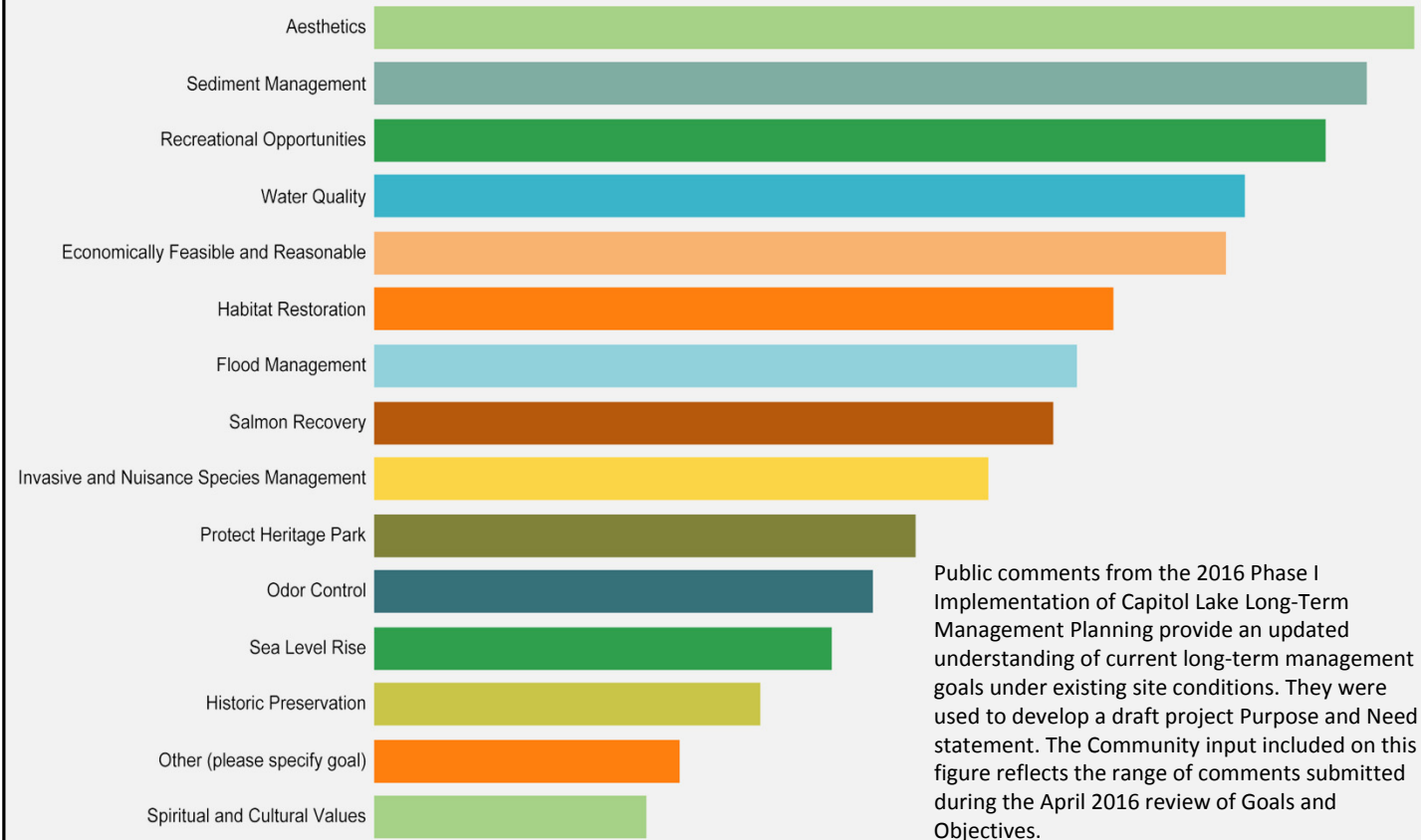


Public Input from 421 Survey Responses

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



Aesthetics

- “The lake has been a beautiful asset and icon of our City, we should do everything possible to preserve it!”
- “When I select Aesthetics, please note that I find a natural estuary to be aesthetically pleasing.”

Sediment Management

- “Lower Budd Inlet would be ruined if the dam/bridge were to be removed. Currently it allows for great boating and other recreational water uses, and is a terrific stage for all of our local events at Percival Landing.”
- “Capitol Lake has been getting worse and worse for over 30 years now. And sediment management will continue to become more difficult and costly with the addition of the zebra snail (the contaminated sediment can't go just anywhere!! We don't want to spread the problem).”

