



**Snohomish County**

**Planning and Development Services**

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 604  
Everett, WA 98201-4046  
(425) 388-3311  
[www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org)

**Dave Somers**  
*County Executive*

## **DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

**Proponent:** Snohomish County Department of Planning and Development Services  
County Administration Building  
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 604  
Everett, WA 98201

**Description of Proposal:** This is a non-project action to adopt updates to Snohomish County's stormwater rules and regulations in compliance with the Phase I Permit issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology under authority of the federal Water Pollution Control Act (Title 33 USC, Section 1251 et seq.) and the state Water Pollution Control Law (RCW 90.48). Ordinance is titled:

RELATING TO REGULATION OF STORMWATER; AMENDING CHAPTERS 7.53, 7.54, 30.63A, 30.63B AND SUBTITLE 30.91 OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE (SCC) IN RESPONSE TO THE COUNTY'S 2019 NPDES PHASE I PERMIT

### **Proposed Amendments**

This non-project action includes updates to the drainage and land disturbing activity chapters in the Snohomish County Code (SCC), chapters 30.63A and 30.63B SCC, and the administrative rules contained in the Snohomish County Drainage Manual, Volumes I-VI. Minor amendments to chapters 7.53 and 7.54 SCC will be made to update references to the appropriate Drainage Manual volume. Definitions in chapter 30.91 SCC will also be updated to facilitate implementation of the stormwater requirements.

### **This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions:**

This non-project action updates rules and regulations that protect environmental health from impacts related to stormwater associated with new development or re-development. The rules and regulations require compliance with post-development standards that match pre-development conditions in terms of stormwater volume, rate, timing and water quality. Low impact development (LID) principles must be considered during initial site planning. The rules and regulations contain many options for best management practices (BMPs) to be implemented in a wide variety of situations and site conditions. Use of LID BMPs is required where feasible. Feasibility is determined according to specific criteria set forth for each BMP as described in the Drainage Manual and based in part on the information in the Soils Report prepared as part of a required Stormwater Site Plan.

**Lead Agency:** Snohomish County Department of Planning and Development Services

**Threshold Determination:** The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) **IS NOT** required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review by Snohomish County of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with this agency. This information is available for public review upon request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by April 23, 2021, to the responsible official at the address listed below.

**Appeals: THIS DNS MAY BE APPEALED ONLY WHEN SUCH APPEAL IS COMBINED WITH THE APPEAL OF THE UNDERLYING GOVERNMENTAL ACTION PURSUANT TO SCC 30.61.330.** The Notice of Action describing the final decision by the County to pursue or not pursue the proposed action will be published in the County's paper of record. To the extent the governmental action is subject to review under the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW, and pursuant to SCC 30.73.100, any such appeal must be filed with the Growth Management Hearings Board within 60 days following publication in the paper, or as otherwise stated in the Notice of Action or provided by law.

**Responsible Official:** Michael McCrary  
**Position/Title:** Director, Department of Planning and Development Services  
**Address:** 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S #604  
Everett, WA 98201-4046

Michael McCrary

Michael McCrary (Apr 2, 2021 12:34 PDT)

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Michael McCrary, Director

For further information, contact Terri Strandberg, Planning and Development Services, (425) 262-2795 or [terri.strandberg@snoco.org](mailto:terri.strandberg@snoco.org). Please include your full name and mailing address in any email comments.

**Date Issued:** April 9, 2021

**Date Published:** April 9, 2021

**Distribution List:** Attached



## **SNOHOMISH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

### **Purpose of Checklist**

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information on the impacts from this proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts if possible) to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

### **A. Background**

**1. Name of proposed project:**

NPDES update of stormwater rules and regulations

**2. Name of applicant:**

Snohomish County, Department of Planning and Development Services.

**3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

Terri Strandberg, Project Manager  
3000 Rockefeller, M/S 604  
Everett, WA 98201  
Phone: 425-262-2795  
Email: [terri.strandberg@snoco.org](mailto:terri.strandberg@snoco.org)

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

March 31, 2021

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Snohomish County, Department of Planning and Development Services

**6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

Effective date for updated rules and regulations is July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026

**7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

This is a non-project action to update development regulations and administrative rules. Similar updates occur regularly, approximately every five years, in conjunction with updated Phase I Permits issued by Washington State Department of Ecology under the NPDES Program.

