

Program Area: 7. Forestry/Fish/Wildlife

Goal:

Develop and maintain a comprehensive watershed forest management plan that minimizes impacts to water quality, and promotes actions and programs that protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

The Lake Whatcom watershed provides habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species. Most of the land in the watershed is in a forested condition and is managed by the State Department of Natural Resources, timber management companies, or private landowners. The Forestry/Fish/Wildlife Program Area aims to protect the clean water functions provided by forests located in the Lake Whatcom watershed.

Notable Accomplishments:

Over the past few years, the City and County have continued to monitor forestry activities in the watershed to ensure that any adverse water quality impacts are minimized.

In 2005, the City of Bellingham adopted a Critical Areas Ordinance and the County adopted an updated version of their Critical Areas Ordinance. These ordinances outline the specific rules and regulations regarding development near wetlands, streams and other environmentally sensitive areas.

Reference Documents:

City of Bellingham Critical Areas Ordinance (BMC 16.55)

<http://www.cob.org/documents/planning/comprehensive-plan-code-amendments/critical-area-ordinance/2005-12-06-final-cao.pdf>

City of Bellingham Shoreline Master Program (BMC Title 22)

<http://www.cob.org/documents/planning/shoreline-master-program/november-final-draft-cc.pdf>

Whatcom County Critical Areas Ordinance (WCC 16.16)

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/naturalresources/criticalareas/index.jsp>

Whatcom County Shoreline Management Program (WCC Title 23)

http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/naturalresources/shorelines/regulations/codeandmaps/pdf/SMMP_CountyApproved_EcologyApproved_090323_clean_000.pdf

Interjurisdictional Committee (IJC) Reports

Program Area: 7. Forestry/Fish/Wildlife
Task: 7.1 Review IJC reports of DNR activities

Period	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Status	P Reduction
2010 - 2014	ICT	\$15,000	Active	None

Task Objective: Promote actions and programs that protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat by reviewing the Interjurisdictional Committee's (IJC) reports of DNR activities

Actions:

- Set up annual meeting to review IJC reports
- Incorporate review findings into work plan and present recommendations to Management Committee
- Provide recommendations to the IJC when appropriate

Intended Lake Benefits: Phosphorus Reduction Fecal Coliform Reduction Sediment Reduction Other

If other, please describe:

Performance Measures: Annual report to include:

- 1) Annual meeting schedule developed and implemented (2010)
- 2) Work plan updates based on IJC reports
- 3) Conclusions and recommendations presented to Management Committee

Cost Estimates:

Year	Party	FTEs (\$)	Capital Costs	Other	Total
2010	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
2011	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
2012	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
2013	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
2014	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
Total		0.15 (\$15,000)			\$15,000

Program Area: 7. Forestry/Fish/Wildlife
Task: 7.2 Enforce water quality assurances

Period	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Status	P Reduction
2010 - 2014	ICT	\$25,000	Active	Indirect

Task Objective: Promote actions and programs that protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat by advocating for stricter Department of Ecology (DOE) enforcement of water quality assurances

Actions:

- Advocate for strict DOE enforcement of water quality assurances

Intended Lake Benefits: Phosphorus Reduction Fecal Coliform Reduction Sediment Reduction Other

If other, please describe:

Performance Measures: 1) Annual evaluation of logging operations adherence to assurances
 2) Propose and advocate for stricter assurances as warranted

Cost Estimates:

Year	Party	FTEs (\$)	Capital Costs	Other	Total
2010	City	0.25 (\$25,000)			\$25,000
	County				
	District/Other				
2011	City				
	County				
	District/Other				
2012	City				
	County				
	District/Other				
2013	City				
	County				
	District/Other				
2014	City				
	County				
	District/Other				
Total		0.25 (\$25,000)			\$25,000