



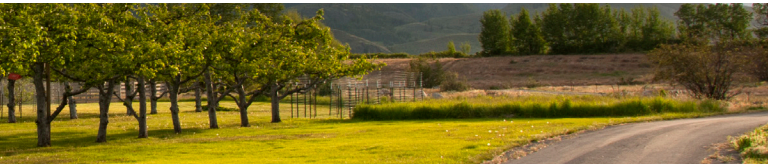
Geological Hazard Areas

What are they?

These are areas susceptible to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events. These areas may be created by natural features or by human development, such as mining.

Tacoma regulates the following Geological Hazard Areas that are present throughout the City:

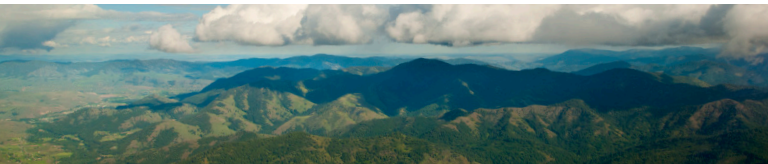
Volcanic hazard areas



Landslide hazard areas



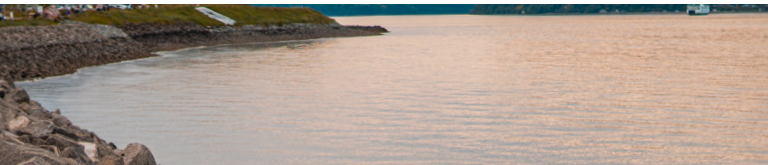
Seismic hazard areas



Mine hazard areas



Erosion hazard areas





Why are we concerned about them?

- Lahars, or flows of mud, debris, and volcanic material are the greatest volcanic hazard for Tacoma
- Landslides and erosion hazards are likely to occur where there are steep slopes or particular soil conditions. They may be triggered by heavy rain, flooding, or seismic events.
- Western Washington is susceptible to earthquakes, and seismic hazards appear in areas particularly likely to be impacted due to soil conditions or proximity to a potential tsunami.
- Mine hazards are a legacy of historical mining or road tunnels.

How do we protect them?

- Protecting people and property from Geological Hazards is a top priority.
- Geological Hazards are often protected by applying best management practices.
- Classifying areas based on level of risk helps to determine appropriate design and development standards and constraints.

What changes are needed?

- Clarify language regarding setbacks and buffers
- Include language regarding temporary impacts

Tacoma.gov/CriticalAreas



City of Tacoma
NATURAL RESOURCES