



General Administration
STATE OF WASHINGTON

Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Alternative Analysis for the Capitol Lake Basin



Public Involvement Summary

August 2009

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Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Alternative Analysis for the Capitol Lake Basin

Public Involvement Summary

Department of General Administration
Division of Facilities
210 – 11th Avenue SW
Olympia, WA 98504
www.ga.wa.gov

Cover: CLAMP Public Workshop - Olympia City Hall, June 2007

Washington Department of General Administration
Facilities Division

Nathaniel Jones Senior Facilities Manager

With assistance from:

Thurston Regional Planning Council Staff

Steven W. Morrison	Senior Planner
Sarah Morley	Administrative Assistant
Burlina Montgomery	Office Specialist II
Erin Cahill	Office Specialist II

About This Report

Consistent with Governor Gregoire's Plain Talk Executive Order 05-03 (2005), this report is written in a manner that is brief and to-the-point, uses non-bureaucratic language and features a clean design that promotes fast scanning and reading.

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Executive Summary

Background

The Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Steering Committee was created by the Department of General Administration (GA) to advise the department on the management of Capitol Lake in Olympia, Washington. One of the central objectives of the committee's adopted plan was to provide two-way communication with the community and others regarding the lake. The communication would include new findings, past actions, and current events. The objective was taken seriously by lake managers and extensive effort has been undertaken to provide the public with good information and to receive the public's input.

This report seeks to summarize that public involvement process. It focuses primarily on public comments received during the alternatives analysis period, but it also provides a broader perspective of the community conversation by exploring the range of communication tools employed by GA, the Steering Committee, stakeholders, and the general public. During the alternatives analysis period, 442 individual comments were received regarding the management of Capitol Lake. Of these, 409 expressed a desired outcome as one of four defined future alternatives for the lake. The following tabulation categorizes these comments by the communication media.

Comment Letters

16 comment letters were received:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 3 or 19% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 12 or 75% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 0 or 0% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 1 or 6% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

Comments from Emails

The 199 email comments we received:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 27 or 14% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 172 or 86% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 2 or 1% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 3 or 1% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

Comments from the Website

When all 90 website comments were received:

- 1 or 1% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 41 or 46% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 22 or 24% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 10 or 10% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 20 or 22% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

Comments from the CLAMP Public Workshop

From the 137 public workshop comments:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 57 or 42% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 44 or 32% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 8 or 6% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 28 or 20% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

Comments from the CLAMP Focus Group

The comments from the CLAMP Focus Group are detailed in Section VI and indicate support for either a lake or an estuary.

Community Position Papers

Community position papers which have been submitted indicate that there is support for both a lake and an estuary.

Public Opinion Poll

The City of Olympia conducted a public opinion poll by Elway Research the week of April 13, 2009. The survey randomly sampled 404 Olympia residential utility customers that reside within Olympia city limits. The survey respondents are demographically consistent with Olympia's demographics as a whole. The survey has a 5% margin of error at the 95% confidence interval. That is, had the same survey conducted 100 times, the results would be within 5% of the results reported at least 95 times.

As indicated by the responses above, respondents were consistent in choosing "do what's best for water quality" as the most important factor when determining the future of the lake.

- 70% said water quality is the most important factor, and 74% said that it was "extremely important";
- 15% said that "keeping the cost to the taxpayer as low as possible" was most important, and 44% "extremely important";
- 11% chose "maintaining the look of the lake" as most important, and 36% "extremely important".

I. CLAMP Community Input

BACKGROUND

In 1997 the GA organized the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Steering Committee. The committee has met monthly since then with the public invited to attend and offer comments. Steering committee membership includes the nine state, tribal and local entities shown in Table 1.

Table 1 CLAMP Membership

City of Olympia
City of Tumwater
Port of Olympia
Squaxin Island Tribe
Thurston County
Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology)
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Washington Department of General Administration (GA)
Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

In 2002, the committee recommended and the state adopted a ten year management plan for the Capitol Lake basin. The *CLAMP Ten-Year Plan* outlined 14 major management objectives for Capitol Lake, including a commitment to adaptive management and transparency. Key goals of the vision include:

- A study of estuary restoration feasibility
- Develop of a sediment management plan
- Rehabilitation of the fish ladder at the Capitol Lake dam
- Relocation of the Percival Cove fish-rearing operation
- Improvement of Capitol Lake water quality to meet State standards
- Elimination of noxious weeds
- Control of the population of Canada geese

The CLAMP plan also called for restoration of infrastructure damaged in the Nisqually earthquake, completion of Heritage Park, and increased public use of public lands.

CLAMP management objectives associated with conducting estuary feasibility studies, developing a sediment management plan, and improving Capitol Lake water quality, lead to development and evaluation of a range of long-term management options for the lake basins. This was called the CLAMP Alternatives Analysis process.

Eventually, four management alternatives were selected and a draft and final Alternatives Analysis report was prepared. The purpose of that report was to summarize all relevant technical findings into one document and to provide a simplified comparison of these management alternatives.

COMMUNITY INPUT

There have been numerous opportunities for community conversations regarding management of the lake throughout the CLAMP process. Several public meetings and workshops occurred during the Deschutes Estuary Feasibility Study process. During the Alternatives Analysis review process public input was sought via multiple vectors as described below.

The purpose of this *Public Involvement Summary* is to collect all public comments received during the Alternatives Analysis review. It is also intended to be a companion to the *CLAMP Alternatives Analysis Final Report*.

Informational Signs: The Department of General Administration (GA) installed a series of nine informational signs around the north basin of Capitol Lake. They described the four options in the Alternative Analysis and the management challenges facing the lake. The signs are further described in Section V of this report.

Letter Comments: While a vast majority of the comments received were from electronic sources, a handful of comments were from letters. These are included in Section II. A letter which provides specific comments on the AA *Public Review Draft* can be found in Section IX.

Website Comments: GA used the signs as a way to encourage comments via the GA website: www.ga.wa.gov. Capitol Lake is a “hot topic” on the GA home page, and community input to the GA website is described in Section IV.

Email Comments: In addition to the website, a number of community comments were sent via email. These were generally more detailed than the website comments. The complete text of each email is provided, except when it is duplicative of other comments. In this case, only the name and address of the commenter is provided. The comments received via email are described in Section III.

Public Workshop Comments: A public workshop was held during the public review period of the *Draft Alternative Analysis Report*. The workshop was held in a large tent in Heritage Park and drew over 200 people. The meeting was arranged around the topics in the *Alternative Analysis Report*, and used the informational signs from around the lake. Comments cards were collected and were summarized the various topics. Comments from the public workshop are described in Section V.

Focus Group Comments: Another source of community input was a focus group process. A focus group (a select group of individual representing diverse community interests) had been used as part of a Deschutes Estuary Feasibility Study technical report. This was a similar process and involved input obtained from a day-long meeting. Comments from the focus group meeting are described in Section VI.

Community Position Papers: GA received a number of position papers from the community during the Alternative Analysis review process. Included in this category are statements from various interest groups, flyers, op-ed articles, and related materials. Also included are the most recent articles from the *South Sound Green Pages*, a bimonthly environmental journal. This collection of materials is described in Section VII.

Public Opinion Poll: One of the CLAMP entities commissioned a public opinion poll related to the Alternative Analysis. This is another example of the range of public input which has been utilized by the CLAMP entities. This public opinion poll information is described in Section VIII.

Comments on the Public Review Draft: The *Alternative Analysis – Public Review Draft* was available for public review and comment for about three weeks. Only one comment was received which specifically addressed the content of the draft report. Unlike comments received via the website, email or by letter, a detailed response was provided for this correspondence. Comments on the Public Review Draft and the response are in Section IX.

Print Media: The CLAMP process has been of interest to the local print media since the committee was created in 1997. Articles and editorials from the Olympian related to the CLAMP process from 2005 through 2009 have been assembled in Section X.

NEXT STEPS

The CLAMP Steering Committee will make a recommendation to the GA Director regarding the preferred long-term management for the Capitol Lake basin. Supporting that recommendation will be *Alternatives Analysis Final Report* and this *Public Involvement Summary*.

The GA director will review the Steering Committee recommendation and materials and make a recommendation to the State Capitol Committee (SCC). The SCC consists of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Public Lands. The SCC will provide guidance on the issue before it is brought to the State Legislature for possible funding and action.

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II. Letter Comments

Only a handful of comments were from letters. There was one comments letter which was sent by 12 persons and four other letters. Like the multiple email comments, the original letter is followed by a list of all the persons who provided the same information. The single letter regarding the *Public Review Draft* can be found in Section IX.

There were a total of 16 letters received from June 1st to August 15th 2009.

For those 16 comment letters:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 3 or 19% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 12 or 75% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 0 or 0% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 1 or 6% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

A letter writing campaign generated several duplicate letters from different commenter's. In rank order based on the number of times a topic was mentioned, the following areas were addressed in letter comments:

- An estuary will provide benefits of water quality, habitat, and species.
- An estuary will bring cost savings
- The marinas and the Port of Olympia can remain visible.
- The estuary alternative brings improved recreation and traffic safety.
- The lake has degraded due to poor leadership by GA.
- Need to consider dredging only the North basin, there is a nearby site for dredge spoils to be deposited.
- Need to return to dredging protocols of the mid 1980s

RECEIVED
JUN 26 2009

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

37 Orchard Road

Orinda, CA 94563

June 22, 2009

Ms Linda Villegas Bremer
Director, WA State Department of General Administration
Post Office Box 41000
Olympia, WA 98504-1000

Re: Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan

Dear Ms Bremer,

As a member of the Olympia High School Class of '52, I vividly remember the odoriferous mudflats and low tide mud views of the State Capitol Buildings prior to completion of the Capitol Lake Dam. The formation of this lake, I thought at the time, was a seminal improvement for the beautification of, and public access to, the tidal basin. The subsequent shoreline park with its beach, trails and road access to the Mottman's Addition to the southwest were welcome improvements.

At our 55th Class Reunion the summer of 2007, I was appalled to see the degraded condition of the lake. I subsequently learned that:

1. The lake had not been dredged since 1986, causing silt to excessively accumulate unabated without proper dredging maintenance.
2. The State Department of General Administration (GA) had been assigned the task of "Lake Management," and that GA is spearheading a study to deliver a long-term management plan for the lake.
3. Back-flow flushing, effective for weed control, had been halted for many years, apparently because of objection from the State Department of Ecology.
4. Over \$1,500,000 had been spent over several years on studies for which a viable long-term strategy "...has been elusive..." as stated in an October, 2007, letter from your Division of Facilities.

I now understand that Special Interest Groups may have entered the process and that the controversy may have taken on a "life of its own." Apparently a career bureaucrat recently was honored at a meeting of the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) after having served for over 12 years on the committee.

The new "CLAMP Corporation" now has nine separate government departments participating as members with new appointees arriving monthly to the meetings, some wishing to start over from the beginning, I am told. (It reminds me of a large

COPY

law firm which charges the client to train wave after wave of new hires recently assigned to a case, but with little progress toward resolution.)

Where in this process is leadership that is experienced in Lake Management? I was advised that Thurston County has managed county lakes quite effectively for years. Does the GA have this kind of expertise?

Since 1951, the tidal basin south of the dam was supposed to be a lake. I was informed that when the proposal to dredge the lake in 1995 was challenged by DOE, GA apparently stopped active management. Also, GA apparently discontinued flushing because DOE objected since it killed fresh water vegetation (which was the whole point). Until a long-term strategy is adopted, why has the State abrogated its responsibility to manage it as a lake?

Is “no management” or “status quo management” meant, in effect, to increase the cost of ever returning the tidal basin to a viable lake? Will this inaction possibly skew CLAMP decision-making toward an estuary solution? If so, this would be a sad ending to what was an outstanding improvement for the City and the State Capitol.

I urge the governing bodies to:

1. Reassign responsibility to strong leadership, experienced in lake management.
2. Keep the lake presentable while awaiting a long-term strategy.
3. Retain the tidal basis as a lake.

With no budget in 2010 allocated to Capitol Lake, it could be many more years before a “long term strategy” is approved.

Yours truly,



Milton Gaines

ASB President, OHS '51-'52

Cc:: Members of the OHS Class of 1952



RECEIVED
JUL 09 2009
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF FACILITIES

P.O. BOX 443
EAST OLYMPIA, WA 98540-0443
(360) 491-2822
FAX 491-2897

July 1, 2009

Mr. Nathaniel Jones
Senior Facilities Planner
State of Washington
General Administration
PO Box 41000
Olympia WA 98504

RE: Alpine Sand & Gravel, Inc. site for proposed dredge disposal of Capitol Lake material.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Alpine Sand and Gravel, Inc. would like to offer its mine site to dispose of dredged material from Capitol Lake. Enclosed is a map showing Alpine's site in relation to Capitol Lake. Additionally, Alpine can show the following list of advantages for your consideration.

1. Alpine's close location to Capitol Lake.
2. The existing railroad and spur to transport dredged material.
3. More than enough site area to relocate dredged material.
4. No truck traffic.

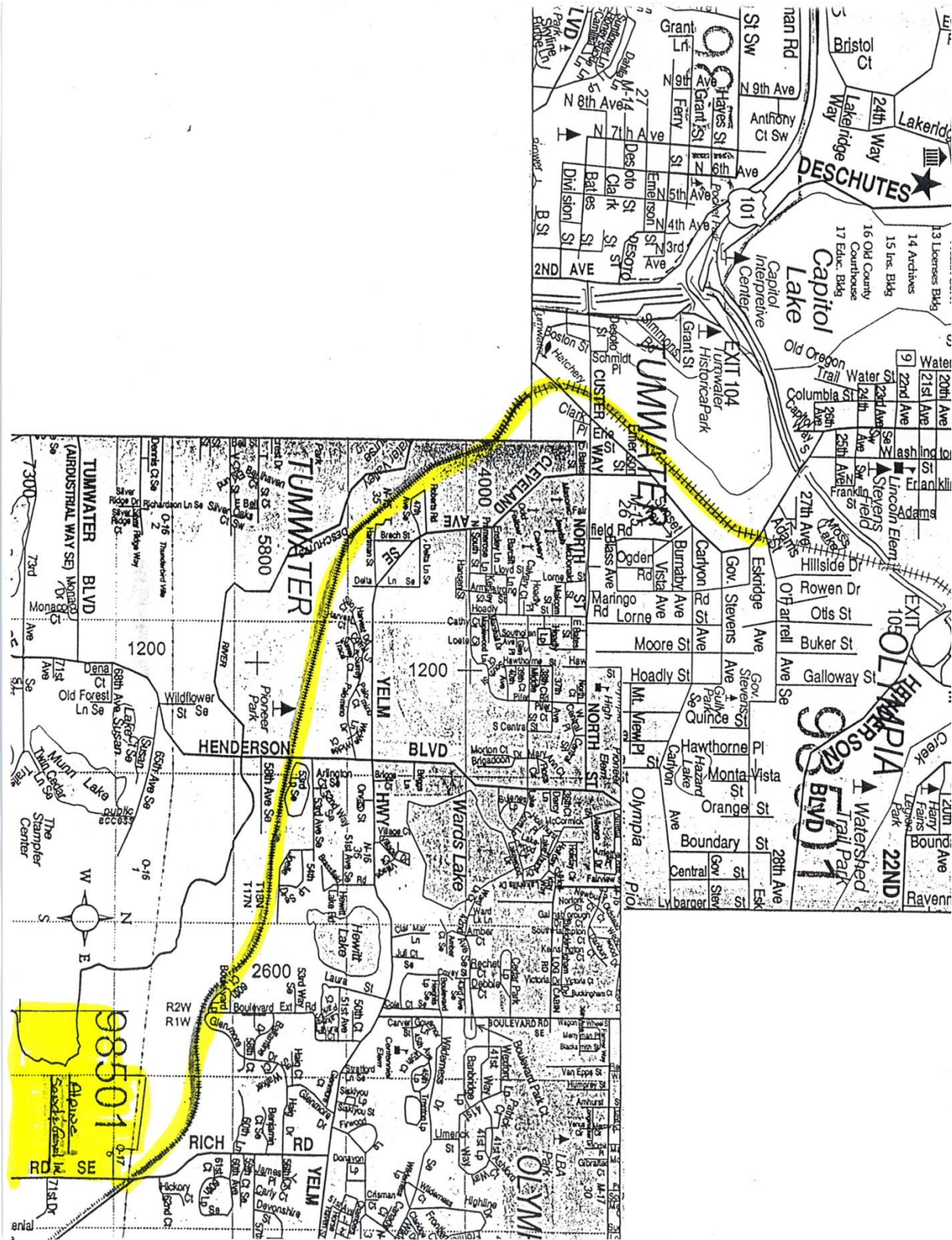
Alpine Sand and Gravel, Inc.'s site advantages can significantly lower the cost estimate for the proposed project.

If you have any questions or interest in this proposal, please contact either Gordon Boe or Myron Struck at (360) 491-2822.

Thank you,

Gordon Boe
Co-Owners of Alpine Sand and Gravel, Inc.

