



Memorandum

Date: February 2012
To: Planning Commission
From: Kamuron Gurol, Director of Community Development
Re: Environmentally Critical Areas update – GMA Summary

The following documents contained within this section are excerpts from state law and documents generated by the Washington Department of Commerce (f.k.a. Community Trade and Economic Development), the Washington Department of Ecology, and other technical sources.

These documents were selected to provide the Planning Commission with an overview of the State of Washington regulations and guidance related to the adoption of Environmentally Critical Area Regulations and the use of Best of Available Science (BAS) in developing regulations.

The following websites also contain links to documents that may be useful:

- WA State Laws - <http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>
 - RCW 36.70A – Growth Management Act
 - WAC 365-195 – Growth Management Act - Best Available Science rules
- WA Department of Commerce
 - BAS guidance - <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/418/default.aspx>
 - Publication summary - <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/420/default.aspx>
- WA Department of Ecology - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/>
 - Wetlands - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/gma/index.html>
 - Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/grndwtr/cara/index.html>
 - Environmental Assistance - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/shorelan.html>
 - Laws & Rules - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/ecywac.html#sea>
- Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) - <http://www.mrsc.org/subjects/environment/criticalpg.aspx>