



DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE (DS) AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF NON-PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

Proposal Name: Pierce County 2023 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan

Proponent and Lead Agency: Pierce County Planning and Public Works and Utilities
Surface Water Management Division

Date of Issuance: December 14, 2020

Agency Contact: Angela Angove, Project Manager
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Purpose of Announcement: The purpose of this announcement is to invite comments on the scope of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be prepared for the Pierce County 2023 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan.

Description of Proposal: The lead agency proposes to adopt a new 2023 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan that will outline how the Surface Water Management Division will provide flood services in Pierce County. The Plan will identify policies, programs, and projects that will reduce the impacts from major flooding and to protect critical infrastructure in the community. Flood hazards considered will be urban, groundwater, riverine, and coastal.

Location of Proposal: The 2023 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan will cover all of Pierce County, Washington.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Required: Pierce County, the lead agency for this project proposal, has determined that this proposal may have significant adverse impacts on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is therefore required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). Pierce County plans to prepare an EIS covering aspects of the built and natural environment for several project alternatives, including, but not limited to, the following subject areas:

- Climate change
- Cumulative impacts
- Economics
- Environmental health
- Geology and soils
- Historic and cultural resources
- Land and shoreline use
- Public services and utilities

- Recreation
- Transportation
- Vegetation, fish, and wildlife
- Water resources
- Wetlands

Alternatives: The lead agency will identify one action alternative for the project, adoption of the 2023 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan and a No Action alternative, under which the 2013 Pierce County Rivers Flood Hazard Management Plan and its 2018 Update would continue to be implemented. Urban and groundwater flooding would continue to be covered in ten individual basin plans previously adopted between 2006 and 2014. Coastal flooding would remain unaddressed.

Scoping: Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. Comments on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and required permits or other approvals are welcome.

1. Electronic written comments may be submitted by email at:

2023floodplan@piercecounitywa.gov

Or via the project website at: <https://www.piercecounitywa.gov/comprehensiveflood>

2. Written comments may be delivered via US Mail or hand delivered to the following address:

Pierce County Planning and Public Works
Attn: Angela Angove, Project Manager
Tacoma Mall Plaza Office
2702 S. 42nd Street, Suite 109
Tacoma, WA 98409

Comment Deadline: The deadline for providing comments is January 29, 2021.

Date: December 14, 2020

SEPA Responsible Official:



(for) Dennis Hanberg

Director of Planning and Public Works