

May 17, 2023

Presented by:

Colin Poff, Planning Supervisor

Carla Lundgren, Planner

Kitsap County
Critical Areas Ordinance Update
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING





Overview: Kitsap County 2024 Critical Areas Ordinance Update

- Policies and regulations that guide environment protections and promotes public safety in the County's critical areas
- Based on Best Available Science (BAS) and Gap Analysis review
- Last review conducted in 2017
- Required update was every 8 years, now every 10 years with Comprehensive Plan
- Target adoption date **June 30, 2024**

Purpose of a Critical Areas Ordinance Update

01

Align the CAO with applicable Best Available Science (BAS), State laws and guidelines in effect at the time of the review;

02

Assure consistency of the CAO with the County's comprehensive plan and development regulations; and

03

Provide clarifications to improve usability and predictability of the CAO for applicants and reviewers.

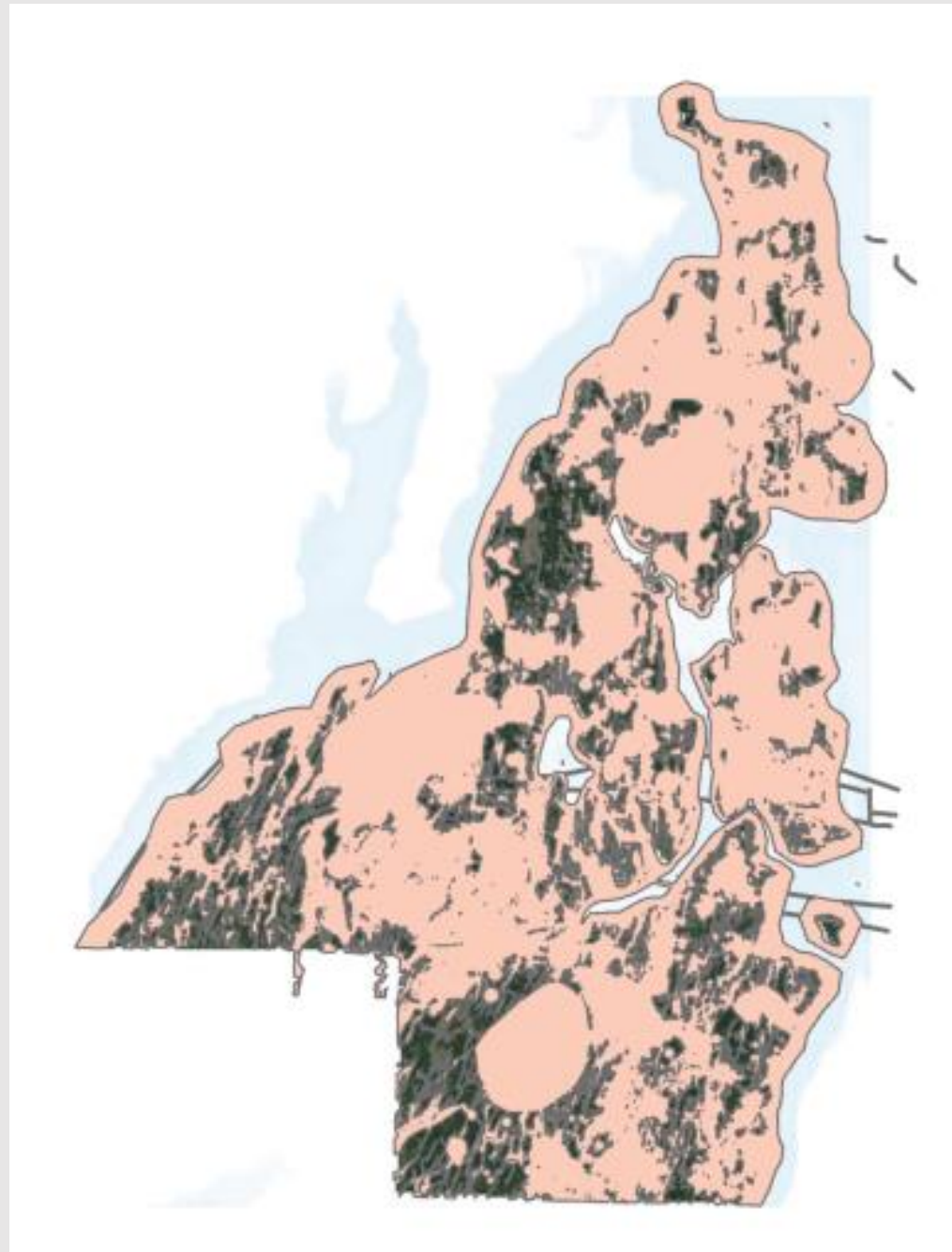


Types of Critical Areas

- Fish & Wildlife Conservation Areas
- Geological Hazardous Areas
- Frequently Flooded Areas
- Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas
- Wetlands

66% of land in Kitsap County has one or more critical area present.

Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas are the most prevalent critical area in Kitsap County.



**Critical Areas shown in pink*



Public Participation Plan Elements



Public engagement opportunities



Public feedback



Working groups



Community consultations



Inclusive outreach

A large fish, possibly a salmon, is swimming in a stream. The water is clear and flowing over rocks. The banks are covered with fallen leaves and some green vegetation. The fish is the central focus of the image, moving from left to right.

Working Groups

Standing Members

- Representatives from local Tribes & community organizations with expertise in planning and critical areas

Technical Experts

- Staff from appropriate state agencies with training and expertise in a specific critical area topic

Schedule

- Target start date June – Meeting dates TBD

Purpose

- Provide technical recommendation on Best Available Science & code updates

Best Available Science (BAS)

- ❖ GMA Requirement
- ❖ Based on WAC Criteria: Peer review, methods, logical conclusions, quantitative analysis, context, references