Recreational Opportunities

- “Maintain as existing and develop to allow more community use. Row boats, kayaks, small sailing vessels, paddle boards etc., with the required shoreline infrastructure are part of my vision with the NYC Central Park lake, Green Lake (Seattle), and others as models.”
- “A combination of restoration of habitat and estuary with preservation of public use, walking trails, park, etc.”

Water Quality

- “I cannot stress how important proper dredging is (to early 1900's datum), and how that will enhance water quality...”
- “The importance of the estuary for improved water quality, as explained by the Department of Ecology, should be a priority for the on-going discussions.”

Economically Feasible and Reasonable

- “Sustainable long-term in terms of maintenance. This specifically relates to economically reasonable.”
- “I believe creating a mud flat will decrease, not increase, the number of visitors to the downtown area.”
- “I would love to see Olympia follow in Vancouver, Canada's footsteps, and make a living estuary part of the draw to our town, incorporating good ecological management, beauty, and recreational opportunities into a tourist draw that will bring money and acclaim to our community.”

Habitat Restoration

- “There are hundreds, if not thousands of these trees in the north basin, the middle basin at the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center, and especially the south basin, which is dominated by alder forests standing in fresh water. The best wildlife habitat at Tumwater Historical Park is freshwater-inundated forest at the north end of the park. These habitats come alive every spring with nesting neotropical migrant bird species hunting, catching, and eating freshwater aquatic insects that hatch out of the lake, and feeding them to their young.”
- “Habitat restoration = functional estuary. Return the estuary to its original, natural state (or as close as possible) so that it can perform all the other roles on the list.”

Flood Management

- “Please remember what Capitol Lake was built for – flood control – and as a reflective pond for the State Capitol.”
- “I would like to further support the estuary option, this is our only option for habitat restoration and flood prevention.”

Salmon Recovery

- “One must remember there was no natural Salmon run in the Deschutes river because of the Falls.”
- “The importance of estuarine rearing habitat for non-natal salmonids from other Puget Sound rivers using the estuary. The importance of rearing habitat for natal salmonids (Percival Creek and Deschutes naturalized/hatchery populations) using the estuary.”

Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- “Restoration of the estuary with natural daily tidal exchanges will remove or eliminate the invasive species.”

Protect Heritage Park

- “Maintain Capitol Lake and Heritage Park as attractive places for people to exercise and enjoy being outside right in downtown Olympia.”
- “I would like to see the idea of expanding the park around the downtown Olympian estuary.”

Odor Control

- “The DES goals need to include the long-term management of this beautiful Capitol Lake and not allow it to become a smelly mudflat that no one could enjoy.”
- “Capitol Lake smells. Capitol Lake is a waste dump. It is awful. We need salt water influx every day to keep it clean.”

Sea Level Rise

- “The regulating dam has been used by DES many times to prevent flooding when there are ‘king tides’ and heavy run off conditions. Without the regulating dam, the two would meet and inundate downtown. This will only get worse with sea level rise.”

Historic Preservation

- “Our capital and the grounds that surround it are unique and very special. The dome is the 4th highest masonic dome in the world. The surrounding grounds were designed by the leading landscape designer of all time. The lake was specifically included in the landscape design much like the ponds and lakes found in the landscape design at our Nation's capital.”

Spiritual and Cultural Values

- “We as a society need to return to our roots as it concerns our lands, waters, and air, for without them we are a doomed species and so are many other species! It's not our right to let precious ecosystems, such as Capitol Lake and the connected area's she flows through to become non-usable due to Man's interference and non-caring attitudes for profit and other worldly endeavors that put our ecosystems at risk!”

Goals from Existing Project Documentation

1999 EIS, 2009 CLAMP Alternatives Analysis, and 2015 Proviso

Primary Themes

Goals for Long-Term Management

Reflecting Stakeholder Input and 2015 Proviso



● Consistent with a directive from the 2015 Proviso
 ■ Consistent with an Ecosystem Recovery Target from the Puget Sound Partnership
The Puget Sound Partnership is the state agency leading the effort to restore and protect Puget Sound, which includes the entire watershed and fresh waterbodies, such as Capitol Lake and the Deschutes River
 ▲ Consistent with the beneficial uses protected by the Federal Clean Water Act and Washington State Water Quality Standards