

**Summary of Materials and Request for Stakeholder and Community Input**  
**Capitol Lake Long-Term Management Planning**  
**Phase I Implementation**

**PROVISO ELEMENT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Meetings to discuss the Goals and Objectives for long-term management of Capitol Lake will occur in April 2016. These discussions will lay the groundwork for the later development of long-term management options. This will ensure that the work conducted as part of the Phase I process is consistent with the current goals identified by the Technical Committee, the Executive Work Group, and the Community.

**MATERIALS FOR REVIEW**

- Timeline of events related to Capitol Lake and evolution of goals and objectives
- Goals for long-term management of Capitol Lake provided by public comment on the 1999 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and the 2009 Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Alternatives Analysis for the Capitol Lake Basin
- CLAMP Steering Committee 1999 and 2009 comments summaries
- Summary of goals for the long-term management of Capitol Lake

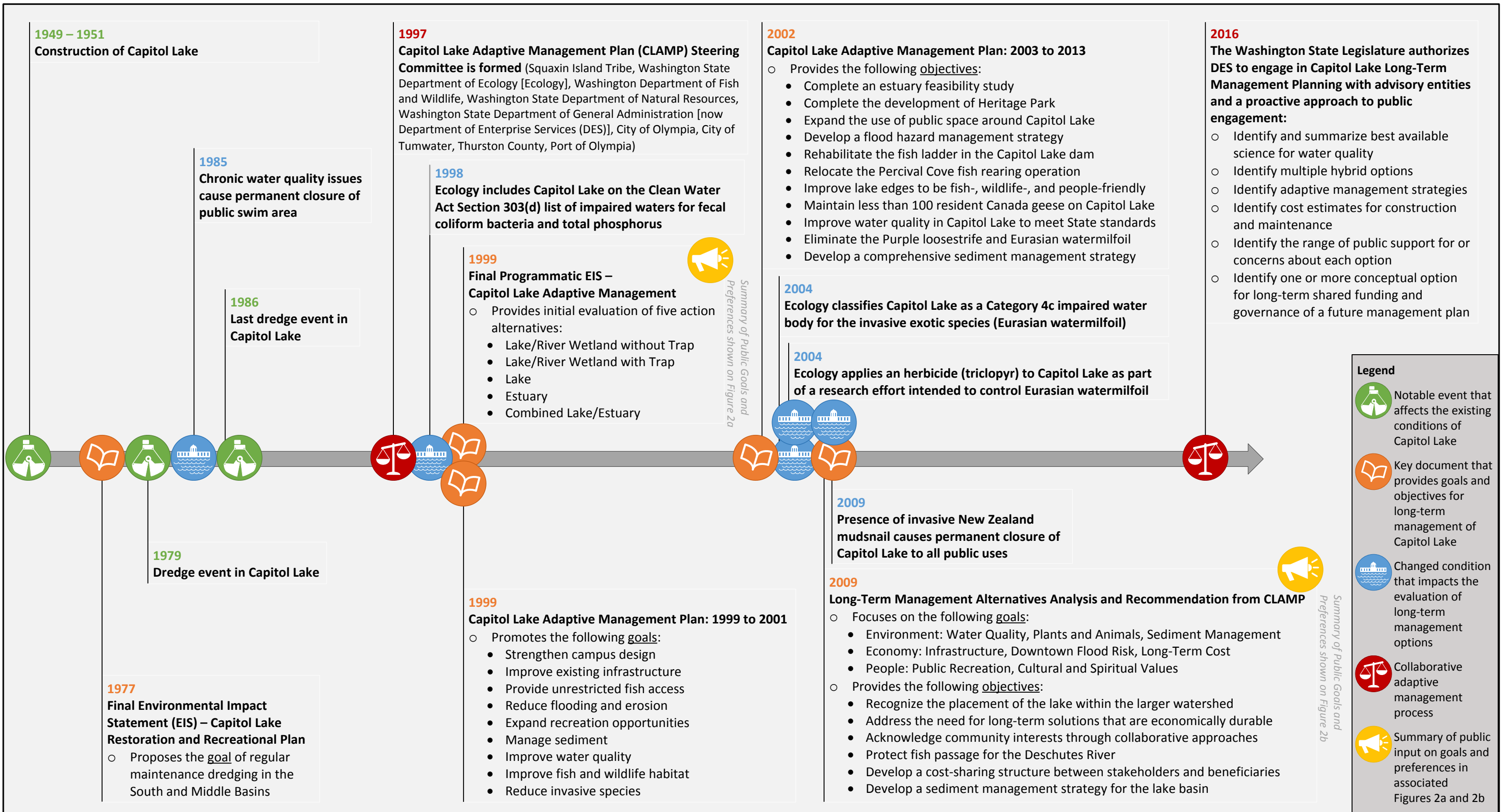
**QUESTIONS FOR MATERIAL REVIEW AND INPUT**

