "IV. Boating Facilities, X. Recreation, XVI. Residential Development, and XVII. Road and Railroad Design and Construction" contained within the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), as amended.

JQ. Shoreline Protective Structures—Nonstructural Techniques or Bioengineering. The preferred methodology for stream channel and bank stabilization is bioengineering or some combination of bioengineering and more traditional structural solutions. Bioengineering involves use of plant materials to stabilize eroding stream channels and banks.

JP. Shoreline Protective Structures—Structural Techniques (Bulkhead, Gabion, Riprap or Wall).

1. Structural techniques are prohibited from use with streams and wetlands when a nonstructural technique or bioengineering is available.

2. Structural techniques may be allowed as a part of another use or activity listed on Table 5. For example, riprap may be part of a new bridge and so refer to "Agricultural Access Road/Street—New Agricultural Access Road/Street Facility."


1. In the one hundred year floodplain, a new single family residence may be constructed on a lot created in a subdivision if:

   a. A complete application for preliminary approval of the subdivision was submitted before February 1, 1994; and
b. A complete application for a building permit for the residence was either submitted before February 1, 1994 or within five years of the filing of the final plat.

2. All other construction of new residences in the one hundred year floodplain is prohibited.

3. For purposes of this subsection, "subdivision" includes subdivisions, short subdivisions, and large lot subdivisions as defined in Chapter 18.08 TCC.

R. Single-Family Residence—Access Road. Construction of a private access road to serve one single-family residence shall be allowed provided an alternative location outside the wetland is not reasonable and the fill on which the road is placed is the minimum dimensions possible.

S. Single-Family Residence—Alteration or Expansion of a Nonconforming Residence.

1. Alteration, repair and maintenance of a nonconforming residence is allowed within the existing building footprint, which includes attached decks, porches, or patios.

2. No expansion of the nonconforming portion of the structure is allowed.

3. If only a portion of the structure is nonconforming (e.g., lies within a critical area or required buffer), expansion of the conforming portion of the structure is permitted provided the expansion does not extend into the critical area or required buffer.

4. Enclosing existing, nonconforming decks, porches, or patios for use as livable space is not permitted, unless the deck, porch, or patio is already covered by an existing, permanent roof structure as determined by the approval authority.

5. Vertical addition to a nonconforming residence or nonconforming portion of a residence is allowed up to current height regulations provided the addition is not cantilevered to extend beyond the existing footprint of the residence into the critical area and/or buffer.


1. Replacement of a nonconforming residence would be prohibited if located within the shoreline management jurisdiction pursuant to the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region (1990), as amended.

2. The replacement of a damaged or destroyed nonconforming residence may be allowed pursuant to Section 20.56.050 of this code, as amended.
3. Replacement of a nonconforming, residential structure (excluding those described in subsections (T)(1) and (T)(2) of this section and subsection (T)(4) of this section) is not permitted unless no buildable area exists on the property outside the critical area and/or buffer, as determined through an administrative variance under section 17.15.420, and then a replacement would only be allowed within the existing building footprint. Replaced structures must conform to all the requirements of this chapter.

4. A mobile or manufactured home with nonconforming placement may be replaced with a new or improved mobile or manufactured home, subject to the requirements of this subsection, this chapter, and other applicable county ordinances.

KU. Stormwater—Private Retention/Detention Facility for an agricultural activity.

1. New surface water discharges to wetlands from temporary sediment control ponds, retention/detention facilities, or other surface water management structures may be allowed provided that the discharge complies with the provisions of the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County (2009), as amended.

2. Use of buffers for stormwater facilities shall be limited to the upper twenty-five percent of the buffer and may be allowed only if the applicant demonstrates:
   a. No practicable alternative exists:
   b. The facility does not exceed twenty-five percent of the buffer on site; and
   c. The functions of the buffer and either the stream or wetland are not adversely impacted (refer to Figure 21).

V. Stormwater, Regional Retention/Detention Facility. New surface water discharges to wetlands from temporary sediment control ponds, retention/detention facilities, or other surface water management structures may be allowed provided that the discharge complies with the provisions of the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County (1994), as amended.

LW. Stormwater—Temporary Agricultural Activity Erosion Control Pond. Refer to "Stormwater—Private Retention/Detention Facility for an agricultural activity."

MX. Stream Enhancement. Enhancement of streams on agricultural lands may be allowed in order to enhance stream function, as determined by the city and any state agency with jurisdiction. Such enhancement shall be performed under a plan for the design, implementation, maintenance and monitoring of the project approved by a civil engineer and a qualified biologist, and shall be carried out under the direct supervision of a qualified biologist.
Stream Relocation. No stream on agricultural land shall be relocated without a state permit and unless the replacement stream channel provides an increase of in-stream fisheries resources, equal or better level of floodplain protection, and the following minimum performance standards:

1. The natural channel dimensions shall be replicated including substantially identical depth, width, length and gradient at the original location and the original horizontal alignment (meander lengths) shall be replaced:

2. The bottom shall be restored with identical or similar materials;

3. The bank and buffer configuration shall be restored to the original conditions;

4. The channel, bank and buffer areas shall be replanted with native vegetation which replicates the original in species, size and densities; and

5. The original habitat value shall be recreated.

Trails and Trail-Related Facilities. Public and private trails and trail-related facilities on lands with agricultural activities, such as picnic tables, benches, interpretive centers and signs, viewing platforms, and campsites, may be allowed, and the use of impervious surfaces shall be minimized. Trails and trail related facilities may only be authorized within wetlands and streams when the review authority determines that there is no practicable or reasonable upland alternative. Trail planning, construction, and maintenance shall adhere to the following additional criteria:

1. Trails and related facilities shall, to the extent feasible, be placed on existing levies, road grades, utility corridors, or any other previously disturbed areas;

2. Trails and related facilities shall be planned to minimize removal of trees, shrubs, snags and important wildlife habitat;

3. Trail construction and maintenance should utilize the U.S. Forest Service "Trails Management Handbook" (FSH 2309.18, June 1987) and "Standard Specifications for Construction of Trails" (EM-7720-102, June 1984) or similar standards;

4. Viewing platforms, interpretive centers, campsites, picnic areas, benches and access to them shall be designed and located to minimize disturbance;

5. Trails and related facilities shall provide water quality protection measures to assure that runoff from them does not directly discharge to wetlands or streams;

6. Within the buffer, trails and trail related facilities shall be aligned and constructed to minimize disturbance to stream and wetland functions and values, and
7. Native vegetation disturbed by trail construction shall be salvaged and replanted along the trail and other disturbed areas to the extent possible.

**PAA.** Utility Transmission Lines for agricultural activities. Underground utility transmission lines for agricultural activities should be avoided within critical areas, but the review authority may allow underground utility lines within these areas when he/she determines that there are no practicable upland alternatives. The no practicable alternative requirement shall be waived when the utility line is consolidated with a road crossing or parallels another utility's existing crossing.

Utility corridor alignment, construction, restoration, and maintenance shall adhere to the following additional criteria:

1. Corridor alignment shall follow a path of least impact to the functions of critical areas;

2. Corridor construction and maintenance shall maintain and protect the hydrologic and hydraulic functions of streams and wetlands and the stability of ravine sidewalls and landslide hazard areas;

3. Corridor alignment, may in rare occasions include maintenance roads, provided they can be justified as necessary and located in the least impactive location of the outer half of the buffer;

4. Corridor construction and maintenance shall protect the critical area and its buffers and shall be aligned to avoid cutting trees greater than twelve inches in diameter at breast height when possible and shall not use pesticides, herbicides or other hazardous or toxic substances;

5. Corridors shall require an additional, adjacent, undisturbed buffer width equal to the proposed corridor width including any allowed maintenance roads;

6. Corridors shall be revegetated with appropriate native vegetation salvaged from the construction corridor and at preconstruction densities immediately upon completion of construction or as soon thereafter as possible, and shall ensure that such vegetation survives; and

7. Any additional corridor access for maintenance shall be provided as much as possible at specific points rather than by parallel roads. If parallel roads are necessary they shall not be greater than fifteen feet; shall be maintained without the use of herbicides, pesticides or other hazardous or toxic substances; and shall be contiguous to the location of the utility corridor on the side away from the stream or wetland.
QBB. Vegetation Management for Agricultural Activities—Aquatic Weeds. All aquatic vegetation management shall be conducted pursuant to the "Pest and Vegetation Management Policy" (1993), as amended.

REC. Vegetation Removal for Agricultural Activities—Native and Forest Practices. Native vegetation removal along streams, within wetlands, and the buffers of both shall be prohibited except as provided in the following:

1. These areas may be maintained to promote native vegetation;

2. Removal of vegetation for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing a wetland or buffer area is limited to removal of invasive plant species only and is allowed provided that the removal does not adversely affect the function of the wetland. The goal of invasive species control must be to enhance the diversity of the native plant species in the wetland or buffer area. It shall be allowed for all nonnative species and the following native species:

   a. Common cattail (Typha latifolia), and
   b. Douglas spirea (Spirea douglasii).

The method of removal shall be approved in writing by Thurston County development services the department;

... 4. Wetland tree cutting is only allowed for danger trees as defined by this chapter. Danger tree removal in wetlands shall be mitigated as required by this chapter. At minimum, mitigation shall include replacement with native tree species at a ratio of 3:1 for each tree removed. The replacement trees shall have a minimum fifteen gallon pot size, a height of four feet, and be three years old. Additional mitigation may be required based upon site specific conditions, habitat type and wetland functions as determined by the development services department.

...

AO. Section 17.15.945 TCC shall be removed:

17.15.945—Residential density. For the purpose of calculating residential densities within these critical areas the provisions of Section 17.15.335 shall apply.
AP. Section 17.15.1005 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**17.15.1005 - Floodplains, streams, and wetlands—Special reports requirements.** The following describes the requirements of each special report:

... 

C. Grading Plan. 

1. This plan shall identify the proposed development project including the movement of material on-site along with the proposed and existing contours of the site, and cross sections thereof.

2. This report shall be prepared by a civil engineer licensed in the state of Washington.

3. The standards for this report are found in chapter 70 of the Uniform Building Code as amended.

4. This plan shall be reviewed by the Thurston County development services department.

AQ. The table list shall be amended to read as follows:

**TABLES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 4</th>
<th>Wetland Buffer Density credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table 2</td>
<td>Uses and Activities Within Aquifer Recharge Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 3</td>
<td>Standards for Subdivisions, Multifamily Residential and Nonresidential Projects Using On-Site Sewage Disposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 4</td>
<td>Repealed by Ordinance 11200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 5</td>
<td>Uses and Activities Within Critical Areas and Their Buffers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 6</td>
<td>Landslide Soils of Thurston County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 7</td>
<td>Critical Facilities for Thurston County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 8</td>
<td>Important Habitats of Thurston County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 9</td>
<td>Important Species of Thurston County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 9.5</td>
<td>Critical Areas Ordinance High Ground Water Flood Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 10</td>
<td>Standard Wetland Buffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 11</td>
<td>Wetland Replacement and Enhancement Ratios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 12</td>
<td>Hydric Soils of Thurston County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AR. Table 1 – Wetland Buffer Density Credit shall be removed:

Table 1—Wetland Buffer Density Credit
(Note: Only for county lands within the Lacey UGA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Site in Buffers</th>
<th>Density Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11—20%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21—30%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31—40%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41—50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51—60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61—70%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71—80%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81—90%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91—99%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AS. Table 2 – Uses and Activities Within Aquifer Recharger Areas shall be amended to read as follows:

Table 2—Uses and Activities Within Aquifer Recharge Areas

The Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24) governs nonagricultural uses and activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGRICULTURAL USES AND ACTIVITIES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO THE STANDARDS OF THIS CHAPTER</th>
<th>On Sewer</th>
<th>Not On Sewer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Biological research</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Boat repair</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Chemical manufacturing</td>
<td>X/S</td>
<td>X/S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Chemical mixing and remanufacturing</td>
<td>X/S</td>
<td>X/S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Chemical research</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Chemical waste reprocessing</td>
<td>X/S</td>
<td>X/S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Dry cleaning (not clothing pick-up)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Electroplating</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Fuel pipelines</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Furniture stripping</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Garages—municipal, county, state</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Landfill—demolition</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Landfill—municipal sanitary</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Landfill—wood waste</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Metal processing with etchers and chemicals</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Mining—coal and hard rock</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Mining—gravel</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Pier foundations</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3—Standards for Subdivisions, Multifamily Residential and Nonresidential Agricultural Activities Projects Using On-Site Sewage Disposal

The Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance governs nonagricultural uses and subdivisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural Activity</th>
<th>Dwelling Unit Density, Dwelling Units per Unit Area, or Volume Equivalent</th>
<th>Report Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aquifer Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit or less per 5.0 acres or larger</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 2.0 to 4.99 acres</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 1.0 to 1.99 acres</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 0.5 to 0.99 acre</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than one unit per 0.49 acre</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

X = Not permitted, prohibited by state law
Y = Hydrogeological report required
* = Hydrogeological report required in areas of known water quality degradation
- = Hydrogeological report not required
MPR = Major project review as required by Section 8.6 of Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code

---

### AT. Table 3

AT. Table 3 - Standards for Subdivisions, Multifamily Residential and Nonresidential Projects Using On-Site Sewage Disposal shall be amended to read as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Dwelling Unit Density, Dwelling Units per Unit Area, or Volume Equivalent</th>
<th>Report Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aquifer Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit or less per 5.0 acres or larger</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 2.0 to 4.99 acres</td>
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<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 1.0 to 1.99 acres</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One unit per 0.5 to 0.99 acre</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than one unit per 0.49 acre</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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- = Hydrogeological report not required
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AU. Table 5 – Uses and Activities Within Critical Areas and Their Buffers shall be amended to read as follows:

**Table 5—Agricultural Uses and Activities Within Critical Areas and Their Buffers**

The Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance governs nonagricultural uses and subdivisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landslide Hazards</th>
<th>Marine Bluff Hazard</th>
<th>Important Habitats and Species</th>
<th>Floodplains: 100-year and Nonfloodway a</th>
<th>Floodways and Volcanic Hazards</th>
<th>Streams</th>
<th>Wetland Class I</th>
<th>Wetland Class II</th>
<th>Wetland Class III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural Uses and Activities Permitted Without County Review under this Chapter</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Agriculture—existing and ongoing</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Agricultural—ditch maintenance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Open space—(critical area tract)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Research—(education, scientific, and site investigation)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Agricultural Access Road/street—repair and maintenance</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Utility—existing and ongoing, and installation in improved roads and utility corridors</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Wildlife—blind or nesting structure</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural Uses and Activities Subject to Critical Areas Review under this Chapter</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Agricultural—access road</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Agricultural—building</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Agricultural—ponds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Agricultural—wetland conversion</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Beaver pond—removal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Critical facilities—see Table 7</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
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- c = Permitted only as allowed in the performance standards, otherwise prohibited.
- z = Permitted only at the toe of the slope, otherwise prohibited.
- * = May be subject to habitat assessment under chapter 14.38 TCC Flood Hazard Mitigation.
Table 5—Agricultural Uses and Activities Within Critical Areas and Their Buffers (Cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses and Activities Subject to Critical Areas Review under this Chapter (Cont.)</th>
<th>Landslide Hazards</th>
<th>Marine Bluff Hazards</th>
<th>Important Habitats and Species</th>
<th>Floodplains: 100-year and Nonfloodway *</th>
<th>Floodways and Volcanic Hazards</th>
<th>Streams</th>
<th>Wetland Class I</th>
<th>Wetland Class II</th>
<th>Wetland Class III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15. Drainage ditch maintenance—active district</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Drainage ditch maintenance—private</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Emergency—temporary authorization</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Fill—(not a part of another use or activity listed on this table)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Fish hatchery</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Float—(floating dock, mooring buoy, navigational aid, and swimming float)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Golf course</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Mineral extraction</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Nonconforming use—expansion of</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Site—mitigation, restoration or revegetation</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S*</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Outdoor recreation activities—(bird watching, nonmotorized boating, bicycling, canoeing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, jogging, photography, swimming, and similar activities)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Parks—(public parks, private parks, camping sites, and day camps)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Path: See &quot;Shoreline Access&quot; or &quot;Trails&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Pier</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Ponds—private &lt;1 acre</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Wetland Class III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29. Public facility and not a school</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Public project of significant importance</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Radio/TV towers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Road/street— expansion of existing corridor</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Road/street—New facilities</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2334. Shoreline access—pedestrian path or hand launch boat site</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2435. Shoreline access—stair tower, stairway or mechanical lift to access agricultural activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2536. Shoreline access—boat ramp, vehicle access or marine railway to access agricultural activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2637. Shoreline protective structures for agricultural activities—nonstructural techniques or bioengineering</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2738. Shoreline protective structures for agricultural activities—structural techniques (bulkhead, gabion, riprap, or wall)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Single family—residence, appurtenant structures, boathouse, deck and garage</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Single family residence—access road</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Single family residence—alteration to nonconforming residence</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

- **P** = Permitted without county review under this chapter.  
- **S** = Subject to review under this chapter.  
- **SP** = State permit subject to the standards and requirements of this chapter.  
- **V** = Verbal authorization required from planning director.  
- **X** = Prohibited.  
- **a** = Permitted only within a long-term and Nisqually agriculture districts, otherwise prohibited.  
- **b** = Permitted only within the buffer, otherwise prohibited.  
- **c** = Permitted only as allowed in the performance standards, otherwise prohibited.  
- **P** = Permitted only at the toe of the slope, otherwise prohibited  
- **=** Not applicable.

---

**May be subject to habitat assessment under chapter 14.38 TCC Flood Hazard Mitigation**
Table 5—Agricultural Uses and Activities Within Critical Areas and Their Buffers (Cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses and Activities Subject to Critical Areas Review under this Chapter (Cont.)</th>
<th>Landslide Hazards</th>
<th>Marine Bluff Hazards</th>
<th>Important Habitats and Species</th>
<th>Floodplains: 100-year and Nonfloodway</th>
<th>Floodways and Volcanic Hazards</th>
<th>Streams</th>
<th>Wetland Class I</th>
<th>Wetland Class II</th>
<th>Wetland Class III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>42. Single family residence—replacement of nonconforming residence</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Single family residence—septic drainfield</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>Sb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. Single family residence—water well/pump house</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>Sb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. Ski lake</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>284.6. Slope stabilization or retaining wall to protect agricultural activities (not a bulkhead)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>294.7. Stormwater—private retention and detention facility for agricultural activities</td>
<td>Sb&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Sb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. Stormwater—regional retention and detention facility</td>
<td>Sb&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3049. Stormwater—temporary sediment control ponds for agricultural activities</td>
<td>Sb&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sb</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3150. Stream—enhancement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3254. Stream—relocation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. Trails—(access, elevated walkway, interpretative site, path, and viewing platform)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53. Utility—facility</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54. Utility transmission lines</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3355. Vegetation management—aquatic weeds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3456. Vegetation removal—native and forest practices</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57. Wireless communication facilities</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

- **P** = Permitted without county review under this chapter.
- **S** = Subject to review under this chapter.
- **SP** = State permit subject to the standards and requirements of this chapter.
- **V** = Verbal authorization required from planning director.
- **X** = Prohibited.
- **=** Not applicable.
- **( )** = Includes those uses and activities as examples.
AV. Table 6—Landslide Soils of Thurston County shall be amended to read as follows:

Table 6—Landslide Soils of Thurston County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Symbol</th>
<th>Map Unit Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Baldhill very stony sandy loam, 30 to 60% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Baumgard loam, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Baumgard-Pheeney complex, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Baumgard-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bunker gravelly silt loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Bunker-Boistfort complex, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Centralia silt loam, 30 to 60% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Dystric Xerochrepts, 60 to 90% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Jonas silt loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Katula very cobbly loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Lates silt loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Mal clay loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Mashel loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Melbourne silty clay loam, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Pheeney-Baumgard complex, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Pheeney-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Pheeney-Rock outcrop complex, 65 to 90% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Rainier clay loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Raught silt loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Rock outcrop-Pheeney complex, 40 to 90% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Schneider very gravelly loam, 40 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td>Tenino gravelly loam, 30 to 60% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Vailton silt loam, 30 to 65% slopes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Soil Survey of Thurston County, Washington as amended (1990)
AW. Table 7 — Critical Facilities for Thurston County shall be amended to read as follows:

**Table 7—Critical Facilities for Thurston County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupancy Categories</th>
<th>Occupancy Type or Functions of Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Essential Facilities</strong></td>
<td>Hospitals and other medical facilities having surgery and emergency treatment areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fire and police stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tanks or other structures containing, housing or supporting water or other fire suppression materials or equipment required for the protection of essential or hazardous facilities, or special occupancy structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emergency vehicle shelters and garages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Structures and equipment in emergency-preparedness centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stand-by power generating equipment for essential facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Structures and equipment in government communication centers and other facilities required for emergency response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Hazardous Facilities</strong></td>
<td>Structures housing, supporting, or containing sufficient quantities of toxic or explosive substances to be dangerous to the safety of the general public if released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Special Occupancy Structure</strong></td>
<td>Covered structures whose primary occupancy is public assembly—capacity &gt; 300 persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building for schools through secondary or day-care centers—capacity &gt; 250 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings for colleges or adult education schools—capacity &gt; 500 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical facilities with 50 or more residential incapacitated patients, but not included above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jails and detention facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All structures with occupancy &gt; 5,000 persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Structures and equipment in power generating stations and other public utility facilities not included above, and required for continued operation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AX. Table 12 – Hydric Soils of Thurston County shall be amended to read as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP SYMBOL</th>
<th>SOIL UNIT NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bellingham silty clay loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Dupont muck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Everson clay loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Godfrey silty clay loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Hydreaquents, Tidal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>McKenna gravelly silt loam, 0 to 5% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Mukilteo muck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Mukilteo muck, drained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Norma fine sandy loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Norma silt loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>Puget silt loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Riverwash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Scamman silty clay loam, 0 to 5% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Scamman silty clay loam, 5 to 20% slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Semiahmoo muck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Shalcar muck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Shalcar variant muck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>Tacoma silt loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>Tisch silt loam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Soil Survey of Thurston County, Washington (1990)
AY. Appendix D - Covenant to Bind Properties in the Summit Lake Special Management Area shall be removed:

Appendix D
Covenant to Bind Properties in the
Summit Lake Special Management Area

I/we, ____________ am/are owner(s) in fee of the below described property. For and in consideration of being granted the right to improve said property, and other good and valuable consideration, by the county of Thurston, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I/we do hereby generally covenant that the lots described as:

= Address
= Legal Description
= Address
= Legal Description
= Address
= Legal Description

shall hereinafter be bound together for the purpose of abiding with Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Critical Area Ordinance as applicable.

I/we do hereby confirm that no portion of the above described properties shall be sold in violation of any provision of the zoning ordinance(s). The covenant shall run with the land, is for the benefit of the general public, and shall be binding upon my/our heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns until released by the director of the Thurston County development services department as provided in Section 17.15.820E.

EXECUTED this ____________ day of ___.

STATE OF WASHINGTON )
COUNTY OF THURSTON )

On this day personally appeared before me ____________, to me known to be the individual(s) described in and who executed the within and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that they signed the same as their free and voluntary act and deed, for the uses and purposes herein mentioned.

GIVEN under my hand and official seal ____________ day of ____________, 19__________.

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the state of Washington, residing at
AZ. Figures 7 through 10 shall be removed:
"ACROSS THE ROAD"
STANDARD FOR THE SUMMIT LAKE
SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

SUMMIT LAKE

SHORELINE LOTS

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

SUMMIT LAKE

SHORE ROAD

115 116 117 118 119

UPLAND LOTS

SHORELINE LOT #27 MAY HAVE A GARAGE ON UPLAND LOTS #116, 117, OR 118

FIGURE 8
PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
FOR UPLAND GARAGES IN THE SUMMIT LAKE SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

SUMMIT LAKE

SHORELINE LOTS

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

VEGETATION BUFFER
- 30' FRONT
- 20' SIDES

SETBACK 5' SIDE

SETBACK 50' FROM CENTERLINE OF ROAD

SUMMIT LAKE SHORE ROAD

UPLAND LOTS

114 115 116 117 118 119 120

-NO- -YES- -YES- -YES-

DIRECTLY ACROSS THE ROAD APPLIES TO LOT #115 AS WELL AS #114 AND #116

FIGURE 9
SALE OF UPLAND GARAGES
IN THE SUMMIT LAKE
SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

SUMMIT LAKE

A GARAGE ON UPLAND LOT #117 WHICH IS
OWNED BY SHORELINE LOT #27 COULD BE
SOLD TO SHORELINE LOTS #24, 25, 26, 28,
29, AND 30.

FIGURE 10
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance Update

Attachment D:

Chapter 17.30 – Noxious Weed Containment

July 24, 2012
Board of County Commissioners
Attachment D:

A new chapter shall be added to title 17 TCC, Environment, chapter 17.30 TCC “Noxious Weed Containment” which shall read as follows:

Chapter 17.30

NOXIOUS WEED CONTAINMENT.

Sections:
17.30.010 Purpose.
17.30.020 Authority and applicability.
17.30.030 Definitions.
17.30.040 Target species.
17.30.050 Containment areas.
17.30.060 Notice of public hearing.
17.30.070 Permit review by noxious weed control board.
17.30.080 Management standards.
17.30.090 Noxious weed containment - Enforcement and Penalties.
17.30.100 Severability.

17.30.010 Purpose.
The purpose of this chapter is to limit economic loss and adverse effects to Thurston County’s agricultural, natural, and human resources due to the presence and spread of noxious weeds, and to establish measures to contain certain noxious weeds designated by the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board.

17.30.020 Authority and applicability.
This chapter shall be administered and enforced by the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board created pursuant to RCW 17.10.020, or its designees. The provisions of this chapter shall apply in all unincorporated areas of Thurston County, including designated urban growth areas.

17.30.030 Definitions.
The terms used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

“Containment area” means an area designated by the noxious weed control board where management standards and practices may be imposed to control and prevent the spread of a target species.

“Noxious weed” means a plant listed on the Thurston County noxious weed list adopted pursuant to RCW 17.10.090.

“Noxious weed control board” means the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board created pursuant to RCW 17.10.020 or its designees.

“Project site” means the site or location identified in a permit or project application where development, building, or land use activity is proposed to occur.
“Rules and regulations” means the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board Rules and Regulations adopted in accordance with RCW 17.10.060.

“Target species” means a noxious weed listed on the Thurston County noxious weed list that the noxious weed control board has determined may be better controlled by requiring containment measures and/or management standards for areas where the noxious weed has been found to be present.

17.30.040 **Target species.**

Any species of noxious weed may be designated by the noxious weed control board as a target species in its rules and regulations. Prior to designating a target species, the noxious weed control board shall hold a public hearing and shall comply with the requirements for amending the rules and regulations.

