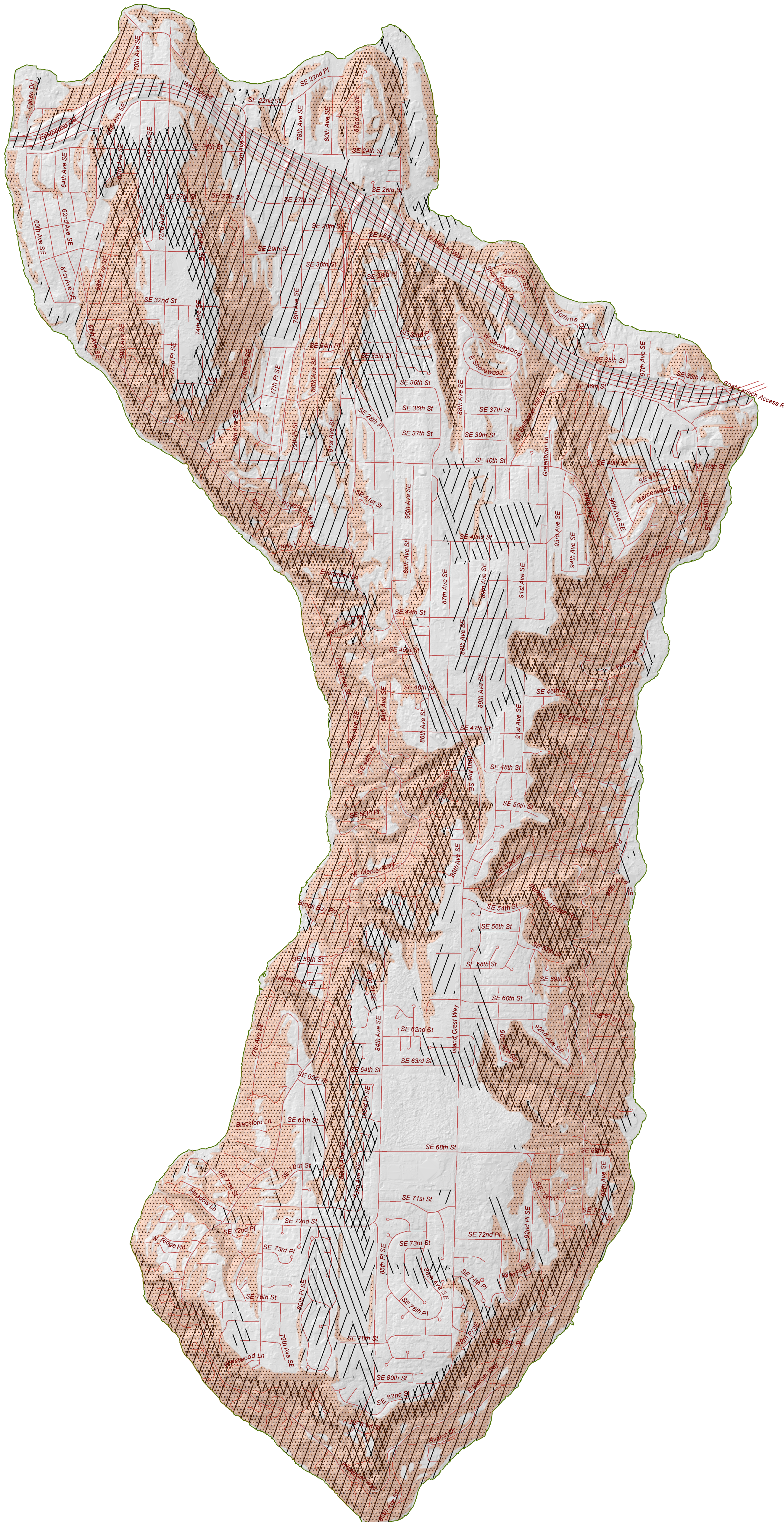
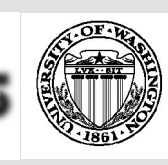


Mercer Island Erosion Hazard Assessment

by Kathy G. Troost & Aaron P. Wisner
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EROSION HAZARD AREAS (MICC 19.16.010)

Erosion hazards areas include those areas greater than 15% slope and subject to a severe risk of erosion due to wind, rain, water, slope and other natural agents including those soil types and/or areas identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service as having a "severe" or "very severe" rill and inter-rill erosion hazard.

Another factor in evaluating erosion potential is infiltration potential. If sandy material is present at the ground surface, rain water can infiltrate and loosen material for removal by erosion. Therefore the areas of sandy material have also been added to this hazard map for consideration along with the slope and erodible soils subclass.

Contributing factors not shown on the map include rainfall, areas of shallow groundwater, ground cover, wind, impervious surfaces, and changes to the ground surface. These factors and all the categories shown on the map should be used together to assess erosion potential. Individual areas less than 0.3 acres in size have been excluded.

Erosion Hazard | Erosion Hazard Area (Known or Suspect)

For all other areas, hazard is unknown or unquantified

Supplemental Data

Infiltration Potential

- High - Coarse-grained deposits; e.g. gravel and clean sand
- Medium - Silty, sandy deposits
- Mixed - Interbedded or mixed fine and coarse-grained deposits

Slope Class

- Slope 80+%
- Slope 40-79%
- Slope 15-39%

GENERAL NOTES FOR GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS MAPS

This map is one of a suite of revised Geological Hazard Maps for the City of Mercer Island. This suite includes maps showing Seismic Hazards, Landslide Hazards, and Erosion Hazards.

Other geological and/or natural hazards may exist and geological events may occur on Mercer Island that are not specifically identified on these maps. Examples of geologic hazards and hazardous events that are not identified on these maps include, but are not limited to, tsunamis and seiches in Lake Washington.

These maps are for the sole use of the staff of the City of Mercer Island's Development Services Group (DSG) for the purposes of permit application evaluation. These maps provide DSG staff a general assessment of known or suspect geological hazard areas for which the City will require site and project-specific evaluation by a Washington State-licensed engineer, geologist or engineering geologist prior to issuing a permit for site development. All areas have not been specifically evaluated for geologic hazards and there may be locations that are not correctly represented on these maps. It is the responsibility of individual property owners and map users to evaluate the risk associated with their proposed development. No site-specific assessment of risk is implied or otherwise indicated by the City of Mercer Island by these maps.

The City of Mercer Island is using guidance provided by the State of Washington regarding the definition of geologically hazardous areas in accordance with WAC 365-190-080 and the Growth Management Act. "Geologically hazardous areas", by State definition, "include areas susceptible to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events. They pose a threat to the health and safety of citizens when incompatible commercial, residential, or industrial development is sited in areas of significant hazard."

This new set of maps represents an update of the 2002 Geologic Hazard Map Series and is based on a review of Best Available Science for the Seattle Fault and related events, a new Geological Map of Mercer Island by Troost and Wisner (2006), and a geologic database of Mercer Island compiled by GeoMapNW at the University of Washington. Information about data used for the maps, references, and data limitations are all described in an associated "Read Me" document. The digital version of these maps is accompanied by a meta data file containing pertinent information about map construction. These data and maps are all available on the City of Mercer Island website.