Myron Struck





Consulting Services
2715 Walnut Loop NW
Olympia WA 98502
PO Box 1077
Hoodsport WA 98548

RECEIVED
JUL 28 2009
General Administration Facilities Division

July 27, 2009

The Honorable Chris Gregoire, Governor
The Honorable Brad Owen, Lt. Governor
The Honorable James McIntire, State Treasurer
The Honorable Karen Fraser, Senator, 22nd District
The Honorable Tim Sheldon, Senator, 35th District
The Honorable Dan Swecker, Senator, 20th District
The Honorable Gary Alexander, Representative, 20th District
The Honorable Richard DeBolt, Representative, 20th District
The Honorable Fred Finn, Representative, 35th District
The Honorable Kathy Haigh, Representative, 35th District
The Honorable Sam Hunt, Representative, 22nd District
The Honorable Brendan Williams, Representative, 22nd District
Linda Villegas Bremer, Director, Department of General Administration

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

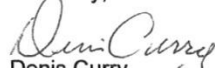
The Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Steering Committee has recommended to the Director of the Department of General Administration that Capitol Lake be turned into an estuary. A major factor in the committee's decision was the high cost of keeping the lake as opposed to reverting to the estuary that existed before the construction of the Fifth Avenue dam. Unfortunately, the only practical alternative for keeping the lake that the committee considered involved dredging the entire lake to a depth of 13 feet all the way back to the Tumwater Historical Park. Since the upper sections of the Lake are nearly silted over already, this alternative was bound to involve considerable costs.

As a consultant, I am keenly aware that the design of the alternatives to be considered heavily influences the ultimate outcome of a study. It is unfortunate that the committee did not consider another approach that would preserve at least the lower portion of the lake. I believe that if they had, the outcome of the study would likely have been different.

Adopting the attached alternative approach would result in maintaining the lower portion of the Capitol Lake thereby retaining the State's considerable investment in Heritage Park and the Arc of Statehood and result in over \$50 million in savings to the State. In addition, it offers the potential for converting the upper portions of the lake into a riverside park or arboretum.

I hope you will give careful consideration to this alternative when the decision as to the disposition of the lake reaches your desk. I believe you will find it a practical, common sense alternative that will benefit both the local area and the many visitors to the State Capital.

Sincerely,


Denis Curry

cc: ✓ Nathaniel Jones, Department of General Administration
John Dodge, The Olympian
Ken Balsley, Ken's Corner

Telephones: (360) 357-3320

(360) 402-7365
Email: denise733@aol.com

(360) 877-9454

SAVING CAPITOL LAKE: ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE

There is another alternative to saving Capitol Lake and it is the least expensive and most cost effective way of doing so. Simply stated, it is to dredge the lower (most northernmost) portion of the lake and deposit the dredging in the upper portions. Under this approach the Deschutes would run as a river to the railroad crossing with the upper portions developed into parkland or possibly an arboretum featuring native plant life. The portion of the lake most viewed and used would be retained complementing the developments to Marathon Park and Heritage Park and be available for Lakefair, dragon boat races, limited hydro races and other uses.

This is an alternative that the Adaptive Management Committee did not to consider, opting instead for an alternative that would dredge the entire lake, back to the Tumwater Historical park, to a depth of 13 feet. The cost of that approach was viewed as prohibitive and the Committee has recommended turning the lake into an estuary.

This alternative, compared to the cost of an estuary, results in substantial savings particularly in the near term. While professional analysis is needed to provide engineered estimates, the data in the Public Review Draft are sufficient to make approximate comparisons.

It is important to keep in mind that depth of the lower lake in the week of July 12th was about 8 feet per Larry Kessel of General Administration. (Daily Olympian, July 16, 2009) During this week the lake was drawn down by approximately three feet indicating that the lower lake has an average depth of more than 10 feet. Therefore costs of initial dredging should not exceed those estimated for the estuary.

The long term cost of dredging for the estuary alternative was based on dredging Budd Inlet due to silt deposits that would otherwise have been captured by the dam. That cost estimate would also apply to the "Save the Lake" alternative outlined above.

The big difference between this alternative and the estuary is the infrastructure cost that would occur in the near term. The draft report estimated that the infrastructure costs of the estuary would range between \$57 and \$63 million. Under the "Save the Lake" alternative, the comparable costs would be \$2 to \$4 million for dam maintenance. The savings would therefore be from \$55 to \$59 million that could be used for other important needs. Some of these savings could be used to beautify what now is the upper lake into a park or arboretum along the river.

This is a common sense alternative that will continue to provide the beautiful view north from the capitol campus and the reflective setting of the campus from Heritage Park and Budd Inlet. It avoids substantial near term costs and avoids a return to the mudflats of the past. It will also allow the lower lake to be used for community purposes and we will continue to have a Capital Lakefair as opposed to a "Mudflat Fair". This alternative deserves your careful consideration.

Denis Curry
DJC Consulting
Olympia and Hoodspout Washington

M. Edward Garling

From: "Ed and Edith Garling" <meemg@comcast.net>
To: "M. Edward Garling" <meemg@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 02, 2009 1:07 PM

My name is Ed Garling and I reside at 409 Grant St. located on Tumwater hill at the south end of Capitol Lake.

As background, in 1965 my wife and I acquired our property, primarily for the lake view, and built our home in 1971. We have lived here since that time.

Over the years we have followed the activities on the lake and more recently expressed our interest to maintain the lake at a recent CLAMP meeting.

We were always advised that a decision was a long way off. We were somewhat surprised by the recent vote on the matter.

After talking to other nearby affected property owners, I felt it was time to more formally express our interests and concerns. I, therefore, prepared a letter

of " feedback comment " and submitted it to General Administration according to their instructions.

Since there is some question whether others will see these comments, I am providing a copy to the City Council for the record. Many of our concerns

are summarized in the letter of comment as follows:

8/2/09

July 22, 2009

Marygrace Jennings and Nathaniel Jones
Department of General Administration
PO Box 41011
Olympia, WA 98504-1011

Dear Ms. Jennings and Mr. Jones:

As long time Tumwater property owners that have views that over look Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet, we are significant stakeholders in any proposed management plan for the lake. The lake was originally created in 1951 to eliminate objectionable tidal mud flats and odors, and enhance the aesthetic value of lands around our state capitol. From the recent vote of the CLAMP agencies however, it appears that their intent is to revert back to the formerly undesirable tidal setting. A poll of view property owners in our area at the southwest end of the lake indicated a unanimous consensus to retain the lake and rehabilitate it in accordance with the "Managed Lake" concept.

Previous studies established a program to periodically dredge a sump area at the south end to trap much of the sediment load generated during flood events. The objective was to minimize the amount of siltation that would occur in the lower basin and Budd Inlet. After the initial dredging and a follow-up, the program was dropped, reportedly because of permitting problems. The lake has subsequently deteriorated to its present condition. We believe that continuation of this original program would be the best solution and provide the greatest benefit to the entire community, not just to some agency special interests represented in the CLAMP group.

Dredge spoils should be disposed of behind the existing south end dike and excess material could be sold for fill. The dike could also be raised for greater capacity. The barging options to other deep disposal areas in Puget Sound would be much more costly and environmentally unacceptable.

The entire lake should be retained as a reflection pond, not just the east half of the north basin, which would present water quality and operational problems. The dike to create this small pond would be costly to construct and maintain. Dam removal and bridge construction associated with the estuary concept, likewise would be costly. The principal costs associated with the lake concept would be initial dredging and continuing periodic maintenance of a south end sump. We strongly believe this "Managed Lake" option to be in the best public interest.

The southwest view property owners would therefore greatly appreciate adoption of the "Managed Lake" concept, as described above, as the best solution to the "Capitol Lake" problem.

If you wish to further discuss this issue with me, please feel free to contact me at 360-352-8668.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

M. Edward Garling

*Views Of Capitol Lake
from
Garling Residence
409 Grant St.
Turnwater, WA*



April '09



July 21, '09

View Of Lower Capitol Lake
from
Garling Residence
409 Grant St
Tumwater, WA

July 21, '09





TO: Concerned Citizens
FROM: Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team (DERT)
SUBJECT: **ACTION NEEDED IMMEDIATELY:** Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) will soon make a recommendation on whether or not Capitol Lake will be managed as a lake or restored back to the Deschutes Estuary.

Should the Deschutes Estuary be restored to a natural functioning system? The Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) will be making a recommendation to the Director of the Department of General Administration, Linda Bremer, soon. Please let CLAMP and Director Bremer know you would prefer the Deschutes River be connected back to its estuary for the health and well-being of citizens, wildlife and the economy. Here are some reasons why:

- Multiple scientific studies conclude that Deschutes Estuary restoration is feasible, will provide much greater benefit to water quality, habitat, and economically important wildlife in South Puget Sound/ Budd Inlet than the Capitol Lake reservoir provides.
- The economic studies indicate a huge cost savings to the taxpayer with Deschutes Estuary restoration as compared to managing Capitol Lake for the next 50 years.
- Local marinas and the Port of Olympia will remain viable with estuary restoration and cost less than long-term lake management.
- A restored Deschutes Estuary will enhance public recreation at the Capitol Campus and will draw users to the newly opened tidal waterway, now blocked by the 5th Ave. Dam.
- Estuary restoration will include dam removal and construction of a new bridge at 5th Ave. in Olympia. Once completed, traffic flow will improve, pedestrian safety across the very narrow sidewalk at the dam will improve, and will serve as a major economic stimulus to our region.

Please send the message to the public officials that Capitol Lake should be restored to its original form, an Estuary.

Please EMAIL, FAX or MAIL the letter below to Ms. Bremer and/or Mr. Jones at the WA State Department of General Administration. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

TO: Linda Villegas Bremer, Director
FAX: 360-586-0493
WA State Department of General Administration
Email: lbremer@ga.wa.gov
Post Office Box 41000
Olympia Washington 98504-1000

Nathaniel Jones, Senior Facilities Planner
FAX: 360-586-0493
WA State Department of General Administration
Email: njones@ga.wa.gov
Post Office Box 41000
Olympia Washington 98504-1000

Dear Ms. Bremer and Mr. Jones,

I request the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) recommend Deschutes Estuary restoration to Linda Villegas Bremer, Director of Washington State Department of General Administration. Please accept my recommendation for Deschutes Estuary restoration into the public record and inform Linda Villegas Bremer, Director of the General Administration and the CLAMP Committee members and their respective agencies of my recommendation.

Thank you in advance for giving your attention to this important decision,

Sincerely, *Patti Brandt*

< Your Name > Patti Brandt

< Your Address/Phone > 430 BURNABY SE AVE OLYMPIA WA 98501

NOTE: The following persons also sent the preceding letter.

Rnee Martinoau

3229 Copper Port Rd NW
OLY, WA 98502

Gabriele Payrne

878-09320

Brad Schrandt

2014 Coleman Ave
Olympia, WA 98502

Fay Sinclair

10428 Klamath River Circle
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Adam Wasanlkari

702 Gov Stevens Ave
Olympia, WA 98501

Mark Sinclair

714-313-6657

Christi Sincl

8153 Flagler Way
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Fifi Dies

1001 State Ave SE
Oly, WA 98506

Emily Potter Cox

1603 Quince St
Olympia, WA 98502

Robert Pamett

360-508-9826

Dick Meyer

430 Barnaby Ave SE
Olympia, WA

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III. Email Comments

There were 200 of comments which were provided to GA directly via email. Duplicate messages sent by one commenter have been combined.

The complete text of each email is provided. The comments are listed in alphabetical order by the person's last name. In this case the name and addresses of the commenter is provided in a list below the original message.

The comments listed below were from June 1st to July 15th 2009. There were a total of 44 wholly unique comments. Commenter's names, where provided, have been included and the comments have been arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

For the 44 totally unique email comments:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 27 or 61% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 17 or 38% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 2 or 5% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 3 or 7% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

A single email narrative was sent by a large number of persons, so that has been counted separately. The original message is listed and the names of the commenters were listed below. A total of 16 people added an additional paragraph or two in their own words. Where possible, these were identified and the comments were included. For the 155 email comments with a common message all were supportive of the estuary alternative.

For all 199 email comments:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 27 or 14% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 172 or 86% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 2 or 1% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 3 or 1% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

There are a few general observations that can be drawn for these comments. Public comments received throughout the CLAMP process have been affected by organized campaigns which favor differing outcomes. The circulation of brochures and position papers and the use of communication networks have influenced the content and volume of comments received. The impact of the content and volume of comments received. The impact of these campaigns is seen most clearly in email correspondence.

Several themes emerged in the emails. These topics are provided below in ranked order reflecting the number of times a topic was included in the correspondence. Topical areas were discussed from varying perspectives and interpretations. For example, commenters could be appraising the impact of estuary restoration on recreational opportunities and reach opposing conclusions by using the same set of information.

Topics included in the email communication included:

- Environmental Health
- Financial Aspects
- Recreation
- Aesthetics
- Habitat
- Sediment Management
- The Legacy of Campus Design
- Pollution Management
- The Superiority of Nature
- Odors
- Traffic Impacts
- Climate Change
- Community Identity
- Infrastructure Renewal
- The Transfer of Costs
- Noxious Weeds

Capitol Lake is a landmark and a big part of the charm and character of Olympia. DO NOT take away the Lake.

The Lake vs Estuary debate is a topic that is strongly divided and supported by both sides in the argument. However, given the CLAMP committee's decision, and the lack of attention given to major aspects not currently being discussed, I have decided to offer my input with hopes of opening the eyes of the Governmental agencies in charge of making this decision. I am curious why no one in charge, let alone anyone in favor of the estuary, has considered the effects of turning the lake into an estuary would have on the many boat clubs in the south sound. The Olympia Yacht Club, along with the docks outside Anthonies, would become obsolete with the large amount of silt to flood the southern portion of the sound. Oddly enough neither the cost of purchasing the leases of those boating clubs, or the cost of moving those expansive docks to where the silt would no longer effect them, were considered in the predicted costs of turning the lake into an estuary. When asked about this particular effect at the June 24th meeting, the CLAMP committee admitted having conducted no such research with regards to determining this cost of this important aspect. It is also curious how important the salmon spawning is to current research, even though the public would receive no substantial benefits in this regard. However, I can see how the Indians must enjoy these findings, seeing as how an estuary would fill their pockets with plenty of cash to support the future political campaigns of those on Capitol Hill in charge of this decision. The public would be screwed by political greed. Living down by Bud Bay has given me a chance to experience, first-hand, an estuary setting. The smell is sometimes awful, and few people can stand being outdoors by the unpleasant and unattractive mud bog. I bring this estuary up also because many people have stated that Capitol Lake would resemble Mud Bay. This comparison is incredibly naive, seeing as how Mud Bay is in a relatively rural setting and Capitol Lake is downtown a city in an urban environment. No one would use the newly improved (15 million dollar) park now surrounding the lake, thus deterring outdoor activities which are so strongly encouraged in this city. With fewer people, businesses would quickly decline, causing a large decrease in tax revenue, and thus less revenue to build and support those parks with. It also seems as though dredging is only being considered as an option for maintaining the lake, when in fact all of the silt that will flood the sound will have to be dredged anyway, only in a different location. The last thing that surprised and upset me was the positive attention given to the people who will use the estuary as a place for bird spotting and other nature-viewing activities. If that portion of the population does not use the area surrounding the lake for that purpose now, why will removing the water and leaving the smelly and bacteria infested mud be more of an incentive? The wildlife would prefer the estuary option, however, it would greatly decrease the popularity of the entire downtown area, destroy business interests (of which I would like to include myself in sometime in the future), and would end up costing much more than dredging for the next hundred years would because, lets face it, the government estimate will double by the time the project is complete (not to mention the unnoticed costs listed above). For these reasons, I am a strong supporter of keeping the lake, and will not stop until those considering the estuary option are fully educated on its destructive powers on the people living in and supporting this city. Save the lake!

Anonymous

Let's keep Capitol Lake and not make it an estuary ... thank you

Anonymous

Hi Nathaniel,

I work for the Dept. of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, but am writing as a private Olympia, WA citizen.

I read a sign explaining the 4 options for Capitol Lake's future. (If you are not the correct person to direct comments to, I'd greatly appreciate your forwarding this on. Thanks).

I feel strongly that the Estuary option is the wisest, as it is the one which would restore the lake and sound to their most natural state.

I think we humans are slowly discovering that the more we try to alter nature (by, for example, damming rivers,) the more problems we create for ourselves as well as our own habitat. (As the sign explained, damming the river's flow is causing the river's sediment to collect and fill in the lake. And, of course, this has wrought significant damage to the river ecosystem since the dam was built). When we try to alter nature, it wreaks havoc with our environment, and the ability of native plants and animals to survive.

I believe that we are not smarter than nature. Nature has a wisdom honed by billions of years of evolution, and we cannot impose our will on it without serious consequences.

The reason we're now having a problem with Capitol Lake is because we tried to change the way nature was set up here in our corner of the world. We tried to make the river fit us, instead of accepting and respecting the river's natural state. That is the sole reason we're now having this problem of sediment build up. We tried to fight nature, and nature simply cannot be fought. It will always prevail over time, and those who go with rather than against the flow of nature are more likely to prosper.

If we implement a "solution" to the current sediment problem which does not seek to restore the river's natural state, we will undoubtedly create an additional set of problems which we or people 50 years from now will have to fix.

But if we respect the way rivers are designed (to flow to the sea), and accept that we don't actually know a better way than nature's design for rivers, we will then be living in relative harmony with this bit of nature, and thereby will likely avoid serious future problems.