17.30.050 **Containment areas.**

The noxious weed control board may establish a containment area for any target species in its rules and regulations. Prior to adopting the boundaries of a containment area, the noxious weed control board shall hold a public hearing and shall comply with the requirements for amending the rules and regulations.

17.30.060 **Notice of public hearing.**

Notice of the public hearing for designating a noxious weed or containment area shall be provided to local media through a news release. A notice of public hearing shall also be provided in the county’s official newspaper of record at least twenty days prior to the public hearing, unless a waiver has been granted by a motion of the Thurston County noxious weed control board or board of commissioners, as applicable, subject to the following criteria:

A. Publishing the notice within the period of time otherwise required by law will afford adequate notice to the public; and

B. The waiver is necessary to allow action to be taken in a timely manner.

C. Notification shall not be less than 10-days if a waiver is granted.

17.30.070 **Permit review by noxious weed control board.**

A. Thurston County permit applications requiring a Type II or III review process under Thurston County code chapters 14.48, 18.10, 20.60, 21.81, 22.62, 23.72, and 24.05, and other uses or activities proposed to be located within a containment area, shall be reviewed by the noxious weed control board. The noxious weed control board may add conditions to the permit to prevent the spread of the target species, to otherwise mitigate the effect of the proposed project or activity on the potential to spread noxious weeds, or that will lead to the eventual eradication of the target species infestation.
B. The noxious weed control board may review other development permits for the containment of noxious weeds.

17.30.080 Management standards.
The following minimum management standards shall apply within all containment areas:

A. Removal of soil from any project site is prohibited when conducting any development, building, or land use activities except as approved in writing by the noxious weed control board.

B. All equipment used in any development or land use activity shall be cleaned before leaving the project site.

C. Vegetation shall not be removed from the project site, except as approved in writing by the noxious weed control board. Target species and noxious weeds approved for removal shall be transported and disposed of only in a manner approved by the noxious weed control board.

D. All equipment used in an area infested with noxious weeds shall be cleaned before it enters the county.

E. Any other requirement to contain or prevent the spread of noxious weeds included as a permit condition.

17.30.090 Enforcement and Penalties.

A. It is unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to fail to comply with the management standards or terms of any approval of the noxious weed control board under this chapter, any requirement included as permit condition in accordance with this chapter, or any cease and desist order issued pursuant to this chapter. Each violation shall be a separate offense, and each day a violation continues shall be a separate and distinct violation. The use of any enforcement method shall not preclude any other means of enforcement.

B. The owner of any property on which a violation of this chapter has occurred, any person who engages in an activity in violation of this chapter, and any person who, through an act of commission or omission, commits, aids or abets a violation of this chapter, may be considered to have committed a violation of this chapter and may be individually responsible and liable.

C. The noxious weed control board may issue a cease and desist or stop work order when any person violates this chapter, a permit, condition, or approval issued pursuant to this chapter. The order shall include a description of the nature, extent, and approximate time of the violation, if known, and any damage or potential damage resulting from the violation; a directive to stop work and/or cease and desist in the violation; specific corrective action to be taken; and a deadline to comply. The order issued shall become
effective immediately upon service on the person to whom the order is directed, or upon posting of the order in a conspicuous manner on the property where the violation occurred.

D. The violation of any provision of this chapter is designated as a Class I civil infraction pursuant to chapter 7.80 RCW. Civil infractions shall be heard and determined according to chapter 7.80 RCW, as amended, and any applicable court rules.

E. Every violation of this chapter shall be unlawful and a public nuisance.

F. The prosecuting attorney is authorized to institute legal action to enforce compliance with the provisions of this chapter, and may seek legal or equitable relief to enjoin any acts or practices or abate any conditions that constitute a violation of this chapter.

G. Any person who violates this chapter or violates a permit condition or approval issued pursuant to this chapter shall be liable for all costs, fees and expenses incurred in connection with enforcement activities.

17.30.100 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of this chapter and the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.
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2012 Critical Areas Ordinance
Update

Attachment E:
Chapter 20.30C – Summit Lake Overlay Zone

July 24, 2012
Board of County Commissioners
A new chapter shall be added to title 20 TCC, Zoning, chapter 20.30C TCC “Summit Lake Overlay Zone”, which shall read as follows:

Chapter 20.30C

SUMMIT LAKE OVERLAY ZONE

Sections:

20.30C.010 Purpose – Summit Lake overlay zone.
20.30C.020 Conflicts between Summit Lake overlay zone and other regulations.
20.30C.030 Summit Lake overlay zone maps.
20.30C.040 Summit Lake overlay zone standards.

20.30C.010 Purpose – Summit Lake overlay zone.
The purpose of the Summit Lake overlay zone is to:

A. Protect the unique physical and environmental features of Summit Lake, its associated critical areas, and shoreline management area.

B. Provide development standards for physically constrained lots adjoining the Summit Lake shoreline where it is in the best interest of public safety and environmental protection to provide alternative locations for the construction of accessory structures for use as a garage.

20.30C.020 Conflicts between Summit Lake overlay zone and other regulations.
When a conflict arises between the provisions of the Summit Lake overlay zone and other regulations, the provisions of the Summit Lake overlay zone shall prevail, except that any provision of this chapter:

A. Shall not create a public safety risk, as determined by the approval authority; or

B. Shall not be contrary to the Shoreline Management Plan for the Thurston Region, as amended; or

C. Shall not be less protective of critical areas than the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.

20.30C.030 Summit Lake overlay zone maps.
The Summit Lake overlay zone shall include all lands which drain into Summit Lake and are so located on the map entitled “Summit Lake Overlay Zone.” A copy of this map shall be on file with the Thurston County resource stewardship department. This map shall indicate the location of “shoreline lots” and “Summit Lake upland lots,” both of which must abut Summit Lake Shore Road.
20.30C.040 Summit Lake overlay zone standards. Garages are permitted to be constructed on Summit Lake upland lots within the Summit Lake overlay zone subject to the following standards:

A. The garage cannot be accommodated on the shoreline lot.

B. The upland lot must be owned by a person who also owns a shoreline lot identified on the map entitled “Summit Lake Overlay Zone,” and must have a residence on the identified shoreline lot.

C. In the case of a single-family residence, the garage shall be a single structure, one story in height and no greater than one thousand eight hundred square feet in size. In the case of a multifamily residence, it shall also be a single structure, one story in height and limited to five hundred square feet per multifamily unit.

D. Uses within the garages shall be limited to those uses normally allowed in a single family garage, as determined by the approval authority, with the following uses expressly prohibited:

1. Separate living unit;
2. Family member unit;
3. Home occupation; and
4. Home based industry.

E. All garages constructed on upland lots which lie directly across the road from the shoreline lot in common ownership or within one upland lot on either side shall meet the setback standards of the underlying zone. An illustration of the location of this upland lot is provided in Figure 20.30C-1.

F. Garages constructed on any other upland lot not meeting subsection 20.30C.040.E above shall:

1. Be permitted through a special use permit pursuant to chapter 20.54 TCC; and
2. Be consistent with the following standards:
   a. Meet the setback standards of the underlying zone;
   b. Provide buffers of native vegetation (either existing or replanted) of thirty feet along the front property line and twenty feet along the side property line, with this buffer to be located on the upland lot and not within the right-of-way; and
c. Be compatible in design, color, shape, landscaping and size to surrounding upland garages or residences within one-fourth mile.

G. A covenant shall be recorded with the titles of both the shoreline lot and the upland lot, prohibiting the sale of either lot separately. This covenant shall be in a form determined and approved by the director. This covenant will be released by the department when:

1. The upland garage is demolished; or

2. The upland garage site has a contract to be sold for a new residence and a building permit is part of the transaction; or

3. The upland garage site is sold to another Summit Lake shoreline lot owner subject to the following standards and a new covenant is filed for those properties:
   a. Those upland lots described in TCC 20.30C.040(E) above, may only be sold to a property owner for whom it would also meet those standards (See figure 20.30C-2); and

   b. Those upland lots described in TCC 20.30C.040(F) above, may be sold to any other Summit Lake shoreline lot owner.
"ACROSS THE ROAD"
STANDARD FOR THE SUMMIT LAKE
SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

SUMMIT LAKE

SHORELINE LOTS

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

SUMMIT LAKE SHORE ROAD

UPLAND LOTS

115 116 117 118 119

SHORELINE LOT #27 MAY HAVE A GARAGE
ON UPLAND LOTS #115, 117, OR 118

Figure 20.30C-1
SALE OF UPLAND GARAGES IN THE SUMMIT LAKE SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

SUMMIT LAKE

A GARAGE ON UPLAND LOT #117 WHICH IS OWNED BY SHORELINE LOT #27 COULD BE SOLD TO SHORELINE LOTS #24, 25, 26, 28, 29, AND 30.

Figure 20.30C-2
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance

Update

Attachment F:

Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20) Variety of Rural Residential Density Amendments

July 24, 2012

Board of County Commissioners
Attachment F. THURSTON COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE (TITLE 20) VARIETY OF RESIDENTIAL DENSITY AMENDMENTS.

The Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 TCC) is hereby amended to add the variety of rural density provisions from Chapter 17.15 TCC, update density sections in each zoning district to be consistent with the Shoreline Management Plan for the Thurston Region and title 18 Platting and Subdivision, and other matters properly related thereto as follows:

A. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.08A to add a reference to new section 20.08A.045 Density as follows:

Sections:
...

**20.08A.045 Density.**

...

B. Amend Section 20.08A.040 to add specification that there is only one primary residential unit permitted per lot as follows:

**20.08A.040 Primary uses.**
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted within this district:

...

5. Single-family and farm residences, in accordance with Section 20.08A.035(3), 20.08A.040, and 20.08.045 (limited to one primary residential structure per lot, not including farm housing);

...

C. Amend Section 20.08A.040 to remove density limits as follows:

**20.08A.040 Design Standards.**
The following standards are established as the minimum necessary to ensure that the purpose of this district is achieved and maintained as new lots are created and new buildings are constructed:

1. The maximum density shall not exceed one unit per twenty acres. For farm housing, see Section 20.08A.020(5).

2. Maximum building height: thirty-five feet; and
3. Minimum yard requirements:

... 

D. Add a new section to Chapter 20.08A to consolidate density limits in the chapter and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

**20.08A045 Density.**

1. The maximum density shall not exceed one unit per twenty acres. For farm housing, see section 20.08A.020(5); and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.08A.045(1).

E. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.08C Nisqually Agricultural District to add a reference to new section 20.08C.045 Density as follows:

**Chapter 20.08C**

**NISQUALLY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT (NA)**

**Sections:**

... 

**20.08C.045 Density.**

... 

F. Amend Section 20.08C.020 to add a specification that there is only one primary residential unit permitted per lot as follows:

**20.08C.020 Primary uses.**

Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted within this district:

... 

5. Single-family dwellings and farm residences with lots conforming to provisions of Sections 20.08C.040, 20.05C.045, and 20.08C.050 (limited to one primary residential structure per lot, not including farm housing); and
G. Amend Section 20.08C.040 to remove density limits as follows:

20.08C.040 Design Standards.
The following standards are established as the minimum necessary to ensure that the purpose of this district is achieved and maintained as new lots are created and new buildings are constructed:

1. The calculation of maximum density within this district shall vary subject to its use:
   a. Single-family residential: one unit/forty acres;
   b. Single-family residential on lots created in accordance with the Planning Rural Residential Development chapter: one unit per/five acres;
   c. Purchase or transfer of development rights: one unit/five acres.

2. Minimum yard requirements shall be as follows:

3. Maximum building height shall be thirty-five feet subject to section 20.07.080.

4. Maximum lot coverage shall be as follows:

H. Add a new section to Chapter 20.08C to consolidate density limits in the chapter and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.08C.045 Density.

1. The calculation of maximum density within this district shall vary subject to its use:
   a. Single-family residential: one unit/forty acres;
   b. Single-family residential on lots created under the Planned Rural Residential Development standards (chapter 20.30A TCC): one unit per/five acres; and
   c. Purchase or transfer of development rights: one unit/five acres; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.08C.045(1).
I. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.08D Long Term Forestry District to add a reference to new section 20.08C.045 Density as follows:

Chapter 20.08D

LONG TERM FORESTREY DISTRICT (LTF)

Sections:
...

20.08D.045 Density.
...

J. Amend Section 20.08D.020 to add a specification that there is only one primary residential unit permitted per lot as follows:

20.08D.020 Primary uses.
...
6. Single-family residences, in accordance with Section 20.08D.040 and 20.08D.045 (limited to one primary residential structure per lot):
...

K. Amend Section 20.08D.040 to remove density limits as follows:

20.08D.040 Design Standards.
...
1. Residential Density
   a. The maximum density is one unit per eighty acres.
   b. Clustering of residences is encouraged, in conformance with Chapter 20.30A, Planned rural Residential Development, except that such residential lots shall be a minimum of one acre in size and no larger than five acres in size;

2-1. Maximum building height: thirty-five feet;

...

Attachment F Page 4
4.3. Where parcels of contiguous ownership total less than six hundred forty acres of the effective date of this chapter, the parcels may be developed in accordance with the following development standards:

...

5.4. Legal lots from ten to 39.99 acres in size, under the same ownership since August 23, 1993, may be subdivided one time into a maximum of two lots with a minimum lot size of five acres. Further division of a lot created pursuant to this subsection is prohibited.

L. Add a new section to Chapter 20.08D to consolidate density limits in the chapter and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.08D.045 Density.
1. The maximum density is one unit per eighty acres;

2. Clustering of residences is encouraged, in conformance with chapter 20.30A, Planned Rural Residential Development, except that such residential lots shall be a minimum of one acre in size and no larger than five acres; and

3. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended, from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.08D.040(1).

M. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.09 Rural Residential – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres (RR 1/5) to add a reference to new section 20.09.050 Density as follows:

Chapter 20.09

RURAL RESIDENTIAL – ONE DWELLING UNIT PER FIVE ACRES (RR 1/5)

Sections:

...

20.09.050 Density.

...
N. Amend Section 20.09.040 to remove the density limit as follows:

20.09.020 Primary uses.  
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in this district up to a maximum density of one unit per five acres:

1. Agriculture, including forest practices;

2. Single-family and two-family residential (within urban growth management areas, limited to four residential dwelling units per lot; otherwise, limited to one primary residential structure per lot);

...

O. Add a new section to Chapter 20.09 to consolidate density limits in the chapter, add the variety of rural density provisions from chapter 17.15 TCC, and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.09.050 Density.

1. The base density for this district is a maximum of one unit per five acres, or one unit per one-one hundred twenty-eighth of a section of land; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed shall be determined by:

   a. Subtracting from the parcel area: documented high groundwater hazard areas, wetlands 22,000 square feet or more and 2,500 square feet or more if adjacent to a stream or within its 100-year floodplain, marine bluff hazard areas to the top of the bluff and landslide hazard areas; 100-year floodplains; and submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended;

   b. Critical area buffers shall not be subtracted from the parcel for purposes of making the density calculation; and

   c. The zoning density shall be applied to the remainder of the parcel.

   d. For the purposes of calculating density, the documented area of a wetland shall not be subtracted from the parcel area if a property owner opts to develop a Planned Residential Development as specified in chapter 20.30 TCC.

P. Amend Section 20.09A.020 in chapter 20.09A Rural Residential/Resource – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres (RRR 1/5) to remove the density limit as follows:

20.09A.020 Primary uses.  
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in this district:
1. Agriculture, including forest practices;

2. Single-family and two-family residences, as defined in Section 20.07.020, (limited to one primary residential structure per lot subject to a maximum density of one unit per five acres);

... 

Q. Amend section 20.09A.040 to consolidate density limits in chapter 20.09A, add the variety of rural density provisions from chapter 17.15 TCC, and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.09A.040 Density.
The base density for this district is a maximum of one unit per five acres, or one unit per one-hundred twenty-eighth of a section of land. This base density shall be modified as follows:

... 

2. Academic schools with sewer service, not including on-site disposal systems, that are permitted within this district are exempted from the density provisions of this chapter, subject to any conditions required for special use permit approval; 

3. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed shall be determined by:
   a. Subtracting from the parcel area: documented high groundwater hazard areas, wetlands 22,000 square feet or more and 2,500 square feet or more if adjacent to a stream or within its 100-year floodplain, marine bluff hazard areas to the top of the bluff and landslide hazard areas; 100-year floodplains; and submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region, as amended;
   b. Critical area buffers shall not be subtracted from the parcel for purposes of making the density calculation; and
   c. The zoning density shall be applied to the remainder of the parcel.
   d. For the purposes of calculating density, the documented area of a wetland shall not be subtracted from the parcel area if a property owner opts to develop a Planned Rural Residential Development as specified in chapter 20.30B TCC.

R. Amend Section 20.09B.020 of Chapter 20.09B Rural One Dwelling Unit per Twenty Acres (R 1/20) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

20.09B.020 Primary uses.
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in this district:
1. Single-family dwellings (limited to one primary residential structure per lot);

... 

S. Amend Section 20.09B.040 to make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.09B.040 Density.
1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per twenty acres; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.09B.040(1).

T. Amend Section 20.09C.020 of Chapter 20.09B Rural One Dwelling Unit per Ten Acres (R 1/10) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

20.09C.020 Primary Uses
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in this district:

1. Single-family dwellings (limited to one primary residential structure per lot);

... 

U. Amend Section 20.09C.040 to make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.09C.040 Density.
1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per ten acres; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.09C.040(1).
V. Amend Section 20.09D.020 of Chapter 20.09D Urban Reserve One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres (UR 1/5) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

20.09D.020 Primary Uses
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in this district:

1. Single-family dwellings (limited to one primary residential structure per lot):

... 

W. Amend Section 20.09C.040 to make it consistent with Title 18 Platting and Subdivision and the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.09D.040 Density.
1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per five acres, or one unit per one-one hundred twenty-eighth of a section of land; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.09D.040(1).

X. Amend Section 20.10A.035 of Chapter 20.10A Residential LAMIRD One Dwelling Unit per Two Acres (RL 1/2) to make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.10A.035 Density.
1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per two acres, with the exception of parcels that are developed as a planned rural residential development (PRRD) (Chapter 20.30A). These PRRDs shall receive a density bonus of thirty-five percent, in accordance with Section 20.30A.065; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.10A.035(1).
Y. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.11 Residential LAMIRD—One Dwelling Unit per Five Acre (RL 1/1) to add a reference to new section 20.11A.035 Density as follows:

CHAPTER 20.11A RESIDENTIAL LAMIRD – ONE DWELLING UNIT PER ACRE (RL 1/1)

Sections:
...
**20.11A.035 Density.**
...

Z. Add Section 20.11A.035 to Chapter 20.11A Residential LAMIRD One Dwelling Unit per Acre (RL 1/1) to specify permitted density and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

**20.11A.035 Density.**
1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per acre; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.11A.035(1).

AA. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.13A Residential LAMIRD—Two Dwelling Units per Acre (RR 2/1) to add a reference to new section 20.13A.035 Density as follows:

CHAPTER 20.13A RESIDENTIAL LAMIRD – TWO DWELLING UNITS PER ACRE (RL 2/1)

Sections:
...
**20.13A.035 Density.**
...

BB. Amend Section 20.13A.020 of Chapter 20.13A Residential LAMIRD—Two Dwelling Units per Acre (RR 2/1) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

**20.13A.020 Primary uses.**
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted up to a maximum density of two dwelling units per acres:
1. Single-family and two-family residential (limited to one primary residential structure per lot);

... 

CC. Add Section 20.13A.035 to Chapter 20.13A Residential LAMIRD Two Dwelling Units per Acre (RL 2/1) to specify permitted density and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

**20.13A.035 Density.**

1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is two dwelling units per acre; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.13A.035(1).

DD. Amend Section 20.15.020 of Chapter 20.15 Residential – Three to Six Dwelling Units per Acre (R3 6/1) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

**20.15.020 Primary uses.**

Subject to the provisions of this title, the following uses are permitted in the residential, three to six units per acre district as primary uses:

... 

2. Single-family and two-family residential (limited to four residential dwelling units per lot);

... 

EE. Add Section 20.15.050 to Chapter 20.15 Residential – Three to Six Dwelling Units per Acre (R3 6/1) to specify permitted density and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

**20.15.050 Density.**

1. Minimum: three dwelling units per acre;

2. Maximum: six dwelling units per acre, except that any density greater that five dwelling units per acre shall be obtained only by purchase of transfer of development rights in accordance with Section 20.62.055; and.
3. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.15.035(1).

FF. Add Section 20.21A.050 to Chapter 20.21A Residential - Four to Sixteen Dwelling Units per Acre (R4 16/1) to specify permitted density and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

**20.21A.050 Density**

1. Minimum: four dwelling units per acre within the Grand Mound urban growth area;

2. Maximum: sixteen dwelling units per acre within the Grand Mound urban growth area, except that any density greater than fifteen dwelling units per acre shall be obtained only by purchase of transfer of development rights in accordance with Section 20.62.055;

3. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.21A.035(1).

GG. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 20.23 McAllister Geologically Sensitive Area District (MGSA) to add a reference to new section 20.23.035 Density as follows:

**CHAPTER 20.23 MCALLISTER GEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AREA DISTRICT (MGSA)**

Sections:

... 

**20.23.035 Density.**

... 

HH. Amend Section 20.23.020 of Chapter 20.23 McAllister Geologically Sensitive Area District (MGSA) to specify that single family dwellings are limited to one primary structure per lot as follows:

**20.23020 Primary uses.**

1. Single-family residential (limited to one primary residential structure per lot);

...
II. Amend Section 20.23.030 to remove density limit as follows:

20.23.030 Design standards.

1. Density: maximum overall density of one unit per five acres;

2.1. Minimum lot size:

... 

3.2. Minimum lot width:

...

4.3. Maximum building height: thirty-five feet.

5.4. Minimum yard requirements:

6.5. Maximum lot coverage by impervious surfaces:

...

7.6. Dedication of open space:

...

JJ. Add Section 20.23.035 to Chapter 20.23 McAllister Geologically Sensitive Area District (MGSA) to specify permitted density and make it consistent with the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region:

20.23.035 Density.

1. The maximum density for residential uses in this district is one dwelling unit per five acres; and

2. The maximum number of dwelling units allowed on a site shall be calculated by subtracting all submerged lands as defined in the Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region from the area of the parcel and, then applying the allowed zoning density in section 20.09D.040(1).
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance Update

Attachment G:
Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area Density Amendments (Title 21)

July 24, 2012

Board of County Commissioners
Attachment G: Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area Density Amendments.

Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the Lacey Urban Growth Area (Title 21) to incorporate density limits currently in Chapter 17.15 TCC, update density sections, update exempt building sizes, and other matters as follows:

A. Amend the table of contents for Title 21 as follows:

**TITLE 21**

**LACEY URBAN GROWTH AREA ZONING**

...

**21.53 Calculation of Residential Density**

...

B. Amend Section 21.10.035 TCC to add a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

**21.10.035 Density.**
When sewer is provided, density may range from not less than three to no more than six units per acre. When sewer is not provided, a density of no greater than one unit per five acres is allowed. **Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.**

C. Amend Section 21.12.035 TCC to add a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

**21.12.035 Density.**
Densities of up to four units per acre are permitted. For unplatted parcels of less than one acre, properties may be divided into the maximum number of lots the minimum lot size will permit; provided such lot could be provided with the infrastructure needed to support the lots being created; and further provided that created lots are not less than the average lot size of adjacent developed lots. **Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.**

D. Amend Section 21.12.050 to update the accessory building size for alternative setbacks so it is consistent with the International Residential Code for buildings exempt from obtaining a building permit and to be consistent with the
size in the current City of Lacey zoning code Section 16.12.050(J):


...

I. Accessory buildings. All accessory buildings must comply with the current building setbacks as stated in this chapter; provided, however, if the accessory building is exempt from obtaining a building permit under Title 14 TCC, one-story, and is less than two hundred one hundred twenty square feet, the following setbacks are permitted:

1. Front yard, fifteen feet,
2. Side yard, five feet,
3. Rear yard, three feet.

E. Amend Section 21.13.035 TCC to add a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

Densities may range from not less than three to no more than six units per acre. For unplatted parcels of less than one acre, properties may be divided into the maximum number of lots the minimum lot size will permit; provided such lot could be provided with the infrastructure needed to support the lots being created; and further provided that created lots are not less than the average lot size of adjacent developed lots. Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.

F. Amend Section 21.13.050 to update the accessory building size for alternative setbacks so it is consistent with the International Residential Code for buildings exempt from obtaining a building permit, and to be consistent with the size in the current City of Lacey zoning code Section 16.12.050(D)(5):

21.13.050 Lot Area.
A. The size and shape of single-family detached lots shall be as follows, provided they adhere to the density requirements:

1. Minimum lot area, four thousand five hundred square feet, where alleys are utilized; five thousand square feet where alleys are not provided;

2. Minimum lot width, forty feet where alleys are utilized; fifty feet where alleys are not provided;

3. Minimum front yard:
a. Ten feet with a ten foot planter strip between the street and sidewalk and when alleys are provided for rear lot access; twenty feet with standard planter strip and without alleys,

b. On flanking streets, ten feet;

4. Minimum side yards:
   a. Minimum on one side, five feet,
   b. Minimum total both sides, ten feet provided a zero lot line concept may be approved if the following standards are met:
      i. The site is part of a subdivision or PRD where a zero lot line concept has been approved.
      ii. The site utilizes alleys with the majority of units using alleys for access;

5. Minimum rear yard, fifteen feet provided garages may be within three feet of the rear yard line, alley easement or paved surface when adjacent to an alley.

D. Other lot standards for all uses:
   1. Maximum building area coverage, sixty percent;
   2. Maximum developmental coverage, seventy-five percent;
   3. Maximum height;
      a. Main building and accessory dwelling, thirty-five feet,
      b. Accessory building, twenty feet;
   4. Accessory Buildings. All accessory buildings must comply with the current buildings setbacks as stated in this chapter; provided, however, if the accessory building is exempt from obtaining a building permit under Title 14 TCC, one-story, and is less than two hundred one hundred twenty square feet, the following setbacks are permitted:
      a. Front yard, fifteen feet,
      b. Side yard, five feet
      c. Rear yard, three feet.

G. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 21.15 to add a new section title as follows:

Sections:

21.15.035 Density.

H. Amend Section 21.15.020 as follows:
21.15.020 Types of uses permitted.

A. Specific types permitted in the moderate-density residential district:

1. Any residential use with a density of at least six but not greater than twelve units per acre and any additional bonus density that might be applicable; provided all multifamily uses as defined in Section 21.70.030 shall meet design review requirements of Chapter 21.70; provided further that all parcels over ten acres in size shall provide a mix of housing types with no less than fifty percent of the units designated for single-family use; detached, attached, townhouses or condominiums. The required mix should be integrated throughout the entire site as much as possible;

I. Add a new section to define density to Chapter 21.15 TCC, and include a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

21.15.035 Density.
Residential densities may range from not less than six to no more than twelve units per acre, and any additional bonus density that may be applicable. Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.

