Comprehensive Management Plan

Critical Area Ordinance
Shoreline Master Program
Flood Hazard Management

Environmental

Growth and Shorelines Management Acts, Federal Flood Hazard Management – Planning Commission Agendas

November 12, Regular Meeting

1. Best Available Science – **2026 Report and Data Update** - *Keith*
2. Resiliency and Sustainability – **Climate Change - HB 1181 (CH3)** - *Keith*
3. Monitoring and Adaptive Management – **HRCD** - *Keith*

4. Chapter 2 – **Natural Settings**, *Red/Blue line narrative w/ Policy and Goals - Keith*
5. Chapter 3 – **Natural Hazards**, *Red/Blue line narrative w/ Policy and Goals – Troy, Keith on climate*

December 10, Regular

1. Critical Area Ordinances – **Title 16C,** *Work Session No. 1 - Keith*
2. Shoreline Master Program – **Title 16D,** *Work Session No. 1 - Tommy*
3. Flood Hazard Management – **Title 22,** *Work Session No. 1 Troy, Nellie, Jack*

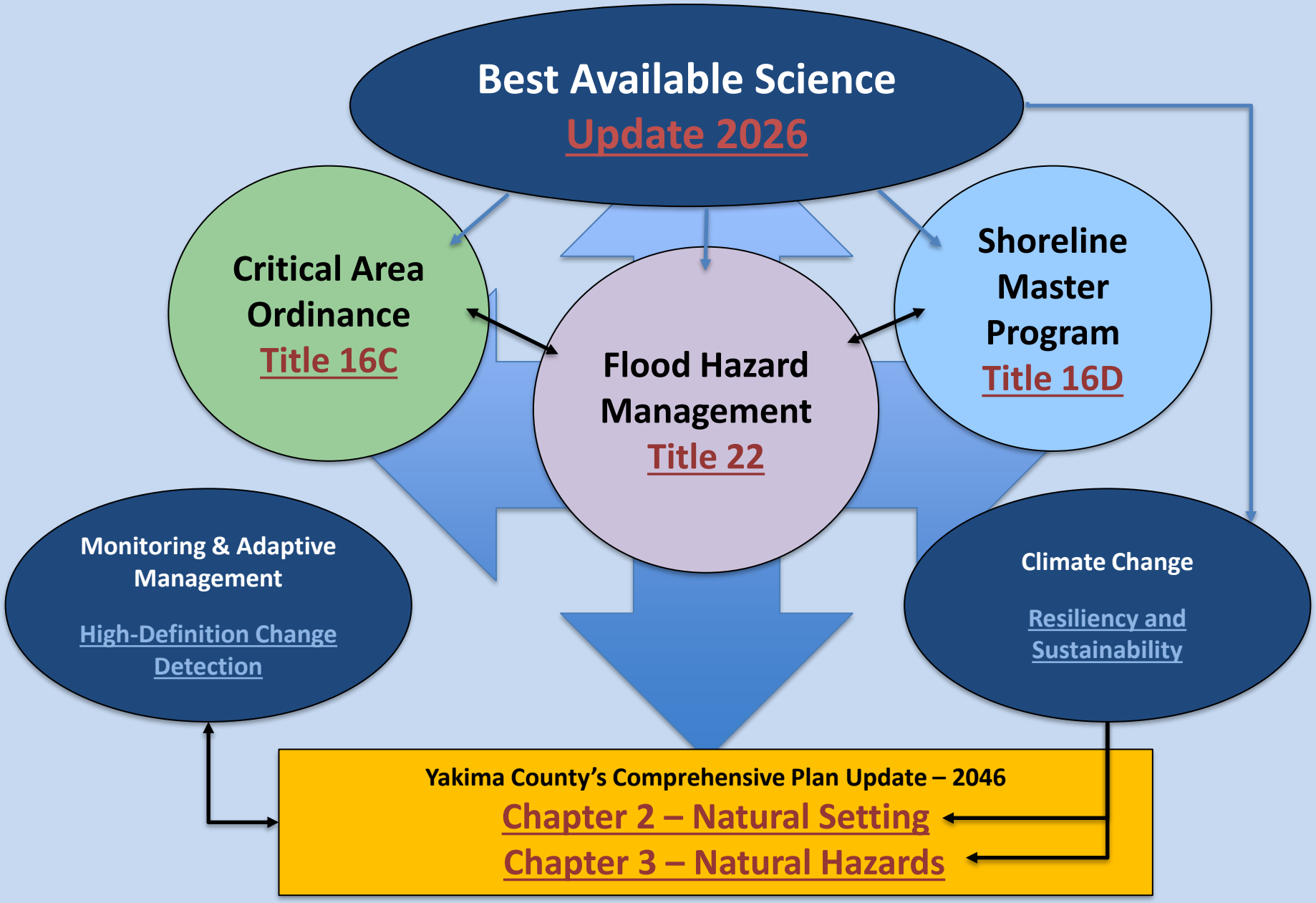
PC Hearings: TBD – Likely in March/April 2026

