



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive
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www.kingcounty.gov

December 23, 2021

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 June 2021 and lists upcoming milestones for 2022. The report addresses channel migration mapping and states that the draft report and mapping for the Greenwater river channel migration zone study are complete and the technical analyses for the Lower Snoqualmie river are in progress.

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 \$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.

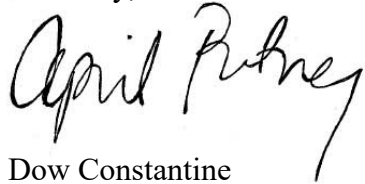
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If your staff have any questions, please contact Josh Baldi, Director of the Water and Land Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-9440.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Janine Weihe, Acting Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District

John Taylor, Director, Department of Local Services

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

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