**8. List any environmental information you know about what has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

**9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

This is a non-project action unrelated to a specific property.

**10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

Adoption of regulatory updates by the Snohomish County Council, and Approval by Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)

**11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.**

This is a non-project action to update regulations and administrative rules related to the management of stormwater for new construction or redevelopment in compliance with the 2019 Phase I Permit issued by Ecology under authority of the federal Clean Water Act. There are several chapters of Snohomish County Code (SCC) being updated (SCC 7.53, 7.54, 30.63A, 30.63B and 30.91) along with the Snohomish County Drainage Manual (Volumes I-VI).

This proposal contains rules and regulations designed to protect the natural environment, adjacent properties and receiving waters from adverse impacts related to stormwater runoff associated with development activities. The rules and regulations contain measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate risk from erosion, landslide, flooding and poor water quality that can result from sediments and contaminants in stormwater runoff.

- 12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

This non-project action to update stormwater rules and regulations will apply countywide to all unincorporated areas in Snohomish County.

## **B. Environmental Elements**

### **1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site:**

(Circle one): **Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,**  
**other \_\_\_\_\_**

Lands within the jurisdiction of Snohomish County include a variation of terrain such as flat, rolling, hilly, and steep slopes.

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

Slopes in excess of 100% can be found within the jurisdiction of Snohomish County.

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.**

A range of soil types are found within the jurisdiction of Snohomish County. This non-project proposal will not impact agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance.

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

Certain areas within Snohomish County have a history of surface instability associated with periods of heavy rainfall. Other areas have a history of more deep-seated instability associated with landslide activity.

- e. **Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

As a non-project action, no filling or grading is proposed. Any future site-specific development or land use proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review of any proposed grading or filling activity.

- f. **Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action, no erosion will occur as a direct result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development or land use proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review of any proposed clearing and construction that might result in erosion.

- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

As a non-project action, no impervious surface coverage will occur as a result of this proposal.

- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

As a non-project action, no erosion reduction or control measures are proposed or required. Future site-specific development or land use action not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project level SEPA and regulatory review and would require the implementation of applicable County regulations to reduce or control erosion or other impacts to the earth.

## 2. Air

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

As a non-project action, no emissions to air will occur as a result of this proposal.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

Not applicable.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control emissions are required or proposed. Future site-specific development or land use action not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project level SEPA and regulatory review and would require the implementation of applicable County regulations to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.

### **3. Water**

- a. Surface Water:**

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

There are several streams, seasonal streams, and bodies of water located within Snohomish County.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

As a non-project action, this proposal will not require any work in, or adjacent to, the described waters. Future site-specific development or land use action not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project level SEPA and regulatory review and would require the implementation of applicable County regulations to reduce or control activities near surface water bodies, if any.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

As a non-project action, no fill or dredge material will be placed or removed from surface water or wetlands.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

As a non-project action, no surface water withdrawals or diversion will be required.

**5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

Not applicable as this is a non-project action.

**6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

As a non-project action, no discharges of waste materials to surface waters will occur as a result of this proposal.

The non-project proposal includes updates to rules and regulations to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts to water bodies. The regulations require use of best management practices and stormwater pollution prevention plans to control erosion during and after any new construction or redevelopment. The regulations require that stormwater runoff is managed on-site and treated to remove waste materials or pollution as necessary to prevent adverse impacts to receiving waters.

**b. Ground Water:**

**1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

As a non-project action, no groundwater will be withdrawn or discharged.

**2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

As a non-project action, no waste material will be discharged from septic tanks or other sources as a result of this proposal. Future development or land use actions not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 that would likely result in discharges from stormwater runoff would be subject to project-level SEPA and regulatory review.

This non-project action does not authorize discharge of waste materials into the ground. The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate discharge of pollutants to ground waters. Where infiltration may occur from pollution generating surfaces, stormwater treatment is required. The use of underground injection wells to discharge stormwater may be authorized subject to requirements and best management practices administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology in the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program (WAC 173-218). The UIC program prohibits discharges that allow movement of fluids containing contaminants to reach the ground water.