BOCC Work Sessions – Begin in December 2025

SEPA – Begin in January 2026

BAS – Science Advisory Group, Subject Matter Experts, 2 Subcommittee, BAS Portal – January – October 2026

Intergovernmental – Begin in November, continue through July and BAS through August.


Best Available Science
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Title 16C
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High-Definition Change Detection
Climate Change
Resiliency and Sustainability
Yakima County's Comprehensive Plan Update – 2046
Chapter 2 – Natural Setting
Chapter 3 – Natural Hazards

Critical Areas, Shorelines and Flood Management

The "Why?"

GMA, SMA and CFR *Requirements*

Critical Area Ordinance (GMA) – 16C and Chapter 2

- Primary statute: RCW 36.70A (complete chapter)
- Key WACs: 365-190 (Critical Areas), 365-196 (Comprehensive Planning), 365-195 (Best Available Science)
- 15 planning goals including critical areas protection and sprawl reduction

Shoreline Management Act (SMA) – 16D ref'd in Chapters 2 and 3

- Primary statute: RCW 90.58 (complete chapter)
- Key WACs: 173-26 (Master Program Guidelines), 173-27 (Permits & Enforcement)
- Integration requirement: SMA goals become 15th GMA goal (RCW 36.70A.480)

Federal/State Flood Management (WAC, RCW and CFR) – 22 and Chapter 3

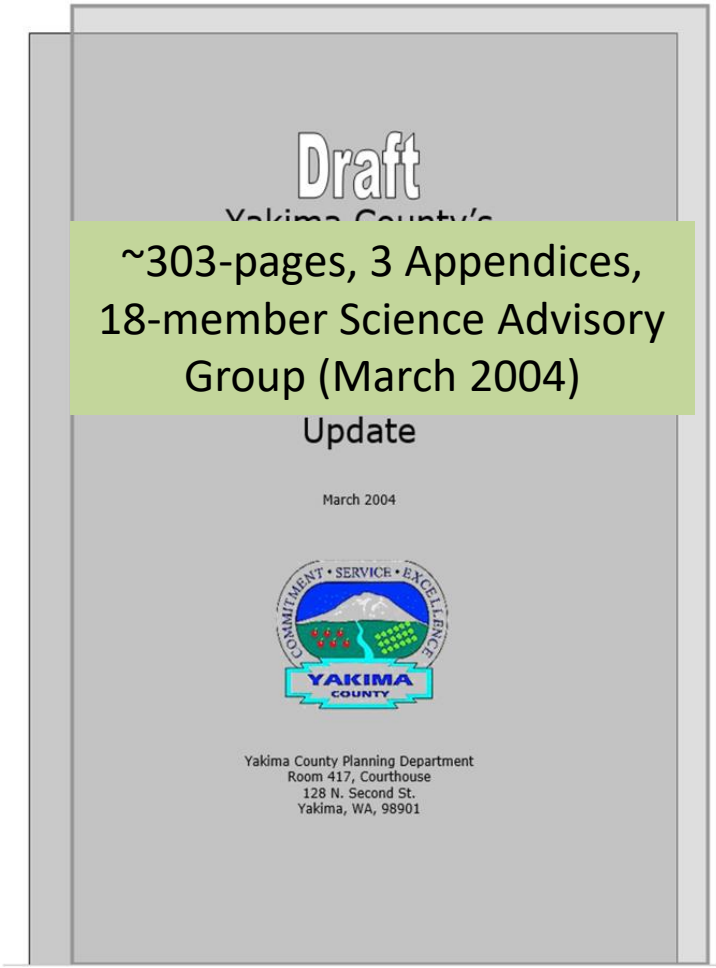
- State implementation: RCW 86.16 (Floodplain Management)
- Key WAC: 173-158 (Flood Plain Management)
- Federal Requirements – CFR's - FEMA and NFIP

GMA **integration** for all the above**:** EX: Frequently flooded areas as critical areas under RCW 36.70A.030(6)(d) with Special Flood Hazards, and FEMA Floodplains etc.

- **Best Available Science** (BAS) applies to both GMA and SMA - Standalone
- **Climate Change (i.e., Resiliency and Sustainability)** adaptation now required across all frameworks – Chapter 3
- **Monitoring and Adaptive Management** applies to SMA and VSP, GMA through, and in, BAS

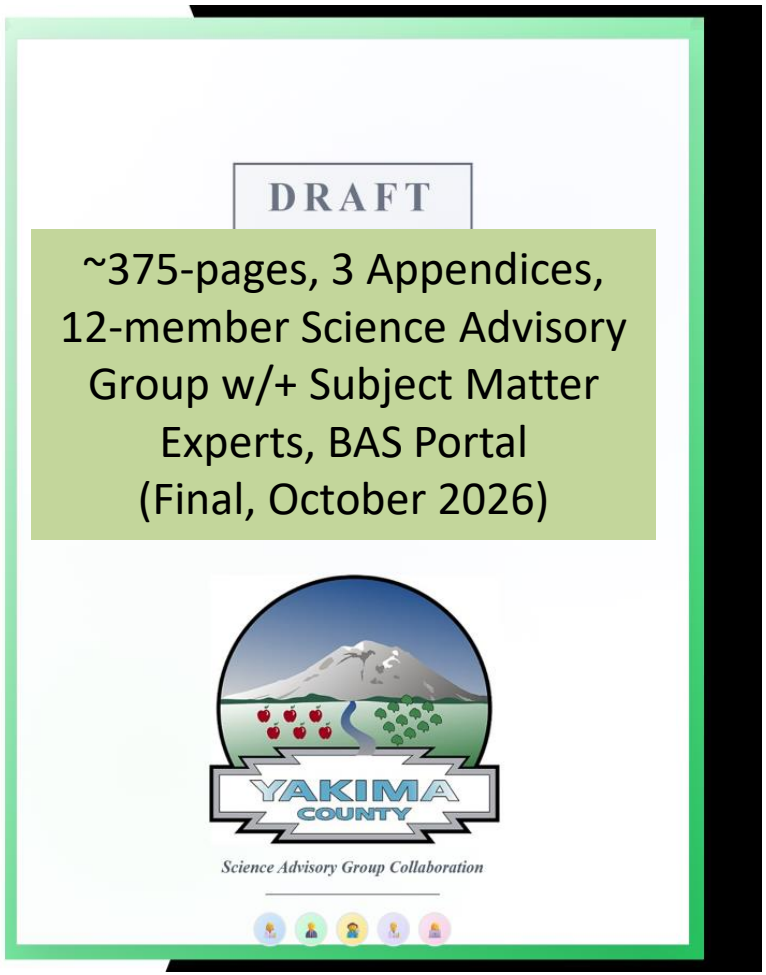
- *And now, for the rest (18 pages) of the story…(Paul Harvey)*
- *https://integrated GMA SMA Flood BAS Climate Integration and Compliance*

Best Available Science
Update 2026



~303-pages, 3 Appendices, 18-member Science Advisory Group (March 2004)

2004/2026



~375-pages, 3 Appendices, 12-member Science Advisory Group w/+ Subject Matter Experts, BAS Portal (Final, October 2026)

Project Workflow

Overall Progress

35% Complete - SAG Formation Phase

June 2025
SAG Invitations Sent
Letters sent to federal, tribal, and state agencies

Early July 2025
SAG Kick-off Meeting
Framework establishment and responsibility assignment

Mid July 2025
SAG Subgroups Formation
Working groups for critical areas and topics