J. Amend Section 21.15.050 to update the accessory building size for alternative setbacks so it is consistent with the International Residential Code for buildings exempt from obtaining a building permit, and to be consistent with the size in the current City of Lacey zoning code Section 16.15.050:

21.15.050 Lot area.
A. The size and shape of lots for detached single-family shall be as follows, provided they adhere to the density requirements:

1. Minimum lot area, four thousand square feet;

2. Minimum lot width, thirty feet when alleys are utilized; forty feet where alleys are not provided;

3. Minimum front yard, ten feet on all streets with a ten-foot planter strip between street and sidewalk and when alleys are provided for rear lot access, twenty feet with standard planter strip without alleys;

4. Minimum side yards:
   a. Minimum on one side, five feet,
   b. Minimum total both sides, ten feet; provided, a zero lot line concept may be approved if the following standards are met:
The site is part of a subdivision or PRD where a zero lot line concept has been approved and the site has undergone or will undergo design review as part of the approval process,

ii. The site utilizes alleys with the majority of units using alleys for access;

5. Minimum rear yard, fifteen feet, provided garages may be within three feet of the rear yard line, alley easement or paved surface when adjacent to an alley.

D. Other lot standards for all uses:
   1. Maximum building area coverage, seventy percent;
   2. Maximum development coverage, eighty-five percent;
   3. Maximum height:
      a. Main building and accessory dwelling, forty feet;
      b. Accessory building, twenty feet;
   4. Accessory Buildings. All accessory buildings must comply with the current buildings setbacks as stated in this chapter; provided, however, if the accessory building is exempt from obtaining a building permit under Title 14 TCC, one-story, and is less than two hundred one hundred twenty square feet, the following setbacks are permitted:
      a. Front yard, ten feet,
      b. Side yard, three feet,
      c. Rear yard, five feet; three feet to rear yard line alley easement or paved surface if adjacent to an alley.

K. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 21.18 to add a new section title as follows:

Sections:
...
21.18.025 Density.
...

L. Amend Section 21.18.020 TCC as follows:

21.18.020 Types of uses permitted.
A. Specific types permitted in the high-density residential district:
   1. Any residential use with a density of at least six but not greater than twenty units per acre and any additional bonus density that might be applicable; provided all multifamily uses as defined in Section 21.70.030 shall meet design review requirements of Chapter 21.70; provided further that all parcels over ten acres in
size shall provide a mix of housing types with no less than twenty-five percent of the units designated for single-family use; detached, attached, townhouses or condominiums. The required mix should be integrated throughout the entire site as much as possible;

...

M. Add a new section to Chapter 21.18 TCC to define density and to include a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

21.18.025 Density. Residential densities may range from not less than six to no more than twenty units per acre, and any additional bonus density that may be applicable. Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.

N. Amend Section 21.18.040 to update the accessory building size for alternative setbacks so it is consistent with the International Residential Code for buildings exempt from obtaining a building permit, and to be consistent with the size in the current City of Lacey zoning code Section 16.12.040:

21.18.040 Lot area. A. The size and shape of lots for detached single-family shall be as follows:

1. Minimum lot area, four thousand square feet;

2. Minimum lot width, thirty feet when alleys are utilized; forty feet where alleys are not provided;

3. Minimum front yard on all streets, ten feet;

4. Minimum side yards:
   a. Minimum on one side, five feet,
   b. Minimum total both sides, ten feet; provided, a zero lot line concept may be approved if the following standards are met:
      i. The site is part of a subdivision or PRD where a zero lot line concept has been approved and the site has undergone or will undergo design review as part of the approval process,
      ii. The site utilizes alleys;

4. Minimum rear yard, fifteen feet, provided garages may be within three feet of the rear yard line, alley easement or paved surface when adjacent to an alley.

D. Other lot standards for all uses:
1. Maximum building area coverage, seventy percent;

2. Maximum development coverage, eighty-five percent;

3. Maximum height:
   a. Main building and accessory building, eighty feet, or eight stories;
   b. Accessory building, twenty feet;

4. Accessory Buildings. All accessory buildings must comply with the current buildings setbacks as stated in this chapter; provided, however, if the accessory building is exempt from obtaining a building permit under Title 14 TCC, one-story, and is less than two hundred square feet, the following setbacks are permitted:
   a. Front yard, ten feet,
   b. Side yard, three feet,
   c. Rear yard, five feet (three feet to rear yard line alley easement or paved surface if adjacent to an alley).

O. Amend the table of contents for Chapter 21.21 to add a new section title as follows:

Sections:
...
...

P. Amend Section 21.21.020 TCC as follows:

A. Specific types permitted in the agricultural district:
...
2. Single-family structures, not exceeding one per five acres.
...

Q. Add a new section to Chapter 21.21 to define density, and to include a reference to Chapter 21.53 regarding the calculation of residential densities as follows:

The density for this district is a maximum of one unit per five acres. Permitted density on properties with critical areas shall be adjusted as shown in Chapter 21.53.

R. Add a new chapter to Title 21 for the calculation of residential densities as follows:

Chapter 21.53
Calculation of Residential Density

Sections:
21.53.010 Intent.
21.53.020 Applicability.
21.53.030 Density Transfer Permitted.
21.53.040 Formula.
21.53.050 Density credit.
21.53.060 Alternative development standards.

21.53.010 Intent.
The intent of this chapter is to provide incentives for the preservation of wetlands and wetland buffers.

21.53.020 Applicability.
This chapter applies to properties in residential zoning districts in the unincorporated Lacey urban growth area containing wetlands and wetlands buffers as defined in the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance TCC Title 24 except for areas zoned Mixed Use Moderate Density Corridor (TCC Chapter 21.15) and Mixed Use High Density Corridor (TCC Chapter 21.18), and provided that the minimum lot size for the Low Density 0-4 Zoning District (Chapter 21.12) shall always be maintained.

21.53.030 Density Transfer Permitted.
A. No density shall be transferred from the wetland area;

B. Density may be transferred from the wetland buffer to elsewhere within the same development proposal site.

21.53.040 Formula.
The calculation of the maximum or minimum number of dwelling units allowed in a residential development which contains wetlands or wetland buffers shall be determined by using the following formula within the Lacey urban growth area:

\[
\text{Buffer area in wetland buffer (acres)} \times \frac{\text{Maximum or Minimum Dwelling units/acre by zoning}}{X} \times \frac{\text{Wetland buffer density credit (see Section 21.53.050)}}{+ \text{ (See next line)}}
\]

\[
\text{Upland nonbuffer area (acres out of wetland and wetland buffer)} \times \frac{\text{Maximum or Minimum Dwelling units/acre by zoning}}{X} = \text{Maximum dwelling unit potential}
\]
**21.53.050 Density credit.**
The calculation of the density credit for wetland buffers for the calculation of residential density formula in Section 21.53.040 is shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Site in Buffers</th>
<th>Density Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—10%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11—20%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21—30%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31—40%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41—50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51—60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61—70%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71—80%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81—90%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91—99%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**21.53.060 Alternative development standards permitted.**
In the Low-Density Residential District (3-6) (Chapter 21.13 TCC), Moderate-Density Residential District (Chapter 21.15), and the High-Density Residential District (Chapter 21.18) zoning districts, the director may approve up to a fifty percent reduction of lot area and/or increase maximum building and development coverage standards to the extent that application of the calculation of residential density formula in this chapter may result in the necessity for lot sizes and other zoning standards less than the minimum allowed by the underlying district to achieve minimum or maximum urban density requirements, subject to the following:

A. The resulting lots shall be of a sufficient size to reasonably accommodate the intended use with area provided for adequate drainage, parking, setbacks, fire separation, private yard areas, and other provisions required by the Thurston County Code, state and federal laws, and deemed important to neighborhood quality and public safety as determined by the director; and

B. Any reduced standards shall result in a more innovative and superior design such as normally associated with cluster developments, cottage housing, and other innovative development techniques for preserving critical areas; as determined by the approval authority; and

C. Uses allowed within the zoning district shall not be varied; and

D. The critical area and any buffers shall be placed in a critical area tract or easement as specified in Chapter 24.65 TCC, Critical Area Tracts and Easements; and
E. Decisions on any reduced standards shall be issued at the same time as the State Environmental Policy Act threshold determination (Chapter 17.09 TCC), and included in the alternatives presented with the determination; and

F. The reductions shall comply with Title 24, the Critical Areas Ordinance, including that there is no net loss in critical area function and value; and

G. The director may require the applicant submit specialized studies relevant to the requested reduction; and

H. The reduction shall be the minimum necessary; and
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance Update

Attachment H:
Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance Density Amendment
(Title 23)

July 24, 2012
Board of County Commissioners
Attachment H: Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance Density Amendment

Section 23.04.080 of the Olympia UGA Zoning Ordinance, title 23, shall be amended to include density limits as follows:

23.04.080 Residential district’s development standards.
Table 4.04 identifies the basic standards for development in each residential district contained in this chapter. The sections referenced in Table 4.04 refer to the list of additional regulations below.

A. Maximum Housing Densities.

   a. The maximum housing densities specified in Table 4.04 are based on the entire site, except specified critical areas including streams, wetlands, landslide hazard areas, riparian areas, fish and wildlife conservation areas, and/or wetland (acres) as defined in Title 24 TCC, critical area buffers are included in the maximum density calculation, see Chapter 17.15, TCC) and land to be dedicated or sold for public parks, schools or similar nonresidential uses. The maximum housing densities shall be determined by subtracting these areas from the total site area, and then multiplying the result by the maximum dwelling units per acre for each district in Table 4.04 as shown in the following formula:

   \[ \text{Total site area (acres)} - \text{Area of specified critical area and other lands in 18.04.080(A)(1)(a) (acres)} \times \frac{\text{Maximum dwelling units/acre by zoning in Table 4.04}}{\text{Maximum dwelling unit potential}} = \text{Maximum dwelling unit potential} \]

2. Mixed Residential and Multifamily Districts. The maximum housing densities shown in the top row of Table 4.04 refer to the maximum density of individual project components. The housing density for the overall project, however, (e.g. all of property subject to an approved subdivision plat or master planned development) shall not exceed the maximum average density for the applicable district as specified in the second row of Table 4.04. For example, a development in the MR 7-13 district may contain an apartment complex with twenty-four dwelling units per acre, provided that the average density for the entire development does not exceed thirteen units per acre (consistent with other applicable provisions of this code).

3. Accessory Dwelling Units. Accessory dwelling units build subsequent to the initial occupancy of the primary residence on a lot are not subject to the maximum density limits specified in Table 4.04. In addition, accessory units built on a
4. Mobile Homes. No more than ten mobile homes or manufactured homes shall be installed on any one acre of land.

5. Density Bonuses. The maximum housing densities identified in Table 4.04 may be increased as follows:

   a. Restoration of Critical Areas. At the request of the applicant, the hearing examiner may grant a density bonus of up to twenty percent for sites on which damaged or degraded wetlands or stream corridors (e.g. streams and stream banks within the outer limits of the buffer required by Chapter 47.45 title 24, Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC) will be restored and maintained according to specifications approved by the county. Property owners within three hundred feet of the site shall be given notice of the proposal and fifteen days to comment. Such notice may be done concurrently with any other notice required by this code. Prior to taking action on a request for a density bonus, the hearing examiner shall consider the public’s comments, the expected public benefit that would be derived from such restoration, the probable net effect of the restoration and the increased density on the site, the relative cost of the restoration and the value of the density, and the potential impact of increased density on surrounding land uses, traffic, infrastructure, schools, and parks. The county may require the applicant to provide an estimate of the cost of the proposed restoration and other information as necessary to make this determination.

   This bonus does not apply to site features which were damaged in the course of a current project (e.g., under an active permit) or as a result of an illegal or intentional action by the current property owner or their representative.

...
defined in title 24 TCC and their associated buffers (see Chapter 17.15 TCC); tracts accommodating stormwater facilities required in compliance with the Drainage Manual; tracts required for tree retention pursuant to Chapter 17.25 TCC and/or Section 23.04.080J, existing, opened street rights-of-way and land to be sold or dedicated to the public (e.g. school sites and public parks, but not street rights-of-way to be dedicated as part of the proposed development). The minimum housing densities shall be determined by subtracting these areas from the total site area, and then multiplying the result by the minimum dwelling units per acre for each district identified in Table 4.04 as shown in the following formula:

\[
\text{Total site area (acres)} - \text{Area of specified critical area and other lands in 18.04.080(B)(1)(a) (acres)} \times \text{Minimum dwelling units/acre by zoning in Table 4.04} = \text{Minimum dwelling unit potential}
\]

3. Allowance for Site Constraints. At the request of the applicant, the director may reduce the minimum density required in Table 4.04, to the extent s/he deems warranted, to accommodate site constraints which make development at the required minimum density impractical or inconsistent with the purposes of this chapter. Factors which may warrant a density reduction include poor soil drainage, the presence of springs, topography exceeding twenty percent slope, rock outcrops, sensitive aquifers used as a public water source or wellhead protection areas). As a condition of granting a density reduction, the applicant must demonstrate that the minimum density cannot be achieved by clustering the housing on the buildable portions of the site (see Section 23.04.080F).

4. Natural Features/Habitat Protection. At the request of the applicant, the director may also authorize a reduction in the minimum density requirements in order to retain significant wildlife habitat identified on Map 2-4 in the Olympia Joint Plan.
2012 Critical Areas Ordinance
Update

Attachment I:
Thurston County Code Reference Changes
Chapters 2.05 & 2.06
Titles 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, & 23

July 24, 2012
Board of County Commissioners
Attachment I

All sections of the Thurston County Code must be updated to add references to the new critical areas ordinance, amend references to chapter 17.15 to only include agricultural uses, and change the department name from Development Services to Resource Stewardship.

The Thurston County Code shall be amended as follows:

**PART I: CHAPTER 2.05, CHAPTER 2.06, TITLE 13 AND TITLE 14**

A. Section 2.05.020 TCC shall be amended as follows:

### 2.05.020 Docketing.

Docketing refers to the process of establishing and maintaining a list of proposals to amend comprehensive plans or development regulations administered by the county pursuant to the Washington State Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.470). Dockets are useful for providing information about amendment proposals that may be considered by the county in advance of public hearings and other review procedures.

A. The county shall maintain separate dockets for comprehensive plan amendments and development regulation amendments.

2. The development regulation amendment docket shall include amendment proposals to the following elements of the Thurston County Code:
   a. State Environmental Policy Act, Chapter 17.09;
   c. Critical Areas, title 24 and Chapter 17.15;
   d. Platting and Subdivisions, title 18;
   e. Shoreline Master Program, title 19;
   f. Zoning, titles 20, 21, 22 and 23.

### 2.06.010 Office Established.

There is established an office of hearing examiner. The examiner shall hear and decide matters assigned to him by the board, including but not limited to the following land use matters:

F. Critical areas ordinance (pursuant to title 24 Thurston County Code, and for agricultural activities Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Code);

C. Section 2.06.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
2.06.040 Rules.

The examiner may prescribe rules for the scheduling and conduct of hearings and other rules of procedure. Application for the consideration of cases to be heard by the examiner shall be made to the development services resource stewardship department.

D. Section 2.06.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

2.06.060 Reconsideration by examiner.
Any aggrieved person or agency who disagrees with the decision of the examiner may make a written request for reconsideration by the examiner within ten days of the date of the written decision. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the development services resource stewardship department upon forms prescribed by the department. If the examiner chooses to reconsider, the examiner may take such further action as he or she deems proper and may render a revised decision, within five working days after the date of filing. Filing a request for reconsideration is not a prerequisite to filing an appeal pursuant to Section 2.06.070.

E. Section 2.06.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

2.06.070 Appeal of examiner's decision.

A. The appellant must file a complete written notice of appeal with the development services resource stewardship department upon forms prescribed by the department, and pay the appeal fee within fourteen days of the date of the examiner's final decision; provided, that if the examiner was requested to reconsider the decision, then the appeal must be filed within ten days of the date of the examiner's decision on the reconsideration request.

F. Section 2.06.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

2.06.080 Board action on appeals.

A. General. When an appeal has been timely filed and the deadline for receipt of memoranda has expired, the development services resource stewardship department shall deliver to the board a copy of the examiner's decision, and the evidence presented to the examiner, and an audio recording of the hearing before the examiner. The board may view the site either individually or together, only to gain background information on the general appearance of the property; no one other than county staff can accompany the board members during the view. When board members have read the decision, memoranda and evidence, and heard the recording, the clerk of the board shall schedule a date for a closed record appeal meeting by the board at which time the board shall render a decision. The date of the closed record appeal meeting should be not later than fifty-three days following the date the appeal was filed.
G. Section 13.56.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

13.56.040 Applications.
Applications for annual and individual utility permits to construct, maintain, repair, relocate or remove utility facilities within the rights-of-way shall be submitted upon forms provided by the county. Applications for park or trail permits on park or trail properties shall be submitted to the parks and recreation department and comply with the county's adopted policies, procedures, requirements and fees for nonrecreational use of Thurston County park property, or as it may be hereafter amended. Applications may need to be supplemented with a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist, or applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code Critical Areas Administrative Review (CAAR) Form, or shoreline permit, if applicable. The applicant shall pay all associated fees and shall include any additional information as requested by the director. The application shall be accompanied by a description of the utility facilities to be constructed, drawings, plans and specifications in sufficient detail to demonstrate:

H. Section 13.56.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

13.56.100 Location.

A. Utility installations shall be located to minimize need for later adjustment to accommodate future roadway improvements and to permit access to servicing such installations with minimum interference to roadway traffic. The county shall make available to permittees a copy of its six-year transportation improvement program (or capital facilities and transportation plan where required), in order to minimize both utility customer and road user inconvenience should future road improvements (on existing or new alignment) require adjustment or relocating of the utility facilities. Utility installations shall also be located to minimize impacts to critical areas, as defined in the Thurston County's Critical Areas Ordinance, title 24 Thurston County Code, or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, chapter 17.15 Thurston County Code.

I. Section 13.56.120 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

13.56.120 Standards and Codes.

All utility installations shall be designed in accordance with the standards, codes and regulations applicable to the type of utility. This shall also include any road standards which the county shall deem necessary to provide adequate protection to the road, its safe operation, appearance and maintenance. Permittee shall further comply with any applicable provisions of title 24 and Title 17 Thurston County Code.

J. Section 13.56.270 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
**13.56.270 Vegetation management.**

...  

C. The utilities IVM plan shall be consistent with the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance and the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and any future groundwater and wellhead protection ordinances. After the county approves the initial IVM plan, revisions shall be submitted and approved annually.

...  

K. Section 14.21.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**14.21.070 Permit approval limitations.**

No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 of the Thurston County Code and Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code for agricultural activities), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code.

A permit or approval may be granted if conditioned on having the violation remedied within a reasonable time as provided by the approval authority. If a permit or approval is conditioned on remedial action, security in the form of a letter of credit or similar instrument shall be required unless waived by the approval authority for good cause. This section shall not apply to requests for a permit or approval to remedy a violation.

L. Section 14.37.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**14.37.020 Section J102 amended - Definitions.**

International Building Code section J102.1 Definitions is amended by adding the following definitions:

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. The schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and structural and/or managerial practices, that when used singly or in combination, prevent or reduce the impacts to the project site, critical areas and adjoining properties.
CRITICAL AREA. Critical Areas are as defined by title 24 of the Thurston County Code and for agricultural activities, chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code.

EARTH MATERIAL. Any rock, natural soil or fill or any combination thereof.

RECORD DRAWINGS. Engineering plans for the proposal, including revisions reflecting any and all changes to the plans which occurred during construction.

REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. A civil engineer or geologist licensed to practice in the State of Washington.

M. Section 14.37.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

14.37.040 Section J104 amended – Permit application and submittals.
International Building Code sections J104.3 and J104.4 are amended to read as follows; and new section J104.5 is added to read as follows:

J104.3 Soils Report. A soils report prepared by a registered design professional shall be provided for permits where excavation and fill quantities are equal to or exceed five thousand cubic yards, when required by the Thurston County Code or as required by the County engineer or designee. The report shall contain at least the following:

1. The nature and distribution of existing soils;
2. Conclusions and recommendations for grading procedures;
3. Soil design criteria for any structures or embankments required to accomplish the proposed grading;
4. Where necessary, slope stability studies, and recommendations and conclusions regarding site geology;
5. Liquefaction potential; and
6. Construction inspection procedures.

J104.4 Drainage & Erosion Control Plans & Report. A drainage and erosion control plan and report is required. Submittal requirements and design standards are contained in the current Thurston County Drainage Design & Erosion Control Manual.

J104.5 Environmental Considerations. Unless exempt from a grading permit under section J103 or exempt under title 24 or chapter 17.15 Thurston County Code (Critical Areas), land development projects, including clearing and grading activities, must have a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist completed by the applicant. Permits, project acceptance, and/or
approvals shall not be issued until an environmental determination has been issued and the SEPA appeal period has passed.

N. Section 14.48.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

14.48.100 Contents of application.

For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided. During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the resource stewardship department if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, department review of other aspects of the project will continue. The resource stewardship department has the authority to defer certain application requirements listed below to subsequent phases of the project.

A. Nonresidential and Multifamily Residential Permits (Type I and II Applications). Submittals shall be required to show compliance with the codes referenced in Chapters 14.17, 14.18, 14.19, 14.32 and 14.34. The number of sets and size of plans required for each submittal requirement shall be as stated on the Nonresidential Construction Drawing Submittal Form. Each application for a nonresidential and multifamily residential permit shall contain the following in a clear, accurate and intelligible form:

11. A narrative summary of all uses and activities proposed to occur on-site, including hours of operation. For nonresidential developments, provide a statement which indicates whether hazardous materials, as defined in chapter 24.03 of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance or Section TCC 17.15.200 of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, will be used, stored or disposed of on-site, or as a result of site activities;

18. Environmental documents, such as SEPA Checklist, or applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 TCC or chapter 17.15 TCC; or Critical Areas Administrative Review Form, if applicable;

B. Residential and Grading Permits (Type I and II Applications). Residential permit submittals shall be required to show compliance with the codes referenced in Chapters 14.17, 14.18, 14.19, 14.32 and 14.34. Grading permit submittals shall be required to show compliance with Appendix J of the International Building Code. The number of sets and size of plans required for each submittal requirement shall be as stated on the Residential Project Submittal Standards Form. Each application for a private residence, its accessory
structures and grading permit shall contain the following in a clear, accurate and intelligible form, except that grading permit applications do not need to include the information in subsections (B)(2), (3), (4), (10), (11) and (12) of this section;

9. Environmental documents, such as SEPA Checklist, or applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 TCC or chapter 17.15 TCC; or Critical Areas Administrative Review Form, if applicable;

II. TITLE 17 ENVIRONMENT

A. Section 17.09.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.100 Preparation of EIS – Additional considerations.
A. Preparation of a draft and final EIS and supplemental EIS (SEIS) is the responsibility of the development services/resource stewardship department under the direction of the responsible official. Before the county issues an EIS, the responsible official shall be satisfied that it complies with this chapter and Chapter 197-11 WAC.

B. Section 17.09.130 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.130 Designation of official to perform consulted agency responsibilities for the county.
A. The Thurston County development services/resource stewardship department director or designee shall be responsible for preparation of written comments for the county in response to a consultation request prior to a threshold determination, participation in scoping, or reviewing a draft EIS.

C. Section 17.09.140 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.140 Designation of responsible official.
A. For those proposals for which the county is the lead agency, the responsible official shall be the Thurston County development services/resource stewardship department director or designee.

D. Section 17.09.150 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.150 Substantive authority.
D. The county designates and adopts by reference the following policies as the basis for the county’s exercise of authority pursuant to this section:
3. The county adopts by reference the policies in the following county codes, ordinances and plans, as amended:

h. Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC), and the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 TCC);

E. Section 17.09.160 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.160 Environmental appeals.

... C. Time to Appeal. A written notice of appeal, meeting the requirements of subsection D of this section, and the appeal fee must be received by the development services resource stewardship department within fourteen calendar days of the date of issuance of the threshold determination or, if there is a comment period under WAC 197-11-340, within seven calendar days of the last day of the comment period. If the last day of the appeal period is a holiday or a weekend, the appeal must be filed by five p.m. on the first weekday following such holiday or weekend.

... F. Public Notice of Appeal Before the Hearing Examiner. When Thurston County receives a timely notice of appeal and timely filing of appropriate fees under this chapter, the county shall give public notice of such appeal by mailing notice to:

1. The appellant, project sponsor, the environmental review officer, and any individuals or organizations who have submitted a written request for notice of SEPA appeals to the development services resource stewardship department;

... 4. The appropriate media, as determined by the development services resource stewardship department, but only if the appeal is of a nonproject action.

F. Section 17.09.170 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.09.170 Critical Areas.

A. Applications for land uses, commercial buildings and grading permits shall also apply for the applicable review or permit required by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 of the TCC).

B. Applications for agricultural land uses, commercial building and grading permits that are categorically exempt from SEPA per Section 17.09.055 and that have critical areas or critical area buffers, as defined in the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 TCC), affecting the project...
site, shall apply for a critical area administrative review (CAAR). The CAAR procedures in Chapter 17.15 TCC shall apply.

G. Section 17.25.200 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**17.25.200 Definitions**

... “Development proposal” means any activity relating to use and/or development of land requiring a permit or approval from the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department.

"Director" means the Thurston County director of development services resource stewardship or the directors designee.

H. Section 17.25.300 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**17.25.300 Exemptions.**

E. Street Trees. Removal of street trees on behalf of and with the approval of the director of the Thurston County reads and transportation services public works department, and when recommended by a qualified professional forester

I. Section 17.25.400 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**17.25.400 North county urban growth area conversion requirements.**

... D. Conversion Standards. All forest lands conversions within the north county urban growth area shall comply with all of the applicable provisions of the following:

1. Title 24 of the Thurston County Code otherwise known as the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance and Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code, otherwise known as the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance;

... F. Use of Tree Tracts. Recreational uses, such as picnic areas and trails, which would not jeopardize the survival of protected trees (e.g. by damaging roots, compacting soil, or altering drainage), can be located in tree tracts with written approval of the development services resource stewardship department. The department may also authorize stormwater...
ponds in tree tracts if trees would not be removed and tree roots would not be damaged during construction or by saturated soil conditions such that their survival would be jeopardized. Prior to acting on the request, the approval authority may require the proponent to supply a written analysis from a qualified professional forester regarding the proposal’s potential impact on the protected trees.

J. Section 17.25.500 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.25.500 Rural area and other urban growth area conversion requirements.

... C. Conversion Standards. All forest lands conversions, other than those located within the north county urban growth area, shall comply with all of the applicable provisions of the following:

1. Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 TCC) and Chapter 17.15 TCC of the Thurston County Code, otherwise known as the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance;

... K. Section 17.25.600 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.25.600 Administration.

... C. Authority and Duties of the County and Director.

1. It shall be the duty of the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department to administer the provisions of this chapter.

