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Snohomish County Reviewing Critical Area Regulations (CAR) in 2024

Snohomish County is reviewing and making any necessary updates to its Critical Area Regulations (CAR), seeking public input from January 17 - February 7, 2024

EVERETT, Wash., January 17, 2024 – The [Growth Management Act \(GMA\)](#) requires Snohomish County to periodically review and update its Critical Areas Regulations (CAR) if needed. Any updates to CAR must consider the best available science according to the [Washington Administrative Code](#). The review of the County’s CAR is occurring now, and public comment on preliminary draft amendments will be accepted from January 17th to February 7th, 2024. The County’s critical areas regulations were last updated in 2015.

The existing regulations are located in the following Snohomish County Code (SCC) chapters are:

- [Chapter 30.62A SCC](#) (Wetlands and Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas)
- [Chapter 30.62B SCC](#) (Geologically Hazardous Area)
- [Chapter 30.62C SCC](#) (Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas)
- [Chapter 30.65 SCC](#) (Special Flood Hazard Areas)

The preliminary drafts are not final. Following the 21-day comment period, staff will work to consider and incorporate these comments into the versions sent to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will be briefed on the proposed amendments in early 2024 by staff, and a public hearing will take place the following month where the Planning Commission will hear from the public and make recommendations to the County Council. The County Council will take final action on considering and adopting potential CAR updates likely by the end of 2024.

Preliminary draft amendments for the CAR are linked below. Please provide any comments to Sarah.Titcomb@snoco.org and Terri.Strandberg@snoco.org.

- [Preliminary draft amendments of Chapter 30.62A SCC](#)
- [Preliminary draft amendments of Chapter 30.62B SCC](#)
- [Preliminary draft amendments of Chapter 30.62C SCC](#)
- [Preliminary Draft Definitions](#)

Additional Resources related to CAR

- [Preliminary Draft Chapter 30.43C SCC](#)
- [Preliminary Draft Chapter 30.86 SCC](#)

About Snohomish County Planning and Development Services

The Snohomish County Department of Planning and Development Services provides development and permit application review, building inspections, long range planning, code enforcement and houses the county Fire Marshal's office. The department's main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201. For more information about Snohomish County Planning and Development Services, visit <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/5169>.

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