



Additional Critical Area Report Requirements for Aquifer Recharge Areas

PB-34

Community Development Department

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15.660.050 Critical area report – Additional requirements for critical aquifer recharge areas.

In addition to the general critical area report requirements of ECC 15.610.100, critical area reports for critical aquifer recharge areas must meet the requirements of this section. Critical area reports for 2 or more types of critical areas must meet the report requirements for each relevant type of critical area.

- A. Hydrogeologic assessment. For all proposed activities to be located in a critical aquifer recharge area, a critical area report shall contain a level one hydrogeological assessment. A level 2 hydrogeologic assessment shall be required for any of the following proposed activities:
1. Activities that result in 5 percent or more impervious site area;
 2. Activities that divert, alter, or reduce the flow of surface or ground waters, or otherwise reduce the recharging of the aquifer;
 3. The use of hazardous substances, other than household chemicals used according to the directions specified on the packaging for domestic applications;
 4. The use of injection wells, including on-site septic systems, except those domestic septic systems releasing less than 14,500 gallons of effluent per day and that are limited to a maximum density of one system per one acre; or
 5. Any other activity determined by the director likely to have an adverse impact on ground water quality or quantity or in the recharge of an aquifer.
- B. Level 1 hydrogeologic assessment. A level 1 hydrogeologic assessment shall include the following site and proposal-related information at a minimum:
1. Available information regarding geologic or hydrogeologic characteristics of the site including the surface location of all critical aquifer recharge areas located on site or immediately adjacent to the site, and permeability of the unsaturated zone;
 2. Ground water depth, flow direction and gradient based on available information;
 3. Currently available data on wells and springs within 1,300 feet of the project area;
 4. Location of other critical areas, including surface waters, within 1,300 feet of the project area;
 5. Available historic water quality data for the area to be affected by the proposed activity; and
 6. Best management practices proposed to be utilized.
- C. Level 2 hydrogeologic assessment. A level 2 hydrogeologic assessment shall include the following site- and proposal-related information at a minimum, in addition to the requirements for a level one hydrogeological assessment:
1. Historic water quality data for the area to be affected by the proposed activity compiled for at least the previous 5-year period;
 2. Ground water monitoring plan provisions;
 3. Discussion of the effects of the proposed project on the ground water quality and quantity, including:
 - a. Predictive evaluation of ground water withdrawal effects on nearby surface wells and surface water features; and
 - b. Predictive evaluation of contaminant transport based on potential releases to ground water; and
 4. A spill plan that identifies equipment and/or structures that could fail, resulting in an impact. Spill plans shall include provisions for regular inspection, repair and replacement of structures and equipment that could fail.