



CAPITOL LAKE — DESCHUTES ESTUARY

Long-Term Management Project Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Report

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BMPs	Best Management Practices
CLAMP	Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan
CLIPA	Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association
DELI	Dual Estuary/Lake Idea
DETR	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team
DIN	dissolved inorganic nitrogen
DO	dissolved oxygen
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
Enterprise Services	Washington State Department of Enterprise Services
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GHG	greenhouse gas
I-5	Interstate 5
LOTT	Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County
NZMS	New Zealand mudsnail
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SMP	Shoreline Management Program
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
WDNR	Washington State Department of Natural Resources

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1.0 Introduction and Project Overview

The Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (Enterprise Services) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary Long-Term Management Project (formerly “Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed”). The EIS is being prepared to comply with the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The first step in preparing an EIS is “scoping” a Draft EIS; the purpose of scoping is to notify agencies and the public of the project, and to solicit comments on the alternatives to be evaluated and environmental issues to be analyzed in the Draft EIS. The comments will help to determine or refine the alternatives and the significant environment impacts that will be studied and described in the Draft EIS.

During scoping, Enterprise Services heard feedback regarding the project name and logo. Enterprise Services took the opportunity provided by scoping to listen and respond to feedback and determined refinement of the project name was needed to ensure the project name more clearly reflects the project area, both present and past. The refined name, Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary Long-Term Management Project Environmental Impact Statement – helps to achieve this objective. This refinement does not indicate a change in scope or expectations for the project.

This Scoping Report provides an overview of the project and the primary alternatives considered, followed by a description of the scoping process and a summary of the comments received. The comment summary begins with an overview of the comments received, continues with a summary of each major comment topic, and ends with a list of other comment topic areas. The report concludes with a description of the next steps.

1.1 WHAT IS THE CAPITOL LAKE – DESCHUTES ESTUARY LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PROJECT?

Capitol Lake is part of the historical Deschutes Estuary, and includes the 260-acre Capitol Lake Basin, located on the Washington State Capitol Campus, in Olympia, Washington. Enterprise Services is responsible for the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the Capitol Lake Basin. This waterbody is an important recreational resource and valued amenity; however, it suffers from

numerous environmental issues including violations of water quality standards, inadequate sediment management, and the presence of invasive species, which have restricted active community use for more than 20 years. Long-term management strategies and actions are needed to address these issues in the Capitol Lake Basin and surrounding watershed.

The Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary Long-Term Management Project is the Enterprise Services-led effort to:

- Identify common goals for long-term management of the resource (Phase 1)
- Evaluate potential alternatives and identify the preferred alternative for long-term management (Phase 2)
- Design, permit, and implement a long-term management alternative (Phase 3)

In 2016, stakeholders, in collaboration with Enterprise Services, identified common goals that should be satisfied by any long-term management alternative. The project is now in Phase 2, where an EIS is being prepared to evaluate potential alternatives and to support the selection of a preferred alternative for long-term management of the Capitol Lake Basin.

1.2 WHERE IS THE PROJECT LOCATED?

The Capitol Lake Basin is located within the area extending from the south end at Tumwater Falls in the City of Tumwater to the north end at the 5th Avenue Dam in the City of Olympia (see Figure 1.1). The Capitol Lake Basin is part of the historical Deschutes Estuary and includes three distinct sub-basins, constricted by fill at the Interstate 5 (I-5) overpass and the railroad trestle near Marathon Park: South Basin, Middle Basin, and North Basin (the historical reflecting pool). The Deschutes River enters the South Basin from the southwest. While the limits of the Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary Long-Term Management Project are focused on the area that Enterprise Services maintains (the Capitol Lake Basin), it is recognized that the interconnectedness of the system requires coordinated agency efforts.

1.3 WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY ALTERNATIVES?

The Washington State Legislature has identified a minimum of four primary alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS. The fundamental concepts for these four primary alternatives are summarized below.

- **Managed Lake Alternative.** The Managed Lake Alternative is similar to existing conditions, with additional strategies to manage sediment accumulation and future deposition, including maintenance dredging within the North and Middle Basins and selective dredging within the South Basin. The Managed Lake Alternative would retain the Fifth Avenue Dam and tide gate in their current configuration to maintain the historical reflecting pool and the Capitol Lake Basin.