**c. Water runoff (including stormwater):**

**1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

As a non-project action, no runoff will occur as a result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development or land use action proposal would be subject to a separate SEPA and development permit review, which would address runoff management.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts from stormwater runoff. The updated rules and regulations require use of low impact development principles and best management practices to control stormwater runoff from development in a manner that mimics pre-development conditions. The updated rules and regulations address stormwater volume, rate and timing of release, natural dispersion and infiltration, use of natural drainage channels including pre-development locations of inflow and outflow from a given site, water quality and impacts to receiving waters.

**2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action no runoff will occur as a result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development or land use action proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and development permit review, which would address runoff management.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate discharge of pollutants to ground or surface waters. Where runoff or infiltration may occur from pollution generating surfaces, stormwater treatment is required.

**d. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

As a non-project action, no drainage patterns will be affected as a result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development or land use proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and permit review, which would address drainage.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts from stormwater runoff. The updated rules and regulations require use of low impact development principles and best management practices to control stormwater runoff from development in a manner that mimics pre-development conditions. Drainage patterns in the vicinity of new development or redevelopment should not be affected.

**e. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures are proposed or required to reduce impacts to surface or groundwaters. Any future site-specific development or land use proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and permit review.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts from stormwater runoff. The rules contained in the Snohomish County Drainage Manual (Volumes I-VI) address the requirements and strategies for stormwater management. Use of low impact development (LID) principles and facilities is required where soils, slopes and other conditions exist such that use of these strategies are feasible. When use of LID is infeasible, the Drainage Manual provides direction for other stormwater management options. Inspection and maintenance of stormwater facilities are also addressed in the updated rules and regulations.

There are a number of best management practices contained in the updated rules and regulations designed specifically to protect ground and surface waters from impacts caused by stormwater runoff from development sites. The measures include application of LID principles during the site planning process (preserve native vegetation, protect natural drainage channels, prevent soil compaction, minimize impervious surfaces), during construction (construction access, sediment control, flow control, soil stabilization, slope protection, drain protection, pollution control), and permanent stormwater control and treatment facilities (dispersion, infiltration, detention, retention systems). The rules and regulations provide many options to ensure stormwater solutions for the variety of sites and conditions found in unincorporated county.

#### **4. Plants**

**a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

All types of the above vegetation occur in various locations throughout the county.

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

As a non-project action, no vegetation will be removed as a direct result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA evaluation of any proposed vegetation removal or alteration.

**c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

U.S Fish and Wildlife Services provides listing for ESA species under its jurisdiction. National Marine Fisheries Service provides I listing for ESA species under its jurisdiction. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife provides listing for sensitive species under its jurisdiction. Washington State Department of Natural Resources provides legal listing of sensitive species under its jurisdiction.

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to preserve or enhance vegetation are required for this proposal. Any future site-specific development or land use action proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and permit review, which would include review of any proposed landscaping or measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts from removal of vegetation. The updated rules and regulations require use of low impact development (LID) principles and best management practices, including consideration of minimizing removal of native vegetation during the site planning process when new development is proposed. LID facilities such as rain gardens are

designed to use native plant species. The more natural vegetation protected, the less development-related stormwater there will be that must be managed.

**e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**

All types of noxious weeds and invasive species occur throughout the county.

**5. Animals**

**a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Birds: **hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mammals: **deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:** \_\_\_\_\_

Fish: **bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:** \_\_\_\_\_

All of the above animal species may be found in various locations throughout the county.

**b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

U.S Fish and Wildlife Services provides listing for ESA species under its jurisdiction. National Marine Fisheries Service provides listing for ESA species under its jurisdiction. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife provides legal listing for sensitive species under its jurisdiction. Washington State Department of Natural Resources provides legal listing of sensitive species under its jurisdiction.

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Yes. Wildlife species do migrate through the county, but as a non-project action, this proposal will not impact migratory species.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to preserve or enhance wildlife are required or proposed. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

The updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate stormwater impacts which discourage removal of vegetation and protect water quality. Vegetation and clean water are key habitat elements that support wildlife. When more vegetation is preserved, there is less stormwater that must be intentionally managed. Reduction of

impervious surfaces and treatment of runoff from pollution-generating surfaces help to protect surface waters.

- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

All types of invasive animal species that occur throughout the county.

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

As a non-project action, energy will not be consumed.

- b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action, there will be no direct impact on solar energy as a result of this proposal.

The non-project action promotes application of LID principles to preserve existing native vegetation on development sites may affect the potential for use of solar energy on adjacent sites. However, this is not a changed condition caused by implementation of the updated rules and regulations as the existing vegetation was already in place and creating this situation, except in the situation where retained vegetation grows and eventually affects solar access on adjacent sites.

- c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, energy conservation features are not applicable to this project. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

## 7. Environmental Health

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

As a non-project action, no environmental health hazards will result as a consequence of this proposal.

**1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

As a non-project action, this is not applicable. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include identification of known or possible contamination, if any.

**2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

As a non-project action, this is not applicable. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include identification existing hazardous chemicals/conditions, if any.

**3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

As a non-project action, this is not applicable. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include a review of toxic or hazardous chemicals stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project, if any.

**4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

As a non-project action, no special emergency services are required by this proposal.

**5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards are required for this proposal. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

The proposed updated rules and regulations include measures to prevent, minimize or mitigate impacts from stormwater runoff including reduction of risks from erosion, landslide and flooding, as well as stormwater treatment requirement to protect surface and

ground water quality. Low impact development principles and facilities, along with best management practices employed during and after construction are required as needed to protect environmental health. The primary purpose of the updated rules and regulations is to identify and require implementation of measures to protect environmental health, with focus on protecting water quality.

**b. Noise**

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

This non-project action will not be affected by noise.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

This non-project action will not generate noise.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control noise impacts are required or proposed. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

**8. Land and Shoreline Use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

The non-project action to update rules and regulations will apply to new development and redevelopment on a variety of sites throughout the unincorporated county. The updated rules and regulations should prevent stormwater-related impacts from new development or redevelopment to adjacent or downstream properties or land uses.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?**

The updated rules and regulations will apply to new development and redevelopment on a variety of sites with some of them potentially located on farmland. The updated rules and regulations will not themselves cause conversion of farmlands.

**1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:**

As a non-project action, this proposal will not directly affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest lands. This proposed non-project action does not change existing regulations or protections relating to working farm or forest lands.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Not applicable to this non-project action.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

As a non-project action, no structures will be demolished as a result of this proposal.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

The updated rules and regulations will apply to all zoning classifications within the unincorporated county.

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

The updated rules and regulations will apply to all comprehensive plan designations within the unincorporated county.

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

The updated rules and regulations will apply to all shoreline designations within the unincorporated county.

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

The updated rules and regulations will apply to all development or redevelopment located on, in or adjacent to all classification of critical areas within the unincorporated county.

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

As a non-project action, this is not applicable.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

As a non-project action, this is not applicable.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts are required by this proposal.

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

The proposed code amendments are compatible with the land use plans and regulations.

**m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

As a non-project action, no impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance would occur as a result of this proposal. This proposed non-project action does not change existing regulations or protections relating to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance.

## **9. Housing**

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

As a non-project action, no housing units would be provided by this proposal.

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

As a non-project action, no housing units would be eliminated by this proposal.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

This is a non-project action; there are no housing units being proposed. Implementation of updated rules and regulations to control stormwater will have an impact on development and housing costs. These costs must be considered in light of the benefits to environmental health and water quality resulting from the updated rules and regulations.

## **10. Aesthetics**

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

As a non-project action, no structures are proposed. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which will include review of structure height and building materials.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

As a non-project action, no views will be altered or obstructed as a result of this proposal. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which will include review of views that may be altered or obstructed.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts are required or proposed. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.

## **11. Light and Glare**

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

As a non-project action, no light or glare will occur as a result of this proposal.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

As a non-project action, no light or glare that could be a safety hazard or interfere with views will result from this proposal. Any future site-specific development proposals not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 will be subject to a separate SEPA and applicable permit reviews, which will include review of light and glare from the development.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

Not applicable to this non-project action.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts are required or proposed. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control light and glare impact, if any.