... 7. When forest land is being converted to agricultural use, the director may use alternative measures or procedures as allowed by subsection C6 above, and those provisions of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 TCC) and the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code) which provide for flexible standards for agricultural uses.

... D. Application Requirements. Any application for a forest lands conversion or COHP, subject to review under this chapter, will not be deemed complete unless it contains the following, where applicable:

1. A completed "Forest Lands Conversion Application" form as provided by the development services resource stewardship department;
E. Application Procedure and General Conditions. The application for forest lands conversion shall be processed according to the same permitting procedures described in Chapter 20.60 of the Thurston County Code. For purposes of this chapter:

4. The development services resource stewardship department shall forward a copy of the conversion forest practices and the county's action to the Thurston County assessor for their use.

5. A forest land conversion approval by the county is valid for a period of one year or the duration of the associated development permit or approval. The development services resource stewardship department may authorize an extension of one hundred eighty days.

6. The director may approve an amendment to the county's approval if the amendment is consistent with the conversion standards. If granted, the development services resource stewardship department shall provide a written record of the amendment and will provide a copy of it to the landowner and/or forester.

L. Section 17.25.700 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.25.700 Development moratorium requirements.

B. Director Authority to Waive Moratorium on Parcels Twenty Acres or Larger. (Refer to Figure 1.)

The director shall waive the six-year moratorium solely for construction of one single-family residence (including a family member unit where zoning allows) and related accessory buildings on a legal lot and building site, under the following conditions:

2. The building site area intended as developed property shall be no larger than two acres in size and, if the required critical area buffer or shoreline setback has been disturbed, shall be located with at least twice the required critical area buffer or shoreline setback as provided for in title 24, Chapter 17.215 or 19.04, respectively, of the Thurston County Code;
2. Critical areas and their buffers, and shoreline area as set forth in title 24, chapters 17.15 and 19.04, respectively, of the Thurston County Code were not damaged in the forest practice operation, or that any such damage is repairable with restoration; and

... 

M. Section 17.25.800 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

17.25.800 Enforcement.

... 

E. Civil Infractions. In addition to any other remedy provided in this chapter, the director or his/her designee may issue a civil infraction pursuant to TCC Section 17.15.430 for agricultural activities governed by the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 TCC), or a civil infraction pursuant to chapter 24.92 TCC for all other uses governed by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC). Any violation of this chapter shall constitute a Class II civil infraction. Except where trees are removed without a required permit, such civil infraction shall be given only after the owner of the property has been given prior notice with an opportunity to cure the violation.

... 

H. Permit Approval Limitations. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 of the Thurston County Code), the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

... 

III: TITLE 18 PLATTING AND SUBDIVISION 

A. Section 18.04.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.04.040 Specific Exemptions.

... 

H. Boundary Line Adjustments. A division made for the purpose of adjusting boundary lines which does not create any additional building lot, tract, parcel, building site or division
nor create any building lot, tract, parcel, building site or division which contains insufficient area and dimension to meet minimum requirements for a building site, except as described in subsection (H)(3) of this section, provided:

... 2. The proposed boundary line adjustment meets the following criteria:

... f. A BLA shall not detrimentally affect access, design, or other public safety and welfare concerns. The evaluation of detrimental effect may include review by the environmental health department, roads and transportation services, public works department, or any other applicable agency or department,

... 4. The legal description, scale drawing (map) and notarized declaration shall be recorded with the county auditor by the development services department. The county auditor shall furnish copies to other county agencies as required. The fee for these copies shall be in addition to all other recording fees. All required copies shall bear the auditor's recording data;

... B. Section 18.04.045 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.04.045 Legal lot criteria for building or transfer of ownership.
Thurston County will presume the validity of a lot if it meets any one of the criteria listed below. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to provide the necessary information. The development services department shall review the submitted materials to determine completeness and authenticity. If determined to be complete and authentic, the lot is deemed legal. Further review is not required unless an appeal is filed or an innocent purchaser claim is made. Any lot created in a legal manner as described below or through innocent purchaser status, remains a separate legal lot regardless of nonconformity, or contiguous ownership.

... C. Section 18.04.055 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.04.055 Resource use notice.

... B. The resource use notice shall be provided in a form and content prescribed by the development services department director.

D. The table of contents for chapter 18.08 shall be amended to add
18.08.133 Department.

E. Section 18.08.043 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.08.043 Binding site plan.
"Binding site plan" means a drawing to a scale specified by the development services department which: (A) identifies and shows the areas and locations of all streets, roads, improvements, utilities, open spaces, and any other matters specified by this title; (B) contains inscriptions or attachments setting forth such appropriate limitations and conditions for the use of the land as are established by the development services department; and (C) contains provisions making any development be in conformity with the site plan.

F. Section 18.08.133 TCC shall be added to read as follows:

18.08.133 Department.
“Department” means the resource stewardship department, its director, or its designee, unless, otherwise specified in this title.

G. Section 18.10.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.10.010 Administration.

The Thurston County development services resource stewardship department director and department staff, referred to as "planner," is vested with the duty of administering this title and may prepare and require the use of such additional forms which are necessary to effectuate the provisions of this title. Unless otherwise specified in this title, the term “department” means the resource stewardship department, or its designee.

H. Section 18.10.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.10.030 Application review procedures.

A. Type I Procedure—Ministerial Decision (See Appendix Figure 1).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type I application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 18.10.050. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing as to what basic submittal information is required to make the application complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.
3. Within fifty-eight calendar days of the date that the Type I application is submitted, the approval authority, as provided in Table 1, shall approve, approve with conditioning, or deny the application, and shall mail the decision to the applicant. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the application submittal date, the following periods shall be excluded:

a. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the development services department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information;

4. At any time after the application is submitted, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information.

6. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection A3 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of a decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

B. Type II Procedure—Administrative Decision (See Appendix Figure 2).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type II application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 18.10.050. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall send a letter of complete application to the applicant and shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall send a letter of incomplete application to the applicant, listing the basic submittal information that is required to make the application complete. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a
written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as
provided in this subsection.

2. Within fourteen calendar days after an applicant has submitted the additional
information identified in the letter of incomplete application as being necessary
for a complete application, the development services department shall notify the
applicant in writing whether the application is complete or what basic submittal
information is still needed to make the application complete.

3. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred calendar day review
clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate
written notification during the formal review period, the development services
department may request additional information or studies that are needed to
complete the review due to proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be
notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review
clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information.
The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen
calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will
begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

4. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the
development services department shall mail a notice of application to all owners
of property within a radius of three hundred feet of the project site if the site is
inside an urban growth area or to owners of property within a radius of five
hundred feet of the project site if the site is outside an urban growth area. It shall
also be mailed to the applicant and other interested parties. The notice of
application shall include the following:

... c. The identification of other permits not included in the application to the
extent known by the development services department;

... h. Any other information determined appropriate by the development
services department.

5. The development services department shall accept public comments in response
to the notice of application for up to twenty calendar days from the date of such
notice. The department shall mail to the applicant a copy of comments timely
received in response to the notice and shall consider such comments in the review
of the application. The department may consider comments received after the
twenty-day period has elapsed.
6. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination nor issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

9. Within the time limits provided in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 18.10.070.

10. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

12. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

C. Type III Procedure—Quasi-Judicial Decision (See Appendix Figure 3).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type III application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 18.10.050. The department shall render its decision on the completeness of the application in the manner prescribed in Section 18.10.030B1 and 2 above.

2. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred twenty calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the one hundred twenty-day review period, the development services department may request additional information or
studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

3. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail out a notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 18.10.030B4 above.

4. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 18.10.030B5 above.

5. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination nor shall the hearing examiner hold its public hearing on the permit application, until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

6. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing, the development services department shall complete the SEPA review and appeal process, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

7. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing on a Type III application, the development services department shall provide notice of the public hearing as follows:

... 

d. Mail notice to the State Department of Highways Transportation on every proposed subdivision located within three hundred feet of the right-of-way of a state highway;

... 

10. Within the time limits provided in subsection C8 above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of
decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 18.10.070

11. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

... 

13. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection C8 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

I. Section 18.10.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.10.040 Optional consolidated permit processing**

A proposed project action involving two or more land use permit applications is encouraged to be processed in a consolidated manner, following the review and approval process of the highest numbered permit type represented among the required permits (see Table 1). The development services department shall designate a permit coordinator when two or more permit applications are processed concurrently.

The applicant may determine whether the multiple permit applications shall be processed concurrently or individually, except that a variance associated with a preliminary plat, short plat or large lot application shall be processed concurrently with the proposed division. For applications that are processed individually, the highest numbered permit type (see Table 1) shall be acted upon prior to the processing of the lower numbered permit types.

J. Section 18.10.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.10.050 Contents of application.**

For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided. During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the county if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, county review of other aspects of the project will continue.
If the application is deemed incomplete or if additional information is required, the applicant shall have one hundred eighty calendar days to submit the required information to the development services department. The department shall notify the applicant as to when the one-hundred-eighty-day period will end. If the applicant does not submit the required information within the one-hundred-eighty-day period, the application shall lapse. Prior to the expiration date, the applicant may request in writing an extension of time. The development services department director may grant an extension if the required studies or information warrants additional time.

C. Type II and III Applications. Each application for a Type II or Type III action shall contain the following in a clear, accurate and intelligible form:

3. Full size copies (quantity and size as stated on the application form) and one eleven inches by seventeen inches reduced copy of a preliminary map/site plan drawing or drawings (folded, not rolled) at a scale of not less than two hundred feet to the inch (using a standard interval of engineer scale), which shall include or show:

r. For preliminary plats only, proposed name of the subdivision. This name shall not duplicate nor resemble the name of another subdivision in Thurston County and shall be approved by the development services department;

10. Applicable environmental documents, e.g., SEPA Checklist, critical areas permit application or review form under the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15) Critical Areas Administrative Review Form, or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;

K. Section 18.10.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
18.10.060 Fees.

Applicants for permits or other approvals pursuant to this title shall pay to the development services department the applicable fees identified on the approved fee schedule, which is adopted by reference.

L. Section 18.10.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.10.070 Appeal procedures.

A. Appeals of Administrative Decisions. Appeals may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment thereto (Type I and II actions; see Table 1). Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

B. Appeals of Hearing Examiner Decisions. The final decision by the hearing examiner on Type III actions and on Type I and II appeals, as provided in Table 1, may be appealed to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved person or agency directly affected by the hearing examiner's decision, unless otherwise provided in this title. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

C. Judicial Appeals. The final decision by the board of county commissioners on Type IV actions and on Type I, II and III appeals, as provided in Table 1, may be appealed to Superior Court, as follows:

1. Any judicial action to challenge, set aside or void any amendment to this title or any decisions made pursuant to the provisions of this title must be commenced within twenty calendar days from the date of amendment or decision.

2. The plaintiff bringing any such action shall pay the full cost of transcription of the record prepared for judicial review of the matter being appealed.

M. Section 18.10.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.10.080 Code interpretations.

Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title that pertains to an application under review or to a proposal that has been the subject of a presubmission conference. The development services department shall issue a written determination to the
person requesting the interpretation in accordance with the Type I procedures in Section 18.10.030A. The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations.

N. Section 18.10.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.10.090 Permit approval limitations.

No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 of the Thurston County Code), the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

A permit or approval may be granted if conditioned on having the violation remedied within a reasonable time as provided by the approval authority. If a permit or approval is conditioned on remedial action, security in the form of a letter of credit or similar instrument shall be required unless waived by the approval authority for good cause. This section shall not apply to requests for a permit or approval to remedy a violation.

O. Section 18.12.150 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.12.150 Duration of approval.

A. Approval of the preliminary plat shall be effective for five years from the date of approval, during which time a final plat or plats may be submitted. During this time the terms and conditions upon which the preliminary approval was given will not be changed without the applicant's consent. A final plat meeting all requirements of this title shall be submitted to the board of county commissioners for approval within five years of the date of preliminary plat approval. An applicant who files a written request with the development services department at least thirty calendar days before the expiration of this five-year period shall be granted a one-year extension of the approval period by the development services department; provided, that the development services department finds that the preliminary plat is consistent with the adopted Comprehensive Plan, is consistent with applicable public health and safety standards, and there are no emerging adverse environmental issues relevant to the project. If the development services department cannot make the above findings, the department shall schedule a public hearing before the hearing examiner to consider the requested one-year extension of time, in accordance with the procedures of this title and Chapter 2.06 TCC.

B. If the preliminary plat consists of more than two hundred living units or lots and one-half the total lots have received final plat approval, an applicant who files a written request
with the development services department at least thirty calendar days before the
expiration of the five-year approval period may be granted up to five one-year extensions
of the approval period by the development services department; provided, that a final plat
has been filed each year. The development services department shall grant the extension
of time upon finding that the preliminary plat is consistent with the adopted
Comprehensive Plan, is consistent with applicable public health and safety standards and
there are no emerging adverse environmental issues relevant to the project. If the
development services department cannot make the above findings, the department shall
schedule a public hearing before the hearing examiner to consider the requested one-year
extension of time, in accordance with the procedures of this title and Chapter 2.06 TCC.

D. The hearings examiner may approve a preliminary plat with a provisional extended
approval clause, allowing sequential one-year extensions of the preliminary approval by
the development services department, for up to ten years beyond the initial five-year
approval, for a total of fifteen years, subject to all of the following conditions and Section
18.12.150E, below:

E. The development services department may grant up to ten one-year extensions of
preliminary approval for a preliminary plat that has been granted a provisional extended
approval clause pursuant to Section 18.12.050D, above, provided the following
conditions are met:

1. The applicant files a written request with the development services department at
least thirty calendar days before the expiration of the most recent preliminary
approval period;

2. The development services department finds that the preliminary plat is consistent
with the adopted Comprehensive Plan, is consistent with applicable health and
safety standards, and there are no emerging adverse environmental issues relevant
to the project; and

3. A final plat has been filed each year for all previous one-year extensions.

If the development services department cannot make the findings noted above, the
department shall schedule a public hearing before the hearings examiner to
consider the requested one-year extension of time, in accordance with the
procedures of this title and Chapter 2.06 TCC.

P. Section 18.12.160 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
18.12.160 Minor or major adjustments.
Once the preliminary plat has been approved, it shall not be altered without receiving county approval. Minor adjustments may be approved with concurrence of the development services director and roads and transportation services public works director. Major adjustments are alterations that are felt to be of a substantial nature by the development services director or roads and transportation services public works director and shall be resubmitted to the hearing examiner for approval through the public hearing process.

Q. Section 18.16.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 18.16.010 Submission.
The following shall accompany the final plat at the time it is submitted to the planner:

E. A certificate by the roads and transportation services public works department that the subdivider has complied with one of the following:

2. Only minor improvements remain to be installed and an agreement and bond have been executed as provided for in TCC Chapter 18.24 to assure completion of such minor required improvements. Minor improvements shall include, but not be limited to, landscaping, tree planting, and street lights. Prior to and as a condition of entering into such an agreement, the development services department director, or designee, shall determine whether the delay in construction of such minor repairs or minor improvements shall constitute a hazard to public health and safety. Minor improvements shall not include drainage or improvements necessary for emergency services.

S. Each and every plat or replat of any property filed for record shall:

1. Contain a statement of approval from the roads and transportation services public works department or by a licensed engineer acting on behalf of Thurston County as to the survey data, the layout of streets, alleys and other rights-of-way, design of bridges, sewage and water systems and other structures,
R. Section 18.16.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.16.030 Permanent control monuments.
Permanent control monuments shall be established at each and every controlling corner on the boundaries of the parcel of land being subdivided. The roads and transportation services public works director shall determine the number and location of permanent control monuments within the plat, if any.

S. Section 18.16.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.16.060 Approval.

A. Upon receipt of the final plat and accompanying data, the development services department director, the roads and transportation services public works department, the county treasurer, the county assessor and the Thurston County public health department shall review the final map and documents to determine that the plan conforms with the approved preliminary documents to determine that the plan conforms with the approved preliminary plat, and that there is compliance with provisions of the law and of this title.

T. Section 18.16.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.16.070 Composition.

D. The plat shall also show the following certificates:

1. Certificate—County Engineer.

Examined and Approved this ____________ day of ____________ A.D., 2019 ____________.

Thurston County Engineer

2. Certificate—Health Officer.

Examined and Approved this ____________ day of ____________ A.D., 2019 ____________.

Health Officer


Examined and Approved this ____________ day of ____________ A.D., 2019 ____________.
Thurston County Assessor


I hereby certify that all taxes on the land described hereon have been fully paid to and including the year.

Thurston County Treasurer


Examined and Approved this ____________ day of ____________ A.D., 2019 ____________

Development Services Resource Stewardship Director

6. Certificate—Chairman, Board of County Commissioners.

Examined and Approved this ____________ day of ____________ A.D., 2019 ____________

Chairman, Board of Thurston County, Commissioners

ATTEST:

County Auditor and Ex Officio

Clerk of County Commissioners


Filed for record at the request of ____________ this ____________ day ____________ 2019 ____________, at minutes past ____________ o'clock ____________m., and recorded in Volume ____________ of Plats, on page ____________ records of Thurston County, Washington.

Thurston County Auditor
U. Section 18.16.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.16.100 Filing.**
The approved final plat shall be recorded within five days after the date the last required signature has been obtained. The development services department shall record the approved plat.

V. Section 18.16.110 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.16.110 Effect of approval.**
A subdivision shall be governed by the terms of approval of the final plat, and the statutes, ordinances, and regulations in effect at the time of approval under RCW 58.17.150(1) (sewage disposal and water supply requirements) and (3) (roads and transportation services public works department requirements) for a period of five years after final plat approval unless the legislative body finds that a change in conditions creates a serious threat to the public health or safety in the subdivision.

W. Section 18.24.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.24.010 Agreement in lieu of completion of improvements – Agreement to assure successful operation of improvements.**

A. Before final approval is given for any division of land pursuant to Title 18, Thurston County Code:

2. In lieu of installation of all required minor improvements, the developer may execute and file with the county an agreement guaranteeing completion of such improvements together with any needed replacements or repairs within a specified time. In no case shall final plat approval be given if any related improvements remain uninstalled that shall constitute a hazard to public health and safety as determined by the development services director, or designee. Such agreement:

   a. May be approved by the director or designee of either the roads and transportation services public works or the resource stewardship development services departments;

   b. Shall provide the period of time within which all work required shall be completed which shall not exceed one year from the date of approval.
Such agreement may provide for reasonable extensions of time for completion of work. Extensions must be requested, approved by the board of county commissioners or the director or designee of either the roads and transportation services, public works, or the resource stewardship development services departments, and properly secured as provided in this title in advance of the required initial completion date;

c. Shall provide that the developer shall notify the public works, roads and transportation services department director or designee promptly upon completion of all required improvements and that the director or designee will give notice of approval or disapproval of installation within a reasonable time after receiving notice of completion;

B. Regardless of whether all required improvements are completed prior to final approval of any division of land pursuant to Title 18, Thurston County Code, as a condition of such approval, the developer shall execute an agreement to assure successful operation of such improvements.

3. The agreement and security may be approved by the director or designee of either the roads and transportation services, public works, or the resource stewardship development services departments;

X. Section 18.24.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.24.020 Forms and amount of financial security.

B. The financial security provided for by this section shall be for a sum estimated by the director of public works, roads and transportation services as sufficient to cover the costs of the developers failure to comply with the agreements provided for by Section 18.24.010, including all related engineering and incidental expenses, final survey monumentation and certified original reproducible mylar as constructed improvement plans.

Y. Section 18.28.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
18.28.030 Preliminary action.

B. The proposed division shall be approved when the development services department finds that:

2. Encroachment from the lots to a public road is provided in a manner approved by the roads and transportation services public works department, which may specify that encroachments be combined and may designate encroachment locations.

Z. Section 18.32.130 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.32.130 Environmental review.
If environmental review is required on any short plat, the development services department will take no action on the short plat until the final environmental review has been completed.

AA. Section 18.32.140 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.32.140 Preliminary action.

B. Upon the following subject matters, the public use and interest shall be deemed to require as a minimum the standards set out below:

2. Bridges and storm drainage facilities shall be subject to the approval of the roads and transportation services public works department.

8. A short plat may be denied if the planner, after consultation with the roads and transportation services public works director, finds that the creation of an access point from the short plat onto an arterial or collector street will be likely, in view of the anticipated traffic from the short plat, the cumulative effect of similar approvals and other factors, to pose a traffic safety problem; provided, that the short plat may be approved if acceptable alternative access, such as use of adjacent easements, is provided.

C. The development services department shall consider the proposed short subdivision and make written findings with regard to:

3. The physical characteristics of the short subdivision site. Disapproval may be made based upon noncompliance with the Thurston County Critical areas
Ordinance (Title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 TCC). Construction of protective improvements may be required as a condition of approval; and

D. The development services department shall:

1. Approve the preliminary short subdivision with or without conditions; or

2. Disapprove the preliminary short subdivision; or

3. Submit the proposed preliminary short subdivision to the hearing examiner for decision.

BB. Section 18.32.235 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.32.235 Final approval and recording.

A. If the applicant complies with all the requirements and conditions of preliminary short plat approval and all other applicable standards or regulations, then final approval shall be given by the development services department based upon a finding that the short plat serves the public use and interest. The written approval shall be inscribed upon the face of the short plat.

CC. Section 18.47.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.47.040 Standards for dedication.

A. Outside the Lacey and Tumwater Urban Growth Areas. An area greater than or equal to ten percent of the gross land area to be divided shall be dedicated for the open space and recreational needs of its residents. This does not require the installation of recreational facilities. Land proposed for dedication shall meet the following additional criteria:

3. Types of Open Space.

   d. For project sites comprised of at least thirty percent critical areas, the percentage of active recreation area required in the open space portion of the site may be decreased to an appropriate level as determined by the development services department, if it is determined that: (i) inclusion of more critical areas in the required open space would better meet the needs of the subdivision residents; or (ii) meeting the standard would require detrimental grading or other disturbance of the natural setting.
B. Within the Lacey Urban Growth Area. The minimum usable open space dedicated in residential subdivisions shall be ten percent of the total site. The minimum usable open space dedicated in commercial or industrial subdivisions or short plats shall be ten percent of the total site. Required open space area shall at a minimum meet the following standards:

5. Existing trees and significant vegetation shall be retained in open space areas unless an alternative landscape plan for such areas is required and approved by the development services department.

C. Within the Tumwater Urban Growth Area. The minimum usable open space/park area dedicated for residential subdivisions shall be ten percent of the total gross site area. For commercial or industrial subdivisions, short plats and binding site plans, the minimum usable open space/park area dedicated shall be five percent of the total site; provided, however, a commercial or industrial land division which includes a master plan that provides for an open space/park area meeting the intent of this provision shall be considered to have fulfilled this requirement. Required open space/park area shall at a minimum meet the following standards:

2. All open space/park areas must include any two or more facilities for active and/or passive recreation from the lists below. For open space/park areas within residential developments, at least one of the required recreation facilities must be from the list of active recreation facilities (this area may include stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreation opportunities in accordance with Chapter 15.05 TCC, the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual).

   a. Active Recreation Facilities.

   iv. Other active recreation facility if approved by the development services director upon consultation with the Tumwater parks manager.

   b. Passive Recreation Facilities.

   v. Other passive recreation facility if approved by the development services director upon consultation with the Tumwater parks manager.
3. The open space/park area shall have convenient access for residences/employees of the development and shall be consolidated to provide maximum access, visibility, minimization of impacts to residential uses, and ease of maintenance. The requirement that the open space/park area be consolidated may be waived by the director of the development services department upon a finding that the residents of the development would receive a greater benefit if the required open space/park area were provided in another configuration due to the unique topographic conditions or fish and wildlife habitat values of the site.

... 

DD. Section 18.47.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.47.070 Equivalent facilities.**
When areas proposed for dedication do not meet the criteria for dedication in Section 18.47.040A, such land may be improved by grading, filling, landscaping, or with installation of recreation equipment so as to be equivalent in result to the intent of this chapter. Determination of equivalency shall be made by the development services department according to the following guidelines:

... 

EE. Section 18.47.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.47.080 Stormwater detention facilities.**
Stormwater detention/retention facilities may be allowed as open space subject to the provisions of this chapter and the criteria contained in Section 20.32.070 TCC. In the event of a stormwater system failure subsequent to final plat approval, the development services department may authorize, with the consent of the affected property owner(s) and consistent with Section 18.04.060, necessary stormwater facilities in designed open space. Also, the development services department may authorize new or expanded stormwater facilities in open space tracts to accommodate stormwater generated by a federal, state or county project if there is no other reasonable alternative.

... 

FF. Section 18.47.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**18.47.090 Rights and duties.**
The owners of open space shall have the following rights which may be exercised in respect of such land, subject to restrictive covenants or other restrictions:

... 

C. The right to cover up to but not exceeding ten percent of the land with impervious substances reasonably necessary to exercise the rights provided in subsections A and B of this section unless additional impervious surface is needed to comply with Section 18.47.040C. The development and location of impervious surfaces requires compliance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual, Chapter 15.05 TCC.
County Critical Areas Ordinance, Title 24 TCC, and the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, Chapter 17.15 TCC;

... GG. Section 18.48.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

18.48.040 Relief for an innocent purchaser for value.

... B. A lot not created in a legal manner and subsequently acquired by an innocent purchaser, as so determined by the Thurston County hearing examiner after a properly noticed public hearing, is deemed legal, wherein such purchaser files a notarized affidavit with the Thurston County development services department attesting to the following:

IV: TITLE 19 SHORELINES MASTER PROGRAM

A. Section 19.14.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

19.14.010 Permit approval limitations.
No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinance (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

IV: TITLE 20 ZONING

A. Section 20.03.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.03.030 Interpretations.

9. The terms "board of Thurston County commissioners," "planning commission," "hearing examiner," "development services resource stewardship director," "health officer," "building officer," "building inspector" and other similar offices shall mean the respective boards, commissions, and officers of Thurston County and/or their authorized agents. The use of the term "board" shall always mean the board of Thurston County commissioners, the use of the abbreviation "examiner" shall always mean the hearing examiner, the use of the term "director" shall always mean the director of the development services resource stewardship department; and the use of the term "commission" shall always mean the planning commission. The use of the term “department” by itself shall always
mean the resource stewardship department, unless otherwise indicated in the specific section.

B. Section 20.03.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.03.040 Definitions.

35.1 "Department" when used by itself in this title means the resource stewardship department, unless otherwise indicated in the specific section.

84.5 "Mineral extraction" means the removal of minerals, including, but not limited to, sand, gravel, shale, rock, coal, soil, peat or clay, from an excavation in the earth. This shall not include the following:

b. Excavation and grading in public rights-of-way for the purpose of on-site road construction, or in private rights-of-way for the same purpose if authorized by the roads and transportation services; or

d. Excavation and grading in connection with and at the site of any creek, river or flood-control or storm drainage channel for the purpose of enlarging hydraulic capacity or changing the location or constructing a new channel or storm drain where such work has been approved by the roads and transportation services; or

138.9 "Transferable development right" means a certificate issued by Thurston County development services which represents a unit of density derived from a TDR sending area parcel. Such rights may be (a) severed from the TDR sending area parcel and used in a TDR receiving area in accordance with the TDR receiving area regulations of the applicable Thurston County jurisdiction; or (b) attached to a TDR sending area parcel when required.

