

2024 King County Flood Management Plan

March 6, 2024

Role of King County's flood plan

- Describes flood hazards and problems.
- Outlines goals, objectives, and policies to guide flood risk reduction.
- Identifies actions to address flooding problems.
 - Includes preparedness and response, studies and mapping, outreach, regulations, capital projects, etc.



čakwab – Green River, 2022

How is this flood plan different?

- Extensive community engagement informed plan development.
- Emphasis on delivering multiple community benefits.
- Focus on climate change adaptation and resilience.
- Looks beyond mainstem rivers to include flooding in urban and rural areas and along tributary streams.



Lower Russell Levee Setback – Green River, 2022

Engagement and consultation

- Partner planning committee.
- Tribal consultation (gov't to gov't).
- Engagement with existing groups (WRIAs, FFF, etc.).
- Tributary, coastal, and urban flooding workshops.
- County-sponsored meetings and surveys.
- Community events and partnerships.



Fiestas Patrias, September 2023

Supporting committees

- Coordinating Committee
 - Comprised of Flood Control District Executive Director, Board Chair's staff, Council Central staff, Executive's Office Council Relations staff, and DNRP/WLRD leadership.

- Internal Planning Committee
 - Comprised of King County staff from multiple departments and supported "One King County" plan development.

Goals and policies

- Goals focus on flood risk reduction that will:
 - Support resilient communities and economies, support natural floodplain functions, honor tribal rights, meet community-identified needs, and promote resilience to climate change.
- Policies span six focus areas:
 - Equity, natural systems, multiple benefits, climate change, land use and regulations, and integrated floodplain management.



Snoqualmie River, December 2015

Overview of flooding characteristics



North Bend, November 2006

- Description of river flooding organized by watershed.
- Summary of flood risks associated with tributaries, coastal areas, and urban areas.
- Potential effects of climate change on flooding conditions.
- Discussion of less frequent events that contribute to flooding.

Flood risk reduction activities



Green River levee construction, September 2007

- 300+ activities:
 - 197 capital projects.
 - 111 programs.
 - List includes actions from a variety of sources.
- King County commitments include:
 - 55 capital projects.
 - Dozens of other activities such as studies, regulations, maintenance, and emergency response.

Next steps

- Public comment closes March 15.
- Project team will review comments and revise plan to address comments.
- Final Flood Plan will be transmitted by Executive to King County Council for review and adoption (targeting June 2024).
- The new Flood Plan will be reviewed annually and updated every 5 years.



Riverbend Floodplain Restoration, Cedar River, 2023

Questions?