## 12. Recreation

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

The unincorporated county contains many recreational opportunities.

- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

This non-project action will not displace existing recreational uses.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation are proposed or required. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provide by the project or applicant, if any.

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. **Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers ? If so, specifically describe.**

Not applicable to this non-project action.

- b. **Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

Not applicable to this non-project action. Future development proposals may be conditioned or subject to further review on a site-specific basis under Chapter 30.32D SCC – Historic and Archaeological Resources.

- c. **Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

Not applicable to this non-project action. Future development proposals may be conditioned or subject to further review on a site-specific basis under Chapter 30.32D SCC – Historic and Archaeological Resources.

- d. **Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation are proposed or required. Any future site-specific development proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provide by the project or applicant, if any.

#### 14. Transportation

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Various highways and several state routes and local streets service Snohomish County.

- b. **Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

Various transit services exists in Snohomish County.

- c. **How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?**

As a non-project action, no parking spaces are proposed or required. Future site-specific development must meet the minimum parking requirements as mandated by Chapter 30.26 of the Snohomish County Code.

- d. **Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

As a non-project proposal, new transportation improvements are not required or proposed. Future site-specific development will be reviewed for impacts to the

roadway system and improvements to existing roadways may be required on a project-by-project basis.

The updated rules and regulations address stormwater-related requirements associated with new, or improvements to, transportation and pedestrian facilities. The requirements address stormwater management from all impervious surfaces, both public and private. The updated rules and regulations also address stormwater management requirements for pavement maintenance.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

Not applicable to this non-project action.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

This non-project action will not directly generate any vehicular trips per day. Any future site specific development or land use proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and permit review, which would include review of traffic issues.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action, the proposal will not interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets. Any future development or land use proposal w not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and permit review, which will include review of impacts interfering, affecting, or resulting from the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control transportation are proposed or required. Any future site-specific development or land use action not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA and concurrency review, which would include implementation of measures to reduce or control any transportation impacts.

## 15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

As a non-project action, this proposal will not result in an increased need for public services. Site-specific project actions may affect services such as fire and police. These impacts will be reviewed during the project level permitting of the development.

The updated rules and regulations require that stormwater be managed on-site and that post-development conditions should match pre-development conditions with respect to stormwater volume, timing and rate of release to the storm sewer system. This development standard should prevent increased need for public stormwater facilities.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

As a non-project action, no measures to reduce or control impacts on public services are proposed or required. Any future site-specific development or land use action proposal not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to a separate SEPA review, which would include review and implementation of measures to reduce or control any impacts on public services.

The development standard required in the updated rules and regulations are meant to control direct impact on the public storm sewer system. The updated rules and regulations require that stormwater be managed on-site and that post-development conditions should match pre-development conditions with respect to stormwater volume, timing and rate of release to the storm sewer system.

## **16. Utilities**

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:**

Electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other \_\_\_\_\_

Not applicable to this non-project action.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

As a non-project action, no utilities are proposed or required.

The updated rules and regulations address requirements for stormwater management in the unincorporated county. These requirements may involve the construction of a variety of stormwater facilities on both public

and private property including, but not limited to detention/retention ponds or vaults, infiltration trenches, swales and berms, rain gardens, ditches, catch basins, dispersion systems, etc. Construction activities are subject to the best management practices contained in a stormwater pollution prevent plan.

Construction activities may be conducted by private contractors or by government agencies, including the county. Construction is monitored and inspected by the county. Inspection and maintenance are assigned to the property owner or to the county.

### C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Terri Strandberg  
Terri Strandberg (Apr 2, 2021 10:19 PDT)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri Strandberg, Project Manager  
Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services

Date Submitted: March 31, 2021

## **D. Supplemental sheet for non-project actions**

### **1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?**

This proposal will not increase emissions to air or produce noise. This proposal will not produce or store toxic or hazardous substances. This proposal specifically addresses measures to prevent increased discharge of stormwater and to prevent release of potentially hazardous runoff.

#### **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

As a non-project action, this proposal is not likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise. Future site-specific land activity not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project level environmental analysis and threshold determination.