The wisest decision, and the decision which will be best for our plants, animals, and I believe ultimately our own health, is to live in harmony with the natural cycles of nature as much as possible, rather than fighting them. Let the river flow.

Anonymous

Dear CLAMP Steering Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary. Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) is currently evaluating management options for the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary basin. As a CLAMP Steering Committee member, you have a historic

opportunity to decide on the restoration of the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

Over the past 150 years, we have lost more than 95% of the estuarine wetlands in lower Budd Inlet and over 75% of the river estuarine marshes in Puget Sound. If we are to reach the states goal of restoring Puget Sound to health by 2020, every city, every town, every municipality, every agency and every citizen must make local decisions for the benefit of the entire Sound.

Anonymous

GA - Washington State
RE: Capital Lake Estuary Planning

Several years ago, I found an interesting property northwest of TESC overlooking Eld Inlet. My wife and I were excited by its affordable waterfront and view across the water. We went back when the tide was out and immediately put our dreams away due to the smell of organic rot wafting to us across the inlet on a light breeze. This stench is what is in store for Olympia should the plans for Capital Lake change the lake into an estuary.

My wife and I walk the lake path 2 to 3 times a week and do so without paying attention to the tides. We shop several times a week at the Thriftway on Simmons and 4th and we take meals at the Spar Café or other downtown restaurants once to twice a week. If Capital Lake becomes another Eld Inlet, we will have to examine the tide tables to visit downtown Olympia – or we probably just will change where we spend our time.

Additionally, there are contaminated sediments (some would describe these as toxic) contained in Capital Lake and it makes little sense to cut these loose into Puget Sound without first dredging the lake and processing them. Victoria has used faulted logic to disperse its sewage effluent into local waters and is finally seeing the error of its ways. We can do better.

Regardless of whether Capital Lake becomes an estuary, it must first be dredged to process its toxic accumulations. Until a plan is in place to collect and treat these sediments, I am adamantly opposed to dismantling the dam and destroying the lake.

Thanks,

Rick Antles
1909 14th Ave SW Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 943-5547

Dear Sirs,

We have a beautiful lake here in Olympia. If we don't keep it as a lake it will be an ugly old bog in years to come. I live in Lacey and if we have company from out of state my first stop is Capital Lake. The view and reflections are a photographers most favorite spot here in Olympia. I also wish that the lake could

be used by the citizens of the area. We have plenty of areas for birds and wildlife here in Washington State and we need to dredge this beautiful lake before it becomes a mud hole with swamp grass.

Sincerely,

Janis I Chastain

Although I currently live in Seattle, for many years I was a resident of Olympia, at times living very close to Capitol Lake. I think restoring the Deschutes Estuary to something resembling its original condition is a great idea, and I urge you to support it.

Capitol Lake is something of an ecological dead zone, and sedimentation is inexorably filling the lake. This is an historic opportunity to an environmental mistake which should never have been made in the first place -- and likely a harbinger of similar future projects that can learn from our example. Although the current view of the Capitol from across the lake is pretty, it would be so much more noteworthy to have our seat of state government looking out on a groundbreaking environmental restoration project such as this. Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

James Davis

430 NE Ravenna Blvd #203
Seattle, WA 98115

I think back to my childhood and the freedom to be able to enjoy a local lake was the high light of my summers. I believe we should leave Capitol Lake a Lake for all to enjoy. There are multiple estuaries in the area that are available for the public. Please leave Capitol Lake a place for many to enjoy as a lake.

S Fleener

I am opposed to reverting capital lake back to an estuary. The logic to do so would also suggest the lands the capital buidings set on should be converted back to their original state. Think how much money that would save in the long run.

Ward Forrer

Tumwater

Dear Mrs Bremmer,

Thank you for the efficient informational forum at Heritage Park last week. It was most helpful to me.

I hope that the steering committee will support the retention of a managed lake status for Capitol Lake. The esthetic value of this civic icon is enormous. It defines our community. It is our Central Park. Losing it to any type of mud basin for 10-12 hours a day would be a serious blow to our community until succeeding generations have again had enough. I am an avid fly fisherman and strong environmentalist. I believe that this is one of the rare occasions where esthetic considerations outweigh those of environmental purity.

I vote for managed lake, Please keep me informed of meeting or discussion on this matter

Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Aja Leafe-Hall
1968 Thurston Ave NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Mark Toy
1527 Fern Street SW
Olympia, WA 98502

Zena Hartung
3240 Centerwood Ct SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Jacob Lind
Rock Maple
Olympia, WA 98502

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the Dual Basin alternative for Capital Lake for the following reasons:

1. **It allows the continued existence of the reflecting pool**, facilitating some community events and making sense of the man-made bulkhead that is a park feature.
2. **It restores the estuary**, which functions as an important tool to rebuild natural habitat and cleanse lower Budd Inlet of pollutants.
3. All of the options are expensive; however, the additional monetary expenditure identified to clean-up Puget Sound must be factored into the equation. The estuary option becomes even more attractive when the 'big picture' is taken into account.
4. The dual option was the original idea of the landscape architects, the Olmstead Brothers. Even then, with their plan, intended to minimize human impact in the estuary.
5. The 4th Avenue, Friendship Bridge, is built to accommodate an estuary. The 5th Avenue Bridge will need to be replaced in the near-future anyway. Now is the time to begin planning its replacement.
6. **It would represent backward thinking in this day of age for the State of Washington and the Cities of Olympia and Tumwater to reject a positive choice to restore our environment and the science that supports this choice.**
7. Most of the arguments used against an estuary are exaggerated or not correct. Aesthetically, estuaries are beautiful forms of nature.

Thank you,
Jeanette Hawkins
Triway Enterprises
1500 79th Avenue SE Olympia, WA 98501
360.292.7805w 360.259.9238c 360.956.2999f

I'm all for the lake being an estuary.

Cory Hofland

Accounting Analyst

ImageSource, Inc.

Ph. 360-943-9273

Fax 360-943-4449

www.imagesourceinc.com

Hello:

I am a very active user of the Olympia water front. I have a boat at the Olympia Yacht Club, am a active member and participant in the Olympia Wooden Boat Fair each May and also I am a board member of the Sand Man foundation which restored and maintains the 99 year old tug boat as a FREE museum at Percival Landing.

I am VERY concerned about the economic impact the removal of the Capitol Lake Dam would have on the Olympia water front and related business.

The Deschutes River sediment of over 30,000 cubic yards would be flushed into Percival Landing and the adjoining marinas along the water front each year. The city and the marinas would be looking at a 3 to 5 year dredging cycle at a cost of at least 3 million dollars per cycle. The local marinas could not stay in business with this added cost. The City of Olympia has budget problems now without the added expense of keeping Percival Landing use able. If Percival Land was not dredged the Olympia area would not have the FREE water front events we now enjoy. The Wooden Boat Fair, Harbor Days, the lighted ships parade, the Sand Man would have to leave and there would be a impact on other events such as Lake Fair, and the money spent from visiting boaters would go away.

The continued dredging would also be very expensive if the dam is remove and the sediment is allowed to fill Budd Inlet. You also have to look at the loss of 450 recreational boat moorages that would deprive of local economy and the state of more than \$10 million dollars per year.

This is not like taking the dike out at the Nisqually and creating a large estuary. The City of Olympia, the Port of Olympia and the local water front business would be very affected by the removal of the Capitol Lake Dam.

I am for keeping the dam and the state Department of General Administration which manages the lake do its duty and dredge the lake and not try to push its responsibly on to the tax payers of the city of Olympia, the Port and the local business.

I do not have faith in the GA to fund the dredging for lower Budd Inlet. The State has its own money problems and the GA has not keep Capitol Lake up as it was supposed to do in the past.

One good winter rain storm could fill in the Yacht Club and Percival Landing to the point that they and not use able. It would take 2 to 3 years to get a permit to dredge if the money could be found.

Thank you for your time and PLEASE keep the Capitol Lake Dam in place!

Earl Hughes

ehughes416@comcast.net 360-352-3748

Capitol Lake is a landmark and a big part of the charm and character of Olympia. DO NOT take away the LAKE.

Michele Hulbert

Olympia resident for 25 years

Dear CLAMP Steering Committee,

Please restore the estuary that originally existed at Budd Inlet. The ecology of the area needs this estuary to maintain its health.

We need areas like the estuary, which mingles fresh and salt water, for many forms of aquatic life. We have lost many such areas and are in danger of losing many of the forms of life that need them.

I would like the look of it better than the current geometric reflecting pool. It is always better to have a natural area than a contrived one. It's always more beautiful

I understand it would be cheaper, too.

Thank you for your attention.

Janet Jordan

6702 Garrett Court NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Sirs,

Capitol Lake should remain a lake and not be turned into an estuary.

The State Government has spent thousands of dollars to create and enhance this reflection pool for our State Capitol Campus. It is beautiful!

As our city continues to grow protecting this aesthetic treasure is all the more important!

This vision was designed years ago by Wilder and White and should be protected like other important architectural features of historic significance. Green Lake in Seattle is a similar treasure to a busy city. Designed by Olmsted in the early 1900's, it is used heavily by the people who live in Seattle, Bellevue and Kirkland.

Just because an estuary is the least expensive option is no reason to destroy this beautiful asset of our City and State.

We have one of the most beautiful State Capitols in the entire United States and one that I am very proud of.

The City of Olympia, our visitors, children and grandchildren have all been the beneficiaries of this magnificent reflection pool.

Please keep Capitol Lake a lake!

Sincerely,

Mary Elizabeth Karpel, MA

Landscape Designer

I have lived in Olympia for almost 20 years. The lake is the jewel of Olympia. I walk down Deschutes Parkway and/or around the lake several times a week.

I often stop on Deschutes Parkway, walking down toward Tumwater park, and notice the beaver activity along the bank. I have yet to see one, but I know they are there, gnawing at small trees to build their ponds.

In the last month or so, there have been two beautiful swans along Deschutes Parkway.

They are evidently mates, because I never see one without the other.

Then there are all the birds. If it is quiet, it like a musical concert, as species call out to one another.

Of course, what makes spring and fall interesting is all the different ducks that stop by on their way to or from the north.

Walking by the lake soothes my soul. It is calming and peaceful. It is wonderful.

PLEASE DO NOT TURN IT INTO AN ESTUARY!!!!

Maureen Karlson

Hi, Tim Koehler here.

[I'm a] City of Olympia citizen and local business owner in downtown Olympia.

Of the four choices: This is our choice

1. Would be Managed Lake; the question is where do you put all the dredging sediments? I'm all for this! Let's maintain a useable lake for fish and recreation.
2. Would be status quo, the question is how often and how are you going to control weeds and smells from shallow waters to maintain a quality lake for fish and recreational use.

3. Would be the Dual Basin if you can maintain water height at all times as to avoid tide flats and smells.....this would not be good!

Thanks!

Tim Koehler

Please use your power as a CLAMP Steering Committee member to help fully restore the Deschutes Estuary.

Over the past 150 years, we have lost more than 95% of the estuarine wetlands in lower Budd Inlet and over 75% of the river estuarine marshes in Puget Sound. If we are to reach the states goal of restoring Puget Sound to health by 2020, every city, every town, every municipality, every agency and every citizen must make local decisions for the benefit of the entire Sound.

Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Thank you.

Elise Koncsek

9820 17th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

As a former resident of Olympia, I remember Capitol Lake. It was probably a good idea at the time; a picture-postcard view and a sanctuary in the middle of the state capital for people and animals to gather.

Now, it costs us millions we don't have to maintain it, it's unswimmable, and its picture-postcard view is dubious.

Restoring the estuary would:

1. Allow much the same recreational opportunities as the current lake.
2. Cost millions less than maintaining the lake even when infrastructure and costs for maintaining marina and port berths by dredging is included.
3. The north basin of the current lake would retain water for reflecting the capitol building most of the time.
4. Be the second largest restoration project ever undertaken in Puget Sound and it would be right on the state capitol campus thus showing that Washington really does have the will to lead Puget Sound recovery. This creates much-needed living wage jobs for the Olympia area.
5. Create habitat for ten imperiled priority species and habitats, but, unfortunately, worsen conditions for four freshwater using species.

I see little to lose and a lot to gain. Let's get to work!

J.M. Krucek

2203 SW California Ave
211
Seattle, WA 98116

My name is Jennifer Lee. I live at 1112 Chestnut ST se in Olympia. I have lived here for 10 years now and enjoy walking the lake on a regular basis. I think the dual basin estuary sounds good for the wildlife that use the lake as well as for the people/pets that spend time on or around it.

Thank you for your time,

J. Lee

Nathan Jones, Facilities Design, GSA:

Your study neglected an obvious Alternate E:

- 1) Dredge the channel south of the railroad bridge crossing to increase the channel depth and so reduce scour. (costing \$1M)
- 2) (then) Do NOT replace the railroad bridge with a longer rail and pedestrian bridge (saving \$9M)
- 3) Place rip-rap and stabilized (dewatered) dredge materials on both sides of the main channel in Capital Lake (costing \$6M)
- 4) (then) Do NOT build a hard-face sheet pile and pedestrian walkway divider on the East side ("reflecting pool") (saving \$10M)

Total cost savings: \$12M.

This creates tidewater marshlands on both halves of the lake, outside the main channel, and with proper hydraulic analysis and sizing of the inlet and outlet culverts, would assure that these marshlands never completely drain between the tidal cycles, (or at least, for 99% of them, obviously extreme low tide days would also drain the marshlands, even if the culverts were raised initially, the siltation infill to culvert invert would gradually leave the wetlands exposed as mudflats, but only a few times per year).

Otherwise, the entire west half of the lagoon (or the whole lagoon in Alt A and B) will be stinking mudflats much of the time. You only have to travel just past the Evergreen Parkway turnoff to see the mudflats out there, and what the lake will look like without those hydraulic controls, just a glistening dunn stinking mudflat devoid of wildlife or any recreational aesthetic.

On the other hand, stabilized tidewater wetlands on each half of the lagoon would become another Nisqually Delta wildlife bonanza!

Please consider a pierced dike both sides tidal wetlands concept for the lagoon outside the main channel, as a viable Alternate E.

Visit Arcata, California if you need the visual:

http://www.cityofarcata.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=47

Robert Marmaduke P.E.

I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary.

I have seen pictures of Jocelyn Dohm's (from the Sherwood Press and born along the shore of Lower Budd Inlet on the Westside) showing her as a child in the 1920's enjoying high tide. The images are truly magical. The sun sparkles on the water under the old railroad trestle. Children are in little boats that they made, swimming (!), enjoying the cool water. It is not the fetid tidal basin we fear. Sure they had to swim on an out-going tide because of sewage, but we have LOTT now. I would be happy to share the pictures with you, if you are interested in seeing them.

An estuarine ecosystem is beautiful. It is magical. It is full of LIFE.

Our City, our State, our environment deserves better than Capitol Lake.

Nikki McClure

1711 5th Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Capitol Lake Advisory Committee:

I would like my comments added to those being voiced about the future of Capitol Lake: I strongly believe Capitol Lake should remain a lake.

Moreover, it was just over one year ago that the public was asked to comment on this issue. At that time, Olympia residence overwhelmingly stated that we wish to have Capitol Lake remain as it is. Residence shouldn't have to lobby endlessly on important issues because vocal minorities keep pushing them. It is time that the advisory committee does what we asked of it and recommend to the powers that be that they move forward with dredging the lake.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Scott McLain

3939 Country Club DR NW
Olympia, WA 98502

Linda:

As a part of the Capitol Campus and as a critical element of the historic Wilder and White and Olmsted plans for the Campus, Capitol Lake needs to remain a lake. The 24 hour, 7 days a week function of the

Lake as a reflecting pool should not be damaged. The state and local government entities which benefit economically from the visitors drawn to the beautiful Campus should be willing to pay for the dredging necessary for the Lake. Thanks.

Allen T. Miller

Law Offices of ATM, PLLC
1801 West Bay Dr. NW - Suite 205
Olympia, WA 98502
Voice: 360-754-9156 Fax: 360-754-9472
www.atmlawoffice.com

Dear Nathaniel:

The Black Hills Audubon Society has been involved in CLAMP as a public interest group since CLAMP's early days. We have continued to learn about the possibilities for and difficulties of restoring the Deschutes estuary through review of the detailed technical reports, attendance at steering committee deliberations, participation in the focus group sessions and various public dialogues within the CLAMP process. We have grown increasingly convinced that restoring the Deschutes River to an estuary is the best alternative choice.

Findings from the numerous and comprehensive CLAMP studies indicate that the estuary alternative represents a low long term cost alternative that would generate a high amount of public benefits in terms of wildlife, recreation, ecological services, and economic benefits to the local economy. The managed lake alternative, which is perhaps more popular with the general public, represents a 70 percent higher total implementation cost than the estuary alternative, with fewer overall public benefits (CLAMP 2007 net benefit analysis). Indeed, findings of a 1997 Ecological Economics study demonstrated that compared to all other biomes, estuaries generate the highest value of ecosystem goods and services per hectare. The estuary alternative simply makes sense at many levels.

