

**ORDINANCE NO. XXXX**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SNOQUALMIE, WASHINGTON AMENDING CHAPTERS 15.12 AND 19.12, FLOOD HAZARD REGULATIONS AND CRITICAL AREAS, OF THE SNOQUALMIE MUNICIPAL CODE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Snoqualmie is a non-charter optional municipal code city as provided in Title 35A RCW, incorporated under the laws of the state of Washington, and plans pursuant to the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW (“GMA”); and

**WHEREAS**, certain provisions of the GMA, specifically RCW 36.70A.050, .170, .172, .175 and .177, mandate that the City adopt development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas and flood management and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 19.12 of the Snoqualmie Municipal Code (“SMC”) currently contains the City’s development regulations pertaining to the protection of critical areas within the City, which are defined to have the same meaning as “Critical areas” defined in the GMA; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.130, the City is required to periodically review and, if needed, revise its development regulations, including its critical areas regulations, to ensure its regulations comply with the goals and requirements of the GMA; and

**WHEREAS**, the last periodic review for Chapters 15.12 and 19.12 SMC occurred in both 2016, and 2020 following which the City Council adopted necessary revisions to Chapters 15.12 and 19.12 in Ordinances 1237 and 1176; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 36.70A.172 requires that when designating and protecting Critical areas under the GMA, the City must include Best Available Science in developing policies and regulations to protect the functions and values of Critical areas and to give special consideration

to conservation and protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous fisheries;  
and

**WHEREAS**, in performing this periodic review, City staff considered critical areas regulation guidance available from state agencies, including the Department of Commerce and the Department of Ecology, consulted with experts in the disciplines addressed in the critical areas development regulations, and considered and included various sources of Best Available Science;  
and

**WHEREAS**, on November 25, 2024, the City’s State Environmental Policy Act (“SEPA”) Responsible Official issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS), Adoption/Addendum for the proposed Critical areas amendments, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Snoqualmie Planning Commission has considered the proposed amendments at several of its regularly scheduled public meetings, and held a duly- noticed public hearing on December 2, 2024, at which it received public testimony from any person wishing to provide input or comment; and

**WHEREAS**, at the conclusion of the public hearing, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposed amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, during its regularly scheduled, open City Council meetings on January 27, and February 10, 2025, the City Council discussed the proposed Critical Areas Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.370, the City has utilized the process established by the Washington State Attorney General so as to assure the protection of private property rights;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has considered the entire public record, public comments, written and oral, the Best Available Science, and the Planning Commission’s recommendation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that the proposed Critical Areas Regulations are consistent with the City’s adopted GMA Comprehensive Plan, will advance and not adversely affect the public health, safety, or general welfare, and are in the best interest of City of Snoqualmie citizens and property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, by adopting this Ordinance, the City Council wishes to complete all review, evaluation and adoption requirements pertaining to the periodic update of its Comprehensive Plan and development regulations under RCW 36.70A.130;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Snoqualmie, Washington, as follows:

**Section 1. Chapters 15.12 and 19.12 SMC Amended.** Chapter 19.12 of the Snoqualmie Municipal Code, CRITICAL Areas, is hereby amended as shown in Exhibit A.

**Section 2. -- Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be effective from and after the date of its adoption and the expiration of five days after its publication as provided by law.

**Section 3. — Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser.** Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering anti section/subsection numbering.

**Section 4. — Severability.** If any one or more section, subsection, or sentence of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

**PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Snoqualmie, Washington, this 10th day of February 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katherine Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deana Dean, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dena Burke, City Attorney