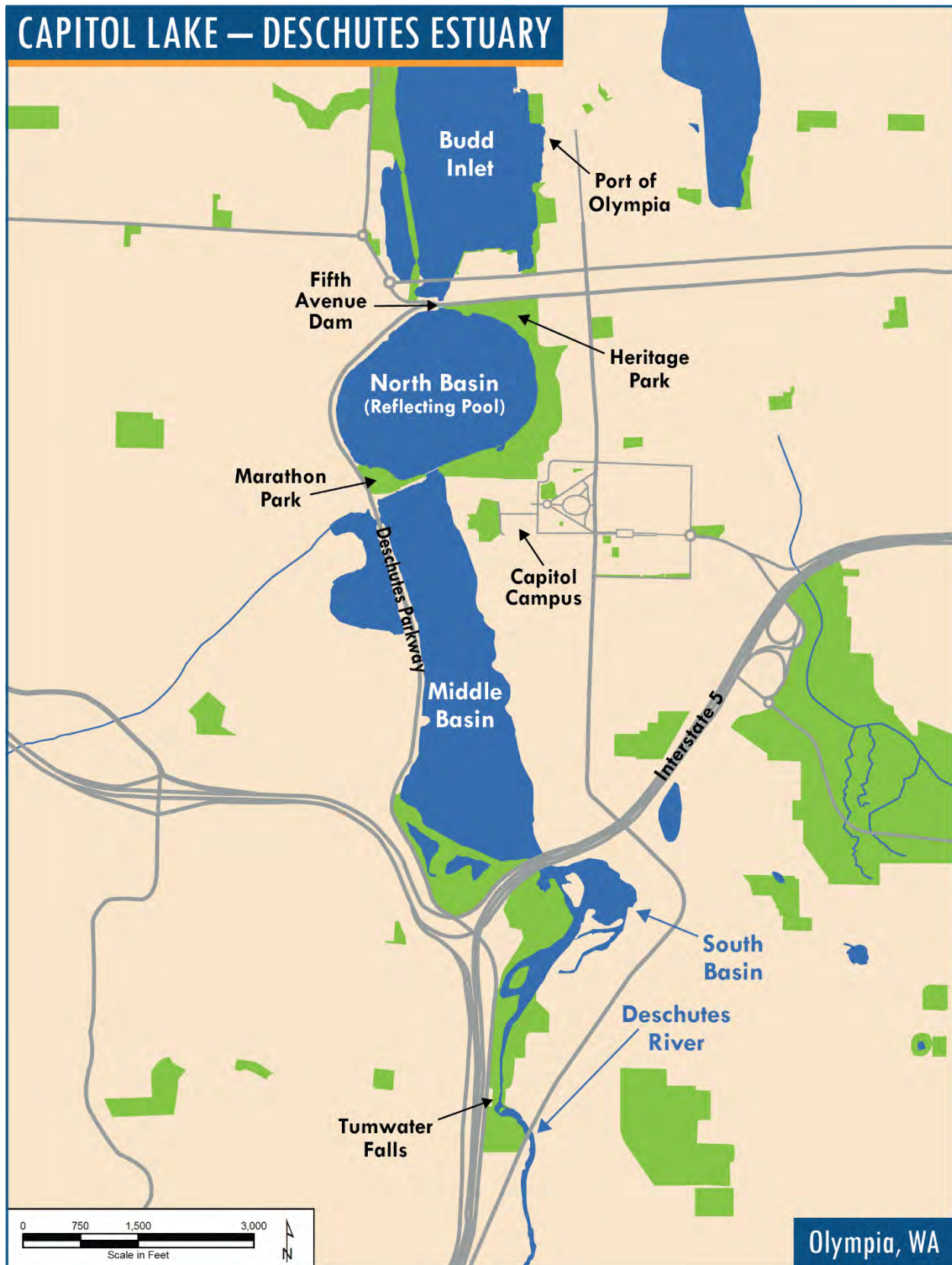


Figure 1-1 Area Map

- **Estuary Alternative.** Under the Estuary Alternative, full tidal hydrology would be restored throughout the entire basin. An opening in the Fifth Avenue Dam would be constructed sufficient in size to allow tidal exchange within newly formed mudflats. This opening would allow tidal flow (saltwater) within North Basin during approximately 75 percent of tidal elevations. Sediment would be managed through initial dredging in the Capitol Lake Basin and recurring maintenance dredging in Budd Inlet.
- **Hybrid Alternative.** The Hybrid Alternative allows management of the basin by establishing a tidal estuary in the western portion of the North Basin, and throughout the Middle and South Basins. An opening at the Fifth Avenue Dam would be constructed to allow for tidal flow. A retaining wall also would be constructed, at approximately the centerline of the North Basin, to develop a 39-acre saltwater reflecting pool adjacent to Heritage Park in the North Basin. Construction and maintenance of the smaller reflecting pool, in addition to restored estuarine conditions in part of the basin, give this option its classification as a hybrid. Sediment would be managed through initial dredging in the Capitol Lake Basin, and recurring maintenance dredging in Budd Inlet.
- **No Action Alternative.** A “no action” alternative must be evaluated in accordance with SEPA. The No Action Alternative is intended to represent the likely future for the project area if the project is not implemented. Operations and maintenance activities to retain the existing Fifth Avenue Dam and tide gate in their current configuration would continue. Enterprise Services would continue to implement invasive species management strategies. Sediment management strategies, like maintenance dredging, would not occur. The No Action Alternative would also include planned and funded actions that have been identified by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of a water-quality improvement strategy.

Several options or variations of the primary alternatives have also been proposed in earlier planning phases of the project. These, and the options or variations of the primary alternatives that have previously been proposed, are further described in the Alternatives Report available on the project website’s library at <https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/library>. Additional options or variations of the primary alternatives that were received during the EIS scoping period are described below in Section 3.4, under New Concept Proposals.

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2.0 Scoping Process

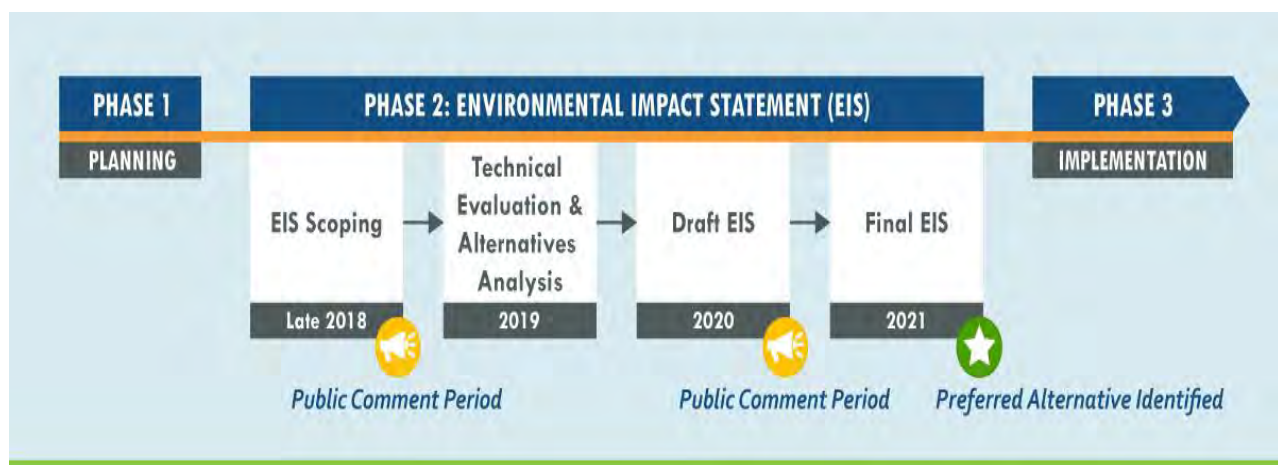
2.1 WHAT IS SCOPING?

The purpose of scoping is to establish and confirm the focus of the EIS by seeking input from agencies, tribal governments, and members of the public on the content and emphasis (scope) of the EIS. Scoping also provides notice to the public and other agencies that an EIS is being prepared, and typically initiates their involvement in the EIS process.

Enterprise Services conducted a scoping comment period from September 26 to November 13, 2018, in accordance with SEPA requirements per Washington Administrative Code 197-11-408. The scoping comment period was expanded from the typical 21-days to 48-days total. Enterprise Service invited agencies, tribal governments, and members of the public to provide input on the scope of the EIS relating to the range of alternatives, elements of the affected environment to be analyzed in the EIS, probable significant adverse impacts, and potential mitigation measures.

Input is formally accepted at two key points in the SEPA process during scoping and then when a Draft EIS is available for public review. The public comment period for the Draft EIS will likely be in 2020.

Figure 2-1 Project Schedule and Phasing



2.2 WHEN DID SCOPING BEGIN?

Scoping under SEPA began with the issuance and publication of a Determination of Significance and Request for Comments on the Scope of the EIS on September 26, 2018. (Appendix A: Determination of Significance/Scoping Notice, and Appendix B: SEPA Register Notice). This Scoping Notice included a summary of the proposed long-term management project, including the primary alternatives to be considered in the EIS. The Scoping Notice also announced the dates of the two public scoping meetings and the duration of the scoping comment period.

During this period, the public was invited to submit comments in four ways:

- **Online** at: CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.participate.online
- **Via e-mail** to: comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org
- **In writing** to: Department of Enterprise Services, c/o Bill Frare – Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed EIS, PO Box 41476, Olympia, WA 98504
- **In writing and/or verbally at the EIS Public Scoping Meetings**

2.3 HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED?

Enterprise Services conducted the following public notification and outreach activities to notify agencies, tribal governments, and members of the public and stakeholders of the scoping comment period, and to announce the public scoping meeting dates:

- The **Scoping Notice**, including scoping meeting announcements, was published in Ecology's SEPA Register on September 26, 2018.
- A **Legal Notice** was placed in The Olympian on September 26, 2018.
- **Digital ads** were placed in The Olympian and via the Enterprise Services' Facebook and Twitter accounts; local partners also shared social media content.
- A **news release** was issued on September 26, 2018 and distributed to numerous media outlets throughout Puget Sound.
- A **media call** was hosted on September 26, 2018.

What is the purpose of the EIS?

An EIS is a document that provides impartial, comprehensive discussion of a project's potential significant adverse impacts, reasonable alternatives, and proposed measures to avoid or minimize impacts. An EIS provides decision makers with information to consider in making decisions to fund or implement a specific project, and for agencies with permitting authority to consider in making permitting and approval decisions. It does not constitute a decision or approval on its own. An EIS is not a cost-benefit analysis for a project; rather, an EIS provides environmental information to be considered alongside economic and other policy considerations in reviewing projects that could significantly affect the environment.

- An **e-mail** with the Scoping Notice was sent to a mailing list of approximately 5,000 recipients on September 26, with reminders occurring on October 8, October 17, and November 7, 2018.
- **Posters and flyers** were delivered to approximately 100 local businesses, community service centers, local stakeholder offices, and other gathering places.

2.4 WHAT OTHER OUTREACH ACTIVITIES OCCURRED?

In addition to the scoping notifications outlined above, the project team participated in or hosted several meetings and events to ensure that coordinating agencies, key stakeholder groups, and the community were notified of the scoping process, and had an opportunity to ask questions to clarify the role of this process in an EIS.

