



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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June 1, 2022

The Honorable Claudia Balducci  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits a progress report on the rulemaking process for designating channel migration zones in King County to reduce flood risks, in accordance with Ordinance 17485, Section 50.O.

Channel migration, a type of flood hazard from riverbank erosion and channel shifting, can threaten people and property. King County regulates land uses within mapped channel migration hazard areas to reduce these risks. The report includes a summary of work accomplished since January 2022 and lists upcoming milestones for the third and fourth quarters of 2022. The report addresses channel migration mapping and states that the Greenwater River study and mapping have been adopted by the Department of Local Services, the Lower Snoqualmie River draft report and mapping have been prepared, and the Issaquah Creek study is being initiated.

Channel migration hazard areas are a type of Critical Area regulated by King County. The report and its associated hazard mapping are used by the Permitting Division of the Department of Local Services to review land-use and development proposals. The Department of Natural Resources and Parks uses the report and mapping to propose flood risk reduction actions to the County and the King County Flood Control District.

Providing hazard mapping to inform land use regulations to protect people and property supports the King County Strategic Plan healthy environment objective to protect and support healthy and productive farms, forests, and open spaces. Identifying channel migration hazard areas and directing development to safer locations, mitigates flood risks, which furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal to prepare for the likely impacts of climate change.

It is estimated that the report required two staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$200.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The actions outlined in this report help King County residents stay informed about channel migration hazards that may place their homes and lives at risk and help direct future land development to safer locations.


The Honorable Claudia Balducci

June 1, 2022

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-9440.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District

Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, DNRP