



FEMA

July 9, 2012

Steve Bleifuhs
Manager, River and Floodplain Management Section
King County Water and Land Resources Division
King Street Center
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, Washington 98104-3855

Dear Mr. Bleifuhs:

Thank you for your submittal to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) indicating that you have chosen to demonstrate how your local ordinances, regulations, and written policies comply with the performance standards of the Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

In accordance with the Floodplain Management and Endangered Species Act Checklist for Programmatic Compliance, FEMA has reviewed your current submittal and has concluded your ordinances, regulations, and written policies meet or exceed the performance standards of the Biological Opinion. In order to remain compliant with the Biological Opinion, you must continue to enforce these regulations.

FEMA sincerely appreciates the great labor, interest, and time spent on a detailed, extensive programmatic description of current and estimated future land management conditions and regulations to ensure compliance with Biological Opinion objectives throughout those portions of watersheds located in unincorporated King County. We realize that many King County staff members were highly involved in this effort, and in particular want to thank Mr. Gino Lucchetti and Ms. Priscilla Kaufmann for many meetings they held with FEMA staff that often resulted in additional edits and data requests. We understand from your staff that the completed document will be of great value to King County for multiple applications, and hope that will be the case.

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FEMA is committed to providing technical assistance to any community that requests it. If you have any questions, please contact John Graves, Senior NFIP Specialist at (425) 487-4737 or john.graves@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

for  *Mark Carey, Acting Dir. Dir.*
Mark Carey, Director
Mitigation Division

BG:bb