In October, the project team met with each of the three Work Groups that have been convened in an advisory role for this EIS. The Work Groups, which participated in Phase 1, are comprised of government partners and agencies that have jurisdiction or regulatory authority within the project area, and include an Executive Work Group, Technical Work Group, and Funding and Governance Work Group. The first series of meetings with these Work Groups were intended to formally engage the Work Groups in the EIS process, discuss the purpose of the EIS, and to describe project milestones and timelines, including the scoping process. The meetings included a discussion about the value of scoping comments and an overview of the various ways to submit comments.

The project team also provided briefings, at the invitation of individual, established organizations. There were six briefings in total, all in October 2018. Briefings included a description of the scoping process, the purpose of the project and environmental analysis, preparation of the EIS (including Work Group participation), and the public participation opportunities. Participants were invited to ask clarifying questions to help in submitting informed comments during the scoping period. A similar briefing was also provided to the Olympia City Council, at their request.

Briefings were also provided to the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee, the State Capitol Committee, and the Governor's Office during scoping. These committees and the Governor's Office function as decision-making bodies for projects on the State Capitol Campus. The briefings provided a project overview, including a discussion of the scoping process, and an opportunity to ask questions of the project team.

The last planned in-person notification occurred at the Olympia Arts Walk. Project team members attended the event, handing out flyers to participants and other community members. The project team members answered any questions about the project, the EIS process, and scoping.

2.5 WHEN WERE SCOPING MEETINGS HELD?

Scoping meetings provide an opportunity for the public to comment orally. Two public scoping meetings were held during the scoping period and followed similar formats. Each meeting included an open house with information provided about the project and an opportunity for the public to talk to

Enterprise Services and project team members; a brief presentation describing the project, primary alternatives, and the EIS process; and a public comment session to take oral comments on the scope of the EIS. A court reporter recorded all public comments. The meetings were:

- October 10, 2018, 5:30 – 8:30 P.M. at the Hotel RL, 2300 Evergreen Park Dr. SW
- October 22, 2018, 5:30 – 8:30 P.M. at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts, 512 Washington St. SE

The October 10 public meeting was attended by 46 people, and 50 people attended the October 22 public meeting. Public scoping comments were collected through a court reporter, handwritten comment cards, and an online comment form. The notifications and scoping meeting display boards are available on the project website's library at <https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/library>. Comments received at the meetings are included in Appendix C, along with the other comments submitted during the scoping period.

3.0 Summary of Scoping Comments

3.1 COMMENTS OVERVIEW

Over the 48-day scoping comment period, 935 individual comments in 271 comment submissions were received via the web-based comment form, email, oral comments at scoping meetings, and hard copy comment forms or letters (Figure 3.1). Comments were submitted by 220 different individuals, some individuals submitted more than one letter or submitted a letter and provided comments at a public meeting. In addition, 9 organizations, 7 agencies, and 1 tribe provided comments (Figure 3.2). The names of agencies, organizations, and the tribe that commented are listed in Table 3.1. All comments received through the scoping process were reviewed for the specific issues or recommendations raised by the commenter. Comments were categorized and helped to formulate the scope of the analysis and elements of the environment to be included in the EIS for further analysis (Figure 3.3). Other comments addressed specific alternatives, or suggested new alternatives/options. Many similar comments were received from multiple commenters.

Figure 3.1 Comments by Type

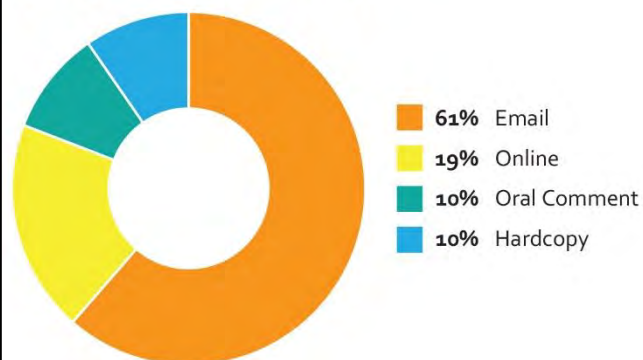
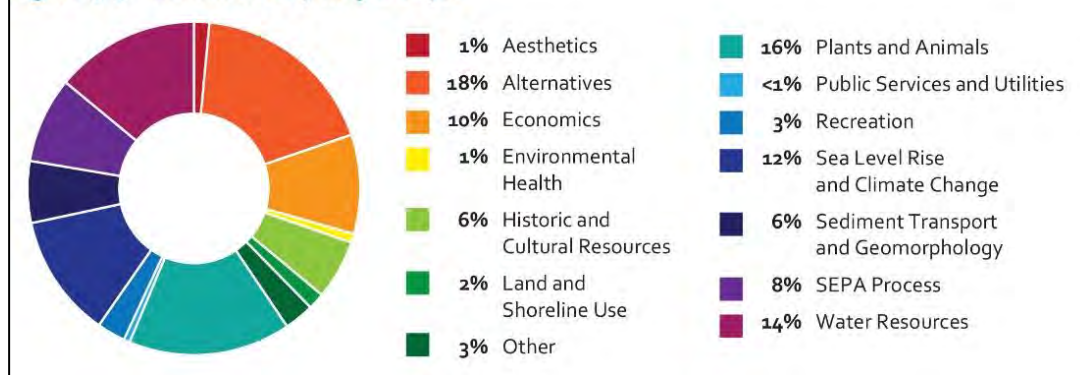


Figure 3.2 Number of Unique Commenters



Figure 3.3 Comments by Major Topic

Table 3.1 Agencies, Organizations, and Tribe that Commented

Name	
City of Tumwater	Agency
Intercity Transit Authority	Agency
LOTT Clean Water Alliance	Agency
Port of Olympia	Agency
State Representative (Beth Doglio, 22 nd Legislative District)	Agency
Thurston County	Agency
Washington State Department of Ecology	Agency
Squaxin Island Tribe	Tribe
Black Hills Audubon Society	Organization
Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA)	Organization
Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team (DERT)	Organization
Earth Art	Organization
Olympia Coalition for Ecosystems Preservation	Organization
Olympia Urban Waters League	Organization
Pacifica Restoration	Organization
Thurston County Chamber of Commerce	Organization
World Temperate Rainforest Network	Organization

3.2 COMMENTS SUMMARY INTRODUCTION

Comments received during scoping are summarized below, by broader topic and specific issue. Although SEPA Scoping Reports are intended to summarize issues raised during scoping, and not to answer questions raised during scoping, *blue italicized text* in Section 3.3 Comments on Elements of the Environment and Section 3.4 Comments on Alternatives provides context on how issues and questions raised in scoping comments may be addressed in the EIS. The scope of the EIS analyses will continue to be refined as the project progresses with input from the Work Groups. The italicized text represents the currently proposed approach to the EIS. The summary of scoping comments in this section is not meant to provide a comprehensive or verbatim list of comments; see Appendix C for all comments received

during scoping. The summary is intended to represent the scoping comments that were received, the project team did not evaluate technical validity or feasibility; instead, the comments are summarized as they were submitted.


3.3 COMMENTS ON OVERALL EIS SCOPE AND SEPA PROCESS

Over 100 comments expressed general opinions, or questions and comments about the overall EIS scope and SEPA process. These included specific comments regarding the project purpose and need (and objectives), lead agency, decision-making, agency coordination, public involvement, and agency and tribal coordination. Note, while some of these comments do not provide direct input into the scope of analysis, the range of interests will continue to be considered.

3.3.1 General Opinion


Many comments contained strong sentiments of support for or opposition to a specific alternative. The EIS is an impartial, factual document for use by the public and decision-makers. These comments were reviewed, but support and opposition to project alternatives do not define the scope of technical analyses to be included in the scope of technical analyses to be included in the EIS. A brief summary is provided below. The information is included to provide a complete picture of comments received during scoping. Substantive comments on alternatives and issues are summarized in the subsequent sections. Comments were received on the primary alternatives that have long been discussed for the long term management of Capitol Lake, and comments were also received for new concepts, such as a temporal hybrid. Further details on comments on alternatives and new concepts are provided below in Section 3.4

Comments expressing general support for the **Managed Lake Alternative** most commonly mentioned issues around recreation, with many commenters placing value on the ability to walk around the lake, and on the aesthetic quality of the lake. Several commenters expressed their viewpoint that the lake should be retained as it is a central part of Olympia and hub of activity (e.g. "...Capitol Lake is the centerpiece of downtown Olympia. On a daily basis there are joggers, bikers and families walking around the lake"). Other comments expressed support but did not provide additional information on specific issues to consider in scoping. Comments in opposition to a Managed Lake Alternative most commonly cited concerns about water quality and ecological impacts.