Mid-August 2025
Executive Summary Draft
Table of contents and scope completion

January 2026
Planning Commission Presentation
Draft BAS presentation to public

March-July 2026
Full SAG Peer Review
Comprehensive review by advisory group

August-October 2026
Comments Integration
Feedback incorporation and

Yakima County BAS Update Portal

2026 Periodic Update - Growth Management & Shorelines Management Acts

Project Phase: Literature Review
June 2025 - November 2026
Keith Wolf, Ph.D. - BAS Lead

Goal: Update 2004 Best Available Science Report to meet current science standards and Washington State Growth Management Act requirements for Yakima County's 2026 Periodic Update

Research Submission | Compliance Requirements

Submit Research for BAS Integration

Target BAS Chapter *
Select Chapter for Update

Research Priority
Select Priority Level

Research Title/Study Name *
e.g., 'Climate-Adjusted Buffer Widths for Eastern Washington Streams'

Research Source
Select Source Type

Geographic Relevance
Select Geographic Scope

Key Findings for BAS Update - Submit Abstract or Summary (Limit 300 words)
Describe how this research addresses gaps identified in the 2004 BAS and supports the 2026 update objectives...

Submitter
Select Submitter

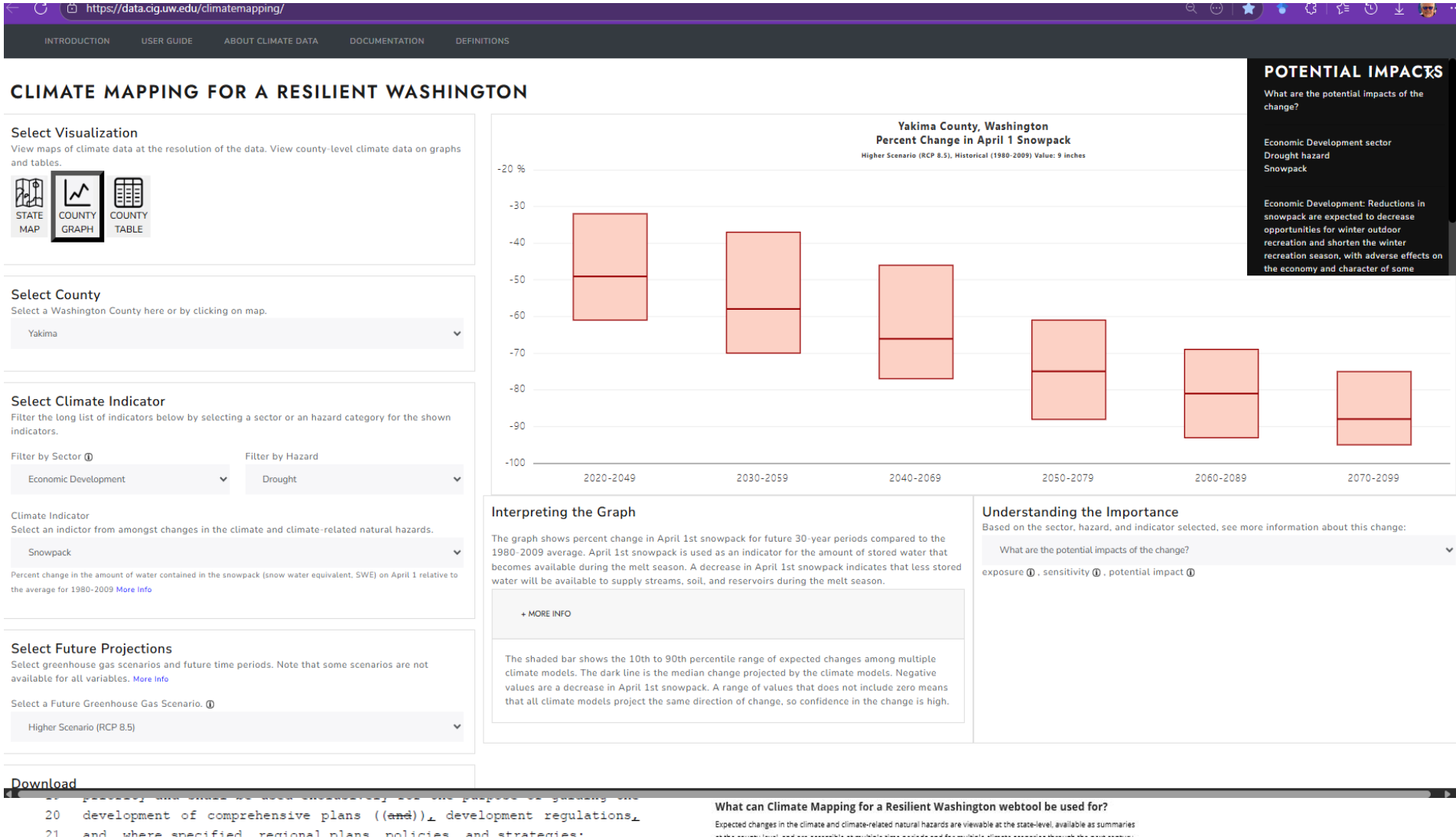
Scientific Confidence
Rate Confidence Level

