1.2.3 CORE REQUIREMENT #3: FLOW CONTROL

DIRECT DISCHARGE EXEMPTION

Any onsite natural drainage area is exempt from the flow control facility requirement if the area drains to one of the major receiving waters listed in Table 1.2.3.B at right, AND meets the following criteria for direct discharge to that receiving water:

a) The flowpath from the project site discharge point to the edge of the 100-year floodplain of the major receiving water will be no longer than a quarter mile, except for discharges to Lake Sammamish, Lake Washington, and Puget Sound, AND

b) The conveyance system between the project site and the major receiving water will extend to the ordinary high water mark, and will be comprised of manmade conveyance elements (pipes, ditches, etc.) and will be within public right-of-way or a public or private drainage easement, AND

c) The conveyance system will have adequate capacity per Core Requirement #4, Conveyance System, for the entire contributing drainage area, assuming build-out conditions to current zoning for the equivalent area portion (defined in Figure 1.2.3.A, below) and existing conditions for the remaining area, AND

d) The conveyance system will be adequately stabilized to prevent erosion, assuming the same basin conditions as assumed in Criteria (c) above, AND

e) The direct discharge proposal will not divert flows from or increase flows to an existing wetland or stream sufficient to cause a significant adverse impact.

TABLE 1.2.3.B MAJOR RECEIVING WATERS

- Cedar River downstream of Taylor Creek confluence
- Green/Duwamish River below River Mile 6 (S. Boeing Access Road)
- Snoqualmie River mainstem downstream of Middle Fork Snoqualmie River confluence
- Middle Fork Snoqualmie River downstream of Rainy Creek confluence
- Sammamish River
- White/Stuck River downstream of Huckleberry Creek confluence
- South Fork Skykomish River downstream of Tye and Foss River confluences
- Lake Sammamish
- Lake Washington
- Puget Sound

Note: The major receiving waters listed above do not include side adjacent or associated channels, spring- or groundwater-fed streams, or wetlands.

TABLE 1.2.3.B MAJOR RECEIVING WATERS

- Cedar River downstream of Taylor Creek confluence
- Green/Duwamish River below River Mile 6 (S. Boeing Access Road)
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- Lake Sammamish
- Lake Washington
- Puget Sound

Note: The major receiving waters listed above do not include side adjacent or associated channels, spring- or groundwater-fed streams, or wetlands.

FIGURE 1.2.3.A EQUIVALENT AREA DEFINITION AND ILLUSTRATION

Equivalent area: The area tributary to a direct discharge conveyance system that is contained within an arc formed by the shortest, straight line distance from the conveyance system discharge point to the furthestmost point of the proposed project.

25 Projects discharging directly to the Sammamish River must infiltrate runoff to the extent feasible before discharge to the River.
26 Direct discharge means undetained discharge from a proposed project to a major receiving water.
27 Note: If the conveyance system is an existing King County-owned system, the County may charge a special use fee.
IMPERVIOUS SURFACE PERCENTAGE EXEMPTION

Any onsite threshold discharge area is exempt from the flow control facility requirement if it meets all of the following conditions:

a) The amount of new impervious surface plus existing impervious surface that is not fully dispersed per the criteria on Page 1-46 must be no more than 4% of the threshold discharge area, AND

b) The amount of new pervious surface must be no more than 15% of the natural drainage area, AND

c) Flow control BMPs must be applied to new impervious surfaces as specified in Section 1.2.3.3 (p. 1-50), AND

d) All impervious surface area, except 10,000 square feet of it, must be set back from its natural location of discharge from the site at least 100 feet for every 10,000 square feet of total impervious surface, AND

e) Increased runoff that is not fully dispersed from the new impervious surface and new pervious surface must not significantly impact a critical area, severe flooding problem, or severe erosion problem, AND

f) The manner in which runoff is discharged from the project site does not create a significant adverse impact per Core Requirement #1.

A. BASIC FLOW CONTROL AREAS

Basic Flow Control Areas are designated in two ways. Basic Flow Control Areas refer to areas that discharge to a closed conveyance system, which discharges eventually to water bodies that are designated as major receiving waters. Basic Flow Control Areas are also designated by King County, with approval from the state Department of Ecology, where the County has determined that maintaining peak flows is sufficient to protect natural and constructed conveyance systems. The latter method is usually based on the findings of a plan or study that has determined that such conveyance systems are not sensitive to development-induced increases in runoff volume and durations. Basic Flow Control Areas are delineated on the Flow Control Applications Map adopted with this manual (see map pocket on inside of back cover). A more detailed delineation is available on the County's Geographic Information System.

Note: For projects located at or near the delineated boundary of the Basic Flow Control Area, site-specific topography or drainage information may be needed to determine whether a project or any threshold discharge area of a project is indeed within the flow control area. Any threshold discharge area is considered to be within the Basic Flow Control Area if the threshold discharge area drains to a waterbody or drainage system that is clearly within the mapped Basic Flow Control Area.

Within Basic Flow Control Areas, required flow control facilities must comply with the following minimum requirements for facility performance and mitigation of targeted surfaces, except where such requirements or the facility requirement itself is waived or reduced by the area-specific exceptions at the end of this subsection.

Minimum Required Performance

Facilities in Basic Flow Control Areas must comply with the following flow control performance standards and assumptions unless modified by offsite analysis per Core Requirement #2 (see Table 1.2.3.A, p. 1-36):

Level 1 Flow Control: Match the developed peak discharge rates to existing site conditions peak discharge rates for 2- and 10-year return periods.

Reduced Level 1 Flow Control: A modified version of this standard, controlling only the 10-year frequency peak flow rate, is allowed if the applicant demonstrates both of the following: