

# DRAFT - LWMP 2025-2029 Work Plan – July 2024

## Program Area 1: Land Preservation

**Objective:** Preserve and restore land that might otherwise be susceptible to development or other land disturbance to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

**2025-2029 Estimated Investments:** \$28.4 million

The Lake Whatcom Management Program (LWMP) acquires lands for the protection of water quality, while also providing for passive recreational opportunities where appropriate.

### 1.1 Property Protection

Acquire property using a variety of methods, such as purchase, conservation easements, and donations to prevent development and other land use disturbances that degrade the natural functions of the watershed.

- 1.1.1 Purchase watershed properties based on evaluation criteria and availability
- Evaluate the use of other programs to augment the watershed acquisition program to purchase watershed properties.

### 1.2 Property Management

Manage watershed properties to improve natural functions that protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

- 1.2.1 Implement management plans that address restoration needs, recreation (facilities, trails, roads), and vegetation (planting and maintenance) management needs for all acquired properties.

- 1.2.2 Update property maintenance guidelines to provide clarity for city field staff. The new document will outline city response to requests for recreational development on city-managed properties.

### ***Reporting Metrics:***

- Number of development units removed from the watershed per year
- New acres acquired or otherwise protected per year
- Total cumulative acres in protected status updated annually