C. Section 20.05.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.05.030 Exemptions.

1. The following structures and uses shall be exempt from the regulations of this title:
   c. Telephone booths and pedestals, underground utility equipment, mailboxes, bus shelters, informational kiosks, public bicycle shelters, or any similar structure or device which in the opinion of the development services director are obviously intended to be located in the public interest.

D. Section 20.06.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.06.010 Zoning map.
The location and boundaries of the zoning districts established by this title are as indicated on a parcel specific map entitled "Official Zoning Map, Thurston County, Washington," a copy of
which shall be on file in the development services department. This map is adopted as a part of this title insofar as it indicates such designations, locations and boundaries of zoning districts, and shall be deemed to be part of this title.

E. Section 20.07.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.07.050 Reduction in yard requirements.

1. Administrative Front Yard Variance to Block Average. In any residential district, where a front yard less than that required by this title has been maintained on lots having fifty percent or more of the total frontage of the block, each structure built after the effective date of this title may maintain a front yard the same size as the average front yard of such existing structures. The applicant shall request such variance from the development services department and shall provide setback measurements for the subject block or group of lots.

2. Administrative Variance to All Yard Requirements. A reduction in yard requirements shall be permitted after development services department review and approval when:

3. Practical Difficulty. A practical difficulty is present where the harm to the applicant denied a variance will be greater than the probable effect on neighboring properties if the variance is granted. The development services department shall consider the following factors in making a determination of practical difficulty: the nature of the zone in which the property lies, the character of the immediate vicinity and the uses intended therefor, and whether, if restrictions were removed, neighboring property would be seriously affected, and whether, if restrictions were not removed, they would create unnecessary hardship for the owner in relation to efforts to make normal improvements given the property's permitted use. An applicant's mere desire for a variance, even when motivated by economic reasons, does not constitute a practical difficulty.

5. Conditions. Conditions of approval may be attached to any variance granted by the development services department.

6. Expiration of variance approval. If a building permit has not been issued, or if construction activity or operation has not commenced within three years from the date of final approval by the development services department, the variance shall expire. The variance shall also expire when vacated for a period of three years. Knowledge of the expiration date is the responsibility of the applicant. The county is not responsible for providing notification prior to expiration.

F. Section 20.07.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.07.070 Use limitations on corner lots.

2. Since the purpose of this provision is to promote public safety by preserving reasonable sight distances for vehicular traffic at street intersections, the roads and transportation services public works director may vary the specific requirements in those instances...
where structures or plantings between the two horizontal planes do not in fact interfere with sight distances.

G. Section 20.07.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.07.060 Unclassified uses.
1. Determination. In the event a use is proposed which is not listed in the title as permitted, accessory or special use, the development services director shall determine whether the use should be treated as one of the listed uses. Such determination shall be based on: 

H. Section 20.08.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.08A.030 Family member unit.
2. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the development services department before locating or constructing the unit.

I. Section 20.08A.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.08A.035 Subdivision standards.
1. The development services director or hearing examiner shall find that the proposed subdivision meets the purpose and intent of the long-term agriculture district as a prerequisite to approval.

J. Section 20.08D.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.08D.030 Family member unit.
2. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the development services department before locating or constructing the unit.
L. Section 20.09A.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.09A.030 Family member unit.**

...  
2. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the development services department before locating or constructing the unit.

...  

M. Section 20.09A.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.09A.050 Design Standards.**
The following standards are established to insure that the purpose of this district is achieved and maintained as new lots are created and new buildings are constructed:

...  
7. Vegetation Retention Within the Green Cove Creek Drainage Basin.  
a. Tree Tracts. Subdivisions, short subdivisions, large lot subdivisions, and other developments within the basin, except construction of dwellings on individual lots/parcels, shall retain at least sixty percent of the site within tree tracts held in common ownership by the homeowner's association or comparable entity. For purposes of this section, a tree tract is a lot or area of land dedicated to tree retention for purposes of absorbing stormwater runoff. A tree tract may be included in a resource use parcel created as part of a planned rural residential development. However, there shall be no harvesting of trees from the tree tract. The tree tract(s) should be located downslope of the developed portion of the site, unless otherwise determined by the approval authority. Passive recreational uses, such as picnic areas and trails, which would not jeopardize the survival of protected trees (e.g. by damaging roots, compacting soil, or altering drainage), can be located in tree tracts with written approval of the development services department. The department may also authorize stormwater ponds in tree tracts if trees would not be removed and tree roots would not be damaged during construction or by saturated soil conditions such that their survival would be jeopardized. Prior to acting on the request, the approval authority may require the proponent to supply a written analysis from a qualified professional forester regarding the proposal's potential impact on the protected trees.

...  

N. Section 20.09A.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.09A.060 Additional regulations.**
Refer to the following chapters for provisions which may qualify or supplement the regulations presented above:

...  
9. Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance; and

10. Chapter 20.23, McAllister Geologically Sensitive Area District.
11.   Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.

O. Section 20.09B.025 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09B.025 Accessory uses.

...  
5.   Accessory uses for agriculture and forestry involving the storage of explosives, fuels and chemicals, subject to all applicable local, state and federal regulations including the additional standards for special uses in Chapter 20.54. Also see the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, Chapter 17.15, and the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, title 24.

P. Section 20.09B.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09B.035 Additional housing units.

1.   Farm Housing. Upon written approval by the Development Services Department of an affidavit submitted on a form available at the Department and recorded with the County Auditor, farm housing accessory to the farm residence on property meeting the definition of a farm in RCW 84.34.020 to accommodate agricultural workers and their families employed on the premises, as provided:

...  
2.   Family Member Units. Upon written approval by the Development Services Department of an affidavit submitted on a form available at the Department and recorded with the County Auditor, one temporary mobile/manufactured home or modular home, in addition to the maximum number of dwelling units authorized by Section TCC 20.09B.040 and excluding farm housing units, may be located upon a lot for the purpose of housing a person or persons who are family members to a person residing in an existing structure on the lot. A person is a family member when related by blood, civil union, marriage or adoption. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

...  
Q. Section 20.09B.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09B.060 Additional regulations.

Refer to the following chapters for provisions which may qualify or supplement the regulations presented above:

...  
9.   Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance;

10. Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.

R. Section 20.09C.025 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09C.025 Accessory uses.

Subject to the provisions of this title, the following accessory uses are permitted in this district:
5. Accessory uses for agriculture and forestry involving the storage of explosives, fuels and chemicals, subject to all applicable local, state and federal regulations including the additional standards for special uses in Chapter 20.54. Also see the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, Chapter 17.15, and the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, title 24.

S. Section 20.09C.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09C.035 Additional housing units.
1. Farm Housing. Upon written approval by the Development Services Department of an affidavit submitted on a form available at the Department and recorded with the County Auditor, farm housing accessory to the farm residence on property meeting the definition of a farm in RCW 84.34.020 to accommodate agricultural workers and their families employed on the premises, as provided:

2. Family Member Units. Upon written approval by the Development Services Department of an affidavit submitted on a form available at the Department and recorded with the County Auditor, one temporary mobile/manufactured home or modular home, in addition to the maximum number of dwelling units authorized by TCC 20.09C.040 and excluding farm housing units, may be located upon a lot for the purpose of housing a person or persons who are family members to a person residing in an existing structure on the lot. A person is a family member when related by blood, civil union, marriage or adoption. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

T. Section 20.09C.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09C.060 Additional regulations.
Refer to the following chapters for provisions which may qualify or supplement the regulations presented above:

9. Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance;

10. Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.

U. Section 20.09D.025 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.09D.025 Accessory uses.
Subject to the provisions of this title, the following accessory uses are permitted in this district:

5. Accessory uses for agriculture and forestry involving the storage of explosives, fuels and chemicals, subject to all applicable local, state and federal regulations. Also see the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, Chapter 17.15, and the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, Title 24.
V. Section 20.09D.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.09D.035 Additional housing units.**
Additional housing units are allowed in this district as follows:
1. **Family Member Units.** Upon written approval by the Development Services Department of an affidavit submitted on a form available at the department and recorded with the county auditor, one temporary mobile/manufactured home or modular home, in addition to the maximum number of dwelling units authorized by Section 20.09D.040 and excluding farm housing units, may be located upon a lot for the purpose of housing a person or persons who are family members to a person residing in an existing structure on the lot. A person is a family member when related by blood, civil union, marriage or adoption. Approval subject to the following conditions:

W. Section 20.09D.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.09D.060 Additional regulations.**
Refer to the following chapters for provisions which may qualify or supplement the regulations presented above:

9. Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance;

10. Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance.

X. Section 20.10A.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.10A.030 Family member unit.**

2. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the Development Services Department before locating or constructing the unit.

Y. Section 20.30B.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.30B.035 Application requirements.**

1. An application for designation shall be filed with the department as a comprehensive plan amendment and shall include:

   b. A map at a scale of one inch equals eight hundred feet or greater of the project site and surrounding area, including the area within one thousand feet of the site, and which shows parcel boundaries, adjacent land uses and zoning, and known critical areas and their type or class, if known, as defined in title 24 TCC or Chapter 17.15 TCC to demonstrate that the requirements of this chapter have been complied with.

Z. Section 20.10A.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
20.10A.040 Design Standards.

5. Vegetation Retention Within the Green Cove Creek Drainage Basin.
   a. Tree Tracts. Subdivisions, short subdivisions, large lot subdivisions, and other developments within the basin, except construction of dwellings on individual lots/parcels, shall retain at least sixty percent of the site within tree tracts held in common ownership by the homeowner's association or comparable entity. For purposes of this section, a tree tract is a lot or area of land dedicated to tree retention for purposes of absorbing stormwater runoff. A tree tract may be included in a resource use parcel created as part of a planned rural residential development. However, there shall be no harvesting of trees from the tree tract. The tree tract(s) should be located downslope of the developed portion of the site, unless otherwise determined by the approval authority. Passive recreational uses, such as picnic areas and trails, which would not jeopardize the survival of protected trees (e.g. by damaging roots, compacting soil, or altering drainage), can be located in tree tracts with written approval of the Development Services Department. The department may also authorize stormwater ponds in tree tracts if trees would not be removed and tree roots would not be damaged during construction or by saturated soil conditions such that their survival would be jeopardized. Prior to acting on the request, the approval authority may require the proponent to supply a written analysis from a qualified professional forester regarding the proposal’s potential impact on the protected trees.

AA. Section 20.11A.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.11A.030 Family member unit.

2. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the Development Services Department before locating or constructing the unit.

BB. Section 20.11A.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.11A.040 Design standards.

5. Vegetation Retention Within the Green Cove Creek Drainage Basin.
   a. Tree Tracts. Subdivisions, short subdivisions, large lot subdivisions, and other developments within the basin, except construction of dwellings on individual lots/parcels, shall retain at least sixty percent of the site within tree tracts held in common ownership by the homeowner's association or comparable entity. For purposes of this section, a tree tract is a lot or area of land dedicated to tree retention for purposes of absorbing stormwater runoff. A tree tract may be included in a resource use parcel created as part of a planned rural residential development. However, there shall be no harvesting of trees from the tree tract.
The tree tract(s) should be located downslope of the developed portion of the site, unless otherwise determined by the approval authority. Passive recreational uses, such as picnic areas and trails, which would not jeopardize the survival of protected trees (e.g. by damaging roots, compacting soil, or altering drainage), can be located in tree tracts with written approval of the development services department. The department may also authorize stormwater ponds in tree tracts if trees would not be removed and tree roots would not be damaged during construction or by saturated soil conditions such that their survival would be jeopardized. Prior to acting on the request, the approval authority may require the proponent to supply a written analysis from a qualified professional forester regarding the proposal's potential impact on the protected trees.

CC. Section 20.23.027 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.23.027 Family member unit.

3. Persons wishing to establish a family member unit shall furnish proof of family member status and shall receive written approval to establish such unit from the development services department before locating or constructing the unit.

DD. Section 20.27.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.27.020 Permitted uses.

5. Other.

i. Unclassified Uses.

i. Determination. In the event a use is proposed which is not listed in this chapter as permitted, the development services director shall determine whether the use should be treated as one of the listed uses. Such determination shall be based on:

EE. Section 20.30.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.30.060 Open space standards.

9. Equivalent Facilities. When areas proposed for dedication do not meet the criteria for dedication in Section 20.30.060(1), such land may be improved by grading, filling, landscaping, or with installation of recreation equipment so as to be equivalent in result to the intent of this chapter. Determination of equivalency shall be made by the development services department according to the following guidelines:

FF. Section 20.30.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
20.30.090 Administration and enforcement.

1. Building permits and other permits required for the construction or development of property under the provisions of this section shall be issued only when in the opinion of the development services director, the work to be performed meets the requirements of the final plan and program elements of the PRD.

2. Minor and Major Adjustments.
   a. Minor adjustments may be made and approved by the development services director when a building permit is issued. Minor adjustments are those which may affect the precise dimensions or siting of buildings, but which do not affect the basic character or arrangement of buildings approved in the final plan, nor the density of the development or the open space requirements. Such dimensional adjustments shall not vary more than ten percent from the original.

   b. Major adjustments are those which, in the opinion of the development services director, substantially change the basic design, density, open space or other requirements of the planned residential development. When, in the opinion of the development services director, a change constitutes a major adjustment, no building or other permit shall be issued without prior review and approval by the hearing examiner of such adjustment.

GG. Section 20.30A.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.30A.090 Administration and enforcement.

1. Building permits and other permits required for the construction or development of property under the provisions of this section shall be issued only when in the opinion of the development services director, the work to be performed meets the requirements of the final plan of the planned rural residential development.

2. Minor and Major Adjustments.
   a. Minor adjustments may be made and approved by the development services director when a building permit is issued. Minor adjustments are those which may affect the precise dimensions or siting of buildings, but which do not affect the basic character or arrangement of buildings approved in the final plan, nor the density of the development or the resource use/open space parcel requirements.

   b. Major adjustments are those which, in the opinion of the development services director, substantially change the basic design, density, resource use/open space parcel or other requirements of the planned rural residential development. When, in the opinion of the development services director, a change constitutes a major adjustment, no building or other permit shall be issued for such an adjustment without prior review and approval by the original approval authority of the planned rural residential development.

...
HH. Section 20.31.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.31.020 Mobile/manufactured home parks – Establishment.
Where permitted, mobile/manufactured home parks shall meet the following minimum requirements:

6. A minor alteration to the approved plan may be approved by the development services department. If the alteration is determined to be of a substantial nature by the development services department, then it shall be reviewed in the same manner as the original approved plan.

7. Improvements required by the approved plan shall be completed or bonded pursuant to Chapter 18.24 TCC (Platting and Subdivision Ordinance). Failure to comply with the requirements of the development services department and/or the official approved plan shall be sufficient grounds to revoke the special use permit.

8. The duration of the approval shall be in accordance with Section TCC20.54.040(4).

II. Section 20.31.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.31.030 Mobile/manufactured home parks-Performance regulations.
In granting special use permits for mobile/manufactured home parks, the following regulations shall apply, except as specifically modified by the hearing examiner:

3. Circulation System:

   c. Park roads shall have widths and surfacing as follows:

      ii. Park roads shall have surfacing depths as proposed by a licensed engineer and approved by the roads and transportation services public works director.

   e. Points of ingress and egress with county rights-of-way shall be in accordance with the roads and transportation services public works department's standards.

KK. Section 20.32.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.32.060 Equivalent facilities.
When areas proposed for dedication do not meet the criteria for dedication in Section 20.32.030, such land may be improved by grading, filling, landscaping, or with installation of recreation equipment so as to be equivalent in result to the intent of this chapter. Determination of equivalency shall be made by the development services department according to the following guidelines:

LL. Section 20.33.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
20.33.050 Application requirements.

3. Additional Requirements for Freestanding WCF/Antenna Support Structures. For freestanding WCFs/antenna support structures, the following additional studies/information shall be submitted:
   a. Balloon testing shall be performed and photographs shall be submitted as follows:
      i. A three-foot diameter, brightly colored balloon shall be flown by the applicant at the proposed antenna support structure's maximum height and proposed location. The balloon shall be flown for at least eight consecutive daylight hours between seven a.m. and seven p.m.
      ii. Fourteen days in advance of the balloon test, the applicant shall provide notice of the test to property owners within the notice radius required for the permit and the public as specified in Section TCC 20.60.020(3) and inform the development services department of the test in writing. The notice shall include the test date, an alternate date in case of poor visibility or strong winds on the initial date, the time period when the test will be conducted, and the location.
      iii. The applicant shall submit photographs of the balloon and site taken from the following perspectives: at the property line, at approximately one-half mile from the proposed antenna support structure site, and approximately one mile from the site; all beginning at approximately true north and continuing clock-wise at approximately forty-five degree intervals. The development services department may waive this requirement where access is not possible, where there are no residences or public roads at the specified vantage points, and for sites approved for clusters of antenna support structures, provided that the proposed antenna support structure does not exceed the height of existing antenna support structures by more than fifteen feet.

MM. Section 20.33.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.33.060 Third party technical review.

1. Consultant Qualifications.
   a. Consultants hired to conduct third party review shall have an appropriate combination of training, experience, and/or certification in one of the following fields: telecommunications/radiofrequency engineering; assessment of electromagnetic fields (e.g., a registered electrical engineer accredited by the state of Washington who holds a Federal Communications General Radio Telephone Operator License); structural engineering; and, if determined by the county to be necessary, other fields.
b. Consultants performing third party review in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall work under the direction of the development services department. Copies of the consultant's report shall be made available to the applicant and the public not less than thirty days prior to any administrative decision or a public hearing before the hearing examiner regarding the proposal, as applicable. The applicant and the public shall be given an opportunity to respond to the report prior to issuance of a decision regarding the application by the approval authority.

2. Confirming Compliance with FCC Regulations.

...d. The county or third party shall perform tests, at the permittee's expense, and submit a report to the development services department consistent with subsections (2)(b) and (c) of this section for any modification of an existing facility for which testing is required under subsection 20.33.060(2)(a) TCC that would increase its radio frequency emissions, including the activation of any additional channels. The permittee shall inform the development services department of such proposed modification or change in use of the facility at least five working days before it becomes operational.

NN. Section 20.33.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.33.080 Location and design standards for freestanding WCFs and remote freestanding WCFs/antenna support structures.

...2. Siting.

...e. WCFs and other antenna support structures shall be sited consistent with the provisions of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 TCC), Critical Areas, the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24), and as follows:

i. To minimize the potential for birds to collide with towers, WCFs/antenna support structures shall not be located within one thousand feet of wetlands, staging areas, or rookeries supporting birds listed as priority species by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, listed as endangered or threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act (64 FR 14307), listed in chapter 24 TCC or Chapter 17.15 TCC as species of local importance, and as amended, or within one thousand feet of publicly owned wildlife refuges, unless the applicant demonstrates that the proposed location will not have a significant impact on such birds. Where possible, WCFs/antenna support structures shall not be located where they would interfere with migratory flyways documented by state or federal agencies.

...7. Screening/Camouflaging.

d. Screening. WCFs/antenna support structures shall be located among or beside trees wherever possible.
i. If the site proposed to accommodate an antenna support structure is treed within fifty feet of the proposed antenna support structure's location such that substantial year-round screening of the structure and related facilities is provided, as determined by the approval authority, the applicant shall cause an easement signed by the property owner, or other instrument approved by the Thurston County prosecuting attorney's office, establishing a tree retention buffer to be recorded with the county auditor prior to the issuance of building permits. This buffer shall remain in effect for as long as the WCF/antenna support structure is in place. A copy of the recorded easement/instrument shall be provided to the development services department. The buffer shall be a minimum of fifty feet wide and shall extend around the perimeter of the facilities, excluding the access point.

The approval authority may require the buffer area to be enhanced to provide sufficient screening of ground level facilities. The buffer shall be maintained so long as the antenna support structure is located on the site. Any tree within the buffer that dies or is removed due to disease or wind throw shall be replaced during the next planting season with a minimum of two conifer trees a minimum of six feet in height at the time of planting, unless the approval authority determines that the spacing would be too close when the trees mature.

e. Camouflaged WCFs/Antenna Support Structures. Camouflaged WCFs/antenna support structures shall be designed appropriate to the context, as determined by the approval authority, so they do not appear to be out of place. Camouflage proposals shall be modeled after design concepts approved by the development services department director or designee.

OO. Section 20.37.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.37.040 Review procedures.**

2. Pursuant to Chapter 20.60 (see Table 2), the approval authority shall be the development services director or designee. The approval authority shall review the proposed site plan for compliance with the provisions of this title and other applicable laws and regulations, and shall determine whether the proposed development serves and makes appropriate provision for the public health, safety and general welfare.

PP. Section 20.39.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.39.050 Form and contents of application for master plan approval.**

1. The applicant shall submit the master plan and supplementary data including an environmental impact statement if required to the development services department. The development services department shall inform the applicant within thirty days of the date
of receipt of the application of any deficiencies found in the master plan application. Accuracy for all data and information submitted on or with a master plan shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

2. An application for master plan approval shall include:

... b. Master Plan Map and Supporting Maps. A master plan map and any maps necessary to show the major details of the proposed planned community must contain the following minimum information at an appropriate scale, as determined by the development services department:

... xi. Any additional information as required by the development services department necessary to evaluate the character and impact of the proposed planned community (e.g., soils, geology, hydrology or groundwater).

QQ. Section 20.39.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.39.060 Timing of master plan submittal.

... 2. Knowledge of expiration date and initiation of a request for extension of approval time is the responsibility of the applicant. The county will not provide notification of expirations. All requests for an extension of time must be submitted to the development services department at least thirty days prior to expiration of planned community conceptual approval. The development services department shall schedule the request for extension for public hearing before the hearing examiner upon such notice and in accordance with the planned community conceptual approval procedures of this chapter. An extension may be granted for up to three years at a time, if the examiner finds that an extension would be in the public interest and that delay in submitting the master plan was for good cause. If an extension of time is approved, the master plan shall be subject to all new and amended regulations, requirements, policies or standards which are adopted after the date of conceptual approval.

RR. Section 20.39.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.39.070 Administration and enforcement.

... 3. Minor Administrative Alterations. Once a preliminary plat, site plan or other development permit reviewed by the hearing examiner has been approved, it shall not be altered unless approved by both the planner and the roads and transportation services public works department upon a determination that the alteration is not substantial enough to constitute a change to the master plan.

... SS. Section 20.40.038 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
**20.40.038 Directional Signs.**
The following directional signs may be erected within county rights-of-way subject to the requirements of this section and written authorization from the director of public works, roads, and transportation services or his/her designee:

...  
2. Administrative Requirements and Standards.  
a. Applicants for a directional sign shall submit a completed application on a form provided by the public works department of roads and transportation services and pay the fee specified on the department's fee schedule.  
b. Successful applicants shall supply the public works department of roads and transportation services with the approved directional sign(s).  
c. The public works director of roads and transportation services shall determine the location of directional signs, subject to the provisions of this section. Wherever practical, directional signs shall be grouped in a coordinated display. The director may limit the number of directional signs placed on any section of right-of-way to maintain public safety and the visibility of traffic control signage.  
d. Approved directional signs shall be installed and maintained by the public works department of roads and transportation services. The owner shall be responsible for the cost to replace or repair signs or support structures that are damaged or defaced following installation, or that are badly deteriorated. If the county does not receive payment for such repair or replacement within thirty days of notification, it will dispose of the sign.  
e. Directional signs for seasonal businesses or facilities shall be covered, removed or posted with closed sign during the off-season by the public works department of roads and transportation services or the sign owner, at the direction of the department.  
f. Directional signs shall be removed by the county if the nature of the destination, facility, or business no longer complies with subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section. The county may also remove directional signs if the public works director of roads and transportation services determines, due to changed circumstances, that they jeopardize public safety. If such signs are not claimed by the owner within thirty days of notification, they will be disposed of by the county.

...  
TT. Section 20.44.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**20.44.020 Parking standards.**
When off-street parking is required pursuant to Section TCC 20.44.030, then the following provisions and standards shall apply:

...  
2. Access to Parking Areas.  
a. All parking facilities shall be provided with safe and convenient access to a street. Ingress and egress to public streets shall be provided only through driveway openings of such dimension, location and construction as may be approved by the
roads and transportation services/public works department. Driveway openings onto collector and arterial streets shall conform to adopted standards limiting encroachments onto such streets and shall be combined where possible.

...  
3. Location of Parking Areas.  
...  
b. On collector or arterial streets, parking areas shall not be located across the street from the use to which they pertain. Exceptions may be granted by the roads and transportation services/public works director provided public safety is assured.  
...  
7. Joint Parking Facilities. Reduction in required parking may be granted for joint facilities when operating hours of users do not conflict. Evidence of joint use agreements, assurance from all parties regarding nonconflicting hours of operation or other items may be required by the development services director or hearing examiner prior to such reductions.  

UU. Section 20.44.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.44.050 Design requirements for off street parking.  
...  
7. Within the Grand Mound, Tenino, Rainier and Yelm unincorporated urban growth areas parking areas shall be surfaced with lattice block pavement, asphalt concrete or portland cement concrete, except that the roads and transportation services/public works director may require a surface of grass (which may be reinforced with geotextiles) in parking areas which are used lightly enough to allow the survival of such a surface.  

8. Outside urban growth areas, required parking areas shall be surfaced with lattice block pavement, asphalt concrete, portland cement concrete or compacted gravel, except that the roads and transportation services/public works director may require a surface of grass reinforced with geotextiles in parking areas which are used lightly enough to allow the survival of such a surface.  

VV. Section 20.52.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.52.060 Filing of application for variance.  
Each application for a variance shall be filed with the development services department in accordance with Chapter 20.60.  

WW. Section 20.54.015 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.54.015 Approval authority.  
1. Administrative Approval. Applications for the following types of special uses shall be reviewed and approved, modified or denied by the development services department:
XX. Section 20.54.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.54.020 Authorization.
When an application for a special use is filed with the development services department, the approval authority may authorize establishment of those uses that are expressly listed as special uses in a particular zoning district. No special use shall be issued unless the use complies with all of the applicable standards of this chapter and all other applicable requirements of this title.