- ❖ Describes “functions and values”. Looks at any BAS since last update in 2017.
- ❖ Literature review – informs “Gap and Consistency Analysis” document
- ❖ Consider local applicability & implementation
- ❖ Available for public review by June 2023



Gap and Consistency Analysis

- ❖ **Required** Changes for consistency with state law and guidelines
- ❖ **Recommended** Changes based on Best Available Science review and evaluation of current code
- ❖ **Discretionary** Changes based on need for improvement or clarity in various code sections

- ❖ Draft amendments will be available for public review in late 2023.



PHASE 1

BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE & INITIATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Develop outreach and engagement materials
- Launch website
- Distribute surveys
- Project kick-off public presentation
- Identify members for Working Group

January 2023 - June 2023

PHASE 2

TECHNICAL CAO DEVELOPMENT

- Hold virtual public meetings & in-person Open House
- Hold Working Group meetings and provide summary documents
- Consultation meetings with community groups as needed/requested
- Briefings and/or work studies with Planning Commission and Board of County

June 2023 - December 2023

PHASE 3

REVIEW & ADOPTION PROCESS

- Planning Commission public hearing to receive public comments on final draft plan and make recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners
- Board of County Commissioner public hearing to receive public comments and make final decision to adopt, deny or modify final draft plan

January 2024 - June 2024



NEXT STEPS:

Date	Public Outreach/Participation
May 2023	Virtual Public Participation Meeting #1
May 2023	Staff Review of Best Available Science (BAS) report
June 2023	Release of Best Available Science (BAS) report for public feedback
June 2023	Board of County Commissioners Briefing: Best Available Science & Project Scope
June 2023	Planning Commission Briefing: Best Available Science & Project Scope
July 2023	Working Groups meetings begin

For more information:

Project webpage: kcowa.us/cao

Comments & Questions:
codeupdates@kitsap.gov

Colin Poff, Planning Supervisor
cpoff@kitsap.gov

Carla Lundgren, Long Range Planner
clundgren@kitsap.gov

360-337-5777



Questions?

Click on “Q&A” at bottom of screen to submit a question for County staff.