1. What do you consider as the key goals for long-term management of Capitol Lake?
2. Are there any additional measures of success that should be represented in the materials?

**DATES FOR COMMUNITY INPUT ON LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT GOALS**

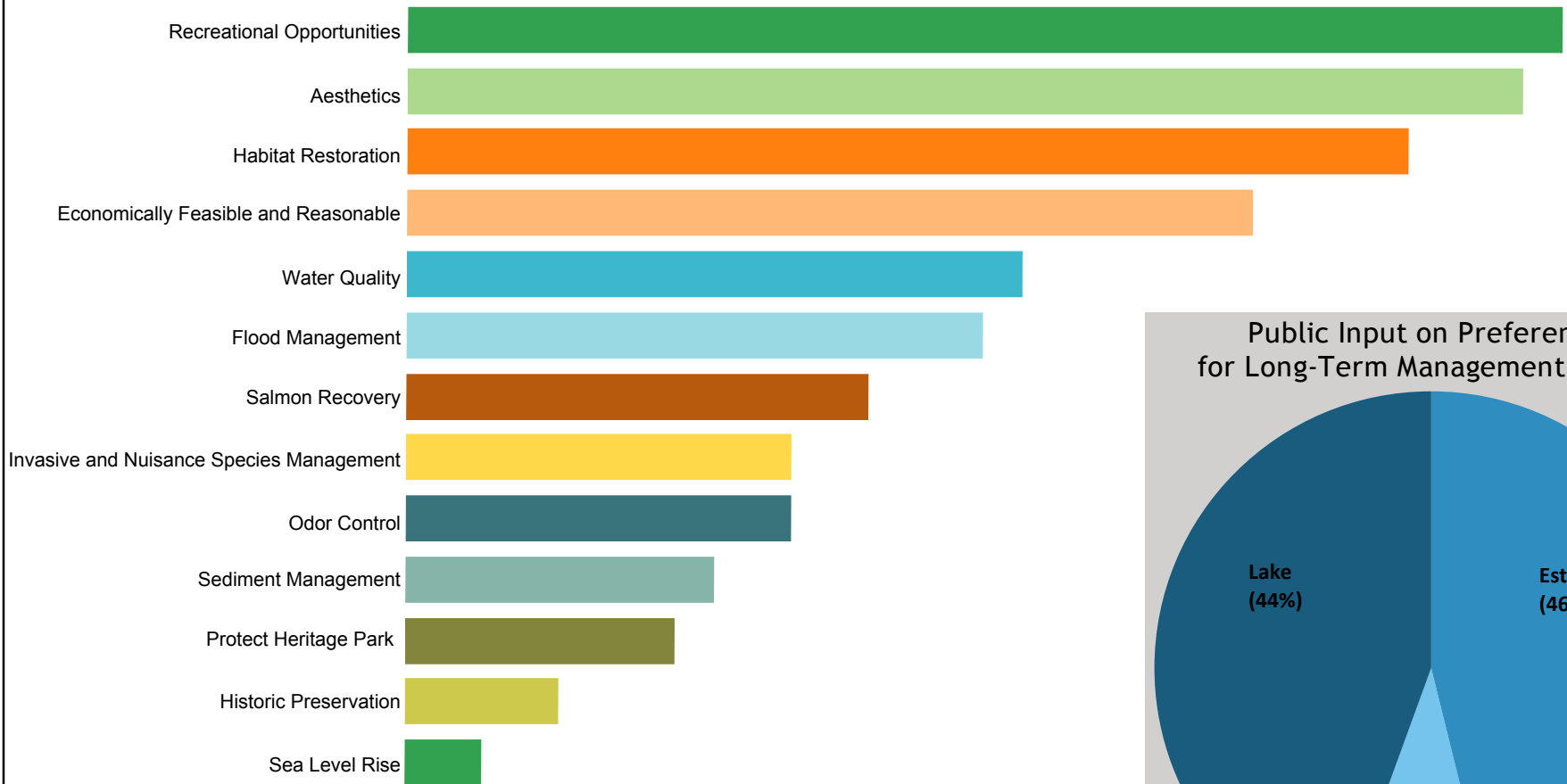
Input can be provided at the Community meeting scheduled from 5:30 to 7:30 PM on April 27, 2016 at 1500 Jefferson St SE, Olympia, WA. Input on these materials and the questions above can also be submitted online from April 14, 2016 to April 28, 2106, at [www.des.wa.gov](http://www.des.wa.gov).



