

Lake Padden Watershed Summary Sheet

Landscape Setting	Landscape Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Lake Padden SMA is a total size of 111.3 acres. The majority of the SMA is a public park, and current land use is moderate to low density residential use. Approximately half of the park is maintained in natural forested conditions; the remainder is maintained lawns, picnicking, and parking areas. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 8,13,37,47,71 for above)</p>
	Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continental glacial drift, with 27.8 acres of continental sedimentary deposits. Steep slopes from 20 to 34% dominate the southern portion of the lake, while the north side has gentler slopes from 0 to 5%. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 21,103 for above)</p>
	Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dominant soils on south side are Nati soils and an Everett complex – Squalicum and Whatcom –Labounty soils predominate on north side of watershed. Soils from all drainage classes are represented. Infiltration rates are as follows: 7.8 acres of high with low runoff potential, 10.3 acres moderate, 25.4 acres slow, 18.7 very slow with high runoff potential. The potential for soil erosion ranges from slight to moderate risk. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 51,63,47 for above)</p>
Land Use	Current Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the SMA is located in Lake Padden Park. Land use in Reaches 2 and 4 is low, and it is dominated by a coniferous forest with public trails. Land use in Reaches 1 and 3 is high, and it is dominated by lawn, picnic areas, parking, and small forested areas. Some residential development exists in Reach 1. Five park buildings are mapped for the SMA. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 8,16,33,34,71 for above)</p>
	Zoning	<p>58.4 acres of public area, 3.1 acres of residential, 50 acres of water in SMA. Zoning outside the SMA is residential single family in City limits; Urban residential in urban growth area with 2 to 4 units per acre; rural five acres per unit at the east side of Lake Padden and Commercial forestry on Lookout Mountain. Many areas in both the City limits and County are under developed at this time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 54,104 for above)</p>
	Transportation and Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major roads: Samish Way. Secondary roads: Wilkin Street, Lakeshore Road, and smaller access roads within the park. No roads are located in Reach 4. Roads cover 0.8 miles or 1.4 acres throughout the SMA. Only Reach 1 is served by City sewer, and no storm drains are present. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 14,35,36,39,40,41,42,44,45,46 for above)</p>
	Public Access	<p>Nearly the entire SMA is located in a public park. Public access is provided to Lake Padden Park in two locations. The entire area is accessible, including up to the shoreline, via a well developed system of trails which circles the lake.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 33,34,36,48,54 for above)</p>

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	Shoreline Modifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very few shoreline modifications were identified in the Padden Lake SMA. • Modifications identified include: Concrete bulkheads along the parking area near the tennis courts in Reach 1, two docks, and one dam at the outlet (Padden Creek). • Impervious surfaces are very low; land is covered by approximately 67% pervious, 25% is semi-pervious and 9% impervious surfaces. <p>(Ref# 8,12,18,15,43,71,94 for above)</p>
Critical Areas	Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Fringe wetlands are indicated at the shorelines in Reaches 1, 3 and 4. • Ten small depressional wetlands indicated in depressions between slopes in Reach 4; and the edge of a larger wetland complex in indicated at the southeastern extent of the reach. • No wetlands are indicated in Reach 2. • The NWI indicates a low frequency of wetlands in the greater watershed, but this appears to be an underestimate. <p>(Ref# 11,52 for above)</p>
	Streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four streams are indicated in the Lake Padden drainage. • Two tributaries (#28 and #29) are located in Reach 1, one tributary (#31) in Reach 2, and Padden Creek (#30) in Reach 4. <p>(Ref# 8,38,57,59,71 for above)</p>
	Frequently Flooded Areas	<p>50.8 acres are mapped within the FEMA 100 year floodplain, and none are mapped in the floodway.</p> <p>(Ref# 19 for above)</p>
	Steep Slopes	<p>Slopes 20-34% or greater in Reach 4 are mapped as potential "Landslide Hazard Areas" on the Whatcom County Geohazard Maps. Mapped "Landslide Hazards" extend south out of the SMA.</p> <p>(Ref# 21,103 for above)</p>
	Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority species indicated for this SMA include bald eagle, which is a federally threatened species. Bald eagle nesting territory overlays the entire SMA. • Resident cutthroat trout, a federal species of concern is also indicated in this SMA. • Habitat for breeding/ nesting/ wintering use by multiple PHS or SC is documented throughout the SMA. <p>(Ref# 24,61,69,70,92,93,94,105 for above)</p>
Ecological Functions	Overall Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall the Lake Padden SMA is providing most ecological functions at a high level. The Watershed as a whole is also providing most functions at high levels. <p>(Ref# 71 for above)</p>
	Hydrologic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hydrologic functions within Lake Padden appear to be functioning; however the outlet weir is an artificial control feature. • The hydrologic functions within the Watershed appear to be functioning in their current condition, but could be at risk with continued development in the watershed. <p>(Ref# 71 for above)</p>

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Shoreline Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoreline vegetation within Reaches 2 and 4 are unimpaired, but Reaches 1 and 3 are impaired for this function. • Reaches 1 and 3 also include a large area of maintained lawn and picnic areas. • Noxious, invasive plant species Himalayan blackberry and reed canarygrass are present but at low frequencies. • Terrestrial vegetation with the SMA is dominated by mature native forest with a high quality native plant community. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 8,20,71,100 for above)</p>
Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrestrial • Aquatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife species associated with mixed coniferous forests are well represented. • Nearly 100% of this SMA is indicated as having habitat for garter snakes and lizards including denning habitat, a variety of non-urban mammals and birds including habitat specific species, and a variety of native amphibians. • Connectivity of habitats is good, and wildlife movement is possible for all sizes of animals, including amphibians, throughout the SMA and the greater Watershed. • A wide range of habitat features, a complex structure, and connectivity to other large tracts of high quality habitat are present. • Habitat for breeding/ nesting/ wintering use by multiple PHS or SC is documented throughout the SMA. • Resident cutthroat trout and Kokanee use the lake and Padden Creek for spawning and rearing. • Water quality standards are being met for most parameters, with the exception that the lake has been listed by the WA Department of Ecology as a Category 5 "Polluted Water" for pentachlorophenol, and Category 2 "Water of Concern" for pH and temperature (one excursions of each in 2001). <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 20,24,61,71,89 for above)</p>
Limiting Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality (pentachlorophenol) • Reduced canopy cover and structure in Reaches 1 and 3 • Possible future hydrology alterations and water quality degradation and reduced connectivity of habitats with continued development in watershed. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 8,24,71,89 for above)</p>
Priority Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater retention and water quality treatment for areas of proposed development. • Maximum retention of wildlife corridors between habitats with future development. <p style="text-align: right;">(Ref# 71 for above)</p>
Current Enhancement Actions	None identified
Preservation/Enhancement Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain buffers around all riparian areas in Watershed. • Increase distance between trail and shoreline in areas around Lake Padden • Increase canopy and shrub cover along shoreline in Reaches 1 and

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3.

(Ref# 71 for above)