The **Managed Lake Alternative** would maintain the existing reflecting pool.

Comments expressing general support for the **Estuary Alternative** most commonly mentioned anticipated improvement to environmental quality, particularly water quality and habitat improvements. Several comments expressed support but did not provide additional information on specific issues to consider (e.g., "I think removal of the tide gate to restore the natural tidal estuary is the best option because it would bring the most important benefits to the natural ecosystems and to the surrounding communities at a reasonable



The **Estuary Alternative** would remove the existing Fifth Avenue Dam to restore the tidal estuary.

cost.”). Comments in opposition to the Estuary Alternative most commonly cited concerns about impacts from sediment deposition in Budd Inlet.

A few comments specifically mentioned support for the **Hybrid Alternative**. Comments on the Hybrid Alternative brought up similar issues as described above for the Managed Lake and Estuary Alternatives. Comments either suggested that it could be a successful compromise, or that it would not satisfy either of the opposing interests.

Few comments mentioned the **No Action Alternative** specifically. At least one commenter stated that a No Action Alternative, or “doing nothing,” is “...not acceptable given that something needs to be done to address issues with the lake”.

3.3.2 Project Objectives

Several commenters stated that the objectives of long-term management should be identified in a way that allows all alternatives to be measured against them.

Many commenters requested that water quality improvements, sediment management, and improvement of ecological function be the primary objectives, with several emphasizing water quality improvements in Budd Inlet. Many requested that the EIS “Consider the sources of Budd Inlet’s current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.”

Other commenters stated that community needs and priorities should be considered primary objectives of long-term management.

3.3.3 SEPA Process / Scope of Analysis

Many commenters expressed support for the EIS process but also expressed concern with how long the overall process has taken to decide on a long-term management outcome. Other commenters asked why an EIS is needed, with some stating that if the lake had been dredged and maintained over the past 30 years, an EIS wouldn’t be needed. Similarly, some stated that they participated in, or were following the previous planning work (Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan [CLAMP]) and commented that the EIS process is just another process to “study the issue to death” and what is needed is for someone to just make a decision.

Comments on the scope of analysis included requests that the EIS consider the environmental impacts beyond the immediate project area, stating that improving the health of Puget Sound is a region-wide issue. Similar to this, others requested that the EIS take a holistic approach and model the entire ecosystem and the changes that would occur under all alternatives. The geographic area most

The **Hybrid Alternative** would include elements of the Managed Lake and the Estuary Alternatives – a smaller reflecting pool would be developed near Heritage Park and a barrier would be constructed to support a restored tidal estuary.

The **No Action Alternative** is required by SEPA but is not expected to meet project objectives

commonly cited was the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet, with others requesting that the upper watershed and South Puget Sound, or Puget Sound as a whole be included in the analysis.

Several commenters requested that past studies be reviewed and supplemented with new data where appropriate.

3.3.4 Lead Agency

Several commenters questioned why Enterprise Services is the SEPA lead agency and requested that the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) or Ecology serve as lead agency to bring a science-based approach and an agency background in managing lake/estuaries.

3.3.5 Decision-Making

Comments on decision-making included questions regarding how SEPA EIS decisions are made and what is covered in the EIS process. Some of the comments addressed decision-making factors that are outside the SEPA process. For example, many commenters acknowledged the strong community viewpoints on the future of Capitol Lake, those who want the lake to be retained and those who want estuary restoration, and stated that the final decision will need to be a compromise decision in order to “break the 30-year stalemate” and have community support for implementation. Several commenters requested that Enterprise Services conduct a survey of the community to establish community preferences. Some commenters requested that a citizens’ group or community business interests be part of the decision-making process. One commenter suggested that “it is imperative that the State Legislature and agency leaders understand what the community desires.”

3.3.6 Public Involvement

A few comments included questions or requests related to public involvement. Some noted that it will be important to include the public throughout the process given the historical and cultural value of Capitol Lake. One commenter asked what methods were used to inform the public of the EIS scoping process, and noted that social media is an important method for sharing information. The City of Olympia requested that Enterprise Services involve private property owners with ties to the existing lake in the EIS process. One commenter suggested a design charrette as a way to engage community stakeholders.

3.3.7 Agency and Tribe Coordination

Several commenters asked which agencies and tribes would be collaborating with Enterprise Services in the EIS process. Several commenters described the estuary as being an historical waterbody and encouraged the project team to work closely with local area tribes given their stewardship of the basin. Several specifically requested that the agency encourage involvement of Salish tribes in the process, with the Squaxin Island Tribe and the Nisqually Indian Tribe specifically mentioned. Several requested that the LOTT (Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County) Clean Water Alliance be actively involved in the EIS process citing their significant stake in the outcome of the EIS. One commenter

asked if Enterprise Services is working in collaboration with the City of Olympia on the West Bay Restoration Project.

3.4 COMMENTS ON ELEMENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

3.4.1 Water Resources

Over 130 comments discussed water resource-related impacts. Most commonly, comments requested that the EIS consider two main aspects of water quality impacts – sources of water quality issues and potential for water quality improvements under the alternatives, both in Capitol Lake basin and in Budd Inlet. Many comments provided specific recommendations for analysis. Viewpoints about the magnitude and extent of the problem, the causes, and potential approaches to analyzing the issues differ widely, as described below.

Scope of Analysis

Regarding the existing lake's impacts on water quality, many commenters requested that the EIS include an analysis of how the current lake condition is affecting water quality and how the lake contributes to exceedances of state or federal water quality standards. Many commenters stated their belief that the Fifth Avenue Dam, which established and maintains the lake, is the main reason for water quality issues in the lake and Budd Inlet. The lake was often mentioned as the main contributor to low dissolved oxygen in Budd Inlet due to the dam's combined effects of changing circulation as well as nitrogen and carbon loads. Other commenters stated the opinion that mismanagement of the lake is the primary cause of water quality issues, primarily the failure to remove sediments.

Several commenters asserted that recent review of water quality studies show that the lake prevents eutrophication of Budd Inlet and has a positive effect on dissolved oxygen levels of Budd Inlet during the critical summer months (primarily due to dissolved inorganic nitrogen [DIN] uptake by algae and plants growing in the lake). Many of these commenters pointed to a 2015 report by Dr. David Milne, described by many commenters as a peer review of previous state-sponsored reports (e.g., Ecology modeling simulations); the Milne report, titled "Capitol Lake – The Healthiest Lake in Thurston County," asserts that water quality in the lake is better than portrayed and refutes claims that the lake is detrimental to water quality in Budd Inlet. In addition to the 2015 report, it was recommended the EIS consider a 2018 report "Supplemental Modeling Scenarios: A Critical Review" by Milne that discusses the aquatic vegetation and algae in Capitol Lake, with a focus on dissolved oxygen (DO) and nitrogen. One commenter suggested that the greatest source of nutrient loading in Budd Inlet is upwelling coming from the north, outside of Budd Inlet, and not the Deschutes River and Capitol Lake.

One commenter stated that Thurston County sampling results show that water quality in the lake has improved to the point that Ecology is not including water quality issues in the lake itself in its current Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis. Several stated that the 2015 report points to improvements in water quality following the diversions of storm drains and sewers, asserting that fecal coliform bacteria concentrations have been within regulatory standards for the last 15 years. The comments further suggested that the lake has been clean enough for swimming and that threats posed

by introduced species are exaggerated. At least one commenter suggested that if a water sampling covering the required full calendar year was reinstated, Ecology’s “impaired” designation may be able to be removed.