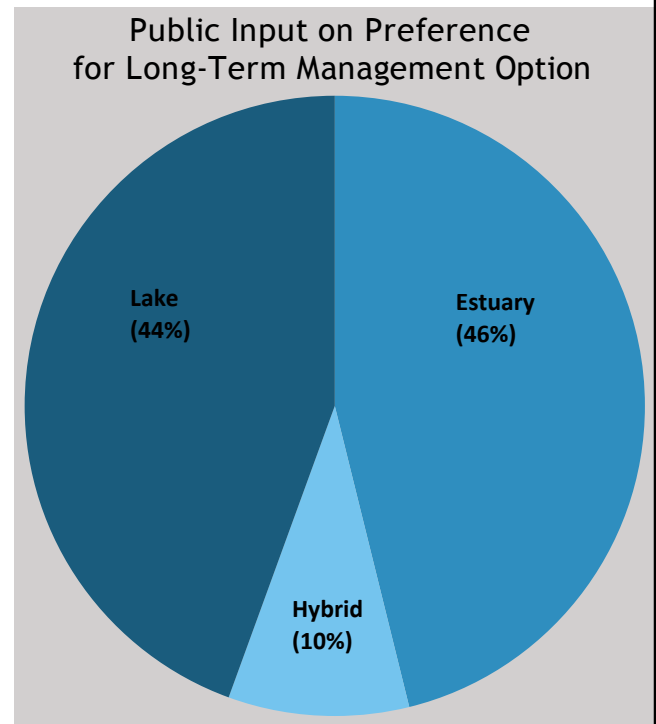


## Public Input from 146 Comment Letters and Testimony

### Public Input on Preference and Order of Magnitude for Long-Term Management Goals



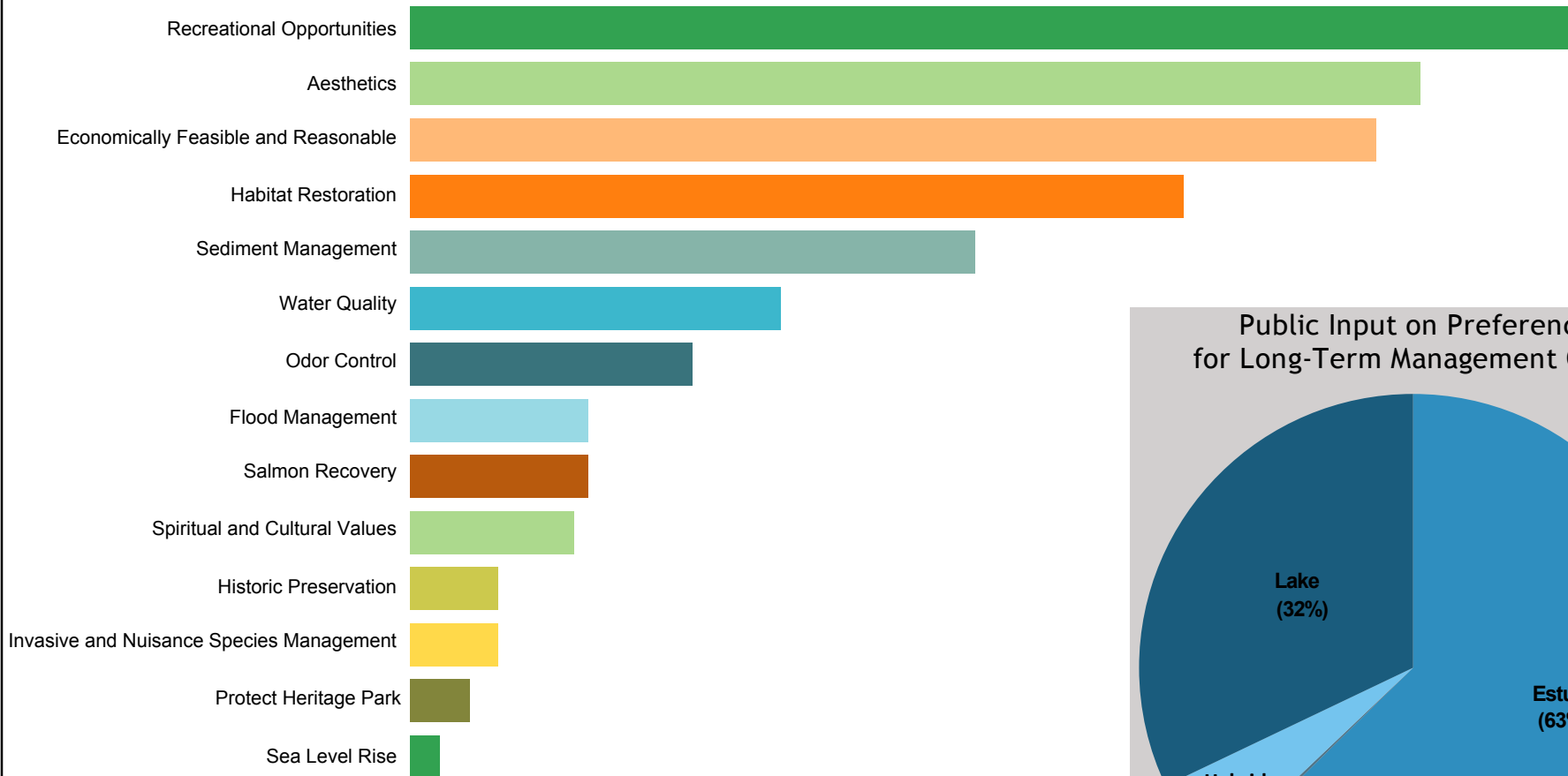
Public comments from the 1999 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement provide a baseline for evaluating goals and preferences from the most recent documentation prepared under the State Environmental Policy Act. These will serve as the basis for the development of current long-term management goals under existing site conditions and will be updated to reflect input received throughout the Phase I process.



**Figure 2a. Goals for Long-Term Management of Capitol Lake Provided by Public Comment on the 1999 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement**

## Public Input from 451 Comment Letters and Testimony

### Public Input on Preference and Order of Magnitude for Long-Term Management Goals



Public comments from the 2009 Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Alternatives Analysis for the Capitol Lake Basin provide additional information for the evaluation of goals and preferences. These will serve as the basis for the development of current long-term management goals under existing site conditions and will be updated to reflect input received throughout the Phase I process.