YY. The notes section of Chapter 20.54 TCC, Table 1, shall be amended to read as follows:

20.54 Table 1 Special Uses – Distribution in County Zoning Districts

X = Special use permit (approval authority is hearing examiner)
A = Administrative special use permit (approval authority is staff)
1 = Summit Lake overlay zone, chapter 20.30 special management area, as defined in the Critical Areas, Chapter 17.15
2 = Except as prohibited or limited in Chapter 20.23
3 = Applies to uses related to public parks, trails and preserves and not otherwise permitted in Chapter 20.08E
* May qualify as an essential public facility; refer to Section TCC 20.54.065

ZZ. Section 20.54.065 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.54.065 Applications for essential public facilities.
Applications for uses which qualify as essential public facilities are subject to the following requirements:
1. In order to enable the development services director to determine the appropriate classification for the use, at least ninety days before submitting an application, the prospective applicant shall identify the approximate geographic area within which the proposed use could potentially have adverse impacts, such as increased traffic, public safety risks, noise, glare, emissions, or other environmental impacts. Classifications are as follows:

2. Type 1 Facilities. The following requirements apply to those essential public facilities identified as Type 1 facilities by the development services director:

3. Type 2 Facilities. The following requirements apply to those essential public facilities identified as Type 2 facilities by the development services director:

4. Type 3 Facilities. Those essential public facilities identified as Type 3 essential public facilities by the development services director are subject to the standard notification requirements for special uses.

AAA. Section 20.54.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
20.54.070 Use – Specific standards.

7. Cemeteries.
   a. Access to roads shall be at least two hundred feet from any intersection. A turning lane shall be provided if required by Thurston County [public works] [roads and transportation services department].

   a. Home occupations are subordinate to the primary residential use and are permitted in any dwelling unit and include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

   x. Kennels housing four to ten dogs with the following standards:

   (D) Kennels within the McAllister geologically sensitive area (MGSA) district shall be subject to a waste management plan approved by the [Development Services] [resource stewardship and roads and transportation services] [public works] department which minimizes the risk of groundwater contamination.


   a. Accessory Uses.
      i. The following accessory uses are allowed only when expressly permitted in a special use permit issued by the approval authority: washing, sorting or crushing of rock or gravel, asphalt production (batching or drum mixing), concrete batching, storage or use of fuel, oil or other hazardous materials, and equipment maintenance. Limited manufacturing of concrete products from sand and gravel excavated on-site may be allowed by the department as an accessory use to a permitted concrete batching facility; provided, that retail sales of such products are prohibited. All other accessory uses are allowed only when approved after administrative review by the development services [resource stewardship and roads and transportation services] [public works] departments.

   c. Application and Review Procedures. In addition to the information required in Chapter 20.60, the application to the county for a special use permit for mineral extraction shall include:

      i. A contour map, drawn to the scale of one hundred feet to the inch and contour intervals of two feet, or at a scale and topographic interval determined to be adequate by the development services [department], showing current field topography, including the location of water courses of the tract intended for the
proposed operation and estimated thickness of overburden and mineral-bearing strata in the tract intended for the proposed operation;

41.5 Temporary Uses.

...  

d. Temporary uses are subject to the following regulations:  
i. No temporary use shall be permitted on public rights-of-way, unless a right-of-way obstruction permit is authorized by the public works and transportation services department.

BBB. Section 20.56.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.56.020 Nonconforming legal lots.  
1. For a period of five years following the date of final plat approval, lots in a final plat filed for record, regardless of whether the lots are in single and separate or contiguous ownership, may be developed for uses and densities approved for the lot at the time of final plat approval. As to development regulations other than use and density, the lot must be developed pursuant to the standards contained in this title, unless the development services director finds that the application of a given standard would result in an extreme and unreasonable building design or configuration.

CCC. Section 20.56.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.56.030 Expansion and intensification of nonconforming, nonresidential uses.  

...  

4. Expansions of nonconforming, nonresidential uses involving critical areas shall be subject to the provisions of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance(title 24) and the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (chapter 17.15).

DDD. Section 20.60.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.010 - Title enforcement.  
This title shall be administered and enforced by the development services department, which shall have all necessary authority on behalf of the board to administer and enforce the provisions of this title. The authority shall include the ability to order, in writing, the remedy of any condition found in violation of this title and the ability to institute legal action with the prosecuting attorney's office to insure compliance with the provisions, including injunction, abatement or other appropriate action or proceeding.

EEE. Section 20.60.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.020 - Application review procedures.  
1. Type I Procedure—Ministerial Decision (see Appendix Figure 15).
a. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type I application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 20.60.030. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing as to what basic submittal information is required to make the application complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

b. Within fifty-eight calendar days of the date that the Type I application is submitted, the approval authority, as provided in Table 2, shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application, and shall mail the decision to the applicant. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the application submittal date, the following periods shall be excluded:
   i. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the development services department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information;

...
complete application to the applicant and shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall send a letter of incomplete application to the applicant, listing the basic submittal information that is required to make the application complete. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

b. Within fourteen calendar days after an applicant has submitted the additional information identified in the letter of incomplete application as being necessary for a complete application, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application is complete or what basic submittal information is still needed to make the application complete.

c. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the formal review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

d. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail a notice of application to all owners of property within a radius of three hundred feet of the project site if the site is inside an urban growth area or to owners of property within a radius of five hundred feet of the project site if the site is outside an urban growth area. It shall also be mailed to the applicant and other interested parties. The notice of application shall include the following:

...
application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 of this code.

...  
i. Within the time limits provided in subsection (2)(g) of this section, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 of this code, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 20.60.060.

j. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

...  
l. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection (2)(g) of this section, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

3. Type III Procedure—Quasi-Judicial Decision (see Appendix Figure 17).
   a. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type III application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 20.60.030. The department shall render its decision on the completeness of the application in the manner prescribed in Section 20.60.020(2)(a) and (b) above.

b. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred twenty calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the one hundred twenty day review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of
completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

c. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail out a notice of application in the manner prescribed in subsection (2)(d) of this section, except that the mailing radius from the project site shall be expanded for the following special use permit applications:

... 

d. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 20.60.020(2)(e) above.

e. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 of this code.

f. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing, the development services department shall complete the SEPA review and appeal process, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 of this code.

g. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing on a Type III application, the development services department shall provide notice of the public hearing as follows:

... 

j. Within the time limits provided in subsection (3)(h) of this section, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 of this code, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 20.60.060.
k. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

... 

FFF. Section 20.60.025 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.025 - Optional consolidated permit processing.
A proposed project action involving two or more land use permit applications is encouraged to be processed in a consolidated manner, following the review and approval process of the highest numbered permit type represented among the required permits (see Table 2). The development services department shall designate a permit coordinator when two or more permit applications are processed concurrently.

The applicant may determine whether the multiple permit applications shall be processed concurrently or individually. If the applications are processed individually, the highest numbered permit type (see Table 2) shall be acted upon prior to the processing of the lower numbered permit types.

GGG. Section 20.60.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.030 Contents of application.
For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided. During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the development services department if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, department review of other aspects of the project will continue.

If the application is deemed incomplete or if additional information is required, the applicant shall have one hundred eighty calendar days to submit the required information to the development services department. The department shall notify the applicant as to when the one-hundred-eighty-day period will end. If the applicant does not submit the required information within the one-hundred-eighty-day period, the application shall lapse. Prior to the expiration date, the applicant may request in writing an extension of time. The development services director may grant an extension if the required studies or information warrant additional time.

... 

3. Type II and III Applications. Each application for a Type II or III permit shall contain the following in clear and intelligible form (with exceptions as provided in Section 20.60.030(3)(p) and (q) below):

... 

b. A narrative summary of all uses and activities proposed to occur on-site, including hours of operation. For nonresidential developments, provide a statement which indicates whether hazardous materials, as defined in chapter
24.03 of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance or § 17.15.200 of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance for agricultural uses, will be used, stored or disposed of on-site, or as a result of site activities;

... k. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA Checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 TCC critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;

... p. Each application for a quasi-judicial rezone shall contain only the following in clear and intelligible form:

... v. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 TCC critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;

... HHH. Section 20.60.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.035 Fees. Applicants for permits or other approvals pursuant to this title shall pay to the development services department the applicable fee identified on the fee schedule, which is adopted by reference and incorporated in this section.

III. Section 20.60.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.040 - Zoning compliance. No building permit or septic tank permit shall be issued unless the development services director or designee has determined that all applicable provisions of this title have been met.

JJJ. Section 20.60.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.050 Violations, civil-infractions and penalties.

... 2. Any violations of Section 20.34.020(8)(b)(iii)—(iv), 20.34.020(8)(c)(iii)—(iv), 20.34.020(8)(d)(iii) and 20.34.020(10) shall be designated as a Class 1 civil infraction. The violation of any other provision of Title 20 shall be designated as a Class 2 civil infraction. Each day of any such violation is a separate civil infraction; a notice of infraction may be issued for each day of any such violation, however the enforcement officer is not required to issue a notice of infraction for each day of such violation. Civil infractions shall be heard and determined according to Chapter 7.80 RCW and Section 20.60.055.
The civil infraction procedures adopted in this section and by Section 20.60.055 provide an additional method of civil enforcement to procedures found in subsections 1, 3 and 4 of Section 20.60.050. The initiation of proceedings under subsections 1, 3 and 4 does not preclude the initiation of a civil infraction proceeding under Section 20.60.055.

No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

... 4. The development services director may, in writing, suspend or revoke a permit or approval required by this title whenever the permit is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect information, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation or any provision of this title, or when a use or building is being maintained in a manner contrary to the terms of the permit or approval.

LLL. Section 20.60.055 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.055 - Civil infraction procedures.

... 3. Designation of Enforcement Officer. The enforcement officer(s) for violations of this title for civil infraction purposes will be designated by resolution of the board of county commissioners upon the recommendation of the director of development services.

... 6. Administrative Responsibilities. The director of the Thurston County development services department is responsible for assuring county compliance with RCW 7.80.150. The development services director may publicize a list of persons found guilty of violations in the newspaper or other means deemed appropriate.

... MMM. Section 20.60.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.060 - Appeal procedures.

1. Appeals of Administrative Decisions. Appeals may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment
thereto (Type I and II permits; see Table 2). Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

2. Appeals of Hearing Examiner Decisions. The final decision by the hearing examiner on Type III permits and on Type I and II appeals, as provided in Table 2, may be appealed to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved person or agency directly affected by the hearing examiner's decision. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

... 

NNN. Section 20.60.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.60.070 - Code interpretations.
Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title that pertains to an application under review or to a proposal that has been the subject of a presubmission conference. The development services department shall issue a written determination to the person requesting the interpretation in accordance with the Type I procedures in Section 20.60.020(1). The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations.

OOO. Section 20.60.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.62.030 - Allocation of transferable development rights.
Every parcel of land located in the TDR sending area shall have credited to it, upon certification by Thurston County development services, transferable development rights in the amount set forth below. These transferable development rights allotted in accordance with this section may be used to obtain approval for established residential densities on lands located within TDR receiving areas, in accordance with the zoning in the TDR receiving areas.

... 

PPP. Section 20.60.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

20.62.040 - Certification and transfer of transferable development rights.
1. Application for Certification of Number of Transferable Development Rights.
   a. Thurston County development services shall issue a certification of the number of transferable development rights on the sending area parcel and serially numbered individual certificates for each transferable development right credited to that parcel upon satisfactory application for certification of transferable development rights (TDRs) by the sending area parcel owner. The issuance of TDR certificates shall be recorded in the chain of title for the subject property.
2. Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Easement. In order to validly convey the transferable development rights certified on a sending area parcel, a TDR easement shall be signed between the owner of the sending area parcel and Thurston County and recorded with the Thurston County auditor. To validly retain the transferable development rights which have been certified on a sending area parcel when an original owner sells such parcel, a TDR easement shall be signed by the purchaser of the subject parcel and Thurston County and recorded with the Thurston County auditor. The TDR easement shall be on a form approved by the board of Thurston County commissioners and shall contain the following provisions:

   a. All of the serial numbers of the transferable development rights which have been certified by Thurston County development services on the sending area parcel which is the subject of the TDR easement;

3. Deed of Transfer.

   c. Contents. A deed of transfer shall contain:

   viii. The certification of the number of transferable development rights on the sending area parcel and copies of the appropriate certificates of those rights issued by the Thurston County development services as required by this chapter;

   xi. The signature of the Thurston County development services staff member who has reviewed the document for completeness.

V: TITLE 21 ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE LACEY URBAN GROWTH AREA

A. Section 21.03.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.03.050 Permitted intrusions into required yards.

D. Awnings and marquees may be allowed within required front yards and over sidewalks or public right-of-way in commercial and industrial zones if all the following requirements are satisfied:

   1. The director and the director of the public works roads and transportation services department or their designees determine that placement of the awning or marquee within
the setback areas or over the public sidewalk does not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic flow or create any other type of hazard to the public.

B. Section 21.06.265 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**21.06.265 Department.**
“Department” means the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department.

C. Section 21.06.273 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**21.06.273 Director.**
“Director” means the Director of the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department, or designee.

D. Section 21.06.400 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**21.06.400 Lacey Joint Plan.**
"Lacey Joint Plan" means the City of Lacey and Thurston County Land Use Element for the City of Lacey and the Lacey Urban Growth Area, dated October 1994, in the custody of the Thurston County development services planning department, as amended from time to time.

E. Section 21.39.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**21.39.020 Permitted uses.**

B. Similar, related or compatible uses permitted, and criteria for determination of similarity, relatedness or compatibility, include:

1. Uses similar to, or related to, or compatible with those listed or described in subsection (A)(1) of this section are permitted upon a finding by the development services director that a proposed use does not conflict with the intent of this chapter or the policies of the Lacey urban growth area.

F. Section 21.39.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**21.39.040 - Environmental performance standards.**
It shall be the responsibility of the operator and/or the proprietor of any permitted use to provide such reasonable evidence and technical data as the resourced stewardship development services director may require to demonstrate that the use or activity is or will be in compliance with the environmental performance standards of Chapter 21.57 of this title. Failure of the department to require such information shall not be construed as relieving the operator and/or the proprietor from compliance with the environmental performance standards of this title.

G. Section 21.44.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
21.44.060 - Timing of master plan submittal.

...  

B. Knowledge of expiration date and initiation of a request for extension of approval time is the responsibility of the applicant. The county will not provide notification of expirations. All requests for an extension of time must be submitted to the planning department at least thirty days prior to expiration of planned community conceptual approval. The development services department shall schedule the request for extension for public hearing before the planning commission upon such notice and in accordance with the planned community conceptual approval procedures of this chapter. An extension may be granted for up to three years at a time if the commission finds that an extension would be in the public interest and that delay in submitting the master plan was for good cause. If an extension of time is approved, the master plan shall be subject to all new and amended regulations, requirements, policies or standards which are adopted after the date of conceptual approval.

H. Section 21.50.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.50.020 Definitions.

...  

"Common open space" means a parcel, or parcels, of land, an area of water, or a combination of land and water including floodplain and wetland areas (consistent with the applicable sections of Title 24 TCC or Chapter 17.15 TCC) within a development site designed and intended for the use and enjoyment of residents of the development and, where designated, the community at large. The area of parking facilities serving the activities in the common open space may be included in the required area computations. Common open space shall not include:

1. The land area of lots allocated for single-family dwellings and duplex dwellings, front yards, side yards, and rear yards, whether or not the dwellings are sold or rented;

2. The land area of lots allocated for apartment and townhouse dwellings, including front yards, side yards, rear yards, interior yards, and off street parking facilities whether or not the dwellings are sold or rented;

3. The land area of lots allocated for total commercial use, including front yards, side yards, rear yards, and parking facilities whether or not the commercial facilities are sold or rented;

4. The land area of lots allocated for semipublic uses, community clubs and community facilities, including open space for playgrounds and athletic fields which are a part of the principal use and may not be open to the general public of the village center; and front yards, side yards, rear yards, and other open space
around the buildings; and parking facilities whether or not the schools and churches are sold or rented;

5. Street rights-of-way, planter strips along streets, driveways, off-street parking, and service areas.

I. Section 21.50.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:


H. Administration and Enforcement.
1. Building permits and other permits required for the construction or development of property under the provisions of this chapter shall be issued only when the work to be performed meets the requirements of the master plan, applicable plat, and site plan review.

2. Minor Administrative Alterations. Once a preliminary plat or other development permit reviewed by the hearing examiner has been approved, it shall not be altered unless approved by both the department and the public works roads and transportation services department upon a determination that the alteration is not substantial enough to constitute a change to the binding master plan.

J. Section 21.54.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.54.010 - Wetland areas.
All regulated wetland areas as designated or described by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (TCC Chapter 17.15 TCC) for agricultural uses shall be subject to the review processes, standards and conditions as specified in the applicable critical areas ordinance, Chapter 17.15 (see Part 900).

K. Section 21.54.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.54.020 - Floodplain areas.
All floodplains or flood hazard areas as designated or described by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (TCC Chapter 17.15 TCC) for agricultural uses shall be subject to the review processes, standards and conditions as specified in the applicable critical areas ordinance, Chapter 17.15 (see Part 900).

L. Section 21.54.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.54.030 - Important habitat areas.
All important habitat areas or fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas as designated or described by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) or the Thurston
County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (TCC Chapter 17.15 TCC) for agricultural uses shall be subject to the review processes, standards and conditions as specified in the applicable critical areas ordinance. Chapter 17.15 (see Part 700).

M. Section 21.54.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.54.040 - Aquifer recharge areas.
All aquifer recharge areas as designated or described by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (TCC Chapter 17.15 TCC) for agricultural uses shall be subject to the review processes, standards and conditions as specified in the applicable critical areas ordinance. Chapter 17.15 (see Part 500).

N. Section 21.54.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.54.050 - Geological hazard areas.
All geological hazard areas as designated or described by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (TCC Chapter 17.15 TCC) for agricultural uses shall be subject to the review processes, standards and conditions as specified in the applicable critical areas ordinance. Chapter 17.15 (see Part 600).

O. Section 21.66.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.66.020 Permitted Uses.
Specific types of uses permitted in accordance with the intent of this chapter, and subject to reasonable conditions imposed by the county, are categorized and identified as follows:

... 4. Temporary uses are subject to the following regulations:
   a. No temporary use shall be permitted on public rights-of-way, unless a right-of-way obstruction permit is authorized by the public works roads and transportation services department.

...  

P. Section 21.70.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.70.080 - Design criteria for multifamily projects, condominiums and townhouses.
Staff decisions on all multifamily projects, condominiums and townhouses which have more than four dwelling units shall be based on the following criteria (see Illustrations 4—10):

...  

C. Natural Features. The purpose for this section is to encourage the development of multifamily projects that respect the natural features of the land.
5. Any wetlands and associated buffers shall be saved in accordance with the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Area Ordinance; (TCC Ch 17.15), for agricultural uses.

E. Vehicular and Pedestrian Access. The proposal should provide for visual continuity of the street, ease and safety of pedestrian movement, and relationship of vehicular and pedestrian access to the buildings on-site.

2. Pedestrian Access.

d. Provide signage to identify pedestrian/bicycle routes according to the public works roads and transportation services department guidelines;

Q. Section 21.75.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.75.090 - Temporary signs.
The following signs are classified as temporary (nonpermanent). Temporary signs are permitted subject to the applicable limitations:

F. Banners or Cloth Signs. Such signs may be permitted and extend across a public street by permission of the director of development services or his designee. Such signs may only be placed at county designated locations and erected by county personnel.

R. Section 21.81.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.81.040 - Application review procedures.
A. Type I Procedure—Ministerial Decision (see Appendix Table 21T.26).
1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type I application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 21.81.060. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing as to what
basic submittal information is required to make the application complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

... 

3. Within fifty-eight calendar days of the date that the Type I application is submitted, the approval authority, as provided in Illustration 1 of this chapter, shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application, and shall mail the decision to the applicant. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the application submittal date, the following periods shall be excluded:

a. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the development services department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information;

... 

4. At any time after the application is submitted, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information.

5. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 21.81.070.

6. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection A3 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of a decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

... 

B. Type II Procedure—Administrative Decision (see Appendix Table 21T.27).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type II application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 21.81.060. If the application is
deemed complete, the development services department shall send a letter of complete application to the applicant and shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall send a letter of incomplete application to the applicant, listing the basic submittal information that is required to make the application complete. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

2. Within fourteen calendar days after an applicant has submitted the additional information identified in the letter of incomplete application as being necessary for a complete application, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application is complete or what basic submittal information is still needed to make the application complete.

3. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the formal review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

4. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail a notice of application to all owners of property within a radius of three hundred feet of the project site. It shall also be mailed to the applicant and other interested parties. The notice of application shall include the following:

... c. The identification of other permits not included in the application to the extent known by the development services department;

...

h. Any other information determined appropriate by the development services department.

5. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application for up to twenty calendar days from the date of such
notice. The department shall mail to the applicant a copy of comments timely received in response to the notice and shall consider such comments in the review of the application. The department may consider comments received after the twenty-day period has elapsed.

6. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

9. Within the time limits provided in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 21.81.070.

10. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

12. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

13. Final review of planned industrial developments shall also follow the procedures in Chapter 21.43.

C. Type III Procedure—Quasi-Judicial Decision (see Appendix Table 21T.28).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type III application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 21.81.060. The department shall
render its decision on the completeness of the application in the manner prescribed in Section 21.81.040B1 and 2 above.

2. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred twenty calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the one-hundred-twenty-day review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

3. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail out a notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 21.81.040B4 above, except that the mailing radius from the project site shall be expanded for the following special use permit applications:
   a. One-thousand-four-hundred-foot radius: airports, landing strips and freestanding WCFs;
   b. Two-thousand-six-hundred-foot radius: solid waste disposal facilities and secure community transition facilities.

4. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 21.81.040B5 above.

5. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 of this code.

6. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing, the development services department shall complete the SEPA review and appeal process, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 of this code.

7. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing on a Type III application, the development services department shall provide notice of the public hearing as follows:
10. Within the time limits provided in subsection (C)(8) of this section, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 of this code, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 2.06 of this code.

11. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

13. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection (C)(8) of this section, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

S. Section 21.81.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.81.050 - Optional consolidated permit processing.
A proposed project action involving two or more land use permit applications is encouraged to be processed in a consolidated manner, following the review and approval process of the highest numbered permit type represented among the required permits (see Illustration 1). The development services department shall designate a permit coordinator when two or more permit applications are processed concurrently.

The applicant may determine whether the multiple permit applications shall be processed concurrently or individually. If the applications are processed individually, the highest numbered permit type (see Illustration 1) shall be acted upon prior to the processing of the lower numbered permit types.

T. Section 21.81.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
21.81.060 - Contents of application.
For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided. During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the development services department if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, department review of other aspects of the project will continue.

If the application is deemed incomplete or if additional information is required, the applicant shall have one hundred eighty calendar days to submit the required information to the development services department. The department shall notify the applicant as to when the one-hundred-eighty-day period will end. If the applicant does not submit the required information within the one-hundred-eighty-day period, the application shall lapse. Prior to the expiration date, the applicant may request in writing an extension of time. The development services director may grant an extension if the required studies or information warrants additional time.

... 

C. Type II and III Applications. Each application for a Type II or III action shall contain the following in clear and intelligible form (with exceptions as provided in Section 21.81.060C18 through 22 below):

1. An application form provided by Thurston County containing all of the information requested on the form, including a single applicant contact to receive all determinations and notices;

2. A narrative summary of all uses and activities proposed to occur on-site, including hours of operation. For nonresidential developments, provide a statement which indicates whether hazardous materials, as defined in chapter 24.03 of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance or Section 17.15.200 of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance for agricultural uses, will be used, stored or disposed of on-site, or as a result of site activities;

... 

11. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code, critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;

... 

22. An application for a quasi-judicial (site-specific) rezone shall contain only the following in clear and intelligible form:

...
e. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement.

U. Section 21.81.070 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.81.070 - Appeal procedures.
A. Appeals of Administrative Decisions. Appeals may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment thereto (Type I and II permits; see Illustration 1). Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 of this code.

B. Appeals of Hearing Examiner Decisions. The final decision by the hearing examiner on Type III permits and on Type I and II appeals, as provided in Illustration 1, may be appealed to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved person or agency directly affected by the hearing examiner's decision. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed in Chapter 2.06 of this code.

C. Judicial Appeals. The final decision by the board of county commissioners on Type IV actions and on Type I, II and III appeals, as provided in Illustration 1, may be appealed to Superior Court, as follows:

1. Any judicial action to challenge, set aside or void any amendment to this title or any decisions made pursuant to the provisions of this title must be commenced within twenty days from the date of amendment or decision.

2. The plaintiff bringing any such action shall pay the full cost of transcription of the record prepared for judicial review of the matter being appealed.

V. Section 21.81.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.81.080 - Code interpretations.
Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title that pertains to an application under review or to a proposal that has been the subject of a presubmission conference. The development services department shall issue a written determination to the person requesting the interpretation in accordance with the Type I procedures in Section 21.81.040A. The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations.
W. Section 21.84.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.84.010 - General provisions.
A. Site plan review and approval shall be required for any of the following activities:

2. A change of land use at an existing site or structure when the new activity requires either a change of occupancy according to the Uniform Building Code or is a change of land use according to the Standard Industrial Classification code and, in the opinion of the development services director, results in an intensification of land use and will require new planning conditions to comply with existing planning regulations. This provision may not apply to malls (buildings with ten or more tenants sharing common parking) where original conditions to establish the mall complex anticipated a range of tenants and existing facilities and where it can be shown existing infrastructure can accommodate the new intensified use;

5. Uses and activities within designated environmentally sensitive areas or their buffers pursuant to the applicable requirements of Title 24 or Chapter 17.15;

6. Home occupations as provided for in Chapter 21.69.

X. Section 21.93.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.93.030 - Expansion and intensification of nonconforming, nonresidential uses.

C. Expansions involving critical areas shall be subject to the provisions of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (title 24 TCC) or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance for agricultural uses.

Y. Section 21.102.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

21.102.010 - Violations, civil infractions and penalties.

C. Designation of Enforcement Officer. The enforcement officer(s) for violations of this title for civil infraction purposes will be designated by resolution of the board of county commissioners upon the recommendation of the director of development services.
E. Permit Approval Limitations. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter of the 17.15 Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter of the 17.25 Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

VI: TITLE 22 TUMWATER UGA ZONING ORDINANCE

A. Section 22.04.163 TCC shall be added to read as follows:

22.04.163 - Department.
"department" means the resource stewardship department, unless otherwise specified in this title. The department is charged with the administration of the building and occupancy permits and for the interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance codified in this title.

B. Section 22.04.167 TCC shall be deleted:

22.04.167 - Development services department (department).
"Development services department" or "department" means the department charged with the administration of the building and occupancy permits and for the interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance codified in this title.

C. Section 22.04.170 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.04.170 - Director of development services (director).
"Director of development services" or "director" means the director of the resource stewardship department unless otherwise specified in this title—manager who is responsible for all aspects of county development services. The director of resource stewardship development services is responsible for all actions of the resource stewardship development services department, including the administration of the county’s land use and related ordinances, interpreting laws on a case-by-case basis, and preparing reports for policy making bodies.

