Appendix F. Hazard Mitigation Planning Maps

Maps for use in hazard mitigation planning are in this appendix.

**Sea level rise.** These maps depict areas expected to be inundated if sea levels rise by 1 foot, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 feet as a result of climate change. The 0 feet areas are inundated at current mean higher high tides. This dataset comes from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center Sea Level Rise Data.¹ It also includes low-lying areas that are near the coast, but that are not hydrologically connected. Areas where open space overlaps with inundation areas may be priorities for conservation.

**Wildfire hazards.** This map shows historical wildfire regimes and the wildland urban interface.² The region contains mostly Type III and Type V fire regimes, with a small area of Type 1 fire regime in the prairie areas in southwestern Pierce County. Type V, the most common in the region, is a wildfire regime in which fires only occur once every 200 years or more (on average) and have various severity (ranging from low to high). Type III wildfire regime means these areas experience wildfires on average once every 25 to 200 years and severity tends to be low to mixed. Type 1 fire regime areas experience wildfires on average once every 0 to 35 years and severity tends to be low to mixed. The types of wildfire regions in the region will likely change as climate change continues. Expected changes include increased frequency and increase severity.

The wildland urban interface is the area where homes meet and intermingle with wildlands. Because wildfires are a natural part of the ecosystem in wildlands, homes near and mixed in wildlands will eventually be exposed to wildfires. Future planning efforts can consider wildfire risks for these communities. Developing “fire-adapted” communities is one strategy for reducing risk to life and property in the interface. See Stein et al. for more information. Minimizing the expansion of the interface (which occurs as development sprawls outward into wildlands) is another strategy for reducing wildfire risks.

---