### Public Input on Preference for Long-Term Management Option

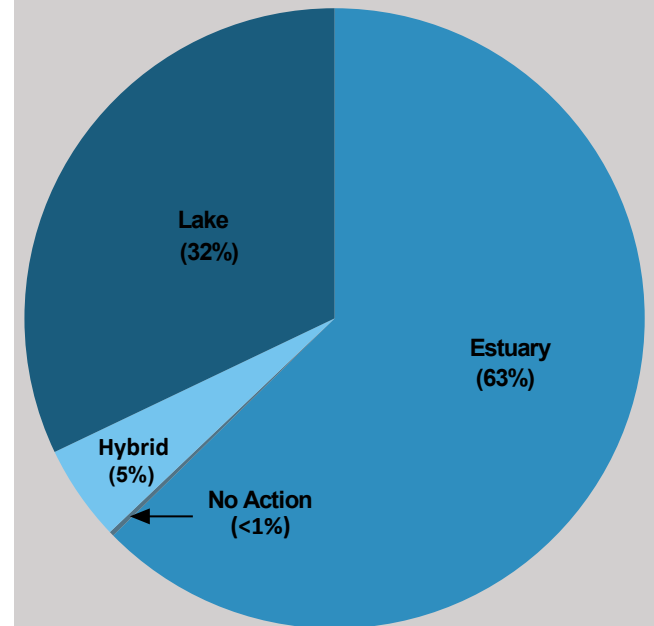


Figure 2b. Goals for Long-Term Management for Capitol Lake Provided by Public Comment on the 2009 CLAMP Alternatives Analysis

**CLAMP Steering Committee  
Comments Summary**



### Squaxin Island Tribe

**Mission Statement:** The people now known as the Squaxin Island Tribe are committed to the honoring of Mother Earth, the resurgence of our traditional ways and the respect and protection of all people, not only those who are living, but those who have gone before and who are yet to be born...

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The Squaxin Island Tribe forwards their recommendation to return the Capitol Lake Basin to an estuary.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- The Tribe contends that the dam creates the flooding potential. If there were no dam and the river were allowed to flow freely into the bay, it would never be high enough to flood downtown Olympia (notwithstanding future sea level rising).
- The Tribe's principle interest is relative to fish and fish rearing – sustaining and artificial runs of salmon need to be maintained. (oral comments at public hearing)



### Washington State Department of Ecology

**Mission Statement:** The Department of Ecology is Washington's environmental protection agency. Our mission is to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's land, air and water for current and future generations. We support environmental work throughout Washington. Nearly 70 percent of our budget is passed through to local communities to pay for projects that benefit the environment.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The Department of Ecology forwards their recommendation to return the Capitol Lake Basin to an estuary.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- Hydraulic data should be included to evaluate the feasibility of the Estuary and Lake/Estuary alternatives.
- Low dissolved oxygen levels in the South Basin are mentioned as a concern by the department of Fish and Wildlife. It is our understanding that conditions in the South Basin will remain virtually identical (i.e., no different than the present) under any of the alternative management strategies.
- Ecology's perspective on the six alternatives will be shaped by the goals of our agency. They are to prevent pollution, clean-up pollution, and support sustainable communities and natural resources.
- The lake management alternative eventually chosen needs to be evaluated for its water quality impacts to Budd Inlet. Impacts on water quality from dredging should be included.
- If a freshwater lake alternative is chosen, the Department of Ecology will be interested in water quality impacts of management options for controlling algae growth.



### Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

**Mission Statement:** To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The Department of Fish and Wildlife forwards their recommendation to return the Capitol Lake Basin to an estuary.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- We believe that the estuary alternatives appear best for water quality and fish and wildlife and habitat.
- All alternatives that would result in either an abrupt or, over-time, partial or full loss of the WDFW chinook fish culture program in Percival Cove, a corresponding mitigation replacement program should be included in the plan. The Deschutes/Percival Cove chinook culture program is one of the most successful chinook culture programs in Puget Sound and is an important contributor of chinook to the state non-Indian and Indian commercial and sport fisheries.
- For all alternatives that include a form of lake environment and corresponding existing fish ladder at the dam, it is important that DGA reconstruct the fish ladder as necessary to ensure upstream fish passage throughout the year.
- We believe that the potential adverse water quality affects from the lake draw down should be a very important consideration for all lake alternatives.