Several commenters described citizen-led water quality sampling in the lake, and described results showing water quality problems, especially for total phosphate, biochemical oxygen demand, turbidity, and pH.

Water quality in Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet will be evaluated to understand existing conditions and how conditions may change under the alternatives. As part of this evaluation, the project team will consider reports referenced in the scoping comments and their applicability to the evaluation. The evaluation could also include the collection of new water quality samples.

Regarding upper watershed water quality issues and sources, many commenters stated that upstream sources are a main source of water quality issues in Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet. Several noted that Ecology is continuing to work on the federally (EPA) mandated TMDL analysis, which links all impacts in the Deschutes River Watershed into one ecosystem and related water quality management plan. These comments emphasize the impacts in the Capitol Lake Basin from the entire watershed, including upper rural sub-watersheds.

Most commonly, nutrients from upper watershed sources were mentioned as a main contributor to water quality issues in Capitol Lake, and some commenters asserted that nutrient issues can only be addressed by changes in upland land use practices. Related to these, several commenters requested that herbicides and nitrogen contributions from the basin be examined, noting specific sources such as agriculture, Tumwater Valley Golf Club, forest land fertilization, septic tanks, and stormwater discharges. One commenter requested that the EIS include an assessment of commercial and residential activities on the upper Deschutes River Watershed as it contributes to water quality in the lake.

In addition to nutrients, other commenters requested that the EIS consider impacts of all aspects of water quality in Capitol Lake and surrounding tributaries and watershed, including stormwater, sediment, temperature, riparian buffers, and other discharges. One commenter requested that the future impact of the planned Tumwater fish hatchery on water quality be considered.

One commenter stated that the alternatives evaluated in the EIS must address sediment loading and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce sources of fine sediment in the Deschutes River, noting that the Deschutes TMDL work identifies fine sediment as a pollutant exceeding state standards for water quality.

To the extent that upper watershed sources help to understand existing conditions in the basin and Budd Inlet, and how conditions may change under the alternatives, they will be evaluated in the EIS.

Regarding analysis of water quality, many commenters requested that the EIS include a robust analysis of water quality, evaluating how each alternative would improve water quality and comply with state water quality criteria. Comments described Ecology’s work on the Budd Inlet TMDL and the water cleanup plan for the Deschutes River upstream of Capitol Lake, and requested that the EIS evaluate how alternatives conform to the TMDL and water cleanup plan. Specific modeling tools were suggested for the analysis. One commenter requested that the EIS evaluation place high priority on full implementation of the forthcoming TMDL waste load allocation for the lake.

Several commenters provided critiques of existing state water quality studies and requested additional field sampling and research to establish a current baseline and to review and/or conduct independent third party review of studies. Related to this, several commenters also suggested that Ecology’s data are incomplete or outdated and requested that the evaluation of impacts and mitigation strategies not be based on models (e.g., Ecology TMDL model), but rather current field sampling results to ensure data are field verified.

Several commenters requested that the impacts and enhancement of water quality in Percival Creek be considered. One commenter requested that the EIS place particular emphasis on evaluating how each alternative affects DIN. One commenter requested that the EIS compare water quality in Eld Inlet with that in Budd Inlet, stating that Eld Inlet water quality (where there is no dam) has more water quality problems than Budd Inlet.

At least one commenter stated that projections in the CLAMP about the benefits of returning Capitol Lake to an estuary are inconsistent with a report prepared by Dr. Milne. The comments further requested a re-assessment of the “Nature of Capitol Lake” prepared by Kaye V. Ladd, PhD and Oscar H. Soule, PhD (2011) used in the CLAMP process “to ensure that the very basic science is documented then used as a basis for comparing the benefits of the Dam vs. No Dam discussion.”

Several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate how each alternative would affect LOTT. Several commenters noted that LOTT recently received a five-year extension on its discharge permit and questioned whether or not this discharge permit will be able to be renewed in the future if water quality violations can’t be addressed, and requested that the EIS evaluate the impacts of the alternatives on LOTT (see also Public Services and Utilities comment summary).

Water quality analysis will be conducted for the EIS to understand how conditions may change under the alternatives, including whether alternatives would achieve state water quality criteria and Ecology’s forthcoming TMDL waste load allocation for the lake. As part of this evaluation, the project team will consider referenced reports and their applicability to the evaluation. The evaluation could also include the collection of new water quality samples from within Capitol Lake.

Regarding potential impacts to surface water, at least one commenter asked that the EIS address how the alternatives would impact natural water circulation patterns in the lake and Budd Inlet.

Hydrodynamics under each alternative will be evaluated in the lake and Budd Inlet.

Regarding potential flooding impacts, several commenters requested that the EIS include an evaluation of flooding and noted that an open system (under the Estuary or Hybrid Alternatives) would have more capacity for flood waters than a lake. Several commenters requested that flooding be modeled using available data and the most recent sea-level rise projections (see also Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise comment summary).

Several commenters stated that a lake can better protect the downtown area from flooding. One commenter requested that the EIS recognize that the tide lock has been used to prevent flooding in the North Campus and downtown Olympia, and stated that with sea-level rise, the retention of the tide lock will become even more important to continue to prevent flooding.

An evaluation of flooding will be included in the EIS, based on numerical modeling of potential water elevations under each alternative.

Other topics of concern related to water resources included comments on other water resource conditions and issues within the watershed and the scope of the analysis. One commenter stated that the EIS should identify mitigation to address impacts to changes in flow characteristics of the Deschutes River due to increased withdrawal of groundwater aquifers, continued development in the watershed, and increases in impervious surfaces, noting that these characteristics have a major impact on the system. *This comment is outside the scope of the SEPA review for this project. Mitigation will be identified in the EIS to reduce adverse environmental impacts of the project.*

Several commenters requested that the analysis of water quality include an area that extends beyond the confines of the existing lake.

The study area will be defined in the EIS for each element by considering the potential area of impacts.

Impacts of Alternatives (General Comments)

Regarding the potential improvement of water quality under the alternatives, many commenters expressed their belief that the Estuary Alternative would best address water quality issues, citing the lake as the main contributor to low dissolved oxygen in Budd Inlet. These commenters suggested that water quality would benefit from the introduction of tidal flow and brackish water in the basin. Others asserted that alternatives that remove the dam would reduce water quality in Budd Inlet, stating that estuaries naturally have seasonal low-oxygen water and that removing the lake would replace a high-oxygen waterbody with a low-oxygen waterbody. Some comments discussed the potential flushing of stagnant water, which may contain sewer discharges.

Several expressed their belief that a Managed Lake Alternative that incorporates nutrient harvesting can best improve water quality in Budd Inlet. A proposed aquatic plant harvest plan (“CLIPA Plant Harvest Plan and Mitigation Benefits”) was submitted as part of a “Community Lake Management Plan” (see comment summary under Alternatives).

In relation to the Hybrid Alternative, one commenter stated that it would be important to avoid use of chemicals for invasive weed management, or to use the lake to receive untreated stormwater runoff, or to otherwise impact water draining to the estuary.

In relation to existing conditions (or the No Action Alternative), many expressed general concerns about how water quality affects the use and enjoyment of the lake, including concerns about public health issues, recreation closures, and ecological/aesthetic issues (e.g., “Capitol Lake is a disgusting mess, especially in the summer when it becomes a cesspool of toxic algal blooms”).

3.4.2 Sediment Transport and Geomorphology

At least 55 comments discussed issues around sediment sources, transport, deposition, and management. In general, most commenters suggested that sediment management be a key factor in the EIS analysis (e.g., “Management of sediment is a key component to successfully moving forward on this issue. Ample attention should be given to this issue in the EIS with solutions offered for each option”). Several commenters noted that the EIS is required to “consider sediment transport and [depositional] locations within lower Budd Inlet” as part of the authorizing budget proviso for the project. These and other comments are summarized below.