D. Section 22.04.364 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
22.04.364 - Mineral extraction.
"Mineral extraction" means the removal of minerals, including, but not limited to, sand, gravel, shale, rock, coal, soil, peat or clay, from an excavation in the earth. This shall not include the following:

A. Excavation and grading at building construction sites where such construction is authorized by a valid building permit; or

B. Excavation and grading in public rights-of-way for the purpose of on-site road construction, or in private rights-of-way for the same purpose if authorized by the public works, roads, and transportation services department.

E. The density calculation formula for all residential zones shall be amended to read as follows:

**Chapters 22.08 Through 22.16**

Density Calculation Formula for All Residential Zones
Total Area of Lot
- Critical Areas (areas required to be kept free of development by Title 24 and Chapter 17.15 TCC, e.g., wetlands, buffers, steep slopes, etc., if applicable)
- Additional Dedicated Open Space (if applicable)
- Road Rights-of-Way (public rights-of-way and private road easements)
- Reserve tract (if applicable)
- Lots devoted to uses other than residential and associated uses (e.g., churches, schools, support facilities other than stormwater uses, if applicable)

= Total Net Developable Land* (portion of property that can be developed at allowable density of dwelling units per acre)
* Note: Any required on-site stormwater facilities are to be constructed within this area unless expressly permitted elsewhere by ordinance or by the development services director in accordance with county policy.

F. Section 22.08.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.08.050 - Density regulations.
Density regulations in the RSR zone district are as follows:
A. Site Area. All land divisions are subject to the lot size provisions of this section, provided that all land divisions must meet the following density requirements:

1. Minimum: two dwelling units per acre,
   a. In situations where density requirements and lot size, shape, topography, or location result in a subdivision that cannot reasonably meet the density requirements, a reduction in minimum density, to the maximum reasonable density, may be granted by the development services director or designee. In no event may a reduction in density be granted if it would result in a use that would not be allowed as a permitted use, accessory use, or special use in the district in which the property is located.
2. Maximum: four dwelling units per acre, or if a land division is subject to the clustering provisions of Section 22.08.050E or the applicable critical area protection standards of Thurston County Code (TCC) Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the maximum density shall be no greater than one hundred twenty-five percent of the maximum density that would otherwise be allowed;

B. Density Calculation. The calculation of the density requirements in Section 22.08.050A above is based on the portion of the site that contains lots devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g., dwelling units; private community clubs; stormwater detention, treatment and infiltration). The following land is excluded from density calculations:

... 

1. Land that is required to be set aside for public use as open space, right-of-way, or land on which development is prohibited by Thurston County Code Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and land that is to be used for private roads. Provided, that portion of open space/park areas that consists of stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreational purposes in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County shall not be excluded from density calculations;

... 

D. Lot size requirements.

1. Maximum: no maximum lot size,

2. Minimum: nine thousand five hundred square feet, or if a land division is subject to the clustering provisions of Section 22.08.050E or the applicable critical area protection standards of Thurston County Code (TCC) Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the minimum lot size shall be seven thousand six hundred square feet,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residential Districts</th>
<th>RSR</th>
<th>SFL</th>
<th>SFM</th>
<th>MFM</th>
<th>MFH</th>
<th>Applicable Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family child care home, child mini day care center (with approval of development services director)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
G. Section 22.10.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.10.050 - Density regulations.
Density regulations in the SFL zone district are as follows:

A. Site Area. All land divisions are subject to the lot size provisions of this section, provided that all land divisions must meet the following density requirements:

1. Minimum: four dwelling units per acre;
   a. In situations where density requirements and lot size, shape, topography, or location result in a subdivision that cannot reasonably meet the density requirements, a reduction in minimum density, to the maximum reasonable density, may be granted by the development services director or designee. In no event may a reduction in density be granted if it would result in a use that would not be allowed as a permitted use, accessory use, or special use in the district in which the property is located.

2. Maximum: seven dwelling units per acre, except that any density greater than six dwelling units per acre shall be obtained only by purchase of transfer of development rights in accordance with Chapter 22.57 of the Thurston County Code; provided, if a land division is subject to the clustering provisions of Section 22.10.050E or the applicable critical area protection standards of Thurston County Code (TCC) Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the maximum density shall be no greater than one hundred twenty-five percent of the maximum density that would otherwise be allowed;

B. Density Calculation. The calculation of the density requirements in Section 22.10.050A above is based on the portion of the site that contains lots devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g., dwelling units; private community clubs; stormwater detention, treatment and infiltration). The following land is excluded from density calculations:

1. Land that is required to be set aside for public use as open space, right-of-way, or land on which development is prohibited by Thurston County Code Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and land that is to be used for private roads. Provided, that portion of open space/park areas that consists of stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreational purposes in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County shall not be excluded from density calculations,

D. Lot size requirements:

1. Maximum: None,
2. Minimum: four thousand square feet, or if a land division is subject to the clustering provisions of Section 22.10.050E or the applicable critical area protection standards of Thurston County Code (TCC) Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the minimum lot size shall be three thousand two hundred square feet,

H. Section 22.12.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.12.050 - Density regulations.
Density regulations in the SFM zone district are as follows:

A. Site Area. All land divisions are subject to the lot size provisions of this section, provided that all land divisions must meet the following density requirements:

1. Minimum: six dwelling units per acre;
   a. In situations where density requirements and lot size, shape, topography, or location result in a subdivision that cannot reasonably meet the density requirements, a reduction in minimum density, to the maximum reasonable density, may be granted by the development services director or designee. In no event may a reduction in density be granted if it would result in a use that would not be allowed as a permitted use, accessory use, or special use in the district in which the property is located.

2. Maximum: nine dwelling units per acre, except that any density greater than eight dwelling units per acre shall be obtained only by purchase of transfer of development rights in accordance with Chapter 22.57 of the Thurston County Code; provided, if a land division is subject to the clustering provisions of Section 22.12.050E or the applicable critical area protection standards of Thurston County Code (TCC) Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the maximum density shall be no greater than one hundred twenty-five percent of the maximum density that would otherwise be allowed;

B. Density Calculation. The calculation of the density requirements in Section 22.12.050A above is based on the portion of the site that contains lots devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g., dwelling units; private community clubs; stormwater detention, treatment and infiltration). The following land is excluded from density calculations:

1. Land that is required to be set aside for public use as open space, right-of-way, or land on which development is prohibited by Thurston County Code Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and land that is to be used for private roads. Provided, that portion of open space/park areas that consists of stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreational purposes in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County shall not be excluded from density calculations,
D. Lot size requirements:
   1. Maximum: none,
   2. Minimum: four thousand square feet, or if a land division is subject to the
      clustering provisions of Section 22.12.050E or the applicable critical area
      protection standards of TCC Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, the minimum lot size shall
      be three thousand two hundred square feet,

I. Section 22.14.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

Accessory uses in the MFM district are as follows:

C. Home occupations, as approved by the director of development services;

J. Section 22.14.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.14.050 - Density regulations.

B. Density Calculation. The calculation of the density requirements in Section 22.14.050A
above is based on the portion of the site devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g.,
dwelling units; private community clubs; stormwater detention, treatment and
infiltration). The following land is excluded from density calculations:
   1. Land that is required to be set aside for public use as open space, right-of-way, or
      land on which development is prohibited by Thurston County Code Title 24,
      Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County
      Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and land that is to be used
      for private roads. Provided, that portion of open space/park areas that consists of
      stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreational
      purposes in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for
      Thurston County shall not be excluded from density calculations,

K. Section 22.16.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
22.16.050 - Density regulations.
Density regulations in the MFH zone district are as follows:

...

B. Density Calculation. The calculation of the density requirements in Section 22.16.050A above is based on the portion of the site devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g., dwelling units; private community clubs; stormwater detention, treatment and infiltration). The following land is excluded from density calculations:

1. Land that is required to be set aside for public use as open space, right-of-way, or land on which development is prohibited by Thurston County Code Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance and land that is to be used for private roads. Provided, that portion of open space/park areas that consists of stormwater facilities that are designed for active and/or passive recreational purposes in accordance with the Drainage Design and Erosion Control Manual for Thurston County shall not be excluded from density calculations,

...

Table 22.18
Commercial Zone Districts Permitted and Special Uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial Districts</th>
<th>NC</th>
<th>MU</th>
<th>CD</th>
<th>GC</th>
<th>BP</th>
<th>Applicable Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail sales (no more than 15,000 square feet, except at discretion of development services director)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family child care home (with approval of development services director)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Chapter 22.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

L. Section 22.20.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
22.20.060 - Development standards.
Development standards in the mixed use zone are intended to achieve a human-scale, pedestrian and transit-oriented environment.

H. Pedestrian Access.
1. An on-site pedestrian circulation system which links the street and the primary entrance(s) of the structure(s) shall be provided. Sidewalks or pedestrian ways must connect the required pedestrian system to existing pedestrian systems on adjacent developments if adequate safety and security can be maintained. Convenient pedestrian access to transit stops shall be provided.

2. Sidewalks, walkways or pedestrian systems shall be required and constructed according to the city's road development standards or as approved by the development services director.

3. Where the pedestrian circulation system crosses driveways, parking areas, and loading areas, it must be clearly identifiable, through the use of elevation changes, speed bumps, a different paving material, or other similar method approved by the development services director. Striping may be permitted only in conjunction with at least one of the preceding methods.

4. Lighting for parking lots and pedestrian ways shall be provided to ensure personal safety. Lighting shall be integrated into the architectural character both in terms of illumination and fixtures. Site lighting shall be directed downward and inward or other techniques may be utilized to minimize impacts on off-site uses.

Table 22.24
Industrial Zone Districts Permitted and Special Uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industrial Districts</th>
<th>LI</th>
<th>HI</th>
<th>Applicable Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child mini day care center (with approval of development services department)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Chapter 22.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family child care home (with approval of development services department)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
M. Section 22.28.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.28.050 - Development regulations.
Development regulations in the BP district are as follows:

... 
D. Yards.
1. Front: fifteen percent of the property depth to a maximum requirement of thirty feet;
2. Side: none;
3. Rear: none;
4. Any yard, front, side or rear, adjoining significant waterways shall be a minimum of one hundred feet from the building line to the top of the bank (if this provision conflicts with TCC Title 24 Chapter 17.15, the more restrictive provision shall apply);
5. No building shall be located closer than one hundred feet from external roads.

N. Section 22.30.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.30.060 - Landscaping.
The preservation or enhancement of existing native plant materials shall be the predominant characteristic of landscape treatment in this district. Clearing of plant materials shall be subject to the requirements of Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, as applicable TCC Chapter 17.15, Critical Areas.

O. Section 22.31.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.31.020 - Permitted uses.
Permitted uses in the OS district, subject to the applicable requirements of TCC Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, are as follows:

...

P. Section 22.43.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.43.040 - How to use these guidelines.
These design review guidelines are intended to supplement the development standards of each zoning district. Where provisions of this chapter conflict with other requirements contained in Title 22 (zoning) or the Uniform Building Code (UBC), those requirements shall apply. This chapter contains requirements and guidelines. "Requirements" are mandatory provisions that a
development must meet to comply with this chapter. "Guidelines" are recommended design
techniques for meeting the affiliated requirement. A development may require application of
more than one design technique to meet the requirement. The guidelines provided in this chapter
are not intended to be all inclusive and other equal or better design techniques, as approved by
the development services director, may be used to meet the requirement.

Q. Section 22.43.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.43.050 - Design review process.
The design review process shall be conducted administratively by the development services
director. Design review shall occur concurrent with underlying permit review processes.
Administrative decisions may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 22.62 of this code.

R. Section 22.43.070 shall be amended to read as follows:

22.43.070 Residential design guidelines.

C. Site Design—Transit Facilitation.
1. Requirement. Provide for convenient access to public transportation and rideshare
vehicles.
2. Guideline. The following are examples of design techniques that may be used to
meet this requirement:
a. Accommodate public transportation vehicles on the road network that
serves the development;
b. Consult with Intercity Transit to locate ADA accessible loading/unloading
pads, and bus shelters, where such facilities are deemed necessary by the
development services director. These facilities shall be designed and
located in accordance with the applicable Thurston County road design
standards;

S. Section 22.46.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.46.030 - Fences—Height restrictions.
A. Residential Zones.
1. Front yard: forty-two inches maximum height. On corner lots, fences shall be
limited to thirty-six inches in height for a distance of fifteen feet from the
intersection of the property lines abutting the street, and to forty-two inches in
height for the remainder of the front yards facing on both streets; except that
fences may be permitted to a maximum height of seventy-eight inches from the
ground in the front and/or side yard on a flanking street if the portion above
thirty-six inches is composed of open work in such a manner that eighty percent
of any portion is open to light and air;
On through lots, a seventy-eight inch fence may be allowed in one of the front yards by the director of the development services department or designee, provided the following conditions can be met: (a) the fence will be located in the yard on the back side of the structure; (b) there is no street access from the end of the lot where the fence will be located; (c) the addition of the fence will not be detrimental to the neighborhood in terms of view, light, and air; nor injurious to traffic safety; (d) the fence will not appear obtrusive when compared to the rest of the block face on which it will be placed.

D. Fencing for energy facilities such as substations, switching stations and natural gas gate stations and for utility facilities shall satisfy fence height restrictions described in this section or, in lieu thereof, the utility may submit an alternative plan for review and approval by the development services director.

T. Section 22.47.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.47.020 - General requirements.
A. For any proposed commercial or industrial development with a new building or building expansion that amounts to twenty-five percent or greater of the assessed valuation of the existing building within any twelve-month period, and for any proposed multifamily residential development or residential manufactured home park consisting of five or more dwelling units on a lot, a landscaping plan shall be prepared describing how the requirements of this chapter will be met. The plan should be prepared by a licensed Washington landscape architect, Washington certified nurseryman, or Washington certified landscaper. The development services department shall review a proposed plan for compliance with the requirements of this chapter. The county review shall be limited to compliance with County standards. A proposed plan may consist of a mutually agreed upon alternative plan in accordance with Section 22.47.060. If the development services director believes a proposed plan does not meet the requirements of this chapter, the applicant shall be notified in writing of the director's findings.

E. Where perimeter landscaping is located, breaks in vegetation and/or fencing for pedestrian access and transit passenger pads may be required as determined by the development services department during site plan review.

J. Irrigation of landscaped areas is required, except for landscaping which incorporates native or drought-tolerant vegetation. An irrigation plan shall be submitted along with a proposed landscaping plan to the development services department for review and approval.
U. Section 22.47.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.47.060 - Alternative landscaping plan.
Alternative landscaping plans may be proposed where strict application of the requirements in this title would prohibit reasonable development of a property. The development services director may consider the topography, shape, size or other natural features of the property or design features of the development when considering the suitability of a proposed alternative landscaping plan. Examples of situations where alternative landscaping plans are more likely to receive favorable consideration are mixed use buildings and developments that qualify for reduced parking under Chapter 22.50. Another technique that can be used in alternative landscaping plans is the enhancement of landscaping in a nearby area to soften the overall effect of the development such as improvement of a nearby existing public right-of-way.

V. Section 22.50.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.50.020 Parking and loading general regulations.

G. Unlisted Uses. Any use clearly similar to any of the uses listed in Section 22.50.070 as determined by the development services director shall meet the requirement for such use. If a similarity of use is not apparent, the development services director may require a parking demand study or determine the standards that should be applied to the use in question.

J. Parking lot lighting not exceeding twenty-four feet in height is required to provide safe access for pedestrians. Outdoor lighting and aerial-mounted floodlighting shall be shielded from above in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield shall be below the light source. Such lighting shall be shielded so that the direct illumination shall be confined to the property boundaries of the light source. Ground mounted floodlighting or light projection above the horizontal plane is prohibited between midnight and sunrise. Temporary outdoor lighting intended to advertise a temporary promotional event shall be exempt from these requirements, but must comply with provisions of Chapter 22.44. A plan for proposed lighting shall be submitted to the development services department for review and approval prior to final site plan approval.

W. Section 22.50.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.50.080 - Administrative modification.
A. General Provisions.
3. The project developer shall present all findings and completed worksheets to the development services director prior to any final, discretionary approvals; e.g., site plan approval, environmental review or any planning, building or engineering permits. The development services director shall authorize an increase in parking based upon compliance with Section 22.50.080B.

B. Criteria for Modification of Required Parking.

**Figure 22.50.080A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decrease or Increase Up To Twenty Percent</th>
<th>Decrease or Increase Up To Forty Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The development services director may allow up to a twenty percent decrease or increase in required parking after:</td>
<td>The development services director may allow up to a forty percent decrease or increase in required parking after:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Shared and combined parking opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
<td>1. Shared and combined parking opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. On-site park-and-ride opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
<td>2. On-site park-and-ride opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Compliance with commute trip reduction measures as required by state law, if applicable; and</td>
<td>3. Compliance with commute trip reduction measures as required by state law, if applicable; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. *The site is no closer than three hundred feet from a single-family residential zone; or</td>
<td>4. *The site is no closer than three hundred feet from a single-family residential zone; or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. **Design and facility requirements listed in Section 22.50.080C4 are met; and</td>
<td>5. **Design and facility requirements listed in Section 22.50.080C4 are met; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. A report is submitted providing a basis for more or less parking. A report providing a basis for less parking must also provide mitigation necessary to offset any negative effects.</td>
<td>6. For a decrease request, a report is submitted providing a basis for less parking and mitigation necessary to offset any negative effects. For an increase request, a parking demand study, prepared by a transportation engineer licensed in the state of Washington, is submitted which supports the need for more parking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. *The site is served by transit or will be served within six months of occupancy (within one-fourth mile (one thousand three hundred twenty feet) of the primary entry area to the building).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Parking decrease only.

** Parking increase only.

In addition to the above criteria for a decrease in required parking, the development services director may require that all or some administrative
modification design requirements listed for increased parking be met (e.g., bike racks, landscaping, etc.), and require other measures to ensure all impacts associated with reduced parking are mitigated.

Any motor vehicle parking spill-over which cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the development services director will serve as a basis of denial.

C. Process for Modification of Required Parking (requests to reduce parking need only follow subsections C1 through C3).

1. Submit evidence that decreased/increased parking is necessary. This may take the form of a brief report for all decreases and up to a twenty percent increase. The development services director may require additional studies to ensure negative impacts are properly mitigated. A more complete and detailed parking demand study is required for increases greater than twenty percent.

...  

4. If additional parking is still desired, an administrative modification is required. For employers with less than one hundred employees, the site plan must meet design elements in subsections C4a and b below. For employers with one hundred or more employees, the site plan must meet design elements in subsections “C4a” through “h.” Requirements found below must be included in a project proposal to the satisfaction of the development services director prior to approving any administrative modification to increase parking. In those instances where site constraints impede design requirements, written findings of fact shall be made identifying site and project constraints, and shall be identified in the final project approval letter. In its findings, the development services director shall determine if a good faith effort has been made in building and site design in order to accomplish required design elements.

X. Section 22.50.090 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.50.090 - Shared and combined parking facilities.

...  

B. General Provisions. The development services director may require an applicant to demonstrate that shared or combined parking is feasible when adjacent land uses have different hours of operation. Mixed use and shopping center developments with similar operating hours may also be required to submit a parking demand study to determine if parking can be combined.

1. Authority. In order to eliminate multiple entrances and exits, reduce traffic hazards, to conserve space and to promote orderly development, the development
services director and hearings examiner are each authorized to group cooperative parking facilities for a number of uses in such a manner as to obtain the maximum efficiency in parking and vehicular circulation.

2. Agreement. If authorized by the development services director, an agreement establishing shared or combined use of a parking area, approved by the prosecuting attorney, shall be recorded with the county auditor's office. Such agreements shall run with the land for all properties with shared or combined parking and require department approval for any change or termination.

3. Termination of Combined or Shared Use.
   a. In the event that a combined or shared parking agreement is terminated, those businesses or other uses with less than the required parking shall notify the development services director within ten days and take one of the following actions:
      i. Provide at least fifty percent of the required parking within one-hundred eighty days, and provide the remaining required parking within three hundred sixty-five days following the termination of the shared or combined use; or
      ii. Demonstrate, based upon a study deemed reliable by the director of development services, that the available parking is sufficient to accommodate the use's peak parking demand; or
      iii. Apply for and receive an administrative parking modification (see Section 22.50.080).
   b. If sufficient parking is not provided, the use, or that portion of the use out of compliance with this chapter, shall be terminated upon the expiration of the time period specified in subsection B3ai above. This requirement shall be established as a condition of the occupancy permit for uses relying on combined or shared parking.

   a. Shared Parking. For land uses in close proximity of each other that operate or are used at entirely different times of the day or week, the development services director may allow shared parking facilities to satisfy the parking requirements of such uses if the parking facilities are within one-fourth mile (one thousand three hundred twenty feet) of all primary entry areas to buildings being served by such facilities.
      i. When two or more land uses, or uses within a building, have distinctly different hours of operation (e.g., office and church), such uses may qualify for a shared parking credit. Required parking shall be based on the use that demands the greatest amount of parking.
ii. If two or more land uses, or uses within a building, have different daytime hours of operation (e.g., bowling alley and auto parts store), such uses may qualify for a total parking reduction of no more than fifty percent.

b. Combined Parking. Two or more uses which have similar hours of operation and combine parking facilities may qualify to decrease the number of parking spaces (see Figure 22.50.090A. The combined parking facility must be cooperatively established and operated in accordance with Section 22.50.090B2. The development services director may require a parking demand study to ensure sufficient parking is provided.

Y. Section 22.54.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.54.030 - Expansion and intensification of nonconforming, nonresidential uses.

... 

C. Expansions involving critical areas shall be subject to the provisions of the Title 24, Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Chapter 17.15, Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, as applicable.

... 

Z. Section 22.56.290 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.56.290 Temporary use.

... 

E. Temporary uses are subject to the following regulations:

1. No temporary use shall be permitted on public rights-of-way, unless a right-of-way obstruction permit is authorized by the public works, roads and transportation services department.

... 

AA. Section 22.62.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.010 - Title enforcement.
This title shall be administered and enforced by the development services department, who shall have all necessary authority on behalf of the board to administer and enforce the provisions of this title. The authority shall include the ability to order, in writing, the remedy of any condition found in violation of this title and the ability to institute legal action with the prosecuting attorney's office to insure compliance with the provisions, including injunction, abatement or other appropriate action or proceeding.
BB. Section 22.62.020 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.020 - Application review procedures.

A. Type I Procedure—Ministerial Decision (see Appendix Figure 1).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type I application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 22.62.030. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing as to what basic submittal information is required to make the application complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

3. Within fifty-eight calendar days of the date that the Type I application is submitted, the approval authority, as provided in Table 22.62, shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application, and shall mail the decision to the applicant. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the application submittal date, the following periods shall be excluded:
   a. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the development services department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information;

4. At any time after the application is submitted, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information.

6. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection A3 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated
date for issuance of a decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

B. Type II Procedure—Administrative Decision (see Appendix Figure 2).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type II application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 22.62.030. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall send a letter of complete application to the applicant and shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall send a letter of incomplete application to the applicant, listing the basic submittal information that is required to make the application complete. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

2. Within fourteen calendar days after an applicant has submitted the additional information identified in the letter of incomplete application as being necessary for a complete application, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application is complete or what basic submittal information is still needed to make the application complete.

3. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the formal review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

4. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail a notice of application to all owners of property within a radius of three hundred feet of the project site. It shall also be mailed to the applicant and other interested parties. The notice of application shall include the following:

   c. The identification of other permits not included in the application to the extent known by the development services department;
h. Any other information determined appropriate by the development services department.

5. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application for up to twenty calendar days from the date of such notice. The department shall mail to the applicant a copy of comments timely received in response to the notice and shall consider such comments in the review of the application. The department may consider comments received after the twenty-day period has elapsed.

6. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

9. Within the time limits provided in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Section 22.62.050.

10. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

12. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.
C. Type III Procedure—Quasi-Judicial Decision (see Appendix Figure 3).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type III application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 22.62.030. The department shall render its decision on the completeness of the application in the manner prescribed in Sections 22.62.020B1 and 2 above.

2. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred twenty calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the one-hundred-twenty-day review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

3. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail out a notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 22.62.020B4 above, except that the mailing radius from the project site shall be expanded for the following special use permit applications:
   a. One-thousand-four-hundred-foot radius: jails, juvenile detention facilities, work release facilities, essential public facilities, and wireless communication facilities;
   b. Two-thousand-six-hundred-foot radius: prisons and prerelease facilities; Secure community transition facilities; and solid waste handling facilities.

4. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 22.62.020B5 above.

5. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.
6. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing, the development services department shall complete the SEPA review and appeal process, pursuant to Chapter 17.09 TCC.

7. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing on a Type III application, the development services department shall provide notice of the public hearing as follows:

10. Within the time limits provided in subsection C8 above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 2.06 TCC.

11. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:

13. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection C8 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice.

CC. Section 22.62.025 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.025 - Optional consolidated permit processing.
A proposed project action involving two or more land use permit applications is encouraged to be processed in a consolidated manner, following the review and approval process of the highest numbered permit type represented among the required permits (see Table 22.62). The development services department shall designate a permit coordinator when two or more permit applications are processed concurrently.

The applicant may determine whether the multiple permit applications shall be processed concurrently or individually. If the applications are processed individually, the highest numbered permit type (see Table 22.62) shall be acted upon prior to the processing of the lower numbered permit types.
DD. Section 22.62.030 TCC shall be amended to read

**22.62.030 - Contents of application.**

For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided. During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the development services department if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, department review of other aspects of the project will continue.

If the application is deemed incomplete or if additional information is required, the applicant shall have one hundred eighty calendar days to submit the required information to the development services department. The department shall notify the applicant as to when the one-hundred-eighty-day period will end. If the applicant does not submit the required information within the one-hundred-eighty-day period, the application shall lapse. Prior to the expiration date, the applicant may request in writing an extension of time. The development services director may grant an extension if the required studies or information warrants additional time.

... 

C. Type II and III Applications. Each application for a Type II or III permit shall contain the following in clear and intelligible form (with exceptions as provided in Section 22.62.030C15 below):

1. An application form provided by Thurston County containing all of the information requested on the form, including a single applicant contact to receive all determinations and notices;

2. A narrative summary of all uses and activities proposed to occur on-site, including hours of operation. For nonresidential developments, provide a statement which indicates whether hazardous materials, as defined in chapter 24.03 of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance or Section 17.15.200 of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance for agricultural uses, will be used, stored or disposed of on-site, or as a result of site activities;

... 

11. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;
15. Each application for a quasi-judicial (site-specific) rezone shall contain only the following in clear and intelligible form:

   e. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code-critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement.

EE. Section 22.62.035 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.035 - Fees.
Applicants for permits or other approvals pursuant to this title shall pay to the development services department the applicable fee identified on the fee schedule, which is adopted by reference and incorporated in this section.

FF. Section 22.62.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.040 - Zoning compliance.
No building permit or septic tank permit shall be issued unless the development services director or designee has determined that all applicable provisions of this title have been met.

GG. Section 22.62.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.050 - Appeal procedures.

