

**KLICKITAT COUNTY
FINAL DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE
CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE UPDATE**

DATE OF ISSUANCE: July 29, 2022

PROPONENT: Klickitat County Planning Department

FILE NUMBER: SEPA2022-08

PROPOSAL: Critical Areas Ordinance Update. The Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) is being overhauled to improve regulations consistent with best available science, and improve document layout and functionality for readability and use.

The focus of this CAO update is two-fold. First, to ensure consistency with State laws and best available science. Second, to enhance the overall usability of the CAO by providing clarity and improved layout so the document is easier to comprehend by applicants and County staff. The County's CAO includes development regulations that designate and protect the functions and values of critical areas in Klickitat County, along with protecting public health and safety.

The adoption of the updated Critical Areas Ordinance is a non-project action designed to improve and update existing policies and standards consistent with the Growth Management Act (GMA). Future SEPA review may be required for project actions undertaken pursuant to the proposed revisions. This is a non-project action that does not propose or authorize any specific projects or activities. It is not limited to a specific site.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL: The proposal will apply to all critical areas and associated buffers within the unincorporated Klickitat County.

NOTICE OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE: Klickitat County has determined that the above described proposal, conducted in conformance with the applicable Klickitat County Codes and Ordinances, would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment, and an environmental impact statement is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the Klickitat County Planning Department. Speculative, possible, future impacts without an actual site-specific application are not probable significant adverse impacts. This determination does not constitute project approval.

The threshold determination and related materials are available at <http://klickitatcounty.org/1262/GMA-Critical-Areas-Update> or at the Klickitat County Planning Department, 115 W Court St, Room 301, Goldendale, WA 98620.

COMMENT PERIOD: This final determination is issued pursuant WAC 197-11-340(2)(f). Klickitat County has considered comments on its preliminary determination of non-significance. There is no additional SEPA comment period.

ADMINISTRATIVE SEPA APPEAL PERIOD: Final thresholds determination may be appealed pursuant to Klickitat County Code KCC 20.28.030. Any administrative appeal of this determination is due no later than twenty-one (21) days from the date of final DNS issuance. Any administrative appeal of this determination must be submitted in writing by **5:00 PM, Friday August 19, 2022**. Appeals

shall be in writing and filed with the County Auditor. Appeals shall state with specificity the basis for the appeal and the errors to be asserted to the Board of County Commissioners. Appeals shall not be deemed complete without payment of the applicable appeal fee (this is a Class C project), payable to the Klickitat County Planning Department.