The updated rules and regulations contain specific measures to manage stormwater on-site through the use of low impact development stormwater management strategies and hydrologic modeling to design stormwater facilities such that the post-development volume, rate and quality of runoff matches predevelopment conditions. The Drainage Manual contains a variety of options for achieving this development standard under a wide variety of conditions and unique site characteristics.

### **2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?**

As a non-project action the proposal is not likely to impact animals, fish, or marine life.

#### **Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

The updated rules and regulations contain specific principles to preserve native vegetation and natural drainage channels that are key habitat elements as part of the strategy to manage stormwater. Infiltration of stormwater provides groundwater recharge and helps to support instream flows. Minimizing impervious surfaces will facilitate infiltration.

### **3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?**

The proposal would not likely deplete energy or natural resources.

#### **Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

As a non-project action, no measures to conserve energy or natural resources are necessary for this proposal. Future site-specific land activity not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project-level environmental analysis and threshold determinations.

The updated rules and regulations contain specific measures to manage stormwater on-site and to preserve or enhance natural infiltration of stormwater allowing for groundwater recharge and support of instream flows.

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

This proposal contains measures to prevent stormwater-related impacts and is unlikely to use or impair sensitive or protected areas, or prime farmlands. The updated rules and regulations include enhanced requirements to protect wetlands when included as a component of the stormwater management strategy.

**Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

Where new development or redevelopment may be proposed, the updated rules and regulations would prevent stormwater-related impacts to sensitive or protected areas, or prime farmlands. Stormwater must be managed on the development site such that post-development conditions match predevelopment conditions. The stormwater management strategies support infiltration, groundwater recharge, and instream flows; preservation of native vegetation; and protection of water quality.

Requirements for wetlands have been updated to require monitoring and modeling of high value wetlands, if the project proponent has legal access to them. The 2014 Wetland Guidance is retained, but refined, for modeling requirements for lower value wetlands (and high value wetlands that the project proponent does not have legal access to).

**5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?**

The proposal is not likely to affect land and shoreline use. The County's Shoreline Management Plan regulates development in the shoreline designations. This proposal does not encourage incompatible land or shoreline uses.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

The proposed code amendments are consistent with shoreline and land use regulations. Future site-specific development proposals in the shoreline environment

are subject to County development regulations implementing the Shoreline Management Program, Chapters 30.44 and 30.67 SCC.

The proposed updates to stormwater rules and regulations include best management practices to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts to shorelines. The updated rules and regulations contain specific measures to manage stormwater on-site through the use of low impact development stormwater management strategies and hydrologic modeling to design stormwater facilities such that the post-development volume, rate and quality of runoff matches predevelopment conditions. The Drainage Manual contains a variety of options for achieving this development standard under a wide variety of conditions and unique site characteristics.

**6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?**

As a non-project action, this proposal is unlikely to directly increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

**Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

As a non-project action, this proposal is unlikely to directly increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities, so measures to reduce impacts are not applicable. Future site-specific development or land use activity not exempted by WAC 197-11-800 or SCC 30.61.035 would be subject to project-level environmental analysis and threshold determinations.

The proposed updates to stormwater rules and regulations require that stormwater be managed on-site. The requirements should prevent increased demand in the form of increased stormwater volume in the municipal separate storm sewer system.

**7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

The proposal does not conflict with any law or requirements to protect the environment.

The purpose of this proposal is meet requirements in the federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) Title 33 United States Code, Section 1251 et seq, and the state Water Pollution Control Law Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington.

# NPDES DNS with Signature Block

Final Audit Report

2021-04-02

Created:	2021-04-02
By:	Tiffany Kelly (Tiffany.Kelly@co.snohomish.wa.us)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAAD2jn0z8zTGqbE5HUiGixB1JeXnIDdphB

## "NPDES DNS with Signature Block" History

-  Document created by Tiffany Kelly (Tiffany.Kelly@co.snohomish.wa.us)  
2021-04-02 - 4:52:51 PM GMT- IP address: 207.183.1.30
-  Document emailed to Terri Strandberg (terri.strandberg@snoco.org) for signature  
2021-04-02 - 4:53:41 PM GMT
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2021-04-02 - 5:17:54 PM GMT- IP address: 23.103.200.254
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