

20.44.040 Categorical exemptions and threshold determinations.

A. King County adopts the standards and procedures specified in WAC 197-11-300 through 197-11-390 and 197-11-800 through 197-11-890 for determining categorical exemptions and making threshold determinations subject to the following:

1. The following exempt threshold levels are hereby established in accordance with WAC 197-11-800(1)(c) for the exemptions in WAC 197-11-800(1)(b):

a. The construction or location of any residential structures of twenty dwelling units within the boundaries of an urban growth area, or of any residential structures of eight dwelling units outside of the boundaries of an urban growth area;

b. The construction of a barn, loafing shed, farm equipment storage building, produce storage or packing structure, or similar agricultural structure, covering thirty thousand square feet on land zoned agricultural, or fifteen thousand square feet in all other zones, and to be used only by the property owner or agent in the conduct of farming the property. This exemption shall not apply to feed lots;

c. The construction of an office, school, commercial, recreational, service or storage building with twelve thousand square feet of gross floor area, and with associated parking facilities designed for forty automobiles;

d. The construction of a parking lot designed for forty automobiles;

e. Any fill or excavation of five hundred cubic yards throughout the total lifetime of the fill or excavation and any fill or excavation classified as a class I, II, or III forest practice under RCW 76.09.050 or regulation thereunder: The categorical exemption threshold shall be one hundred cubic yards for any fill or excavation that is in an aquatic area, wetland, steep slope or landslide hazard area. If the proposed action is to remove from or replace fill in an aquatic area, wetland, steep slope or landslide hazard area to correct a violation, the threshold shall be five hundred cubic yards.

2. The determination of whether a proposal is categorically exempt shall be made by the county department that serves as lead agency for that proposal.

B. The mitigated DNS provision of WAC 197-11-350 shall be enforced as follows:

1. If the department issues a mitigated DNS, conditions requiring compliance with the mitigation measures which were specified in the application and environmental checklist shall be deemed conditions of any decision or recommendation of approval of the action.

2. If at any time the proposed mitigation measures are withdrawn or substantially changed, the responsible official shall review the threshold determination and, if necessary, may withdraw the mitigated DNS and issue a DS. (Ord. 18683 § 44, 2018: Ord. 16263 § 10, 2008: Ord. 14449 § 5, 2002: Ord. 12196 § 46, 1996: Ord. 11792 § 16, 1995: Ord. 9103, 1989: Ord. 8236 § 2, 1987: Ord. 6949 § 6, 1984).