



# Critical Area Checklist

Community Development Department ♦ 203 S. Pacific Ave. – PO Box 819 ♦ Kelso, WA 98626 ♦ 360.423-9922

## What is a Critical Area?

A critical area is an environmentally sensitive area that may have adverse impacts on your project (such as a landslide hazard area) or may need to be protected (such as a wetland or habitat area).

## Why do I need to fill out this checklist?

The checklist helps staff to determine if you have critical areas on your property. Once they are identified staff can work together with the applicant to determine how the critical area will be addressed. More information on possible measures can be found in Section 17.38 of the Kelso Municipal Code.

## Is there something I can use to assist me in finding the answers to these questions?

The Cowlitz County GIS EPIC map can help identify some critical areas. The map can be found here <https://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/2898/Web-Map-Applications>

Project Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you aware of any environmental documentation that has been prepared related to critical areas that includes the subject area: (Yes / No / Unknown)  
If yes, please attach a list of document titles.
2. Are there any surface waters including year-round and seasonal streams, lakes, ponds, bogs, swamps? (Yes / No / Unknown)
3. Is there vegetation that is associated with wetlands? (Yes / No / Unknown)
4. Have any wetlands been identified? (Yes / No / Unknown)
5. Are there areas where the ground is consistently inundated or saturated with water? (Yes / No / Unknown)
6. Are there any State or Federally listed sensitive, endangered or threatened species and habitats? (Yes / No / Unknown)  
If yes, please list the species.
7. Are there slopes of 15% or greater? (Yes / No / Unknown)
8. Is the project located within a Flood Hazard Zone? (Yes / No / Unknown)
9. Do you know of any landslide hazard areas? (Yes / No / Unknown)

I grant permission to the field inspector to enter the building site to determine the presence or absence of critical areas.

I understand that if the information on this form is later determined to be incorrect, the project or activity may be subject to conditions or denial as necessary to meet the requirements of KMC 17.38, the Kelso Municipal Critical Areas Ordinance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date