Scope of Analysis

Regarding sediment transport and deposition, many commenters requested a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport and deposition under each alternative. Several commenters expanded on this, requesting that the EIS establish the existing rate of sedimentation and any significant areas of fine sediment contribution, the volume and quality of sediments, the fate of sediments leaving an open system (Estuary or Hybrid Alternative), appropriate techniques for removal, disposal options, and cost estimates. Comments included a request for a “comprehensive analysis to include impacts of future sediment deposits to the federal Olympia Navigation Channel and to the Port of Olympia’s Marine Terminal berthing areas.” One commenter noted that the downstream marinas and port are located within a constitutional Harbor Area, which is protected for navigation and commerce, so sediment deposition within this area is a key regulatory consideration.

Many requested that the analysis consider the appropriate baseline measures to assess sediment transport and deposition, and requested that sediment data and baseline measures be updated from previous studies. One commenter requested that the EIS consider Ecology’s TMDL data and stated that the recent TMDL for fine sediments in the Deschutes River quantifies the annual sediment load and states that over 75 percent of the sediment load is natural with no anthropogenic origin. One commenter noted that past estimates of sediment transport and deposition used by modeling were based on historical physical data that were current up to 2005, and suggested that over the intervening

years, the physical landscape has changed and climate change will affect sediment dynamics going forward. The commenter requested that modeling be updated to reflect climate change and the current physical landscape. At least one commenter requested that the models be developed to show how each alternative will either mitigate or impact natural erosion and sedimentation forces.

One commenter expressed concern with the assumptions, approaches, and calculations used in earlier CLAMP studies related to sediment management, and requested that the EIS include new analyses for dredging, disposal, and sediment management for each alternative.

A few commenters asked that the EIS address water velocity/tidal force, including how the tide regulates sediment load and deposition. At least one commenter asked whether or not sediment would be transported to other areas of Puget Sound under the Estuary or Hybrid Alternative, thereby not affecting Budd Inlet as much.

Sediment transport and deposition will be evaluated in the EIS through numerical modeling to understand existing conditions and how conditions may change under the alternatives, including potential impacts in Budd Inlet. The EIS will evaluate sediment management opportunities and the plan for dredging and disposal.

Regarding contaminated sediments, many commenters requested that the EIS consider the impacts from existing, and potential changes in, contaminated sediment under the alternatives. Several requested that the EIS include updated sediment quality data to establish a baseline characterization of sediment within the waterbody. A few requested an evaluation of the relationship of management alternatives to ongoing Budd Inlet sediment investigation and cleanup.

Commenters requested that the EIS address contaminated sediments that may be transported downstream or upstream, depending on the alternative. Most frequently mentioned was the potential for an Estuary or Hybrid Alternative to mobilize contaminated sediments within Budd Inlet and transport them upstream into the system. One commenter asked if an estuary would cap and clean contaminated sediments.

Sediment quality within the project area is expected to include a focused number of sediment samples, that will be evaluated in the EIS to understand existing conditions, how conditions may change under the alternatives, and how the sediment quality could impact design, construction and costs.

Regarding sediment management and disposal, many commenters requested that the EIS address how sediment will be managed under each alternative, including initial and long-term maintenance dredging and other sediment management techniques. Under an open system (Estuary or Hybrid Alternative), several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate dredging required to offset potential effects to sediment deposition within the federal Olympia Navigation Channel, Port of Olympia's

Marine Terminal berthing areas, and waterfront businesses/marinas (see Comments on Alternatives summary).

One commenter noted that early sediment modeling showed that some of the sediment would accumulate within areas currently occupied by marinas and docks. The commenters suggested that the current permit/lease status and renewal schedule for marina activities be included in the EIS. Should subsequent modeling confirm these areas of sediment accumulation, the commenter suggested relocating those activities farther into the inlet to minimize the need for ongoing dredging.

Regarding the disposal of dredged sediment, several commenters requested that the EIS consider the contaminant levels in Capitol Lake sediment and its suitability as a marketable product or for in-water disposal (under the Managed Lake Alternative) as compared with the costs of disposal of dredged sediment from Budd Inlet (under the Estuary or Hybrid Alternative). Others commented that sediments under the Estuary or Hybrid Alternative would mingle with contaminated sediment in Puget Sound, increasing costs and limiting options for disposal of dredged sediment. One commenter requested that the EIS include sampling sediments near the deep water terminal and the yacht club, focusing on areas most likely to contain contaminated sediments from marina uses.

In response to these comments, initial and ongoing maintenance plan(s) for dredging will be evaluated in the EIS for the alternatives, including an evaluation of potential impacts to downstream resources. Mitigation measures to offset impacts from sediment accumulation will be evaluated. The EIS will also include a regulatory review of the alternatives.

Impacts of Alternatives (General Comments)

Related to the Managed Lake Alternative, several commenters stated that because it is a sediment trap, the lake would require periodic maintenance that has been deferred for many years. One commenter stated that “dredging and keeping the lake would be a never ending, costly process that would not benefit the estuary or salmon habitat.”

Many commenters expressed their belief that the Estuary Alternative would best improve sediment transport and would be the most like a natural system. One commenter requested that the EIS clearly address the amount of initial dredging needed to establish a channel.

Many commenters expressed concerns that under the Estuary Alternative, sediment would impact the Port and waterfront businesses (marinas) and make them unusable. Several commenters recommended reducing initial impacts by dredging to remove excess sediment.

3.4.3 Air Quality

A few comments were received regarding air quality, most expressing concern that the Estuary Alternative would result in odor impacts due to hydrogen sulfide produced by an exposed tidal basin. The majority of these comments were negative, describing it as “inappropriate in an urban setting” and

detracting from the visitor experience. However, a few expressed appreciations for the “natural” odor of an estuary.

Air quality will be evaluated in the EIS to understand existing conditions and how conditions may change under the alternatives, including potential for odor impacts.

3.4.4 Sea-Level Rise and Climate Change

At least 110 comments requested that climate change be accounted for in the EIS with respect to how a changing environment would affect the project area, as well as how the factors that contribute to climate change (e.g., greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions) would change with each alternative.

Many commenters requested that the EIS include an analysis of sea-level rise and the potential for flooding of downtown Olympia, particularly during high river flow events and king tides. Several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate how the alternatives perform under multiple climate change scenarios. Other commenters requested that the EIS consider the City of Olympia’s plans to address sea-level rise in downtown and how those plans may be affected by the project alternatives.

Several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate the ability of each alternative to sequester carbon and offset methane release (blue carbon science).

The EIS will include an evaluation to understand potential implications of climate change and sea-level rise, and the potential resiliency of each alternative. The evaluation will be based on results from modeling of potential future water elevations under each alternative and will consider planning underway by the City of Olympia and partner agencies for a Sea Level Response Plan for Downtown Olympia.

3.4.5 Plants and Animals (including Invasive Species)

Over 135 comments discussed issues around plants and animals, including invasive species. The majority of commenters requested that the EIS include a robust evaluation of salmon in the watershed and the effects on salmon from the alternatives. Many comments also requested that the EIS evaluate effects on Southern Resident orcas. Some comments were more general, requesting that the analysis consider the long-term sustainability of native plants and animals. A few comments included very specific technical information, particularly regarding bats and their use of Capitol Lake. These and other comments are summarized below.

Scope of Analysis

Regarding salmon, many commenters requested that the EIS evaluate historical use, current use, and potential changes or impacts to salmon under the alternatives. Several commenters requested that the EIS consider effects on the hatchery upstream of Tumwater Falls. Others requested that the EIS

evaluate effects to salmon in Percival Creek. Several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate the amount of habitat restoration under each alternative for salmon and other aquatic species.

Commenters requested that the EIS include information on the history of salmon in the watershed. A few commenters stated that prior to the construction of a fish ladder in the 1950s, Tumwater Falls was a barrier to salmon and Capitol Lake was stocked with Chinook. A few also asked how the current lake impairs salmon populations. Another commenter asked if removal of the Fifth Avenue Dam would negatively impact juvenile salmonids through the introduction of “marine predator compression points.”

