



Frequently Asked Questions

Does SnoScape show wetland delineations?

No, at this time the program does not model wetlands.

Does SnoScape mean that site visits won't be necessary for permit applications?

No, SnoScape reports cannot be substituted for a site visit or field survey associated with meeting the requirements of the development process.

Does the stream data include depth and width information?

It does not provide dimensional statistics for watercourses such as width and depth. The width and depth of a natural stream changes throughout the year. The stream typing data in SnoScape was obtained from historic data sources. If a stream was added from new data where no historical data is available, SnoScape leaves the stream untyped.

Does SnoScape indicate if there are fish in streams?

The application cannot assess whether streams are fish-bearing. Stream typing based upon historical data is included whenever possible.

What happens if two County maps show different locations for a stream?

The County is working on integrating all of its maps. A variety of source data will be used to reconcile discrepancies.

Does SnoScape show more or less streams and slopes than previous County maps?

SnoScape shows an estimate of the location and extent of streams and slopes and depicts approximately 142 new stream-miles and approximately 1,690 new acres of slopes greater than or equal to 33-percent in the SW County study area. A good portion of the increase in stream miles is due to SnoScape's ability to chart stream meander. The greater detail of SnoScape indicates that approximately 5,000 more parcels may have streams that were not previously shown.

Is SnoScape a map of critical areas?

No. Snohomish County has not adopted a map of critical areas. The actual location of critical areas must still be determined on a site by site basis. SnoScape shows an estimate of the location and extent of streams and slopes based on remote sensing data and modeling assumptions. In many cases, SnoScape may be closer to reality than estimates from some other data sources, but it is still just a model.