

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY, PUBLIC COMMENT AND PUBLIC HEARINGS
on Skagit County's 2006 Critical Areas Ordinance Update**

Notice is hereby given that on March 9, 2007, Skagit County will make available on its website the 2006 Critical Areas Ordinance Update Proposal. The documents to be made available are proposed updates to:

1. Skagit County Code Title 14, Unified Development Code: Critical Areas Ordinance (Chapter 14.24)
2. Skagit County Code Title 14, Unified Development Code: Supporting Chapters 14.04 Definitions, 14.16 Zoning, and 14.18 Land Divisions.

Supporting documentation will include:

3. Best Available Science review documents;
4. Environmental documents prepared pursuant to State Environmental Policy Act.

The website address where these documents may be viewed on or after March 9, 2007, is: www.skagitcounty.net/caoupdate .

This date will also mark the beginning of a 60-day public and agency review and comment period. During this period there will be informational open houses and public hearings before the Planning Commission. After the 60-day comment period ends, on May 7, 2007, the Planning Commission will formulate and forward its recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for final consideration and possible adoption. The current target date for adoption is July 2007, although this is subject to change.

The Proposal to be released on the website on March 9, 2007, consists of the following documents:

1. **Amendments to Skagit County Code, Title 14, Unified Development Code: Critical Areas Ordinance 14.24 and supporting Chapters 14.04 Definitions, 14.16 Zoning, and 14.18 Land Divisions.**

Additional Elements of the Proposal: Additional elements of the proposal, including reports, analyses, and supporting documents, will be made available on the website and in hard copy on March 9, 2007. These additional items include:

- Environmental checklist
- SEPA Threshold Determination
- Best Available Science review documents
- Staff Report

Copies of the Proposal: Beginning on March 9, 2007, copies of the entire proposal may be viewed on the Skagit County website at www.skagitcounty.net/caoupdate; or may be reviewed at Skagit County Planning and Development Services, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA.

Copies will also be available for review at the Skagit County Upriver Satellite Office, 45770 A Main St., Concrete, Washington 98237, Phone: (360) 853-7009. Reference copies will be made available at certain public libraries in the County by March 9, 2007.

Copies may be ordered, for a fee, through Skagit County Planning and Development Services at 336-9410, ext. 3497. Due to the time required for reproduction, ordered copies may not be immediately available on March 9, 2007.

Public Review and Comment Schedule: Whether you agree or disagree with the proposal, you are encouraged to comment. A 60-day public review and comment period on the proposal will officially begin on March 9, 2007. Comments may be submitted in writing to Skagit County Planning and Development Services, at the address below, through May 7, 2007, 4:30 p.m.

Comments may also be made at the public hearing(s) scheduled before the Skagit County Planning Commission. The hearing(s) will be held beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Hearing Room of the Skagit County Commissioners Administrative Building, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA. Following is the schedule for public hearing(s):

1. Tuesday, April 10, 2007: Update amendments to Critical Areas Ordinance and supporting Chapters. This hearing will be continued on Thursday, April 12, 2007 if necessary, to accommodate the number of people wishing to testify.

Citizens who plan to attend a public hearing and have special needs or disabilities are asked to call the Board of County Commissioners office at (360) 336-9300 at least 96 hours before the hearing to discuss and arrange for any needed accommodation.

Written correspondence submittal requirements. Comments on the proposal must be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Maps must be in black and white and also reduced to 8 ½" x 11" size for reproduction purposes. Submittals not meeting these requirements will, unfortunately, not be considered. Comments may not be submitted by e-mail.

Please address your comments to:

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