## Washington State Department of Natural Resources

**Mission Statement:** In partnership with citizens and governments, the Washington State DNR provides innovative leadership and expertise to ensure environmental protection, public safety, perpetual funding for schools and communities, and a rich quality of life.

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### Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:

- The Department of Natural Resources forwards their recommendation to return the Capitol Lake Basin to an estuary.

### Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:

- Based on what we know today about our ever changing nature, DNR supports appropriate attempts to return the Deschutes River to its natural condition. DNR also is very aware of the importance Heritage Park plays in the decision making process.
- DNR supports the selection of either the Estuary Alternative or the Lake/Estuary Alternative.
- Is the Legislature willing to continue to provide millions of General Fund-State dollars to the Department of General Administration, on a biennial basis, to remove the sediments that are trapped by an artificial blockage at Budd Inlet, and to improving water quality at Capitol Lake, and/or provide for the social amenities of the local community?
- We need to develop an analysis and decision making process that is defensible at multiple scales of space and time.
- We view estuaries as a critical link in restoring both sustainable healthy watersheds and salmon, particularly chinook and chum populations.
- DNR uses a landscape perspective to assess management and restoration issues affecting rivers, estuaries and embayments to achieve and sustain healthy watershed ecosystems. We agree with a recent statement by USFWS which indicated that, while numerous uses of historic estuary habitats may be provided elsewhere in the watershed, intertidal habitats can only be restored in the estuary. We feel that restoration of native habitats and the natural process to sustain them needs to take priority over impacts to current environmental conditions to facilitate the salmon recovery process.
- The adaptive management plan needs to consider how the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Clean Water Act, and salmon recovery effort needs will be factored into comprehensive planning and decision making.
- The Legislature could provide funds to General Administration or DNR to acquire replacement tide lands and covert the lake ecosystem into a Natural Resource Conservation Area.



## Washington State Department of Enterprise Services

**Mission Statement:** To deliver innovative, responsive, cost-effective and integrated solutions and services to meet the diverse needs of our customers.

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### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The 2009 Long-term Management Recommendation does not include a comment or recommendation from the Department of Enterprise Services.

### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- Conflicting information regarding the impact of the dam in mitigating flooding conditions in downtown Olympia needs to be resolved. The effects of river volume, lake levels and tide levels on downtown flooding require further study and analysis.
- The Deschutes Parkway and Heritage Park Project were constructed in anticipation of relatively static lake levels. Studies should be made on the impact of a selected alternative on shoreline erosion, the hydro-geology under roadbed, dam, or bulkhead structures, on the viability of Marathon Park and on the stability of the BNSF railroad trestle.
- Economic losses could accrue to the public at large, to surrounding property owners, or to tenants under commercial leases in Budd Inlet.
- Issues surrounding the maintenance of a fresh or salt-water wetland environment would include the mitigation of noxious or invasive vegetation. Public safety issues resulting from dense growth or hidden wetlands require identification and a plan for resolution.