However, should the estuary alternative be chosen, it is important that the sources of pollution currently in lower Budd Inlet, the Capitol Lake and Deschutes River be assessed and cleaned up first. Restoring the Deschutes estuary will return the force of the Deschutes as the second most important river system that influences South Sound's circulation. The restoration of the Deschutes estuary will transport not only sediment but also pollutants with the outgoing tide and transport the lower Budd Inlet pollutants back up the sub estuary with the incoming tide. In sum, we will see a mixing of the pollutants between the Deschutes and lower Budd Inlet. We will also see some kind of mixing of these pollutants up Budd Inlet and throughout other areas of South Sound. The Hydrodynamics and Sediment Transport Modeling report (2006) did not model past the mouth of Budd Inlet but did indicate that the sediment (and likely, any pollutants) would go beyond Budd Inlet. Given the economic importance of a healthy South Sound for fish, shellfish, birds and other ecosystem benefits, it is important that the probable sources of pollutants in both the Deschutes and lower Budd Inlet be identified and controlled first before restoration takes place. Only then will the Deschutes estuary restoration be highly beneficial for South Sound.

Sediment has been seen largely as a cost in the various CLAMP analyses. However, good, clean sediment is a benefit to an estuarine ecosystem. It increases beach formation and is an important component of the Puget Sound basin's gravelly nearshore areas that are prime salmon habitat. Return of the Deschutes River sediment to Southern Puget Sound would not only increase salmon habitat but would

benefit homeowners by building up their beaches and lessening the impacts from storm damage. At the same time, too much sediment results in turbidity problems. Improved land use management within the Deschutes River basin and lower Budd Inlet would help prevent further increases in sediment levels while helping to resolve the current ground water problems. Comprehensive management of sub estuaries in Puget Sound will be part of the larger solution for restoring the health of Puget Sound by 2020, the goal of the Puget Sound Partnership. Restoring the Deschutes Estuary, with a comprehensive management approach, will be a contribution to this larger goal Adaptive management looks for solutions that incorporate new information and the collaborative thinking of a multi-sector group of stakeholders. Possible solutions that allow ecosystem function while mitigating the impacts and satisfying a variety of interests (for example, relocating the marinas to areas nearby where dredging would either not be needed or be needed less frequently, among other innovative approaches) could be a part of the next round of discussion as we move forward in the decision making process.

I thank you and other key individuals, including Steven Morrison, Curtis Tanner, and Margen Carlson, that have made the CLAMP process work so well over the years.

Donna J. Nickerson

Black Hills Audubon Society

As a child, my grandfather who kept his boat in a marina in Olympia, took me on life-altering trips on Puget Sound from the south sound to the San Juans. As a young and middle aged adult, I raced and skippered sailboats happily on this most special body of water. Now an older adult, I have been fortunate to live across the street from Puget Sound. It has been distressing to hear about the denigration of our water from pollution. Now I hear that the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary is also in very bad health. We must take action now before it is too late! I am writing to urge you to support an all-out effort to revitalize the Capital Lake/Deschutes Estuary for the sake of our future and that of our children and grandchildren. Olympia is our capital. People come there from all over the world. We should and can be a leader in restoration management. I understand that you, the Capital Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) are currently evaluating options for making this happen. I applaud your efforts. As a CLAMP Steering Committee member, you have a historic opportunity to decide on the restoration of the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

I've read that more than 95% of the estuarine wetlands in lower Budd Inlet and over 75% of the river estuarine marshes in Puget Sound have been lost. If restoring Puget Sound to health by 2020 is to be realized, every city, every town, every municipality, every agency and every citizen must make local decisions for the benefit of the entire Sound. Restoring the estuary is a critical piece of our ability to succeed in reaching that goal and done well would:

- Continue to supply recreational opportunities;
- Cost millions less than maintaining the increasingly polluted lake even when infrastructure and costs for maintaining marina and port berths by dredging is included;
- The north basin of the current lake would retain water for reflecting the capitol building most of the time;
- Be the second largest restoration project ever undertaken in Puget Sound and it would be right on the state capitol campus thus showing that Washington really does have the will to lead in Puget Sound's return to health after years of neglect;

- Create habitat for ten imperiled priority species and habitats, but, unfortunately, worsen conditions for four freshwater species.

Thank you in advance of your support of a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Sue Oliver

4248 Chilberg Ave SW #202
Seattle, WA 98116

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the lake vs estuary issue. I have been very concerned for several years about the group assembled and all of the money that has been spent to come up with a recommendation on what to do with the lake without any apparent concern for public sentiment on the issue.

The cost of maintaining the lake vs an estuary should have nothing to do with this decision. It's the beauty of this Olympia landmark and the enjoyment it provides to the people of our community that should drive this decision.

I have lived in Olympia for 30 years and my wife was born here. She used to swim in Capitol Lake as a child. We walk around the lake regularly and always take visitors on a drive or walk around the lake. To turn the northern reflecting pond into an estuary would ruin one of the most scenic landmarks in our community. Thousands of people enjoy drive or walk by the lake daily and enjoy its beauty.

I have never been more concerned about any issue facing our community and I hope very much that there are enough citizens that feel the same way I do about turning the reflecting pond into an estuary to prevent it from happening.

Sincerely,

John Parry

2354 Crestline Blvd. NW
Olympia, WA 98502

Lake!!!!!!!!!!

I just want to voice my opinion that the lake should stay as a lake. I walk around it almost every day and enjoy the wildlife and the water. If you make it into an estuary, it will have all kinds of bugs, and the view will not be as enjoyable. Where will the ducks and fish go. The lake has a great history and should remain a lake.

Thanks,

Patty

I am writing in support of the full restoration of the Deschutes Estuary. This issue has been debated for years; it's time act decisively.

Since the areas around Puget Sound were developed, almost all of the estuaries have been destroyed, yet these are the most fertile areas of biodiversity on the planet along with tropical rain forests.

The State of Washington and the City of Olympia have set ambitious goals for environmental sustainability, and this is an enormous opportunity to help them to achieve these goals, to "walk the walk". In this current economic crisis it may be hard to budget for the cost of successfully transitioning Capital Lake into a sustainable estuary, but given the millions of dollars in long-term savings to be had by making such a transition, this is the fiscally correct as well as the environmentally correct decision. Being the state capital, it would have the added benefit of sending a message to the rest of the state—and the nation—that legislators here are not just talking the talk, saying "Do as I say, not as I do".

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Penney

1415 Eleventh Avenue SW
Olympia, WA 98502

Capitol Lake is an essential part of downtown. It is a place many people and animals go for many different reasons. I do not want to see it go. I also do not want another bridge. Please do not change the downtown to cause people that live near there more traffic hassles and such. If environmental cleaning needs to happen, fine, but don't take away our lake and our children's only Lake in Olympia downtown to enjoy.

Dinea

Dinea de Photo

Photography Fusion of Art & Soul
253.227.8074
www.dineaphoto.com

I strongly support keeping Capitol Lake as a Lake for the following reasons. If the estuary or marsh options are chosen I feel the following must be considered:

1. The economic loss to Olympia and the state in lost revenue from marinas, lost rent from marinas to DNR, lost tourist dollars from boat traffic, loss of revenue to all business's from festivals such as the wooden boat show etc., lost revenue to the port when it must factor in increased dredging cost. Lost B&O tax revenue from businesses along the boardwalk and loss of jobs.
2. While not a direct concern, if the Yacht club and the two or three marinas on lower Budd inlet (martin, fiddlehead) close, where will the tenants go. The dredging fees for these marinas will probably be prohibitive. There is insufficient space at Swantown marina to accept the displaced boaters and West Bay will also be affected. It is easy to say that it is the boaters problem but there may be no options available and these boat owners are citizens as well.

3. The silt washed from the river will expand the mud flat estuary far into Bud inlet and will not be as aesthetically pleasing as the lake. Frankly, even with the algae problem the lake now experiences it is a gem in the center of the city from a beauty standpoint and a gathering point for families and community events. To a large extent this will end.

Please consider my comments

Walter L. Schefter
Lacey, Washington

I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary. Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) is currently evaluating management options for the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary basin. As a CLAMP Steering Committee member, you have a historic opportunity to decide on the restoration of the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

It is time we begin to undo some of our past mistakes and work to restore Puget Sound's ecology. A free flowing Deschutes River could still provide opportunities for recreation while at the same time helping to bring Puget Sound back into balance for all of us.

Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Leo Sooter
550 102nd Ave Se Apt 7
bellevue, WA 98004

Thank you for an opportunity to comment.

I can respond from the perspective of a 35 year resident of Olympia who drives by the lake, on average, at least 6 days a week. I really, really would prefer to see the lake dredged and managed. It's an aesthetic issue for me. I just see it as a beautiful body of water best enjoyed by the public as a managed lake.

Loren Steffen
1401 Eastview Court NW
Olympia, Washington 98502

Dear Mr. Jones

I am writing to express my enthusiasm at this morning's news that the CLAMP steering committee is recommending the estuary option. When thinking long term, this option has clear benefits over maintaining an artificial lake. The other day my five year old daughter asked me, "Mama, is this world going to have a happy ending?" Well, it is the kind of vision brought forth in the estuary option that makes me feel like I might be able to answer "yes" to that question. Imagine a Capitol city with a functioning estuary right in its downtown core. What a gem, and what a feather in Olympia's cap. I can

think of no better way to instill a sense of place for what the northwest is all about in our area's children than providing access to a unique marine ecosystem every day in their own downtown.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,
Emily J. Teachout

To CLAMP:

My husband and I live on the Westside of Olympia and walk the lake almost every day. From an aesthetic point of view, an estuary just won't do! Milfoil and all, the lake is a good-looking site for residents and visitors alike. We can't imagine the benefit to downtown to have a mud flat 2 blocks from the center of the city for many hours most days. The site was originally changed from an estuary to the reflecting lake certainly, in part, because it was such an EYESORE! And it didn't smell all that good either.

The city and state have put a lot of money into making the lakeside an attractive site. An estuary, no matter how it's planted, would be a giant step back. We vote for the managed lake option. Expensive, yes, but much better for the city in the long run.

Barbara and Jim Theiss
1115 5th AVE SW
Olympia WA 98502
360-357-8934

I know that the estuary is more "natural" but people have been modifying their environment for as long as we have known how to harness fire. We have lots of other estuaries; let's keep this beautiful landmark.

Thanks,
Martin

Martin O. Waldron
Program Manager
Software Development Group
ImageSource, Inc.
Phone 360.943.9273
Mobile 360.239.3340
www.imagesourceinc.com

I enjoy walking and running around the lake during the week. It's a bummer that the lake stinks and isn't cleaned up or maintained. Trash floating in the lake and recently it smells like dead animals and

feces. Mosquito's and Nats are a major problem as well. The wildlife is enjoyable and should be maintained in harmony with the human uses.
Today it seems like the lake could use some cleanup and maintenance along the east side.

Thanks for posting the sign and soliciting feedback.

Shadrach White

Chief Technology Officer

ImageSource, Inc.

Phone 360.943.9273

Mobile 360.239.2142

www.ilinxcapture.com

www.nexusecm.com

Capitol Lake is an essential part of downtown. It is a place many people and animals go for many different reasons. I do not want to see it go. I also do not want another bridge. Please do not change the downtown to cause people that live near there more traffic hassles and such. If environmental cleaning needs to happen, fine, but don't take away our lake and our children's only Lake in Olympia downtown to enjoy.

Please leave the lake. Why do we always need to give in to nuts who want to turn back the clock on everything. Consider for a moment all the money and reputation we have invested on the lake. I recognize money and taxes mean nothing to you as you will raise them anytime, but it is something to consider.

Dave and Lois Williams

Constituent writes in support to dredge Capitol Lake.

Dear Administration,

The current gem of Olympia, Capitol Lake, will turn to stinking mud if have an estuary. Look at the photos of Olympia before the Lake was created ---- there is nothing attractive visually (and certainly won't be olfactory). It also seems stupid to waste more money UNDOING what has been created and then have to dredge the mud out of the BAY instead of the LAKE. (And if we lose the marina, we lose completely). **Right now the downtown is struggling along - without the beautiful lake and marina area to attract hundreds of people daily, there will be much fewer people coming downtown. That is guaranteed.**

We are environmental health supporters, but this idea does not seem to be worth it at all.

Sincerely,

Cynthia and Christopher Wolfe

NOTE: The 155 people listed below provided the following email.

I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary. Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP) is currently evaluating management options for the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary basin. As a CLAMP Steering Committee member, you have a historic opportunity to decide on the restoration of the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

Over the past 150 years, we have lost more than 95% of the estuarine wetlands in lower Budd Inlet and over 75% of the river estuarine marshes in Puget Sound. If we are to reach the states goal of restoring Puget Sound to health by 2020, every city, every town, every municipality, every agency and every citizen must make local decisions for the benefit of the entire Sound.

Restoring the estuary would:

1. Allow much the same recreational opportunities as the current lake.
2. Cost millions less than maintaining the lake even when infrastructure and costs for maintaining marina and port berths by dredging is included.
3. The north basin of the current lake would retain water for reflecting the capitol building most of the time.
4. Be the second largest restoration project ever undertaken in Puget Sound and it would be right on the state capitol campus thus showing that Washington really does have the will to lead Puget Sound recovery.
5. Create habitat for ten imperiled priority species and habitats, but, unfortunately, worsen conditions for four freshwater using species.

Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Lydia Garvey
429 S 24th
Clinton, OK 73601

miguel ramos
3219 pinewood ave #c7
bellingham, WA 98225

Nancy A. Hogan
3315 Tahoma Pl W #1
University Place, WA 98466-1620

Mary Koehler
6225 Palatine Ave N
Seattle, WA 98103

Sheila Brown
19834 Vashon Highway
Vashon, WA 98070

Alexander Flemmer
9502 6th Av NW
Seattle , WA 98117

Vanassa Lundheim
5304 Beverly Lane
Everett, WA 98203

Genevieve Knowlton
641 Shine Road
Port Ludlow, WA 98365

Trudy Springer
308 Wilson St. NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Lori Carter
23220 131 AVE. S.E.
Snohomish, WA 98296

Corinne Salcedo
4303 Kingsway
Anacortes, WA 98221-3287

Katya Difani
1012 NE 90th St.- Upper Apt.
Seattle, WA 98115

Kim Figlar-Barnes
212 S 4th Street
Elma, WA 98541

Ian Nimmo
911 N Union Ave
Tacoma, WA 98406

Kevin O'Halloran
5641 Keystone Pl N
Seattle, WA 98103

Rob Masonis
8543 19th Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98117

A.E. White
2330 - 43rd ave east
Seattle , WA 98112

Nancy Israel
5005 Landes Street
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Josiah Erickson Jr
6547 20th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115-6943

Robert Whitehorn
2207 3rd Ave. W.
Seattle, WA 98119

Mr. and Mrs. David Gladstone
P.O. Box 803
Snohomish, WA 98291

Jon Morgan
801 E. Harrison St. #305
Seattle, WA 98102

Matt Kite
4303 S. 7th St.
Tacoma, WA 98405

Deirdre & Jay McCrary
3752 E Marion St
Seattle, WA 98122-5263

Gabrielle Byrne
403 Fir St NE
Olympia, WA 98506

keith hutchings
7329 Vashon Place SW
seattle, WA 98136

Paulette Doulatshahip
4525 Ferncroft Road
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Evelyn Lewis
4812 S. Alaska Street
Seattle, WA 98118

Jan Stewart
14613 9th Place NE
Shoreline, WA 98155-7040

mgan kjgajn
ogajnl
ojnga, ot 33510

Marie Weis
248 Shorewood Ct
Fox Island, WA 99333

Krista Nielsen
15617 SE 171 Place
Renton, WA 98058

Mary Sue Walker
1811 N. 44th St.
Seattle, WA 98103

Lawrence Stocks
4932 123rd Street SW, Apt.L4
Lakewood, WA 98499-3652

Evelyn von Reis Crooks
5150 Deerpath Lane NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Liam Antrim
207 Pond Lane
Sequim, WA 98382

beverly skeffington
25910 stucky avenue sw
vashon, WA 98070

Mr. Shelley Dahlgren, PhD
4449 242nd Ave. S. E.
Issaquah, WA 98029

Joan Schmidt
4506 Providence Point Place SE
Issaquah, WA 98029

Ilona Lindsay
117 E. Louisa St. #306
Seattle, WA 98102

Hugh Harkins
2909 Birchwood Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98225

Ali Cooley
PO BOX 253
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

D Gordon Graham
5018 97th Place SW

cynthia cavalle
2410 N.202nd Pl. A102
Shoreline, WA 98133

Elizabeth Tomicki
1114 Republican St. #3
Seattle, WA 98109

Michael Lippman
1428 36th AVE
Seattle, WA 98122

Joel Rogers
8324 19th Ave. NW.
Seattle, WA 98117

Patricia Murphy
8835 Burke Ave N
Seattle, WA 98103

Sidney Brinckerhoff
13102 SE 26th Street
Bellevue, WA 98005

Jamie Wine
4120 Palatine Ave N
Seattle, WA 98103

Dorothy Guth
716 2nd Street
Kirkland, WA 98033

Angel Quiles
17719 Pacific Av S PMB 386
Spanaway, WA 98387

Hailey MacKay
1311 Bancroft St
Bellingham, WA 98225

Laura Lundgren
4233 E. Lee Street
Seattle, WA 98112

Laurette Culbert
5123 2nd Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98107

Leah Eister-Hargrave
1010 N Allen Pl
Seattle, WA 98103

Allison Ciancibelli
240 Twisp River Rd.
Twisp, WA 98856

Sue Hartman
2123 N 63rd Street
Seattle, WA 98103

Gilbert R. Ward
7501 11th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98106

