



Director's Rule 15-2001

Applicant: City of Seattle Department of Design, Construction and Land Use	Page 1 of 2	Supersedes: N/A
	Publication: 1/3/02	Effective: 2/14/02
Subject: Update of Environmentally Critical Areas Mapping	Code and Section Reference: SMC 25.09.020.C (Regulations for Environmentally Critical Areas)	
	Type of Rule: Map Update	
	Ordinance Authority: SMC 3.06.040	
Index: Regulations for Environmentally Critical Areas	Approved Diane M. Sugimura (signature on file)	Date 2/11/02

PURPOSE

This rule updates the mapping for several Environmentally Critical Areas (ECAs) where enhanced data is now available. A master set of the updated mapping is filed with the City Clerk's office as an attachment to this rule. Authority for this update is SMC 25.09.020.C, *Regulations for Environmentally Critical Areas*, which states that "the Director may update or amend the environmentally critical areas maps by Director's Rule, according to Seattle Municipal Code Chapters 3.02 and 3.06, as new information and improved mapping resources become available. Mapping amendments may occur at a frequency not to exceed once every year."

The maps have not been updated since they were adopted by Ordinance 116253 in 1992. This Director's Rule updates maps for the following ECAs: Known Landslide Areas, Potential Landslide Areas, and Abandoned Landfills.

BASIS FOR UPDATED ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS MAPPING

The following summarizes the basis for the map updates:

Known Landslide Areas: Updates to this mapping are based on field reconnaissance conducted by DCLU staff and the *Seattle Landslide Study* (2000) conducted by Shannon and Wilson, Inc. for the City of Seattle. The Known Landslide map previously showed the general area where landslides have occurred, but some of the mapped areas were somewhat distorted and in some cases data was lost in transfer. The *Seattle Landslide Study* provides more specific information on the location of known landslides by showing the position of initiation points that were verified by ground reconnaissance. In addition, improvements in mapping techniques now produce better edge matching. This improved edge matching creates more accurate transitions between different map pages. The more specific information and mapping improvements are included in the mapping update.

Potential Landslide Areas: Updates to this mapping are based on the *Seattle Landslide Study* (2000) by Shannon and Wilson, Inc. and improved map edge matching creating more accurate transitions between different map pages. Additional potential landslide areas now shown as a result of the updated mapping are largely in existing ravines, in undeveloped property managed by the City, and in railroad right of ways. Some, but relatively few, additional residential properties are now shown as potential landslide areas. In the latter category, most of the additional residential properties now mapped as potential landslide areas as a result of this update are along Northeast Laurelcresc Lane.

Abandoned Landfills: The minor changes to this map are based on improvements in mapping techniques which produce better map edge matching. This improved edge matching creates more accurate transitions between different map pages.

The *Seattle Landslide Study* can be viewed at the DCLU Public Resource Center, Key Tower 20th Floor.