A. Appeals of Administrative Decisions. Appeals may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment thereto (Type I and II permits; see Table 22.62). Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

B. Appeals of Hearing Examiner Decisions. The final decision by the hearing examiner on Type III permits and on Type I and II appeals, as provided in Table 22.62, may be appealed to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved person or agency directly affected by the hearing examiner's decision. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06 TCC.

C. Judicial Appeals. The final decision by the board of county commissioners on Type IV actions and on Type I, II and III appeals, as provided in Table 22.62, may be appealed to Superior Court, as follows:

1. Any judicial action to challenge, set aside or void any amendment to this title or any decisions made pursuant to the provisions of this title must be commenced within twenty days from the date of amendment or decision.
2. The plaintiff bringing any such action shall pay the full cost of transcription of the record prepared for judicial review of the matter being appealed.

D. The filing of an appeal shall suspend the issuance of either a construction or land use permit related to the appeal until final action is taken on the appeal.

HH. Section 22.62.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.62.060 - Code interpretations.
Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title that pertains to an application under review or to a proposal that has been the subject of a presubmission conference. The development services department shall issue a written determination to the person requesting the interpretation in accordance with the Type I procedures in Section 22.62.020A. The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations.

II. Section 22.64.030 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

22.64.030 - Violations, civil infractions and penalties.

E. Permit Approval Limitations. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter 17.25 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline Master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

JJ. Section 22.64.050 shall be amended to read as follows:

22.64.050 - Civil infraction procedures.

C. Designation of Enforcement Officer. The enforcement officer(s) for violations of this title for civil infraction purposes will be designated by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners upon the recommendation of the Director of Development Services.

KK. Section 23.02.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
23.02.080 - Interpretations.
A. The director of development services shall review and resolve any questions involving
the proper interpretation or application of the provisions of this title that may be
requested by any property owner, tenant, government officer, department, or other person
affected. The director's decision shall be in keeping with the spirit and intent of this title
and of the Olympia Joint Plan. Code interpretations shall be processed in accordance with
Section 23.72.200.


LL. Section 23.02.160 TCC shall be amended as follows:

23.02.160 - Establishment of land use zoning districts.

B. Adoption of Land Use Zoning District Map. The boundaries of the land use districts
established by this section shall be shown upon the map designated as the "North County
Urban Growth Areas Official Zoning Map" available at the department of development services.

C. The location and boundaries of various use districts are shown on the "North County
Urban Growth Areas Official Zoning Map", which is identified by the approving
signatures of board of county commissioners, and is on file with the department of
development services. Such map is adopted as a part of this title. This title, and each and
all of its terms, are to be read and interpreted in the light of the contents of such map.


MM. Section 23.02.108 TCC shall be amended as follows:

23.02.108 Definitions.

B. Definitions – Specific.

"Certificate of occupancy" means a permit issued by the development services department prior
to occupancy of a structure when the structure is ready for occupancy.
"Critical area" means those areas defined by TCC Title 24 or Chapter 17.15 as a critical area, including any of the following areas and ecosystems:

1. Wetlands and streams;
2. Aquifer recharge areas;
3. Geologic hazard areas;
4. Important habitat areas; and
5. Floodplains, streams and wetlands.

"Department" means the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department.

..."Director" means the director of the Thurston County development services resource stewardship department, and the director's designees.

...

NN. Section 23.04.080 shall be amended to read as follows:

23.04.080 - Residential districts' development standards.
Table 4.04 identifies the basic standards for development in each residential district contained in this chapter. The sections referenced in Table 4.04 refer to the list of additional regulations below.
A. Maximum Housing Densities.
      a. The maximum housing densities specified in Table 4.04 are based on the entire site, except critical areas (applicable critical area buffers are included in the maximum density calculation, see Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, TCC) and land to be dedicated or sold for public parks, schools or similar nonresidential uses.

... 

5. Density Bonuses. The maximum housing densities identified in Table 4.04 may be increased as follows:
   a. Restoration of Critical Areas. At the request of the applicant, the hearing examiner may grant a density bonus of up to twenty percent for sites on which damaged or degraded wetlands or stream corridors (e.g., streams and stream banks within the outer limits of the buffer required by Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, Critical Areas, TCC) will be restored and maintained according to specifications approved by the county. Property owners within three hundred feet of the site shall be given notice of the proposal and fifteen days to comment. Such notice may be done concurrently with any other notice required by this code. Prior to taking action on a request for a density bonus, the hearing examiner shall consider
the public's comments, the expected public benefit that would be derived from such restoration, the probable net effect of the restoration and the increased density on the site, the relative cost of the restoration and the value of the increased density, and the potential impact of increased density on surrounding land uses, traffic, infrastructure, schools, and parks. The county may require the applicant to provide an estimate of the cost of the proposed restoration and other information as necessary to make this determination.

This bonus does not apply to site features which were damaged in the course of a current project (e.g., under an active permit) or as a result of an illegal or intentional action by the current property owner or their representative.

... 

B. Minimum Housing Densities.


Note: Table 4.04 in Chapter 23.04 includes those areas proposed to be devoted to residential and associated uses (e.g., lots or tracts to be occupied by dwellings; private community clubs, tot lots, recreation areas, and greenbelts; and street rights-of-way).

a. The entire site shall be included in the minimum density calculation except environmentally critical areas and their associated buffers (see Title 24 or Chapter 17.15 TCC); tracts accommodating stormwater facilities required in compliance with the Drainage Manual; tracts required for tree retention pursuant to Chapter 17.25 TCC and/or Section 23.04.080J, existing, opened street rights-of-way and land to be sold or dedicated to the public (e.g., school sites and public parks, but not street rights-of-way to be dedicated as part of the proposed development).

b. All dwelling units in convalescent homes/nursing homes and accessory dwelling units count toward the minimum density required for the site by Table 4.04.

...

OO. Section 23.04.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.04.060 Residential district’s use standards.

... 


b. Regulations. Temporary uses are subject to the following regulations:
i. No temporary use shall be permitted on public rights-of-way, unless a
right-of-way obstruction permit is authorized by the roads and
transportation services/public works department;

...

PP. Section 23.05.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.05.080 Development Standards.**

...

B. Maximum Housing Densities.

1. Calculation of Maximum Density. The maximum densities and average maximum
densities specified in Table 5.05 are based on the entire site, with the following
limitations:

   a. The area within critical areas shall not be counted; however, critical area
      buffers shall be included in the density calculation consistent with Title 24
      or Chapter 17.15 TCC, as applicable.

...

5. Density Bonuses. The maximum housing densities identified in Table 5.05 may
be increased as follows:

   a. Bonus for Restoring Degraded Sites.
      i. At the request of the applicant, the hearing examiner may grant a
         density bonus of up to twenty percent for sites on which damaged
         or degraded wetlands or stream corridors (e.g., streams and stream
         banks within the outer limits of the buffer required by Chapter
         Title 24 or Chapter 17.15 TCC, as applicable) will be restored and
         maintained according to specifications approved by the County.

...

C. Minimum Housing Densities.

1. Calculation of Minimum Density. The minimum average densities specified in
Table 5.05 are based on the entire site, with the following limitations (Note: Table
5.05 in Chapter 23.05).

   a. The entire site shall be included in the minimum density calculation
      except environmentally critical areas and their associated buffers (see Title
      24 or Chapter 17.15, TCC, as applicable) tracts accommodating
      stormwater facilities required in compliance with the Drainage Design
      Manual; existing, opened street rights-of-way; and land to be sold or
dedicated to the public, (e.g., school sites and public parks) but not street rights-of-way to be dedicated as part of the proposed development.

... 

G. Lot Width.

...

3. Minimum Street Frontage.

a. Each residential lot, other than for townhouse and cottage housing, shall have a minimum of thirty feet of frontage on a public street.

b. Exception: The county may allow the street frontage to be reduced (creating a flag lot) to the minimum extent necessary to enable access to property where public street access is not feasible (e.g., due to physical site conditions or preexisting development) or to protect environmentally critical areas (see Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, TCC as applicable).

...

N. Private and Common Open Space.

...

2. Villages and Community Oriented Shopping Centers.

a. Neighborhood villages, urban villages, and community oriented shopping centers shall contain at least five percent open space available for public use or common use. Ownership of open space areas and type of access will be determined during the master planned development review (see Chapter 23.57, TCC). As much as fifty percent of this open space may be comprised of environmentally critical areas and associated buffers (see Title 24 or Chapter 17.15, TCC, as applicable).

b. These villages and centers must contain a neighborhood park or green between one and four acres in size located in the village or community center. This park or green shall have an average slope no greater than five percent; adequate drainage to allow active use in summer; and a width and length of no less than one hundred and fifty feet.

QQ. Section 23.06.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.06.040 - Permitted, special, and prohibited uses.

...
B. Prohibited and Unspecified Uses. Land uses which are not listed as permitted or special uses are prohibited unless authorized by the director of development services (or the hearing examiner on appeal) consistent with Section 23.02.080, Interpretations.

### Table 6.01
**Permitted and Conditional Uses**

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6. Retail Trade

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**12. Temporary**

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<tr>
<td>Emergency housing</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireworks, as determined by fire department (see temporary stands)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food/retail stands (see temp. stands)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage/yard sales</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise displays (exterior of building)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile sidewalk sales</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model homes</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor art and craft show</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking lot sales</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residences rented for social event (six or less in one year)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residences rented for social event (seven or more in one year)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rummage nonprofit sales</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary stands</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Other Uses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessory structures</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessory garages, large</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessory uses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-oriented businesses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RR. Section 23.06.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.06.100 Commercial district’s development standards Specific.
A. Coverage, Building.

1. Arterial Commercial District. Maximum building coverage: forty percent, however, this may be increased up to a maximum of eighty-five percent if the following density bonuses are used:

| Projects using porous parking surfaces approved by the roads and transportation services public works department for at least fifty percent of the required parking area provided on site: | 10 |
| Projects providing a through-block corridor that facilitates pedestrian access in a location approved by the roads and transportation services public works department: | 15 |

B. Impervious Surface Coverage.
1. Arterial Commercial District. Maximum coverage by impervious surfaces: eighty percent, unless increased up to a maximum of ninety-five percent, if the following density bonuses are used:
Projects providing a through-block corridor that facilitates pedestrian access in a location approved by the roads and transportation services public works department: 15

SS. Section 23.20.110 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.20.110 - Building design—Remodeled historic buildings.
A. Requirement. Protect and preserve buildings of special historic significance and merit. Historic features are those which have been identified by the historic commission on the Thurston County Historic Register pursuant to TCC Chapter 2.106.

B. Guideline.
1. Restore or retain as many historic features as possible.
2. Maintain or restore original proportions, dimensions and architectural elements.
3. Select paint and material colors which are historically accurate, coordinate the entire facade, and do not conflict with adjacent buildings.
4. Consult available historical resources, the historic commission, or development services the department for assistance and detailed information.

TT. Section 23.38.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.38.080 Administrative variance.

B. Criteria to Reduce and Increase Parking.

2. Increased Parking. Required parking may be increased if the criteria listed below is met to the satisfaction of the department:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase of One Percent to Twenty Percent</th>
<th>Increase of Twenty One Percent to Forty Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The department may allow a one percent to twenty percent increase above required parking after:</td>
<td>The department may allow a twenty-one percent to forty percent increase above required parking after:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Shared and combined parking opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
<td>1. Shared and combined parking opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. On-site park-and-ride opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
<td>2. On-site park-and-ride opportunities are fully explored; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Compliance with commute trip reduction measures as required by state law, if applicable; and</td>
<td>3. Compliance with commute trip reduction measures as required by state law, if applicable; and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UU. Section 23.36.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.36.060 General Requirements – All zones.**

...  

J. **Stormwater Pond and Swales.**

1. Stormwater drainage ponds and swales shall be located, to the greatest extent possible, where they will not unreasonably impede pedestrian access to or between buildings. They shall also be attractively landscaped and integrated into the site design. If properly located and designed, stormwater facilities may serve as an amenity and be counted toward landscape requirements.

2. Existing waterbodies and wetlands should be incorporated into the site design as an amenity, but only when their function and value is enhanced and when permitted by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC Title 24 or the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC Chapter 17.15, as applicable.

...  

VV. Section 23.36.100 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.36.100 Alternative landscaping plans.**

A. The applicant may formally request in writing a modification from the landscaping requirements set forth in this chapter; provided, there is no reduction in critical area and buffer, unless permitted by the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, or Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, as applicable.

...  

WW. Section 23.37.030 shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.37.030 Expansion and intensification of nonconforming, nonresidential uses.**

...  

C. Expansions involving critical areas shall be subject to the provisions of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 TCC), or Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 17.15 TCC), as applicable.
XX. Section 23.38.220 shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.38.220 Design standards – General.**
Off-street parking facilities shall be designed and maintained in accordance with the standards of the latest edition of the Transportation and Traffic Engineering Handbook and those hereunder, unless otherwise stated.

A. General Requirements. (Note: Also refer to specific zone district design standards in this chapter under Section 23.38.160.)

1. Driveways. Driveways and curb cuts shall be in accordance with applicable county requirements, TCC Sections 15.04.070, 15.04.080, and plans for such shall be submitted to and approved by the director of public works of roads and transportation services (RATS).

2. Ingress/Egress Requirements.
   a. The department upon recommendation of the director of public works (RATS), or designee, and after appropriate traffic study, including consideration of total parcel size, frontage on thoroughfares, uses proposed and other vicinity characteristics, shall have the authority to fix the location, width and manner of approach of a vehicular ingress and egress from a building or parking area to a public street and to alter existing ingress or egress as may be required to control street traffic in the interest of public safety and general welfare.

YY. Section 23.48.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.48.040 - Additional conditions.**
The hearing examiner or director of development services, as applicable, may impose additional conditions on a particular use if it is deemed necessary for the protection of the surrounding properties, the neighborhood or the general welfare of the public. The conditions may:

ZZ. Section 23.50.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

**23.50.080 - Development subject to design review.**
4. Administrative design review projects are those in design districts (see Map 6A-1, in Section 23.06A.010 and at the Thurston County development services department for a parcel specific map); multifamily units throughout the Olympia UGA; and buildings over five thousand square feet proposed for residential zones which require a special use permit; and shall be reviewed by the department, including:

... 

AAA. Section 23.50.140 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.50.140 - Application and review process.
A. Design Review Submission Requirements. Application for design review shall be filed with the department on forms provided by the department. Submittal requirements shall be written by the department and shall be available on the forms.

B. Sign Application. Applications for design review of signs which are not part of a development project shall be filed with the development services department on forms provided by the department. Information submitted shall include size, color, materials, location and shall be adequate to evaluate the sign(s) in the context of the entire building or site.

C. Appeals (see Chapter 23.72, Appeals).

BBB. Section 23.57.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.57.060 Presubmission conference.

... 

B. The department will make available pertinent information as may be on file relating to the proposal. It is the purpose of this conference to eliminate as many potential problems as possible in order for the MPD to be processed without delay. The conference should take place prior to detailed work by the applicant's architect, engineer or surveyor. Discussion topics at this time include such things as:

... 

4. Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC Title 24, the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC Chapter 17.15, and the State Environmental Policy Act, indicating the environmental impact of the development;

... 

CCC. Section 23.64.080 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:
23.64.080 Development Standards.

...

C. Density and Lot Area.
   1. Density. Each townhouse development shall be subject to density provisions contained in the underlying district.

   2. Lot Size. See Table 4.04, Residential Development Standards, for average and minimum lot sizes for each townhouse unit. The minimum required lot area for individual townhouse dwelling units shall not include critical areas subject to the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance, TCC Title 24 Chapter 17.15;

DDD. Section 23.72.010 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.010 - Title enforcement.
This title shall be administered and enforced by the development services department, who shall have all necessary authority on behalf of the board to administer and enforce the provisions of this title. The authority shall include the ability to order, in writing, the remedy of any condition found in violation of this title and the ability to institute legal action with the prosecuting attorney's office to insure compliance with the provisions, including injunction, abatement or other appropriate action or proceeding.

EEE. Section 23.72.040 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.040 - Application review procedures.
A. Type I Procedure—Ministerial Decision (see Appendix Figure A-1).
   1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type I application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 23.72.060. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the department shall notify the applicant in writing as to what basic submittal information is required to make the application complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.

...
decision to the applicant. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the application submittal date, the following periods shall be excluded:

a. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the development services department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information;

b. Any period of time during which an administrative appeal is being processed;

c. Any extension of time mutually agreed upon in writing by the applicant and the department.

4. At any time after the application is submitted, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information.

5. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 23.72.

6. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection A3 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of a decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

B. Type II Procedure—Administrative Decision (see Appendix Figure A-2).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type II application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 23.72.060. If the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall send a letter of complete application to the applicant and shall begin substantive review of the application. If the application is deemed incomplete, the development services department shall send a letter of incomplete application to the applicant, listing the basic submittal information that is required to make the application complete. An application shall be deemed complete if the department does not provide a written determination to the applicant that the application is incomplete as provided in this subsection.
2. Within fourteen calendar days after an applicant has submitted the additional information identified in the letter of incomplete application as being necessary for a complete application, the development services department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application is complete or what basic submittal information is still needed to make the application complete.

3. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the formal review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

4. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail a notice of application to all owners of property within a radius of three hundred feet of the project site. It shall also be mailed to the applicant and other interested parties. The notice of application shall include the following:

   a. The date of application, the date of the letter of complete application, and the date of the notice of application;

   b. A description of the proposed project and a list of the project permits included in the application and, if applicable, a list of any additional information or studies requested under Section 23.72.040B3 above;

   c. The identification of other permits not included in the application to the extent known by the development services department;

   d. The identification of existing environmental documents that evaluate the proposed project, and the location where the application and any studies can be reviewed;

   e. A statement of the public comment period and statements of the right of any person to comment on the application, receive notice of and participate in any hearings if applicable, request a copy of the decision once made, and any appeal rights;
f. A statement of the preliminary determination, if one has been made at the
time of notice, of those development regulations that will be used for
project mitigation and of consistency;

g. A map showing the project site in relation to other properties; and

h. Any other information determined appropriate by the development
services department.

5. The development services department shall accept public comments in response
to the notice of application for up to twenty calendar days from the date of such
notice. The department shall mail to the applicant a copy of comments timely
received in response to the notice and shall consider such comments in the review
of the application. The department may consider comments received after the
twenty-day period has elapsed.

6. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department
shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the
application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of
application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a
determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of
application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue
the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to
Chapter 17.09 TCC.

9. Within the time limits provided in subsection B7 above, the development services
department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor
and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of
the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of
decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a
statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09 TCC,
notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for
property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be
appealed pursuant to Section 23.72.190.

10. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development
services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following
periods shall be excluded:

a. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the
department to correct plans, perform required studies or provide additional
required information;

b. Any period of time during which an administrative appeal is being
processed;
c. Any period of time during which an environmental impact statement is being prepared;

d. Any extension of time mutually agreed upon in writing by the applicant and the department.

12. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection B7 above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

C. Type III Procedure—Quasi-Judicial Decision (see Appendix Figure A-3).

1. Within twenty-eight calendar days of receiving a Type III application, the development services department shall decide whether the application includes the applicable information listed in Section 23.72.060. The department shall render its decision on the completeness of the application in the manner prescribed in Sections 23.72.040B1 and 2 above.

2. Once the application is deemed complete, a one hundred twenty calendar day review clock begins. Either as part of the letter of complete application or as a separate written notification during the one-hundred-twenty-day review period, the development services department may request additional information or studies that are needed to complete the review due to the particular aspects of the project or site or if substantial changes are made to the proposed project. If this occurs, the applicant will be notified in writing as to what additional information is needed and the review clock will stop during the time that the applicant is assembling this information. The department shall make a determination of completeness within fourteen calendar days of submittal of any additional information. The review clock will begin again once this additional information is submitted and deemed complete.

3. Within nine calendar days after the application is deemed complete, the development services department shall mail out a notice of application in the manner prescribed in subsection (B)(4) of this section, except that the mailing radius from the project site shall be expanded for the following special use permit applications:

a. One-thousand-four-hundred-foot radius: airports and landing strips, jails, juvenile detention facilities, junk yards—wrecking yards, and work release facilities;
b. Two-thousand-six-hundred-foot radius: composting facilities, feed lots, mineral extraction, petroleum products—processing/storage, plastics, paints, commercial chemicals—manufacture, prisons and prerelease facilities, secure community transition facilities, rifle, pistol and archery ranges—outdoor, wireless communication facilities and other antenna support structures and solid waste disposal facilities.

4. The development services department shall accept public comments in response to the notice of application in the manner prescribed in Section 23.72.040B5 above.

5. Except for a determination of significance, the development services department shall not issue its SEPA threshold determination or issue a decision on the application until the expiration of the public comment period on the notice of application. However, the department may combine the comment period for a determination of nonsignificance with the comment period on the notice of application. Once the combined comment period ends, the department shall issue the threshold determination with or without a comment period, pursuant to Chapter 17.09.

6. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing, the development services department shall complete the SEPA review and appeal process, pursuant to Chapter 17.09.

7. At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing examiner public hearing on a Type III application, the development services department shall provide notice of the public hearing as follows:

10. Within the time limits provided in subsection (C)(8) above, the development services department shall mail a notice of decision to the applicant, the county assessor and to any person who, prior to the rendering of the decision, requested notice of the decision or submitted substantive comments on the application. The notice of decision shall include a description of the decision, any mitigating conditions, a statement of any SEPA threshold determination made under Chapter 17.09, notice that affected property owners may request a change in valuation for property tax purposes, and the procedures for appeal. The decision may be appealed pursuant to Chapter 2.06.

11. In determining the number of days that have elapsed after the development services department has issued the letter of complete application, the following periods shall be excluded:
13. If the approval authority is unable to issue its decision within the time limits provided for in subsection (C)(8) above, the development services department shall provide written notice of this fact to the project applicant. The notice shall include a statement of reasons why the time limits have not been met and an estimated date for issuance of the notice of decision. A copy of this notice shall be forwarded to the board of county commissioners.

FFF. Section 23.72.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.050 - Optional consolidated permit processing.
A proposed project action involving two or more land use permit applications is encouraged to be processed in a consolidated manner, following the review and approval process of the highest numbered permit type represented among the required permits (see Table 72.01). The development services department shall designate a permit coordinator when two or more permit applications are processed concurrently.

The applicant may determine whether the multiple permit applications shall be processed concurrently or individually. If the applications are processed individually, the highest numbered permit type (see Table 72.01) shall be acted upon prior to the processing of the lower numbered permit types.

GGG. Section 23.72.060 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.060 - Contents of application.
For an application to be deemed complete for purposes of beginning the formal project review and starting the review clock, the following basic submittal information shall be provided.
During project review, additional information or studies may be requested in writing by the development services department if needed to address particular aspects of the project or site. While the project review clock will formally stop during the time that the additional information is being assembled, department review of other aspects of the project will continue.

If the application is deemed incomplete or if additional information is required, the applicant shall have one hundred eighty calendar days to submit the required information to the development services department. The department shall notify the applicant as to when the one-hundred-eighty-day period will end. If the applicant does not submit the required information within the one-hundred-eighty-day period, the application shall lapse. Prior to the expiration date, the applicant may request in writing an extension of time. The development services director may grant an extension if the required studies or information warrants additional time.

C. Type II and III Applications. Each application for a Type II or III permit shall contain the following in clear and intelligible form (with exceptions as provided in Sections 23.72.060C17 through 19 below):

...
1. An application form provided by Thurston County containing all of the information requested on the form, including a single applicant contact to receive all determinations and notices;

2. A narrative summary of all uses and activities proposed to occur on-site, including hours of operation. For nonresidential developments, provide a statement which indicates whether hazardous materials, as defined in chapter 24.03 of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance or Section 17.15.200 of the Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance for agricultural uses, will be used, stored or disposed of on-site, or as a result of site activities;

11. Applicable environmental documents, e.g. SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code, critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement;

19. An application for a quasi-judicial (site-specific) rezone shall contain only the following in clear and intelligible form:

e. Applicable environmental documents, e.g., SEPA checklist, applicable critical areas permit or review under title 24 or chapter 17.15 of the Thurston County Code, critical areas administrative review form or written agreement to complete an environmental impact statement.

HHH. Section 23.72.190 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.190 - Appeal procedures.
A. Appeals of Administrative Decisions. Appeals may be taken to the hearing examiner by any person aggrieved or by any officer, department, board or commission of the county affected by any order, requirement, permit, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this title or any amendment thereto (Type I and II permits; see Table 72.01). Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06.

B. Appeals of Hearing Examiner Decisions. The final decision by the hearing examiner on Type III permits and on Type I and II appeals, as provided in Table 72.01, may be appealed to the board of county commissioners by any aggrieved person or agency
directly affected by the hearing examiner's decision. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the development services department within fourteen calendar days of the date of the notice of the decision being appealed, on a form provided by the department. Appeals shall be considered in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2.06.

C. Judicial Appeals. The final decision by the board of county commissioners on Type IV actions and on Type I, II and III appeals, as provided in Table 72.01, may be appealed to Superior Court, as follows:

1. Any judicial action to challenge, set aside or void any amendment to this title or any decisions made pursuant to the provisions of this title must be commenced within twenty days from the date of amendment or decision.

2. The plaintiff bringing any such action shall pay the full cost of transcription of the record prepared for judicial review of the matter being appealed.

D. The filing of an appeal shall suspend the issuance of either a construction or land use permit related to the appeal until final action is taken on the appeal.

III. Section 23.72.200 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.72.200 - Code interpretations.
Any person may request in writing an interpretation of any provision of this title that pertains to an application under review or to a proposal that has been the subject of a presubmission conference. The development services department shall issue a written determination to the person requesting the interpretation in accordance with the Type I procedures in Section 23.72.040A. The letter of request shall serve as the Type I application for code interpretations. The determination by the department may be appealed in accordance with Section 23.72.190A.

JJJ. Section 23.73.030 shall be amended to read as follows:

23.73.030 Violations, civil infractions and penalties.

E. Permit Approval Limitations. No permit or approval shall be granted pursuant to this title if there exists on the subject property any land use violation known by the approval authority unless expressly authorized by this section. For purposes of this section, a land use violation is any violation of the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance (Title 24 Thurston County Code), Thurston County Agricultural Uses and Lands Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter of the 17.15 Thurston County Code), Thurston County Forest Land Conversion Ordinance (Chapter of the 17.25 Thurston County Code), Thurston County Zoning Ordinances (Titles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Thurston County Code), Thurston County Platting and Subdivision Ordinance (Title 18 of the Thurston County Code), Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Shoreline master Program for the Thurston Region or Title 14 of the Thurston County Code (Buildings and Construction).

LLL. Section 23.73.050 TCC shall be amended to read as follows:

23.73.050 - Civil infraction procedures.
C. Designation of Enforcement Officer. The enforcement officer(s) for violations of this title for civil infraction purposes will be designated by resolution of the board of county commissioners upon the recommendation of the director of development services.