Key Compliance Requirements

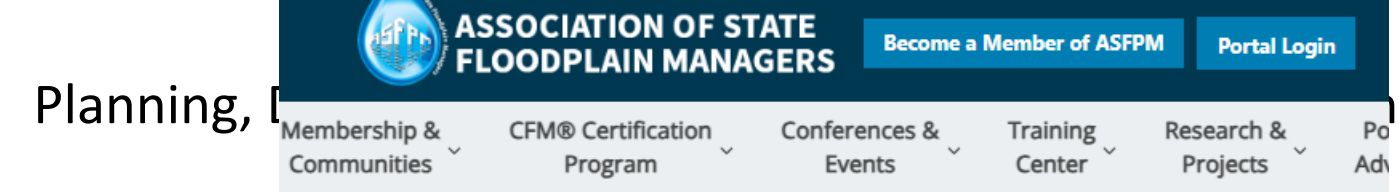
- RCW 36.70A.172 - Best available science requirement
- WAC 365-195-900 - BAS framework and criteria
- RCW 90.58.100 - Shoreline Master Program guidelines
- WAC 365-190-080 - Critical areas planning requirements

Climate Change - HB 1181

"Resiliency and Sustainability" for the environment, and protection of the regional economy, public infrastructure, and public safety against floods, droughts and wildfires



Planning, D nd Building



FLOOD MITIGATION | POLICY MATTERS

New ASFPM Resource Provides Model Ordinance Language for Putting ASCE 24-24 into Practice

By News Editor • September 12, 2025

The ASCE 24-24 Flood Resistant Design and Construction standard represents a major step forward in building safer, more resilient communities and includes many standards that exceed NFIP minimums, however there isn't a simple way to adopt the entirety of ASCE-24 into a local floodplain management ordinance.

That's why ASFPM has developed **Model Ordinance Language for ASCE 24-24 Adoption**—a practical resource designed to help state and local officials integrate these updated standards into their floodplain management regulations.

This resource highlights four priority areas for adoption:

- Referencing national consensus standards
- Expanding the Flood Hazard Area
- Updating elevation standards
- Strengthening dry floodproofing requirements