Andrew Rosenthal
9811 192nd st SE
Snohomish, WA 98296

Angela Wallis
1304 E. Harrison St. Apt. 6
Seattle, WA 98102

Thomas Krugman
4724 118th Loop SW
Olympia, WA 98512

Joan Wright
2525 Bethel St. N.E.
Olympia, WA 98506

Ravi Grover
POB 802103
Chicago, IL 60680

Christie Hammond
8369
Clinton, WA 98236

John Atwill
4515 N. 37th St
Tacoma, WA 98407

Melody HAUF
2119 n 36TH st
Seattle, WA 98103

joel mulder
1114 8th ave w
seattle, WA 98119

Viana Daven
4139 12th Ave. NE #401
Seattle, WA 98105

art james
2250 sidney ave.
port orchard, WA 98366

Cameron Karsten
3390 Crystal Springs Dr NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Rebecca Wolfe
1124 Second Avenue S.
Edmonds, WA 98020

Barbara Gicking
1855 NW 137th Ave
Portland, OR 97229

Norman Baker
3789 Lost Mountain Road
s, WA 98382

jim shannon
4648 86th ave se
mercier island, WA 98040

Steve Scott
16737 235th Avenue, SE
Issaquah, WA 98027-8449

murray mccory
21 wagon trail road
tonasket, WA 98855

Nicole Whitney
4165 Salt Spring Dr
Ferndale, WA 98248

Mike Walling
12415 Woodland ave east
Puyallup, WA 98373

Dorothy Swarts
8501 SE 61st St
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Sara Gagnon
444 Gagnon Rd
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Gloria Skouge
326 NW 182nd Street
Shoreline, WA 98177

Mana Iluna
4415 145th Ave. NE H-2
Bellevue, WA 98007

Ahlyshawndra Means
1057 S Southern Street
Seattle, WA 98108-4443

Rebecca Evans
632 NW 75th St.
Seattle, WA 98117

Rusty & Candice West
1622 NE Perkins Way
Shoreline, WA 98155

heather rackley
1718 53rd ave se.
olympia, WA 98501

Alice Royer
508 NW 43rd
Seattle, WA 98107

Zandra Saez
1805 E. 34th Ave.
Spokane, WA 99203

Harrison Grathwohl
5507 258 Ave. NE

Kimberly Christensen
3827 Bagley Ave. N
Seattle, WA 98103

Wade Higgins
2200 NE 10th Place #23
Renton, WA 98056

Maia Eisen
6211 29th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98115

Susan Stillwell
1313 Hays Ave. NW
Olympia, WA 98502

Jerry Lyszak
16663 SE 17th Pl.
Bellevue, WA 98008

Randall Post
212 9th. Ave. N.
Algona, WA 98001-4323

Deb Lester
1046 NE 89th St
Seattle, WA 98115

Gus Tombros
4312 234th St NE
Arlington, WA 98223-7686

Kimberly Leeper
6522 - 43rd. Ave. S.

Elizabeth Gorton
2026 East Libra Drive
Tempe, AZ 85283

Sallie Teutsch
1961 26th ave e
seattle, WA 98112-3015

Mark Quinn
9327 24th St SE
Olympia, WA 98513

Marcia Monma
PO Box 680
Clinton, WA 98236

Jim Johansen
6022 178
lynnwood, WA 98037

Rebecca Sundberg
830 Gleason Lane
Langley, WA 98260

Scott Bridge
9406 232nd Street SW - Unit B
Edmonds, WA 98020

Diane Shaughnessy
1528 22nd ST NE
Auburn, WA 98002

David L. Edwards , M.D.
1607 East Bay Drive,N.E.
Olympia, WA 98506

Shane Robinson
2814 E. Olive St.
Seattle, WA 98122

Patricia Rodgers
8121 NE 141st Street
Bothell, WA 98011

Anne Wang
11529 12th AVE NE - #H
Seattle, WA 98125

Sarah French
2738 NE 91st St
Seattle, WA 98115

Jesica DiCione
17763 15th Ave NE Apt 313
Shoreline, WA 98155

Linda Petersen
2722 Glendale
University Place, WA 98466

Keith Houser
4223 163rd Ave SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

Linda York
13029 15th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98125

Karin Nelson
3525 SW Austin St
Seattle, WA 98126

Markus Kolb
119 NW 41st Street
Seattle, WA 98107

melodie martin
2339 11th ave east
seattle, WA 98102

Sally Hodson
P.O. Box 409
Oly

Richard Bergner
15515 Yokeko
Anacortes, WA 98221

Lorraine Hartmann
10627 Durland NE
SEATTLE, WA 98125

Cameron Karsten
3390 Crystal Springs Dr NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Rebecca Wolfe
1124 Second Avenue S.
Edmonds, WA 98020

Barbara Gicking
1855 NW 137th Ave
Portland, OR 97229

cris feringer
3054 Lily Lake Road
Bow, WA 98232

SHARY BOZIED
1950 ALASKAN WAY

Jennifer Hisrich

Brian Larson

NOTE: The following people added the following text to the preceding email.

I understand that your committee will recommend how Capitol Lake will be managed. I have included the suggested text from a group supporting the restoration of the Deschutes Estuary, for you information. In addition to these points, please also consider the contribution of a restored estuary and healthy Puget Sound to the health of the nearby ocean. I am very concerned about ocean acidification due to high carbon dioxide levels in our atmosphere. We should be doing everything we can to restore the health of Puget Sound and the oceans, while these systems are under such stress from climate change. Please listen to the science and do the responsible thing for the welfare of our children and grandchildren. It is my opinion that the long term concern for the health of ocean ecosystems outweighs transitory issues, particularly if the competing benefit is to a limited group. Thanks. Here are more good reasons to consider restoring the estuary.

Donna Albert
608 W. Broadway
Montesano, WA 98563

Please do not decide to dredge Capital Lake to restore it. It will only become a financial black hole.

Norman Baker
3789 Lost Mountain Road
Sequim, WA 98382

My wife and I canoe Capitol Lake. In the past there has been an impressive amount of belted kingfishers. This year we have seen not a single one. I have also noted a decline in the size and quantity of forage (fish) available to them. If you paddle to mid-lake and put your paddle straight down in the water it will touch bottom at about two feet. There is no way that the existing conditions will support the pre-existing natural eco system in the right now let alone a few years from now. Do not spend money to dredge the lake (as if you have it). Spend any money allocated to the lake to address returning the area to it's original state. That is; pre-European reflecting lake ego state.

Dana Burt
7842 S Asotin
Tacoma, WA 98408

It does seem to me, given everything, to be the very best course of action. Let's do it!

Carol Cassinelli
7019 28th N.E.
Seattle, WA 98115

Let's do our part to fix Puget Sound one bay at a time. Please allow the Deschutes to return to its natural state, flowing directly into Puget Sound. Currently, the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan Steering Committee (CLAMP), of which the City of Olympia is a member, is evaluating management options for the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary basin. The Olympia City Council has the historic opportunity to weigh in on the future of the estuary and they are currently reviewing their options. It is critical that they hear from members of the public who support a healthy Puget Sound and a beautiful estuary at the heart of Olympia.

Wanda Cucinotta

consultant/ WMBW Volunteer
2303 Tuttle Lane
Lummi Island, WA 98262

I'm all for decisions that benefit Puget Sound and that increase the bio-diversity and richness of the natural area. I think this proposal does that.

Julia Derby

5108 Keystone Place N
Seattle, WA 98103

Great message, please listen, then go into action!

s e fox

p o box 2154
silverdale, WA 98383

I am a two-time graduate of The Evergreen State College. Olympia is very dear to me; however, as I have been studying Pacific Northwest ecology for a very long time, I can tell you that I am no fan of Capitol Lake. I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary. As your Steering Committee (CLAMP) is evaluates management options for the Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary basin, you have a historic opportunity to decide on the restoration of the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

Nancy Gleason

7332 24th Ave NW
Seattle, WA 98117

Maintianing the man made Capitol Lake is expensive and doesn't help with the regions ecosystem. I hope that you will support removal of the damn allowing the Deschutes river to run its course naturally.

Thank you.

gina hicks

1136 13th ave apt c
seattle, WA 98122

I am writing to urge you to support efforts to fully restore the Deschutes Estuary by removing Capitol Lake and restore the estuary in a manner that is consistent with recreational uses of the area and the ecological health of Puget Sound.

Please support a management plan that is focused on restoring the Deschutes River Estuary.

Arnold Jolles

4113 Evanston Ave. N.
Seattle, WV 98103

Please restore the estuary that originally existed at Budd Inlet. The ecology of the area needs this estuary to maintain its health.

We need areas like the estuary, which mingles fresh and salt water, for many forms of aquatic life. We have lost many such areas and are in danger of losing many of the forms of life that need them.

I would like the look of it better than the current geometric reflecting pool. It is always better to have a natural area than a contrived one. It's always more beautiful

I understand it would be cheaper, too.

Thank you for your attention.

Janet Jordan

6702 Garrett Court NE
Olympia, WA 98506

This is a pivotal time if we are committed to begin the restoration of the precious natural and human resource we have in a healthy Puget Sound. The CLAMP committee can foster a real and meaningful positive change for this great asset and the citizens of Washington.

scott minckler
5607 beverly lane
everett, WA 98203

Ban the dam. Take it down and restore the waters.

Allison Ostrer
625 SW 155th St
Burien, WA 88166

It makes no sense to perpetuate an artificial lake at great monetary and ecological expense.

In the long term Mother Nature bats last. Give a helping hand to a management plan that will have its own version of beauty and be a working partner in water quality at the same time.

Although we are not residents of Olympia we are greatly concerned about the health of Puget Sound and the rivers, streams and wetlands that feed it. We have noticed the deterioration of the water quality of Capitol Lake over the years and as members of People for Puget Sound agree for all the reasons listed below that restoration of the estuary is the best plan for going forward in the effort to insure the health of the Sound.

Joel and Lucinda Wingard
3604 121st St. Ct. NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98332

As a professional writer and photographer of Puget Sound for 30 years I think the thought of returning the Deschutes Estuary to the Sound a startlingly good idea. As a CLAMP Steering Committee member, your decision to restore the estuary will be a shot in the arm for the health of Puget Sound.

Paula Wood
1144 N 83rd St
Seattle, WA 98103

Save money AND restore a healthy system? Sign me up! And yourself, too. Thanks.

Christy Zimsen
930 Ash Pl.
Bremerton, WA 98310

IV. Website Comments

The Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) has a significant web presence on the General Administration’s web site. www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake “Capitol Lake” is listed under the Projects & Initiatives category. From there The Capitol Lake site is divided into Parks, Management, and News and Events. [See Below]

Under the Management category is the “Feedback” button. This takes you to the GA Feedback page, which has been preloaded with Capitol Lake in the subject category.



At General Administration, your feedback is important to us. Fill out the information below and click "Submit" to send your comments. You will be contacted within 2 working days. If your feedback is urgent, please see [Contact GA](#) for a list of phone numbers.

*Subject:

Comment

*Feedback Type: Complaint Information Request

*Priority:

*Comments:

*First Name: *Last Name:

*Phone:
Area Code Phone Number

*Email:

Organization:

* Required Fields

SUBMIT

During the CLAMP review process, GA encouraged the use of the Feedback pages as a way of collecting community comments. The signs that were installed around the north basins, which are further discussed in Section V, all contained the website address. Also, GA's notification of the public workshop contained the website address.

The comments listed below were from June 1 to July 15, 2009. There were a total of 90 comments. The anonymous comments (55 of 90) have been grouped together. The remaining comments were alphabetized for ease of organization.

When all 90 website comments are combined:

- 1 or 1% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 41 or 46% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 22 or 24% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 10 or 10% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 20 or 22% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

From the 55 anonymous website comments:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 20 or 36% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 15 or 27% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 9 or 9% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 15 or 27% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

From the 35 website comments that provided their name:

- 1 or 3% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 21 or 60% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 7 or 20% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 1 or 3% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 5 or 14% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

There are a few general observations that can be drawn for these comments. Comments received on the GA website were far ranging and diverse. A list of topics addressed is provided below ranked by the frequency of discussion. The number one topic discussed in web comments was the financial aspects of the various alternatives. Commenters discussed these topics from highly divergent perspectives. It was not uncommon for commenters to present opposing conclusions using the same set of information within the same topic area.

- Financial aspect
- Aesthetics
- Water Quality
- Sediment management

- Flooding
- The superiority of natural systems
- Habitat
- A sense of identity
- Recreation
- Odors

Anonymous - Water Quality: I would like to see a managed lake. A mud flat is a mud flat regardless of what you call it.

Anonymous - I am concerned about the odor of mud flats.

Anonymous- It's worth the compromise - both a lake and estuary... fish, people and view.

Anonymous - A key element is cleaning up the Deschutes this is the pollution source not the lake which just passively collects the junk. Clear it out and keep the lake

Anonymous - Keep the lake, keep the dam and monitoring might be helpful.

Anonymous - Water quality is better with an estuary.

Anonymous - To improve water quality you need to focus on:

- -Temp
- -phosphates-
- -phospharon
- -other MDL element

Anonymous - Don't take the dam out

Anonymous - Long term sustenance of WA and the whole Pacific NW economy will continue to depend on the value we place on preserving and restoring our natural systems. Olympia specifically has unbound potential to attract people as the general public continues to gain ecological awareness. Valuing the environment will be mainstream and old hat. Jump the gun and restore the estuary.

Anonymous - The 2008 DOE water quality study indicated that the estuary may improve DO. How the "may" has disappointed so drop the may----

Anonymous - Maintain the lake and dredge it. You haven't done this for the past 20+ years as was supposed to have been. This state doesn't seem to understand the word "maintenance"

Anonymous - In favor of keeping the lake

Anonymous - Work for legislation regulation to control upstream sources-esp. septic and chemicals.

Anonymous - The lake front property needs to have more regulations on development/ Private properties along the waterfront putting bulkheads in not good.

Anonymous - This is the bottom of Puget Sound. Making an estuary will not improve dissolved Oxygen.

Anonymous - Keep it a lake.

Anonymous - It is all about water temp. Opening the dam is not going to reduce water temp. in the Deschutes river

Anonymous - Manage the lake properly. Many pollutants are collected in the lake, if the dam is removed these will flow into the inlet. It is easier to manage this in the lake rather than the inlet.

Anonymous - The dual basin option seems like the best solution. It fits with the broader vision of the Puget Sound Partnership in terms of Budd H2O quality.

Anonymous - The dual alternative just makes sense all the way around.

Anonymous - I would like to see the estuary be considered in the overall plan.

Anonymous - The majority of pollution comes from up stream. Destroying the lake/dam will not improve water quality to the same extent it will destroy quality of life for Olympia.

Anonymous - Flooding isn't only a problem when people build in the wrong place.

Anonymous - Nature made it an estuary. The birds and fish need it. You could sell it by referring regularly to Nisqually

Anonymous - Keep the dam!! Where would the silt go if it was removed?

Anonymous - The city of Olympia as thrived on the lake designed 60 yrs ago!! It was as a mud flat before- why take it back. Many areas and businesses would lose their income.

Anonymous - Flooding risk is a huge and immensely important issue!! A lake will reduce the risk, so we should choose this option but still, we will need to expand the dam before 2050.

Anonymous - It sounds like any "increase flood risk on estuary is fairly minimal and easily addressed with increased berm if needed. I understand the berm is already high enough to with stand the 100yr flood. Raising the berm with sediment would be a great solution

Anonymous - With increased upstream development, the flooding risk increases every year. Removal of the dam seems like the most reasonable solution when we consider this and the other factors.

Anonymous - Leave the dam, manage the lake. A mud flat is still a mud flat regardless of what you call it.

Anonymous - Why not put some ponds above Tumwater Falls. There is a lot of room to do that.

Anonymous - The flood gates are there to be used - DO NOT TURN THIS INTO A SWAMP!!!!!!!!!!!!1

Anonymous - Flooding continues to be a concern. GA has done a good job of controlling water and predicting water flow in advance of water getting to Capitol Lake. Keeping the dam will help continue to manage water flow.

Anonymous - Add another flood gate or two to the dam. Cheap alternative.

Anonymous - Managing the sediment is the issue!!! Mud Flats are not wanted

Anonymous - Restore the estuary. An estuary is sediment management. It is the recipient to the Deschutes sediment. It should be allowed to return to a natural functioning system

Anonymous - Manage the area and keep a lake please

Anonymous - If dredging will occur anyway let's find ways to manage the contamination.

Anonymous - Let the sediment flow through. State Government has more important responsibilities than endless dredging fully fund public education

Anonymous - More thought needs to be put into controls on sediment transport in the portions of the lake

Anonymous - A better name for this estuary would be swamp with its ideas and ugliness Sedimentation of. Budd inlet will result in lawsuits against the state and loss of water dependent and business as well as city merchants

Anonymous - I would like to see a healthier habitat and less cost. I am for a return closer to nature and for having our lives enriched by it. Everyone can benefit from the beauty and enhancement to the city and our Capitol.

Anonymous - I would prefer it to be a managed lake... with a real budget to maintain it.