Regarding Southern Resident orcas, many commenters requested an evaluation of effects on Southern Resident orcas, often connected to comments on salmon and how the alternatives would affect salmon as prey species. Several requested that the EIS consider the recommendations of Governor Inslee's Orca Task Force and utilize Squaxin Island Tribe's salmon tracking information.

Regarding bats, a number of commenters stated that the EIS should determine potential impacts to bat populations, and develop mitigation. One commenter provided information regarding four species of bats and their use of Capitol Lake, with focus on little brown bats and Yuma bats, and noted that Capitol Lake is a Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) priority habitat for these two species of bats. The commenter also noted that the bats forage over the lake surface or in the surrounding woodlands, but not over saltwater. The commenter stated that restoring the estuary would likely result in the collapse of regional maternity colonies. The following questions were asked to be addressed: (1) What impact would the various management options have on these bats? (2) Does the fact that western Washington bats are now dying from the devastating white-nose syndrome factor into the importance of conserving the south Puget Sound region's bats that use Capitol Lake? (3) What mitigation could prevent the loss of thousands of bats that forage over the freshwater Capitol Lake but do not forage over salt water or brackish water

Regarding birds, several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate the changes to habitat and impacts to birds that would occur under the alternatives. Most comments expressed concern about a loss of birds if Capitol Lake were restored to an estuary. Others wanted to restore the estuary to provide habitat for other species of birds. Several commenters provided information on birds that forage and roost in the project area and noted that WDFW has identified the basin as a Waterfowl Concentration Area and a Priority Area in Western Washington for nonbreeding concentrations of several species.

Regarding shellfish, a few commenters posed the question about the potential to reintroduce shellfish harvest if an estuary were restored, and how this would help habitat diversity and water quality.

Potential benefits and impacts to salmon, orcas, bats, birds, shellfish, and potentially other native species will be evaluated in the EIS. Mitigation measures for potential impacts will also be considered.

Regarding vegetation and wetlands, several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate how alternatives would affect wetlands, shoreline habitat, and trees surrounding the lake. In particular, there were concerns about the freshwater forested wetland at Tumwater Historical Park. A few commenters stated that the EIS should consider and evaluate Capitol Lake as a freshwater wetland, a result of damming of the Deschutes River and subsequent lack of dredging. They further stated the acreage of freshwater wetland lost should be mitigated.

The EIS will evaluate the potential impact to vegetation and wetlands.

Regarding invasive species, many commenters requested that the EIS confirm existing conditions and evaluate how alternatives would manage and control invasive species. Most comments were concerning the New Zealand mudsnail (NZMS). Both supporters of the Estuary and the Managed Lake included comments about the NZMS. Many comments stated that restoring tidal action is important to address NZMS and other invasive aquatic species in the lake. Other commenters included questions about the impact of salt water on the invasive New Zealand mudsnail, and whether estuary restoration would control or spread those invasive species. The potential for the presence of NZMS to affect disposal of dredged material was also mentioned.

Many commenters stated that closure of the lake to prevent the spread of NZMS was not warranted and referenced a report on the control and disposal of NZMS as well as a consultant report by Kelly Stockton-Fiji that critiques the state's actions at Capitol Lake. It was also requested that the EIS identify opportunities for control or decontamination under each alternative.

The EIS will evaluate the potential impact of saltwater on NZMS and other invasive species under open system alternatives. The EIS will also include an assessment of how the presence of NZMS impacts potential disposal options for dredged material.

Impacts of Alternatives (General Comments)

Habitat restoration was a primary theme of comments on the Estuary Alternative. Commenters suggested that an estuary would reduce invasive species and improve the natural environment, including the restoration of native plants, aquatic species, and other wildlife. Many commenters noted that estuaries support salmon and would encourage salmon and orca recovery, consistent with recent mandates from the Governor.

Related to the Managed Lake Alternative, several described Capitol Lake as a thriving freshwater ecosystem, stating that it should be dredged to maintain the bird and mammal populations that reside there in its current configuration. Some commenters stated that the value of habitat that Capitol Lake provides to plants, fish, and animals that have adapted to it is undervalued and many species would be negatively impacted. Several of these cited Dr. David Milne's reports from 2015 and 2018 that describe

some of the species that currently use Capitol Lake. At least one commenter stated that a lake offers better protection for juvenile Chinook from predators than an estuary. Other commenters stated that the dam is ecologically disruptive and estuaries have higher biodiversity.

The aquatic and plant species associated with the alternatives, including species diversity and potential benefits or impacts to salmonids, will be evaluated in the EIS.

Recreation and Land Use

Over 40 comments discussed recreation and land use issues, as summarized below.

Scope of Analysis

Regarding recreation, several commenters provided specific comments on the scope of the analysis. These are summarized as follows:

- Document the historical and current recreational uses in the project area.
 - Evaluate any increase, loss, or change to recreational use of the waterbody (e.g., walking, boating, fishing and swimming) and community events (e.g., Lakefair).
 - Evaluate the change or impact to trails, both during construction and with a completed project.
 - Evaluate the change or impact to open space and nearby parks during construction and operation.
 - Evaluate the temporal aspect of recreation opportunities.
 - Evaluate any indirect recreational impacts related to sediment deposition in Budd Inlet affecting recreational boating and community events.
-

The EIS will include an evaluation of recreational impacts and opportunities under each alternative. All comments provided in this bulleted list are expected to be addressed in the evaluation..

Regarding land use, several commenters stated that the project falls within several Shoreline Master Program (SMP) jurisdictions, and that different aspects of the project may trigger different shoreline program requirements. It was noted that the project will likely need to examine multiple elements of each shoreline program, including dredging, fill, shoreline restoration, and shoreline stabilization. Other commenters requested that the EIS evaluate any changes to land use as a result of changes or impacts on downtown or Budd Inlet business activity.

The EIS will include a regulatory review of the alternatives, including consistency with local shoreline programs. Potential land use changes will also be evaluated.

Impacts of Alternatives (General Comments)

Recreation was a key theme of comments on the Managed Lake Alternative, with many commenters placing value on the ability to walk, run, and bike around the lake. Others cited the possibility for active recreation under the Managed Lake Alternative – for example; “the lake should be a place where people can swim, fish, paddle board, wind surf.”

A few described the lake as a valuable asset for wildlife viewing. One commenter suggested that open space associated with a lake is a fixture in the downtown community and other alternatives could not match such an amenity. One commenter mentioned the “Open Space and Recreation Plan for Capitol Lake” (Project No. P-114, December, 1966), which was never funded. Several commenters stated that a lake would benefit more people, offering a greater variety of community use and recreation opportunities.

Several comments were related to the potential to improve tourism and recreational opportunities with the Estuary Alternative. Commenters noted the potential difference in recreational opportunities between an estuary and lake (e.g., fly fishing vs. swimming), and others questioned the viability of recreational use of an estuary. There were several questions about the potential change in recreational use, with some suggestions of an increase in fishery-related recreation, hand-launched boats, or construction and use of new boardwalks. Some expressed concerns that under the Estuary Alternative there would be indirect recreational impacts related to sediment deposition in Budd Inlet.

Also related to the Estuary Alternative, some expressed concern that there would be a decrease in Budd Inlet business activity that would adversely affect the vitality of downtown. One commenter stated that restoring an estuary would be counterproductive to city goals related to downtown revitalization efforts. One commenter suggested that an estuary is incompatible with existing community plans and zoning regulations without providing further information.

3.4.6 Energy and Natural Resources

No comments were received regarding energy and natural resources.

3.4.7 Environmental Health

A few comments discussed environmental health-related impacts for a variety of issues.

Several commenters requested that the EIS consider the impacts from existing and potential changes in contaminated sediment under the alternatives (see also Sediment Transport and Geomorphology).