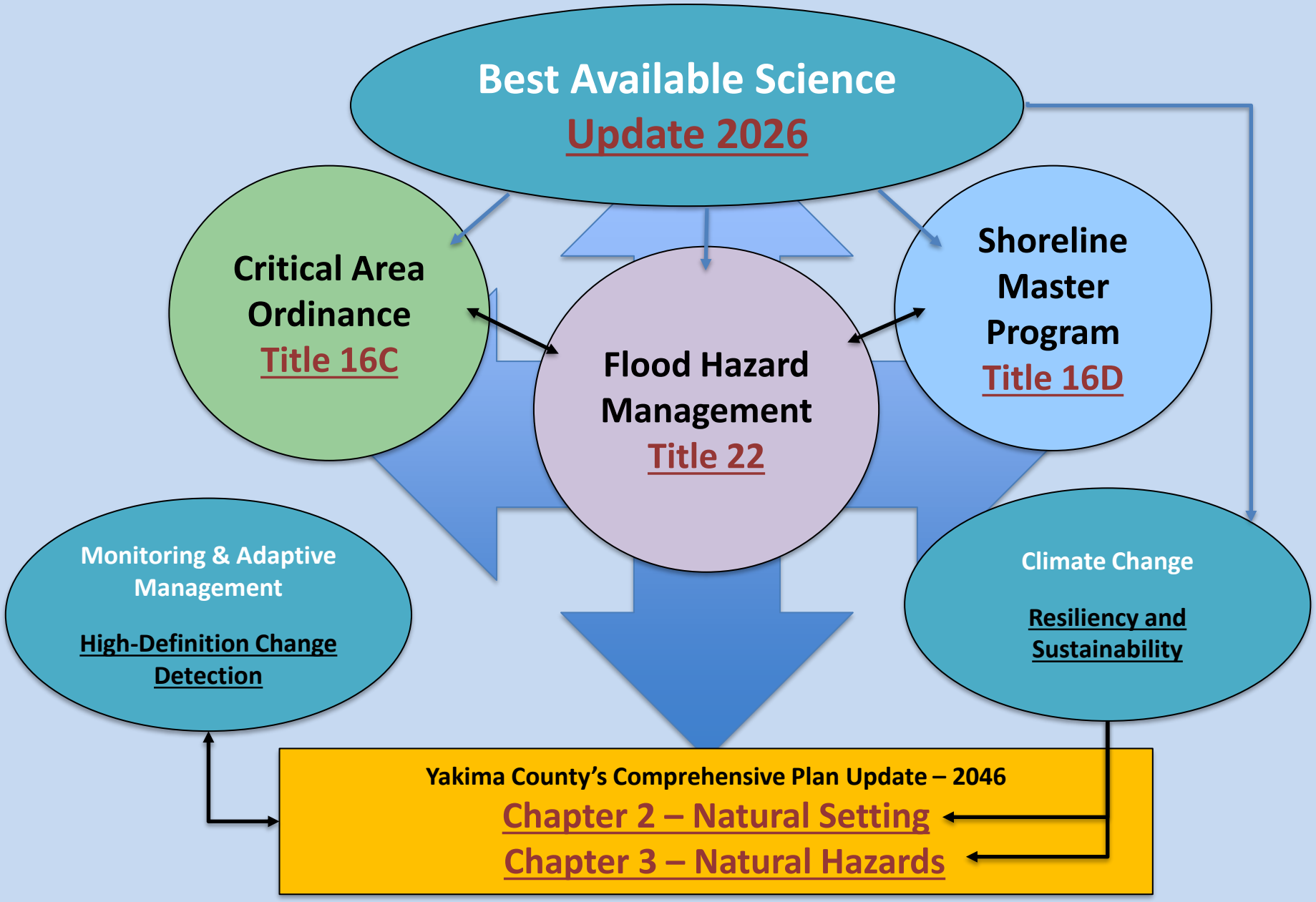
By providing clear ordinance language alongside implementation considerations, ASFPM is making it easier for floodplain managers and community leaders to translate national standards into local action.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management, Required of SMP and VSP, GMA by Best Science

Ecological validation monitoring ensures that projects are not causing unmitigated impacts on ecological functions and regulations are effective in meeting no net loss at the city, county, watershed, and/or regional scale. It asks general ecological questions about whether critical areas functions and values are protected and can establish programmatic adaptive management actions to correct any unforeseen losses. Watershed or regional scale ecological validation monitoring (also known as status and trends monitoring) usually requires substantial monitoring and analysis that is often beyond the resources of local governments.12 However, remote sensing tools like WDFW's High Resolution Change Detection allow local governments to begin to assess some of these questions in a way that is simple and affordable (see 10 WAC 173-26-201(2)(b); WAC 173-26-191(2)(a)(iii)(D) 11 WAC 173-26-171(3)(d) and WAC 173-26-201(2)(b) 12 As noted above, the Voluntary Stewardship Program relies on a form of ecological validation monitoring and adaptive management, which is assisted by regional and state funding and analysis. CHAPTER 7: MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF CRITICAL AREAS 8 section 7.6). Additionally, regional recovery programs can provide data and support for analyzing and monitoring landscape level ecosystem condition

- ✓ **High-Resolution Change Detection (HRCD)– ArcGIS Pro3.5 Imagery.**
- ✓ **VSP – same imagery and modeling techniques (HRCD**
- ✓ **GMA/SMP = Best Available Science. (BAS and HRCD)**

- GMA: Monitoring via BAS
- SMA: Monitoring plans for shoreline areas
- VSP: Monitoring and reporting with specific timelines (biennial, 5-year, 10-year cycles)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QUESTIONS?