### City of Olympia

**Mission Statement:** Olympians value our role as stewards of the water, air, land, vegetation, and animals around us, and believe it is our responsibility to our children and grandchildren to restore, protect, and enhance the exceptional natural environment that surrounds us.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The City of Olympia supports improved sediment management, improved water quality, and improved social and economic conditions as significant outcomes. However, it cannot endorse or concur with any of the management alternatives without several prerequisites.
- The City strongly recommends that the State put in place a reliable, financially supportable, and thorough implementation plan.
- Any plan must include a strong and enduring commitment by all entities towards long-term management, an implementation strategy and work plan that identifies dedicated short and long term funding, and a basin wide approach with key actions in both the upper watershed and Budd Inlet.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- The Council believes that the Lake option is the best choice for lake management.
- In addition to flooding and health concerns, the Council is very concerned that if non-lake options are considered, there will be a tremendous loss of the Lake's beauty.
- In addition to our concerns with the relationship of the non-lake options to the downtown, Heritage Park, and South Capitol Neighborhood, there are several specific impacts that we believe cannot be mitigated. These are:
  - Park, trail and recreational impacts, especially the loss of the pleasant park setting the lake provides.
  - The health implications of additional insects and other nocturnal animals (e.g., bats and small crawling creatures) that may come with an estuary or a wetland.
  - Downtown Olympia flooding impacts, flood liability and increased erosion of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
  - The hydraulic and engineering impacts to the train trestle and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridges.
  - The water quality impacts from the Lake, as they may relate to the potential increased discharge to Budd Inlet.
- In addition, we are concerned about the lack of information regarding the disposal of sediments inside and outside the lake system.
- Our decision to choose only the Lake Alternative does not mean we are no longer interested in working to find better ways to manage the Lake.



### City of Tumwater

**Mission Statement:** In active partnership with our citizens, we provide leadership and essential municipal services to cultivate a prosperous economy, a healthy natural environment, vibrant neighborhoods, and a supportive social fabric. We act to preserve and enhance the natural environment and the social fabric of our community.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The majority of the council members of the City of Tumwater submit a recommendation supporting the managed lake alternative for the Capitol Lake Basin.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- The City Council wishes to defer our recommendation on a preferred alternative until all comments are received on the DEIS so that we may benefit from the wisdom of the public.
- We are concerned about potential flooding in the South Basin, in particular Historical Park resulting from sedimentation infilling in the South Basin under all options.
- Over a long term, there is a good possibility that Mean Sea Level could rise as much as 3-5 feet due to the effects of global warming, perhaps this should be mentioned regarding possible flooding impacts.
- Given the rather unique circumstance of creating a lake by damming a river, it seems imperative to include a more detailed examination of hydraulics for the various alternatives.



### Thurston County

**Mission Statement:** Continuously improve services that sustain and enhance safe, healthy, diverse and vital communities.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- Thurston County forwards their recommendation to return the Capitol Lake Basin to an estuary.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners has chosen the “Lake Alternative” as the preferred alternative for the following reasons:
  - The DEIS lacks enough detail to accurately assess flooding impacts from each of the alternatives, therefore it is prudent to continue using the lake as a flood control reservoir unless further studies prove otherwise.
  - Downtown Olympia has been developed since the early 1950s with the lake providing an aesthetic amenity, flood control and as a sediment trap. We recommend continuing managing the lake for the purposes as originally envisioned.
  - Dredging will need to occur regardless of which alternative is chosen.
  - Even though our decision is based on current information we are looking forward in participating in the “adaptive management” concept to help make future decisions.



### Port of Olympia

**Mission Statement:** To understand the local environment and advise Port leadership and staff on responsible environmental stewardship. Through continual improvement in practices and stewardship, become an environmentally sustainable Port for current and future generations.

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#### **Comments from the Long-term Management Recommendation for the Capitol Lake Basin from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee, September 2009:**

- The Port of Olympia submits a recommendation supporting the managed lake alternative for the Capitol Lake Basin.

#### **Comments from the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, May 1999:**

- The Port is primarily concerned about the adverse impacts to Budd Inlet under those alternatives that release sediments into lower Budd Inlet.
- If sediments are released into West Bay, it is likely that they will settle in West Bay, which could impact landowners and users in the area.
- It is possible that some form of dredging in Budd Inlet would be necessary for those impacted landowners and users to continue current uses. Dredging in Budd Inlet raises many issues, including the potential for encountering contaminated sediments, and the ultimate disposal of contaminated sediments.