Anonymous - Restoring tidal exchange and making Capitol Lake into an estuary seems to be the most reasonable solution. Events in the area can still take place contingent on tides and wildlife remaining in the area. Wvery on wilns. The outlay might be high, once the bay is cleaned out and the bridge is replaced things should continue to work

Anonymous - Scientifically, economically, socially and in any way a logical person evaluates things, the estuary is the only option worth considering.

Anonymous - Common sense dictates doing any type of natural solution over a managed lake. A lake is not a sensible solution! Period! We need to get real here. By the way, it currently is not a lake. It is a containment area for pollution.

Anonymous - With the future costs of maintaining a lake in mind, as well as the current reality that the lake is not a lake but a polluted cess-pool, it just doesn't make sense to continue the up-keep. Let up

give back to this area that we have all called home. Let's make it an estuary and create a living watershed.

Anonymous - You can only manage nature for so long and then it eventually it repairs itself. Please help heal Budd Inlet and remove the dam.

Anonymous - I think both estuary and dual basin options would be as beautiful and more interesting than the managed lake.

Anonymous - Three good reasons for a managed lake:

1. Less flooding risk, especially if we expand dam + dredge frequently
2. The very identity of Olympia and the Capitol campus is dependent on down town and Capitol Lake.
3. Cost of any option is high. If we are going to do anything besides status quo, Lake makes the most sense.

Anonymous - I live on the bluff above the lake and look at it every day. We love the view and full lake. However, I can see some great potential for the dual basin proposal to restore wildlife and bring original species back. I really enjoy the evv and flow of salt water too. I think it could be very positive to remove the dam. It would also appear to ease the dredging problem.

Anonymous - Terminology of status quo and marsh is not consistent and is now confusing

Anonymous - While the managed lake is attractive, it does not provide the array of long-term benefits we would otherwise see with the estuary. This area will be returned to an estuary if not by your group, another more enlightened body in decades to come. Save us money and restore it now rather than later.

Anonymous - The managed lake option may prove to be cost intensive, placing unneeded strain on an already troubled budget. The estuary however will come with federal funding and will require less long term maintenance.

Anonymous - I think highly of the dual basin estuary. I think that will please the public who use this area to walk and restore the estuary to its natural habitat, condition.

Lisa Bausch - I do not think that the planners of the early Capitol campus intended for a swamp or mud flat to be below it. I think spending money to either maintain the lake as is or make it more useful, are tax dollars well spent. This impacts not only the campus, but also the City of Olympia, the Port of Olympia, the State of Washington, people that walk or use the park, that have houses that overlook the lake, that boat, and those that visit this city and our State capitol. I do not want to have a big mud flat that is home for a bunch of bugs in the middle of our Capitol city. We have one of those out on Mud Bay already.

Sherri Bentley - I support the return of Capitol Lake to an estuary--while the aesthetic idea of the lake is nice, it is not as aesthetic as many folks think--it is a dead lake--and while I don't necessarily like the

smell of mudflats either, I firmly believe that we should let nature do what it does best regarding healthy water systems.

Harper Casper - I vote for managed lake, Please keep me informed of meeting or discussion on this matter.

Denis Curry - We need to preserve Capitol Lake, or at least the lower part of the lake. It appears that the decks are being stacked in favor of the estuary option. For example, the June 16 edition of The Olympian contained an article with the headline "Capitol Lake option costlier than estuary". Unfortunately it did not tell the whole story. A review of the documents available at the GA website indicates some of the reasons for the higher cost.

The first is that the "Managed Lake" option calls for dredging the entire lake back to the Deschutes channel. The committee refused to consider an option calling for dredging just the lower lake. The second is the plan to dredge to 13 feet, not a lesser depth that would cost much less. Finally, the cost of the Lake option is higher by inaction of the state over the past five years while the study has been underway. At an average of 35,000 cubic yards per year this had added 175,000 cubic yards already and will increase before any action is taken. Including the cost of doing what should have been done earlier inflates the cost of the Lake option. This is similar to doing no maintenance on your car for several years and finding that it will cost less to scrap it than to repair what should have been done earlier.

The committee needs to recognize that the costs associated with deferral of dredging need to be separated from the cost comparison. Yes, those costs will exist but they are a result of inaction and need to be considered separately

If costs become the critical issue, the committee should consider dredging to a lower depth or an alternative that would allow the portion of the lake south of Marathon Park to become a downstream section of the Deschutes with the banks created from dredging the lower lake

Beth Davis - Several times each week I drive Deschutes Parkway around the lake. There are always people walking around the reflective part of the lake and quite often along the stretch of the lake that connects with the river. I rarely see people using the interpretive center at the river end of the lake where they have access to a more "natural" environment. The heaviest use there appears to be in the fall when the birds are on the move.

I understand that either option is going to cost us money. However, I believe it important to retain at least the reflective part of the lake as a lake -- perhaps the other part could be returned to estuary status. But we have spent a lot of money over the years developing the area around the reflective area to make it appeal to and safe for people who want to make the walk as part of their daily exercise. In addition, we have an annual event that takes place on the shores of the lake. Somehow Mudfair does not have the same cache as Lakefair. Aesthetically, I believe the reflective part of the lake is important to maintain, and I hope that you will maintain it as a lake.

Ramona (Mona) DeCoy - One of the highlights of our community is the beautiful Capitol Lake. I urge you to do whatever is necessary to keep our lake. The thought of turning it into an estuary makes our family sick. The lake brings so much pleasure to our citizens as we picnic in the park, walk and jog around the lake, and are inspired by the reflection of the Capitol and city in its surface. We are proud to bring our relatives and friends to visit the lake and Percival Landing. If we are trying to enhance our

downtown, an estuary will certainly not add to its appeal. Our economy will definitely suffer from the sight and smell, if the basin becomes an estuary. Please do not do this.

Richard Durkin - I have not heard anyone consider the placement of a jetty that would direct the sediment past the Budd Inlet Harbor, to allow for a centralized dredging program, a tourist attraction and less disruptive moorage situation. I cannot be the only one to think of this, the practice of a jetty protecting a harbor is common sense around the world.

Richard Emde - second alternative.....dredge

Peter Epperson - Please adopt the Dual Basin Estuary or Estuary plan. The status quo is not an option

Jim Godfrey - Let's keep Capitol Lake and not make it an estuary...thank you

Fred Goldberg - 360-791-5111 - I live at 2227 Water SW...My mother...Eva Goldberg at 301 West 21st.....We are opposed to restoring the lake to an estuary...We lived here during the time that mud flats and stink was the majority of our daily view and smell...While an estuary sounds romantic and very "Green" and natural...the views and smells are not very attractive...This could possibly interfere with property values. We will have a very proactive view on the subject of deterioration of property values ...The lake was a commitment to make the State Capitol setting a pastoral one...That commitment had costs which were anticipated...but deemed worthwhile...The only change is present day costs have accelerated...This should not surprise anyone.

Heidi Gomes - More birds will keep bug populations down, and in doing so, reduce disease vectors.

Linda Hamilton - Capital lake should be an estuary (restore tidal action by dredging sediment; remove the dam and constructing a new 5th Avenue Bridge), but before anything else is done, Lakefair needs to be moved to another location. Our limited tax resources should not be spent to repair the yearly damage done to our beautiful park by Lakefair traffic. Move the carnival to another location - no more motor vehicles on the grassy areas.

Cory Hofland - I'm all for the lake being an estuary.

Llene James - Having been born and raised in Olympia, and having some fabulous time swimming in Capitol Lake, I find it very, very frustrating that for over 30 years there have been nothing but costly, time-consuming STUDIES done about what, if anything, to do regarding the lake. Had all the money from those studies gone in to FIXING the lake, we'd probably be swimming in it right now. The Legislature and G.A. have wasted too much time, and way too many tax dollars on discussing, studying, discussing, etc ad nauseum...just DO SOMETHING without wasting more money and time. This is the most ridiculous and wasteful thing we've all been putting up with for too many years!

Mark Johnson - I would like to see either Capitol Lake remain intact or a combination of the lake and a river estuary. I do not support returning the lake to an estuary only.
Thank you.

Mike Johnson - I grew up in Olympia and after leaving for college have returned to live and raise my family. Capitol Lake is an important civic asset. The lake and Heritage Park provide an important

outdoor recreation area for residents particularly those with families. I would urge General Administration to maintain the lake and not turn it into a muddy estuary.

Andrea Latham - Don't get rid of the lake!!

Sue Lyle - I feel strongly that Capitol Lake should remain a beautiful reflecting pond, and not be turned into an estuary. The reflecting pond is a thing of beauty at all times of day, and has been I moved here in the 70's. Please keep it that way.

Sandra Maki - Why all the guess work regarding which would be the best use of the Capitol Lake area? OPEN THE DAM. No one knows what the stream--it was not a river when I was growing up here--looks like now or how the tide will affect the lake basin. Open it up for a few months. May the stench of mud flats will help decide.

Bob Mitchell - As a resident of Olympia for many years, I'm passionately supportive of maintaining Capitol Lake as a lake. Please bring this annual debate to a close and keep the lake a fixture of our Capitol City.

Judy Olmstead - Dredging Capitol Lake: The current technical report gives a July to March time window to dredge the lake. Pregnant and then nursing female bats are feeding over the lake in July and August. Please dredge in the September to March time window!

John Parry - Turning the northern reflecting pond into an estuary would ruin one of Olympia's most scenic landmarks. The lake and surrounding Heritage Park provide great pleasure for the people of the Olympia area.

The comparative costs of the lake vs. an estuary shouldn't drive this decision. The potential loss of this valuable community asset and its significant role in Olympia life should drive the decision. Please don't let us lose the northern reflecting pond.

Stuart Reed - I would like to voice my opinion that Capitol Lake be returned to a natural estuary/tide land. Most everyone I know thinks so ... it would make the trail around it more interesting because of increased wildlife, help us cope with the global warming threat of more flooding, help towards restoring the health of Puget Sound, and cost much less in the long run. It just makes sense. My family and I have lived here our whole lives and know many others who also have, and this is what we want, what the salmon want, and what the water wants. Thank you for your consideration.

Lois Sauvage - My preference would be (in the current economy) to go with the "status quo" until such time that a "managed lake" is financially possible or absolutely required for emergent reasons. Having improved the surrounding Heritage Park to such a beautiful and refined place to stroll, I feel that a reasonably clean and reflective lake, as we now know it, would be enjoyable for locals and a destination for tourists.

Gary Scholes, MD - I am concerned about the CLAMP committee's recommendation to convert the beautiful lake we have into an estuary. I am strongly in favor of keeping the lake as it is, with dredging to sustain it; or allow the portion of the lake South of the bridge to fill in, and retain the Northern portion of the lake (one option considered). The impact to boating in the basin would be substantial, with marked loss of tax and lease revenue, by markedly reducing the available area for recreational boating.

In addition it would reduce the Port's functions without frequent, costly dredging. By removing the 4th avenue dam, we would merely trade dredging in a confined, known area (the lake), to an unknown area in the Southern portion of Budd Bay. Computer predictions are merely that. In addition, I have asked many long-term residents what they thought of the area where the lake is, before the dam was put in. Almost all said it smelled, and was not a positive attribute for downtown. That last comment is crucial, as other studies which look at restoring an estuary, are not in a downtown, urban environment! One cannot compare Nisqually delta or Mud Bay to downtown Olympia. The tide is out half the time, and the mud flats are not pleasing to the eye or nose. Finally, if salmon spawning returns to downtown Olympia, so will thousands of dead salmon, which decay on the shores for months every year. A quick glance at Southern Mud Bay shows that each season. Save the Lake!!

Michael Snyder - Please continue to manage the lake as is and dredge as necessary. I do not want the area to turn into a marsh. The lake provides a beautiful outdoor setting to bring family and friends. The changes proposed would make downtown much less appealing to me. I would not like to see it changed. Other than a few loud voices, I don't believe the majority of the community wants it changed either. Thanks for your time.

Rick Taylor - The opinion printed in the Olympian on June 17th mirrors my opinion. We have taken a long time to build, and are still developing, Heritage Park. Let's not undo many years of work and foul up our economy. I think we have spent enough money on studies on this matter. Here's a copy of the editorial by Rick Taylor.

Sue Victory - Please maintain Capitol Lake as a lake. I live on Capitol Blvd overlooking the southern end and walk the Lake on a daily basis. GA does an excellent job of taking care of the park so please manage it as a Lake and keep it a Lake. Sue

Dale Vincent - Please save our beautiful lake! An ugly mudflat is inconsistent with a vital downtown. I do not believe the numbers that suggest it costs less to tear out the dam. Spoils will always come down the Deschutes and will have to be dredged somewhere. Our beautiful lake has been featured as a thing of beauty on national TV. Do you think a mudflat will be the same? A thing of beauty should never be destroyed! Civilizations may be judged by how they treat beauty.

Deborah West - My husband and I usually walk around the southern areas of Capitol Lake two days a week. We are in favor of it returning to an estuary. It supports a nice population of waterfowl during the winter and spring see many soundbirds in the surrounding shrubs. Turning it into an estuary will make it even better habitat for wildlife. You do not need to contact me; I just wanted to let you know how we feel about the lake vs. estuary.

Mary Williams - I have read and thought about all the options mentioned for the lake. It is my belief that it should be kept as a managed lake. When we came to Olympia last fall we expected a gloomy rainy awful place. Instead we settled in and found the many parks and walkways, and beautifully managed areas of the city. I feel it would be a terrible loss to the city to change this area as drastically as is being discussed. We, my husband and I and our dog walk one to two of the parks along the Deschutes Parkway daily. We love it all and feel it would be a great loss to lose any of it.

Sonia Wolfman - Capitol Lake is an unsightly stagnant pond, surrounding by the sterility of a landscape lacking in vision and any sense of ecologic relationship. It needs to be restored to its natural estuarine state. Why are we spending so much state and federal money on salmon recovery only to ignore the

opportunities for salmon habitat restoration in our own backyard? Restoring the lake to a natural estuary will have the additional benefit of creating more habitats for birds and other animals, making the lake a more interesting and attractive place to visit. This one should be no-brainer.

Ed Zabel - Back in the 1970's, a dike was constructed at the SW corner of the middle basin of the lake, and an interpretive center was built near it. I remember that the area between the dike, Deschutes parkway, and the I5 overpass was to be used as a place to dump future sediments when the lake was dredged periodically. What happened to that plan?

Susan Zuelke - I would like to go on record as being against the removal of the dam and turning the lake into an estuary. I have seen pictures of Budd Inlet before the dam. I fear that the waterfront as well as the many festivals we have surrounding the waterfront will disappear as well as all the money these festivals and the boating community bring to the area. I walk often around the lake and shop locally at the market or Thriftway. I know I will find an alternate place to walk if the tide is out which is 50% of the time. I am one person but I can already see much less time spent around the lake and Budd Inlet. Please consider the potential monetary loss if people and the festivals dry up.

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V. CLAMP Public Workshop Comments

General Administration prepared a public workshop during June 2009. Hundreds of community contacts were invited via the email notification. The workshop was held in a tent on Heritage Park adjacent to Capitol Lake. Over 200 people who engaged in conversations with senior staff from the various CLAMP entities from 4:30 to 7:30 pm.

The event was arranged around the topics contained in the Alternative Analysis Report. The listening posts were divided by these topics, and the informational signs from around the lake were used as table top displays. Comments cards were collected and were summarized the various topics. Comments from the workshop can be found at the back of this section.



Greetings,

The Department of General Administration (GA) is hosting a public workshop on the future of Capitol Lake.

The workshop will be held in Heritage Park on Wednesday, June 24, under the big tent.

Drop-in between 4:30 and 7:30 PM.

The purpose of the event is to share information about the lake/estuary question and to receive comments from the public.

Please come and learn about the lake basin and let us know what you think.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations during the meeting should notify Jim Erskine at 360-902-7206 at least two days prior to the meeting.

Nathaniel Jones,
Senior Manager
General Administration

Welcome!

To the Capitol Lake Basin Open House

Please share your comments and ideas about
the future of the Capitol Lake Basin

PARTICIPATING IS EASY!

There are 9 workstations
Each station has information on topics
relating to the future of Capitol Lake.

TAKE A MOMENT TO READ EACH WORKSTATION SIGN

Each workstation also has a
representative to answer any
questions you might have
on that topic.

PLEASE RECORD YOUR COMMENT USING A WHITE CARD AND FELT-TIP PEN

Write your comment on a white card
and leave the comment at that table.



THANK YOU!!

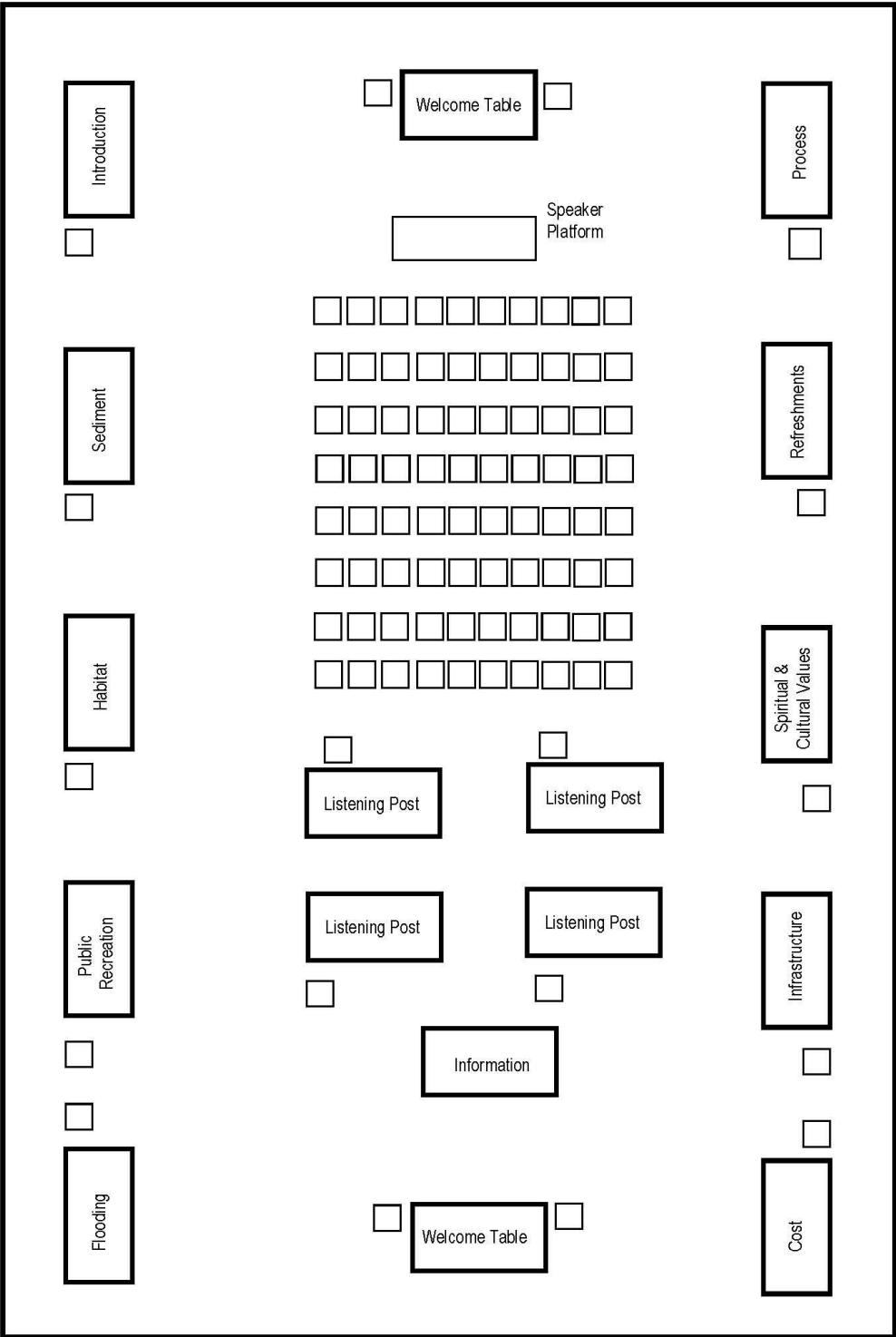


Capitol Lake Open House, June 2009
Heritage Park, Olympia, WA



Capitol Lake Open House, June 2009
Heritage Park, Olympia, WA

Tent Layout – Scale 1 to 60



PAST PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

The workshop in June 2009 was just the most recent opportunity for the community to engage in the CLAMP process. Table 2 includes a list of past CLAMP workshops.



CLAMP 2005 Annual Meeting,
Knox Center, Olympia, WA



Focus Group Meeting, March 2006
Olympia Yacht Club, Olympia, WA

Table 2 - CLAMP Public Meetings & Workshops

2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurs. Dec 4, 2003 – 7 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAMP Annual Meeting GA Building Auditorium
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed, Apr 14, 2004 – 6:30 pm • Thurs, Dec 2, 2004 – 6 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAMP Milfoil Public Hearing GA Building Auditorium CLAMP Annual Meeting Olympia Center Multipurpose Room
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurs, Dec 1, 2005 – 6:30 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAMP Annual Meeting Olympia School District Knox Center
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, Mar 7, 2006 – 6 pm • Tues, Mar 14, 2006 – 6 pm • Tues, Mar 21, 2006 – 6 pm • Wed, Nov 8, 2006 – 7 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEFS Focus Group Meeting #1 Olympia Yacht Club DEFS Focus Group Meeting #2 Olympia School District Knox Center DEFS Focus Group Public Meeting Olympia School District Knox Center - TCTV DEFS Reference Estuary & Sediment Transport Reports GA Building Foyer
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sat, Feb 3, 2007 – 10 am • Thurs, Mar 1, 2007 – 7 pm • Wed, June 20, 2007 – 7 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAMP Annual Meeting GA Building Auditorium DEFS Preliminary Engineering & Cost Estimate Report Olympia Council Chambers – TCTV DEFS Net Benefit Analysis Report Olympia Council Chambers – TCTV
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed, Feb 13, 2008 – 5:30 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLAMP Annual Meeting Olympia Council Chambers – TCTV
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed, June 24, 2008 – 4:30 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capitol Lake Basin Open House Tent in Heritage Park

CLAMP = Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan

DEFS = Deschutes Estuary Feasibility Study

INFORMATIONAL SIGNS

The Department of General Administration (GA) installed a series of nine informational signs around the north basin of Capitol Lake. The described the four options in the Alternative Analysis and the management challenges facing the lake. The signs became the listening post stations in the public workshop.

Images of these signs are provided on the following pages.

Marsh, Lake or Estuary?

Capitol Lake was created in 1951 when the state constructed a dam beneath the 5th Avenue Bridge. Before then, this area was an estuary: where the ebb and flow of Puget Sound met the Deschutes River.

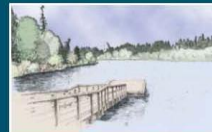
Since the lake's creation, the Deschutes River has been filling the lake with sediment. This prompts concerns regarding water quality, habitat, flood risk, management costs and other issues.

A group of state, local and tribal officials has been studying how to deal with these problems. Four future management options are being studied:



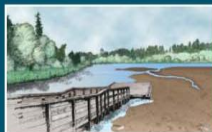
Status quo

Continue current maintenance and do not dredge, allowing the lake to fill in and become a marsh



Managed lake

Dredge the sediment to create a deeper lake, then periodically dredge to maintain the depth



Estuary

Restore tidal exchange by dredging sediment, removing the dam, and replacing the 5th Avenue bridge



Dual basin estuary

Construct a causeway from the north to the south, dividing the north basin into a saltwater reflecting pool on the east, and an estuary on the west

“...it is possible to have both the aesthetic and the ecological function if there is willingness to address both. This cannot be an either/or situation, but it requires leadership and a valuing of both...”

Barbara Swift, Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee (2008)

Eight interpretive signs have been placed around the lake, to introduce these issues and the challenges being examined.

Additional information, including background reports, is available at <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.



Factors Affecting Water Quality

Water quality in the Capitol Lake Basin is affected by many factors throughout its almost 200 square mile watershed. Contributing to declining water quality are surface water runoff, logging, failing septic systems, chemicals used in farming, and human development along river and creek banks. Many elements affect water quality, including temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH levels, bacteria, and fine sediment. Portions of the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet do not meet established water quality standards. This affects plants, fish and wildlife, and people living in the Deschutes Basin who rely on groundwater in the watershed for drinking water.

“If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.”

Loren Eiseley (1907–1977), The Immense Journey, 1957

Dissolved oxygen (oxygen which is absorbed into water) is a vital element for the survival of fish and other aquatic animals. An estuary or dual basin alternative would improve oxygen in Budd Inlet, while a managed lake would provide more limited benefits. Effective shading of the Deschutes River headlands and its tributaries would make a substantial improvement. Improving the water quality of the Deschutes River basin and Budd Inlet is a multi-faceted challenge.



Development throughout the Deschutes River Basin contribute to the water quality problems of Capitol Lake.
Source: Washington State Department of Ecology



Source: Earth Design Consultants

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.



Challenges for the Habitat of Capitol Lake

Capitol Lake supports a wide variety of fish and wildlife. Thirty-two different species of fish have been identified, along with 52 types of birds, 11 species of mammals, (including four types of bats), and numerous reptiles, insects and native plants. A managed lake could improve the habitat for these species.

“Like the resource it seeks to protect, wildlife conservation must be dynamic, changing as conditions change, seeking always to become more effective.”

Rachel Carson, writer, ecologist, marine biologist (1907–1964)

Returning the lake to an estuary or dual basin would likely strengthen the native environment, support fewer “exotic,” or non-native species, and provide better habitat for economically important species such as salmon. This could eliminate or reduce some of the invasive plants like milfoil, found in Capitol Lake. An estuary would also provide better habitat for native sea-run cutthroat trout and hatchery salmon.



Photo: Christian Mehlhauer

Changing the lake from freshwater to saltwater will directly affect the types of the fish and wildlife that use the area. Each of the four alternatives being considered for the future of Capitol Lake favors some species over others.

A recreated Deschutes River estuary would feature mostly mud flats at low tide with a sandy river channel running through it and a thin perimeter of salt marsh plants in portions of the North and Middle Basins.
Source: Alan Kenaga, The Olympian

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.



Managing All That Sediment

Capitol Lake works like a sediment trap, capturing soils coming down the Deschutes River. The river transports more than 35,000 cubic yards of sediment into the lake annually. That's enough soil to cover a city block to a depth of three feet. The amount of sediment which has accumulated behind the 5th Avenue dam is estimated to be more than two million cubic yards. It is estimated the lake holds about 60% less water now than it did in 1951.

Restoring an estuary would shift new sediment to Budd Inlet, but ongoing dredging will have to be done under any sustainable alternative. If the lake basin is not dredged and the dam is left in place, it will turn into a freshwater marsh.

Dredging is expensive and permits difficult to obtain because of the complexity of environmental issues. Unless we choose to let the lake fill with sediment, we need to dredge. All other alternatives depend on dredging. Engineers are exploring the best way to remove sediment from the lake basin and the best use for so much silt.

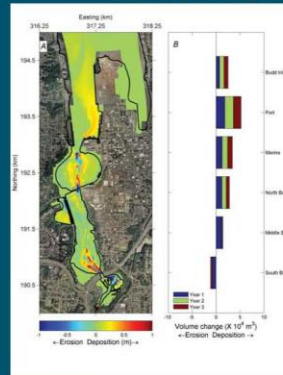
For more information:
<http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>.
 To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.

“Capitol Lake is increasingly unsustainable in its current configuration. Sediment from the Deschutes River and Percival Creek is filling in the lake; environmental concerns mean that ongoing dredging of the lake is increasingly difficult and expensive.”

Susan Tomkin, Marine Engineer (2008)



*Managed Lake Alternative
 Existing lake showing proposed dredge footprint (full yellow line) and outline of potential sediment traps (broken red line)
 Source: Moffatt & Nichol*



*Estuary Alternative
 Anticipated erosion and soil deposits three years after estuary restoration
 Source: U. S. Geological Survey*



Public Recreation

Recreational use of the Capitol Lake Basin today is extensive and diverse. The trails around the lake are among the most popular in Olympia. Other activities include picnicking, wildlife viewing, fishing and boating. With hundreds of ducks, salmon, bats and even nesting bald eagles, the lake offers a rare opportunity to view abundant wildlife in an urban setting.

Recreation uses of Capitol Lake will change somewhat under each of the management alternatives under consideration. Conditions for boating and recreational fishing within the lake basin would improve under all alternatives except the status quo option. Under the estuary alternative, boating would be dependent on tidal schedules. Piers and docks around the basin would be inaccessible at low tides. Special events such as the Dragon Boat Races and Lakefair boating events would also be tidal-dependent.

Re-introducing saltwater may eliminate the algae blooms that plague the lake, making the area even more attractive for a summertime walk. But an estuary will also eliminate the insects that bats and some birds feast on.

Trails and pathways would be enhanced under the estuary, managed lake and dual basin alternatives. A new pedestrian and bike path would be added along 5th Avenue. The dual basin alternative would provide an additional walkway across the middle of the North Basin.

Under all alternatives, the Deschutes River Basin provides abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation and serves as a valuable resource for the state capitol and the greater Olympia community.

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.

“...one of the most emotional things I ever saw around the lake was the first women's marathon trials for the Olympics ... and it ended right at Marathon Park... women came from all over the world, just to be in those trials.”

Ralph Munro, former Washington Secretary of State (2008)

Dragon Boat on Capitol Lake



*No more: Area residents enjoying the public swimming area of Capitol Lake in 1954. Water quality would not increase sufficiently for residents to safely swim, under any of the alternative futures for Capitol Lake.
 Photo: Thurston Regional Planning Council.*



Changes in the Built Environment

The alternatives of an estuary, dual basin or a lake have substantially different impacts on the parks and roadways around Capitol Lake. An estuary would require removing the 5th Avenue dam and building a new bridge in its place. The tidal energy of an estuary would weaken the existing banks of Deschutes Parkway, calling for reinforcement. Increased salinity may require replacement of water and sewer lines that are now made of ductile iron.

“Every single act we do has consequences that echo way beyond what we can imagine. It doesn't mean we shouldn't act. It means we should act carefully. Everything matters.”

Sylvia Boorstein, author

Long-term infrastructure improvements will be necessary under all the alternatives, because of the threat of rising sea levels. To protect downtown buildings and streets from increased flooding risk, more grading will be needed in Heritage Park. Marathon Park will also require protective berms or dikes.

The dual basin alternative includes construction of a walkway in the north basin connecting the north and south shores. The managed lake alternative also has infrastructure costs, including major maintenance for the 5th Avenue dam.



5th Avenue Dam under construction in 1951
Photo: Thurston Regional Planning Council



Construction of Deschutes Parkway in 1951
Photo: Thurston Regional Planning Council

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.



Flooding Risk to Downtown Olympia

When the Deschutes River reaches flood stage and high tides swell Budd Inlet, conditions are ripe for flooding. Some winter storms send more water flowing into Capitol Lake than can be released through the 5th Avenue dam. This causes the lake to overflow. The ability to rapidly release water from Capitol Lake is more important for flood management than the lake's holding capacity. Expanding the size of the dam's gates would allow greater volumes of water to be quickly released, reducing flood risk.

“There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction.”

John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)

Studies show that low-lying areas near the historic brewery in Tumwater, or at Marathon Park, could flood more frequently with an estuary. However, the larger floods which could threaten downtown Olympia are not affected by the lake/estuary issue. In fact, flooding in the downtown area is more affected by the storm water system's limited capacity.



Turmwater Falls in flood stage, December 2004

Sea-level rise is another potential threat. By 2050, Puget Sound could rise anywhere from 3" to 22". With the estuary alternative, peak flood levels would increase directly with the rise in sea level. With the lake alternative, increases would be slightly less rapid. However, changes to flood risk in downtown Olympia from climate change come from Budd Inlet, not the Deschutes River.



Flooding in downtown Olympia along Columbia Street (circa 1975)
Photo: Thurston Regional Planning Council

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>

To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.



Cultural and Spiritual Values of the Capitol Lake Basin

For centuries, inhabitants of South Puget Sound have developed strong cultural, social and individual connections to the Capitol Lake area. Lasting sets of values are associated with the basin as a freshwater river that flows to the sea. It is a place reflecting the interconnectedness of all aspects of life. To the Native Americans, the original estuary was a place for spiritual cleaning rituals, and a provider of sustenance.

The Deschutes Basin became, for immigrants, symbolic as their entryway to a new life, a starting point for the American Dream. One branch of The Oregon Trail passed by Deschutes River Falls, which served as an economic generator for the early settlers.

A new aesthetic emerged in early design concepts for the State Capitol Campus (1910-1930), and were realized in 1951 with construction of the 5th Avenue dam. This completed the vision of campus architects Wilder and White of a reflecting pool for the capitol buildings.

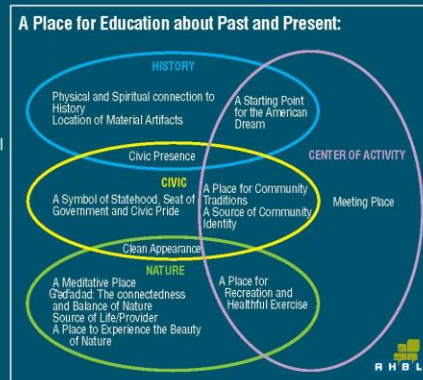
Since then, more contemporary cultural and recreational values have developed, such as Lakefair, the Dragon Boat Races, Bon Odori, Procession of the Species, and for many years, the annual Polar Bear Plunge.

Many values are shared between segments of the community as shown here, and most would be affected by any of the four alternatives: no change, managed lake, estuary or a dual basin.

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. Please use the feedback form on the web site for sharing your comments.

“If you are ever there different seasons of the year, it is beautiful, the changes, the colors, the breath – when you breathe in during the late August, you can smell the sweetness of the land. And then in the wintertime you can smell the moisture, the water. It changes through the season and is very important to our spirit.”

Charlene Krise, Squaxin Island Tribe (2006)



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Examining the Financial Costs

Different strategies for the future of Capitol Lake all cost money. Even the status quo alternative involves the ongoing maintenance and support of this public resource. As Capitol Campus managers consider how to manage the Deschutes basin, costs play an important role. Some alternatives involve significant infrastructure construction costs and all alternatives will require the on-going removal of river sediments.