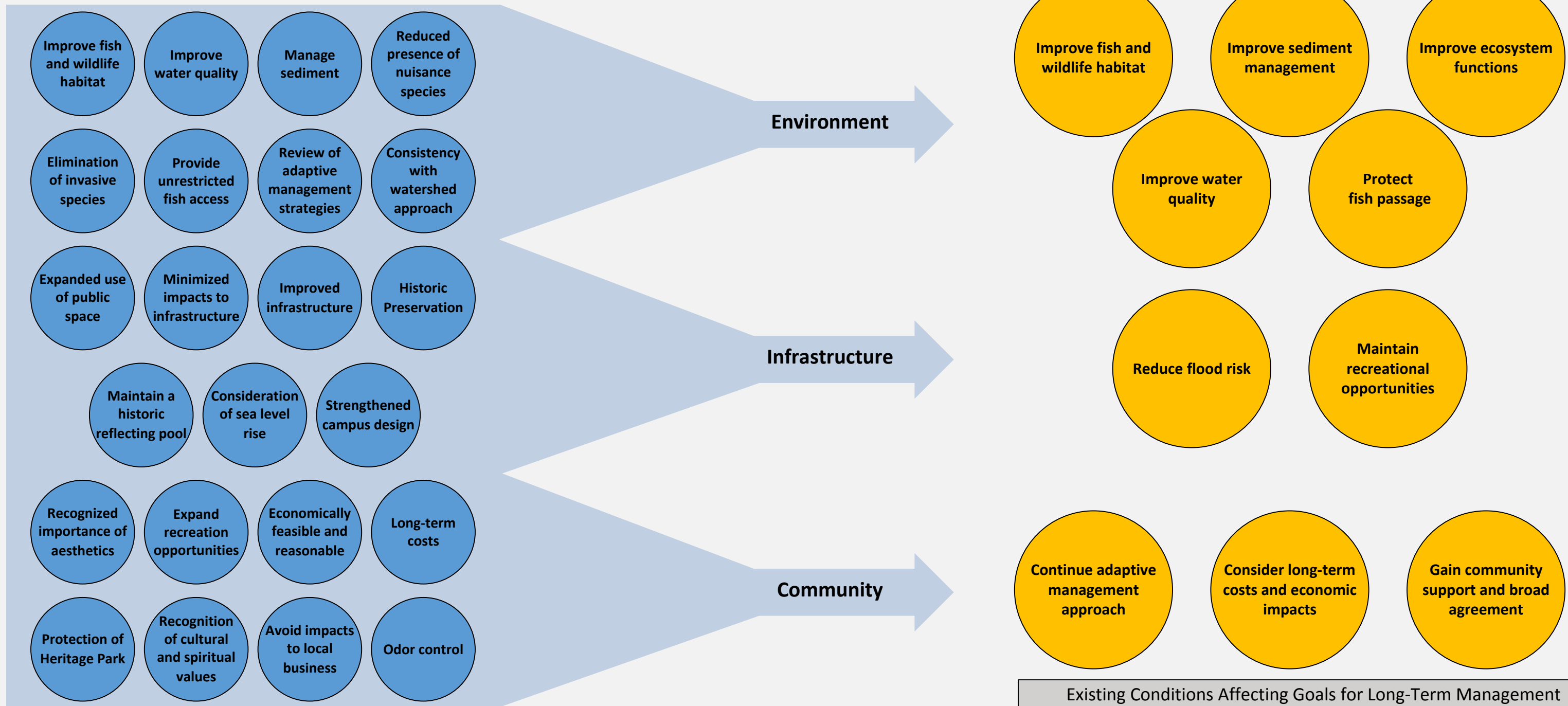
### Goals from Existing Project Documentation

Reflecting 1999 EIS, 2009 CLAMP Alternatives Analysis, and 2015 Proviso

### Themes for Long-Term Management

### Recurring Goals for Discussion

Reflecting Stakeholder Input and 2015 Proviso



#### Existing Conditions Affecting Goals for Long-Term Management

- Flood Risks
- Water Quality Issues
- Sediment Transport
- Invasive Species