To get a better understanding of the full cost of alternative designs, planners are considering the price tag 50 years into the future. It is not yet clear where the money will come from to make needed improvements. Responsible stewardship will be expensive.

Cost estimates have been developed which show that dredging of the basin and southern Budd Inlet is the most expensive part of all the alternatives. Over the long run, the cost of managing the mouth of the Deschutes River is really about the cost of dredging. Work continues to find the most economical ways to manage the sediment.



Dredging will be a big expense for all alternatives except the status quo Alternative



*Removal of the 5th Avenue dam will require new bridge construction, south of the 4th Avenue bridge erected after the 2001 Nisqually Earthquake
Photo: City of Olympia*

For more information: <http://www.ga.wa.gov/CapitolLake>. To comment please use the Feedback Form on the website.

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Public Workshop Comments

People attending the Public Workshop were encouraged to fill out “comment cards” at each station. There was no limit to the number of cards a person could provide. Each station corresponded to a major topic from the *CLAMP Alternative Analysis – Pubic Review Draft*, which are listed below.

<i>Environment</i>	<i>Economy</i>	<i>People</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Water Quality</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Infrastructure</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Public Recreation</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Plants and Animals</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Downtown Flood Risk</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Cultural and Spiritual</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Sediment Management</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Long-Term Cost</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Values</u>

The comments are listed below by these topics. There was an “Alternatives” station which provided an overview of the four alternatives. The attendee’s preference is included in the ‘Marsh, Lake or Estuary’. There was also a “Process” station, which although not part of the *CLAMP Pubic Review Draft*, received some comments and is listed as the last section.

The comments listed below were taken from the Public Workshop of June 24, 2009. All the public workshop comments were anonymous.

From the 137 public workshop comments:

- 0 or 0% were supportive of the status quo alternative
- 57 or 42% were supportive of the managed lake alternative
- 44 or 32% were supportive of the estuary alternative
- 8 or 6% were supportive of the dual basin estuary alternative
- 28 or 20% had a general comment and did not indicate a preference

There are a few general observations that can be drawn for these comments. Because workshop participants were encouraged to complete multiple comment cards it is not possible to determine how many individuals submitted comments. It appears that this sample is reflective of a subset of the total number of workshop participants because there are substantially fewer comments than participants.

Comment cards were not left at all workshop topic areas. More comments were left at the Public Recreation area than at any other, yet not all of these comments can be associated with recreation. In some, the comments collected at the June 2009 workshop give valuable insight into public sentiment. However, the strength of these comments, relative to the other means of communication, is weakened by the method of collection.

MARSH, LAKE, or ESTUARY

- Managed lake – I feel there are better spots to have the other options in a more rural setting. A downtown environment leads itself more to a lake, and easier less would not like to see the lake turned into a tidal flat. I can smell it already.
- Dual basin estuary seems the best of both worlds – eco and social value for Olympia’s people and wildlife
- Expensive to manage.
- Deschutes estuary is best option. Make the decision to restore the estuary then work on a plan to maintain viable part plus marinas.
- What happens if the estuary does not work? Problems with erosion and what if the public does not like the results- i.e. Water level.
- I believe the best solution is to keep the lake. This is a beautiful city. Environmentally the swamp is questionable as to its superiority.
- Concerned an estuary would destroy our boat harbor! Where would all the silt go? Been walking the lake for 40 years. Now walk the grandkids. Love the lake!! No to an estuary.
- I prefer the manage lake option!!
- Study/ look at the economics for Olympia and local business. The lake will remain.
- We do not want to look like east bay.
- I remember the “lake” swimming-water skiing, picnics – what a great time. 1950’s-1960.
- Leave it as a lake. Estuary does not make sense and cost too much. Do not outweigh the benefits.
- Great job-I like the dual basin estuary. Everyone wins!

WATER QUALITY

- *There were no specific comments regarding Water Quality.*

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

- The dual basin estuary will support the drainage problem and keep the public who use the area.
- The lake should be managed. Do we remember the smell of mud flats at low tide on a summer evening? What about all the improvements to the walking/jogging path? We’ve got too much invested and too many businesses that would be negatively impacted.
- I wish we had a clear lake, rather than this shallow, icky pond. Without extensive management, I would rather the Deschutes look like Totten or Eld. The mud flats are beautiful.
- How can we keep habitat for bats? Keep as managed lake please.
- Is there a guarantee that destroying the current ecological niche for wildlife will create a positive ecological niche for any desirable critters?
- Can we have an estuary with a reflecting pond that will keep some of the bugs for bats?
- The lake should be managed and not turned into a mud flat as per pre-51.

- We have a responsibility to improve our natural environment where possible. This is a unique opportunity to restore one of the largest estuaries in the Puget Sound. Remove the dam.
- Restore the estuary!! Keep and or add walking/biking, etc. paths.
- What kind of environment would naturally occur if we'd never make the dam? Please choose to support the environment that would benefit the wildlife nature intended.
- Return the lake to an estuary-restore salmon habitat; allow the natural processes to provide balance and health to Puget Sound and all its wildlife.
- An issue I have not seen discussed is the potential for increased mosquito production, especially the salt marsh mosquitoes which you currently do not have. The estuary area at south bend/Raymond has a considerable problem at certain times of the year. How would this be different?
- Why are we catering to "non-native" fish to the Deschutes...? Close the fishery then and maintain the lake.
- Restore the lake; the port should pay their share. More habitat, fish. Clean H2O.
- I don't want to stop eating salmon... Do what it takes to help these threatened fish. We've destroyed most of Washington's estuaries in the last 150 years. It's time to take responsibility for our historic mistakes. The dual alternative does the most to meet people's needs/wants-as well as creating crucial habitat for salmon.
- Although I would miss the animals that would leave with a dual basin. I believe that native animals should have priority.
- Keep the lake and manage it!!!
- Salmon are not historically from the Deschutes River. Keep the lake!!!
- Given the current move to remove dams blocking salmon passage, the estuary option makes a lot of sense. Add to that being able to reduce predation on salmon by seals, it makes even more sense. Now add the projected increases in water temp. and changes in water flow, the estuary option gets my vote.
- If it's good for the native salmon run....
- We need the estuary for wild life and people – there are lots of shore birds on the tidal flats of mud bay that cannot live here because there is no habitat for them. What a great learning opportunity for kids and adults to have a natural estuary right here down town.
- The estuary might be an important step in improving the health of Puget Sound. If so, that's what we should do.
- Returning the lake to an estuary will return salmon to the area, which will help the fishing industry. Plus, the estuary may reduce mosquito populations.
- The lake itself is a dead zone. Restore to estuary and bring in native vegetation to support the return of wildlife. Favor native species.
- I support return to an estuary-supporting native species in our spot in the world is more important than exotic, non-native and invasive species. The Puget Sound as a whole is much stressed.
- The Deschutes estuary was a natural functioning system until it was dammed. Please restore the estuary so the Deschutes has a connection to its salt water and natural functioning conditions can reoccur to restore habitat that's supposed to be there!

SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT

- *There were no specific comments regarding Sediment Management.*

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Consider the costs of maintaining as artificial impoundment. The state has more important financial responsibilities than a reflecting pond.
- Leave the lake and Dam it should be dredged and cleaned to provide more recreation options.
- Leave the dam, Keep the lake.
- I am disappointed that none of the options will provide a public swimming area.
- Leave the dam!!! Keep it the way it is.
- Re-build another new bridge... are you crazy!!! Leave the dam and dredge in and maintain what you've got..... and stop wasting money on studies you could have had it dredged by now.
- Return to estuary for the birds.
- Keep the dam. It's good for the city, tourism, economy, boating.
- Estuary will require costly removal of 5th Ave Bridge which we just recently replaced.
- Have all cross channel traffic use existing 4th Ave. Bridge. Access Deschutes Parkway through round about on west side. Don't elevate 5th, just remove.
- Bring back the estuary, for people-for wildlife.
- Restore estuary. The salmon run will return to health. An important education opportunity for our children and tourist attraction.
- Return it to an estuary.
- Raw sewage flows into Puget Sound when rivers flood. Estuary now!!
- The estuary option is preferable. We should restore the area to its most natural state. While many local jurisdictions have expressed interest in preserving the lake. It is culturally and environmentally the most costly option. Please restore the estuary!
- Just keep the dam and lake.
- The ecological and water quality downsides of the lake option are not acceptable. A lake is not sustainable. Please return this system to a natural environment.

DOWNTOWN FLOOD RISK

- *There were no specific comments regarding Downtown Flood Risk.*

LONG-TERM COST

- Costs that have not been addressed are increased health of the Puget Sound when an estuary is restored.
- True, a managed lake alternative would be very expensive. That's because we've neglected to meet the challenge for the 30 years I've lived in Olympia. The chickens have come home to roost! Dredge it and maintain it!!!
- The costs aren't sustainable for keeping a lake. The looks of an estuary are not much different than the dredged lake. So everyone who wants a lake will be satisfied with an estuary.

- An estuary is much cheaper over the long run and will save taxpayers millions of dollars compared to managed lake. An estuary restoration is money well spent, even if it cost more than the lake.
- The estuary option is not only the most ecologically beneficial decision, but also the cheapest.
- A “Mudd Bay” is not esthetically acceptable to our Capitol city which of course is urban. Expanding the cost sharing partners and maintaining the lake should be our emphasis.
- Why was the lake river really maintained in its 50 year life why did you ignore it... and now you just want to take it out because it’s too expensive!!!! It wouldn’t be expensive if you would have done your chores all along.
- We need more \$\$\$ for healthcare. Stop wasting money on expensive maintenance.
- If you would have put all the money you’ve spent on studies you could have dredged it all by now. Why haven’t to maintained it all along!!!?
- Keep the lake
- Restoring the estuary is the least expensive and more sustainable option so restore the estuary.
- Fix the lake.
- Please be sure to include all costs, regardless where they occur.
- Manage the Lake. Lease boundaries as is, dredge the lake and add two more flood gates.
- 50 years in the future my generation will be charged with undoing your generation’s mistakes. Restoration will cost more in 50 years then it will today So just do it!!!
- No one has done an economic analysis of what happens if Percival landing fills with sediment and makes the docks and boating their moot. Why not?
- Why didn't you show more about range of costs and uncertainties? Fix the lake please.
- A duel basin is a great compromise financially, socially biologically. Let’s get with it.
- Keep the lake and the dam and Percival landing. By destroying Percival you destroy a major player in the rejuvenation of Olympia.
- Prefer estuary for wild life restoration. I live on the lake now.
- Regardless of studies it seems logical it will be less expensive to dredge a lake as opposed to the marinas. As it exists the state is responsible. Take the the dam and the city and county will have to pay the cost. Keep the lake
- Don't make the lake a mud flat. Keep Percival a viable place to visit.
- Do not change the lake and Percival into a mud flat.
- Take care of the lake and quit spending \$\$on ridiculous projects.
- Support the taxpayers. Remove the dam.
- Isn't dredging the inlet so boats and ships can move freely? It’s only fair that they pay for it.

PUBLIC RECREATION

- Stop wasting money on the lake! People can walk around an estuary trail with no difference in access. Boats can wait for high tide.
- Estuary more attractive?! Look at pictures on other side of the room. We need to keep the lake for the cultural and community recreational values it provides if for nothing else!!

- Yes-please-native landscaping and some trees for shade-it's blazing hot by the lake now that it's summer. Some grass is fine but there is way more than actually gets used.
- The current grass landscaping is an eyesore and a pollution source. Bring in native landscaping and vegetation to end the monotony and support local insect and bird populations. You can't have estuary if the wildlife is unguarded.
- Nowhere else in Olympia attracts as many people on a regular basis. In many cases, people spend time daily at the lake. We can't lose it. The managed option is the best.
- I see a great deal of beauty in the estuary option, but if the lake is maintained it has to be managed with dredging and salt water introduction. Otherwise it's a large cess pool.
- KEEP THE LAKE!!!!
- The dual basin option supports all of the current recreation values while improving the habitat.
- Leave the lake and the park. Use it all the time.
- KEEP THE LAKE!!!
- I am a walker and use the landing a lot. It would not be a walking destination if it were mud.
- I would really like to see a good put in area for kayaks and canoes in whatever final design gets chosen.
- As a mom and not-swimmer, I have always worried about the lack of life preservers or ways to save someone if fell in-especially kids. I'd like to see these down there – this worries me about dual basin option as well.
- The lake is one of the most beautiful parts of a fantastic city and state capital. To throw this away will reduce the beauty of the city. We walk and bike around the lake often.
- I think returning the lake to an estuary will make it even more attractive for walkers and birders.
- Capital Lake is the center for outdoor recreation in Olympia Even though swimming has been impossible for many years, the lake is the center for walking, and biking, and picnicking and community events Mud flats will not serve our community. We need a lake not the wilderness.
- It would be wonderful if the water were clean enough to canoe! Estuaries make for wonderful wildlife-viewing.
- Keep the lake. Dredge it! Don't put the silt into the sound.
- Give me my old swimming hole!!
- Why are proposals so biased toward estuary? Mud flats should not be planned!!
- Recreation will be negatively impacted by the increase sediment of the dam is removed. Percival will become the new 'mud bay'. Recreation boating will disappear.
- Leave the lake. The lake is an enjoyable place to walk, reflect and relax. Flats that smell is not what accomplishes this idea.
- Visitors and residents alike come to see a beautiful lake not a mudflat-keep the lake.
- I think it would be great for boating to be tidal dependent. The Puget Sound has tides! It is life enriching to learn about them and appreciate them.
- Estuary restoration would allow increased public recreation: a swimming area could be added like the one's available on other Puget Sound Beaches. Kayakers could run the open channel. Families could sail. Marine waterfronts are our heritage in Washington.

- About the estuary option – a lot of effort and \$ has been put into making the lake area a wonderful place for the public to enjoy. I really fear the odor and appearance of a tidal flat making this area a lot less useable.
- LAKE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Keep as a managed lake. Spend the monies on State residents who need health care.
- Estuary better for boating and kayaking. The estuary will draw kayakers, fisher people and wildlife enthusiasts.

SPIRITUAL CULTURAL

- Restore the lake to its estuary origins! Raw sewage flows into Puget Sound as the water levels rise!
- As it is today with its landscaping and parks, Capitol Lake is a wonderful recreation center for our community from dawn to dusk. It is a focal point for walking and special events. The city center is not the place for an estuary.
- As much as I am pro conservation of natural habitat-there needs to be something for people too. This body of water is a gathering place for the community and a walking place for individuals. A dual estuary seems to offer some habitat for both animals and people.
- Capital Lake represents my spiritual values and those of my neighbors. Others can go into the wilds. Manage the lake!!!
- Keep it a lake!! Hypocritical of Indian Values!
- I am for the lake not the shell of rotten tide flats!!!
- Maintain a polluted lake that is causing harm does not support cultural or spiritual values. Remove the day.
- So much of our efforts have been spent on containing nature. Almost always, this robs us spiritually. Almost always, this robs us spiritually. Bring back Deschutes estuary!
- Restore Deschutes Estuary estuaries are spiritually valuable and tidal flats are a meditation – living breathing organism and the life blood of Puget Sound.
- Awareness of the natural processes as valuable in and of themselves
- Managed lake- Washington State Natives cannot manage their own fish resources.
- Manage Lake – Our spirit is alive and changing the lake is beautiful and swells my soul when I walk around it the reflected capital makes Olympia one of the most beautiful capitols in the world.
- Yacht club and Percival marines are ugly and polluting and should be moved further out to west bay. To improve the water quality of Budd Inlet. I am a boater and I favor estuary.
- Also the historic issue – scenic views of Capitol Lake and from the Capitol across the water to Olympia.
- Restore the estuary to realize the true cultural and spiritual values of our Pacific Northwest marine and Native American heritage.
- Mud is not a fun meeting, walking and recreating place. Maintain the lake!!
- Please restore the estuary!!! We are fortunate to have Puget Sound but we have been destroying it ever since we began settling here. Dominate nature, control the land? Well it's an old idea that never worked. I would love to see us turn back to allowing the

natural systems return as much as possible. Invite birds and salmon back. We can't beat nature. We are all nature.

- Current cultural will be negatively impacted by the dam removal. It seems like the current proposal for the dam removal disregards current use and cultural and spiritual feelings.
- We don't need to follow the vision of the east coast campus architects' here!!! The shared community used Dragon Boat Races, etc. would be enhanced by those activities being tidal dependant!!
- Today's cultural values and personality of Olympia are centered on downtown and Capitol Lake. We need to keep the lake so our traditions can be kept as well. The lake serves also to beautify the Capitol Campus. We cannot lose this symbol of our very community and values: the Lake!
- Where is our Central Park? This stark landscape is not natural and it is depriving children of access to urban forest and recreation in a real landscape.
- What about native history and cultural values? My friend's great grandma once harvested shellfish were the lake now is today. Restore please!!

PROCESS

- The public relies on informed elected officials and agency staff to know the data and make a decision in the best interest of the public. Deschutes estuary restoration is the best decision. Please help the public with the estuary restoration.
- Manage the lake. A mud flat is a mud flat regardless of what you say.
- It seems to me that the meetings so far have been biased to forming an estuary and no regards to the monetary impact to the people who use the basin and Percival!!!!
- Please listen to the public comments. The recent local experience is they don't care or listen and it is truly offensive!

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