One commenter requested that the EIS address the potential for the Estuary or Hybrid Alternative to create a mudflat, which the commenter stated that Thurston County Health Department has described as “dangerous at low tides.”

One commenter requested that the EIS address the potential for an increase in mosquito-borne diseases (e.g., West Nile) under the alternatives.

One commenter requested that the EIS consider the impacts from existing and potential changes in algae concentrations, noting problems in Eastbay of Budd Inlet that have resulted in the posting of health warning signs. The commenter further requested that the EIS address how an estuary would mitigate the occurrence and spread of toxic algae, focusing on potential health consequences and how climate change could exacerbate the problem.

Potential environmental health impacts related to these issues will be addressed in the EIS.

3.4.8 Aesthetics

Over 15 comments specifically addressed aesthetics, with many other comments referring to aesthetic issues as part of comments on other elements, such as water resources, recreation, and historic resources. This category included strong opinions from different perspectives. Many commenters described the aesthetic value of the lake as part of the downtown core in Olympia, and especially as a reflecting pool for the Capitol Campus. Commenters described the relationship between Capitol Lake and the historic design of the Capitol Campus and the surrounding landscape plan. Other commenters expressed their viewpoint that the view of Capitol Lake is highly valued and should be preserved. Other commenters suggested that potential ongoing algae blooms would be an aesthetic impact of the Managed Lake Alternative.

Many commenters expressed their viewpoint that a natural estuary is beautiful and more natural in appearance and could become a focal point for the downtown area. Other commenters described mudflats that would be visible if the estuary was restored as ugly. Commenters questioned whether the water level in an estuary would serve as a natural reflecting pool, or if mudflats would be exposed more frequently.

The evaluation of aesthetics in the EIS will focus on identifying visual resources and viewpoints, and characterizing the changes that would occur under the alternatives. Visual simulations of the alternatives will be developed. Potential impacts associated with the historic design of the Capitol Campus and its connection with Capitol Lake will be evaluated.

3.4.9 Transportation

A few comments were received regarding transportation. Comments generally requested that the EIS evaluate potential construction and operational impacts to surface transportation and marine transportation.

Related to the Estuary Alternative, a few commenters asked if changes would be required to 5th Avenue, 4th Avenue, and Deschutes Parkway, and requested that the EIS include an analysis of traffic patterns. If changes are required, at least one commenter asked what the transportation-related impacts would be during construction. Another commenter asked if changes would be required to the railroad trestle separating the North and Middle Basins. One commenter expressed concerns about sediment as it relates to impacts to shipping, stating that a deep water port needs to have at least 25 to 30 feet of depth; currently there is less than 25 feet.

Potential construction and operational impacts related to motorized, non-motorized and marine transportation within the project area will be addressed in the EIS.

3.4.10 Historic and Cultural Resources

Over 50 comments identified historic and cultural resource issues. Many requested that the EIS consider historic Capitol Campus designs and any historic designations of the campus in evaluating impacts. In addition, many commenters requested that the EIS analyze how potential alternatives would affect tribal resources, including treaty rights.

Scope of Analysis

Regarding historic and cultural resources, several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate how the alternatives take into account design principles of the Capitol Campus included in the master plan established by Wilder and White in 1911, including the City Beautiful Movement. Several commenters also requested that the EIS evaluate how the potential alternatives take into account the Olmsted Brothers' 1928 landscape plan. Several historical documents and photos were provided with the comments. Several requested that the EIS consider any historic designations and significance of the design of the campus.

Many requested that the EIS address impacts to historic and cultural resources in a holistic manner by incorporating local and traditional knowledge to address impacts to archaeological sites, historic sites, traditional cultural properties, cultural landscapes, cultural traditions, and other values associated with healthy ecosystems. Several commenters requested that the EIS consider the history of the Steh-chass People of the Squaxin Island Tribe who lived along the Deschutes Estuary, providing information for consideration in the EIS.

A few commenters requested that the EIS include cultural resource investigations to improve on archaeological and historic data available for the project area.

The connection between the historic design of the Capitol Campus and Capitol Lake will be evaluated in the EIS. The cultural history and historic use of this area will also be discussed.

Regarding tribal resources, many commenters requested that the EIS acknowledge the environmental history of Capitol Lake (from estuary to its current configuration) and consider the impacts that the dam and basin have on tribal treaty rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Medicine Creek Treaty, including fishing, hunting, and gathering at Usual and Accustomed areas. Other commenters further requested that the EIS address how the initial creation of the lake, and continuing its existence, violates reserved treaty rights, and how treaty rights would be addressed by the potential alternatives. Many commenters discussed the “Boldt Part 2” decision mandates and requested that the EIS address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights, past, present, and future.

An evaluation of tribal resources will be included in the EIS, including a discussion of use of the area and usual and accustomed grounds and stations, and coordination and input from area tribes.

Impacts of Alternatives (General Comments)

In reference to the Managed Lake Alternative, several commenters suggested that maintenance of Capitol Lake as a reflecting pool is necessary to preserve and protect the historic original vision of the Washington State Capitol Campus. Several commenters suggested that maintaining the open water environment in the North and Middle Basins is the only action compatible with the historic design of the Capitol Campus master plan. One commenter requested that the EIS analyze dredging and maintenance of Capitol Lake to the standards as applied to the National Mall in Washington D.C.

One commenter suggested that from a historical perspective, the idea that the basin would become a freshwater lake was not considered necessary to enhance the recreational and sightseeing value. This commenter further stated that freshwater should not be considered a necessary element for continuity with many of the historical or cultural objectives for the area.

3.4.11 Public Services and Utilities

A few comments were received regarding public services and utilities. Several commenters requested that the EIS evaluate potential impacts to the LOTT Clean Water Alliance, the wastewater utility for Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater. These comments requested that the EIS consider the ability of LOTT to meet Ecology’s discharge requirements for its Budd Inlet Treatment Plant (related to waste load allocations under Ecology’s TMDL for Budd Inlet), their ability to continue to renew the discharge permit, and potential impacts to ratepayers. Other commenters requested that the EIS consider potential impacts to City of Olympia’s stormwater system and other utilities

Potential impacts to public services and utilities, with particular focus on impacts to LOTT, will be evaluated in the EIS.

3.4.12 Economics

Approximately 90 comments identified economic resource issues. Several comments addressed the scope of analysis of economic impacts, in terms of how the project would affect local and regional economies. However, many comments discussed project-related costs not directly related to how the project would affect local and regional economic conditions. These comments are summarized below.

Costs of Alternatives

The main request was to review costs for the alternatives, and to develop new planning-level cost estimates, including initial construction costs and estimates for ongoing maintenance. Commenters also asked that the anticipated cost of mitigation measures be included.

Comments that addressed project-related costs (not directly tied to comments on how the project would affect local and regional economic conditions) included comments on specific costs associated with alternatives. Several acknowledged that some alternatives would likely have higher initial costs associated with construction, and some alternatives would have higher long-term maintenance costs.

One commenter stated that short-term and long-term costs should not be aggregated, and requested that long-term costs such as dredging and maintenance be considered separately because of increasing uncertainty when estimating future costs. Related to this were requests to account for the degree of uncertainty and risk associated with future costs, such as through the use of present value analysis.

Several commenters requested that the EIS assess the cost of upland disposal of dredged sediment (initially and over time) if the sediment is contaminated (difference in disposal costs for clean versus contaminated sediments). One commenter suggested that 35,000 cubic yards of clean Capitol Lake sediment dredged every year might have a market value of about a half million dollars, and contaminated dredged sediment would have annual dredge and disposal costs of about 4.5 million dollars.

Several commenters asked if the EIS will include information on how the project can be financed. These included a request to work collaboratively with partnering agencies to identify an equitable funding approach. Commenters suggested that this could be achieved through the creation of an “estuary district” or “special district,” where a tax is levied on the district members to fund construction and ongoing maintenance costs. There were also questions about the potential governance structure for long-term management, whether an alternative agency or configuration would maintain the waterbody following completion of the EIS.

The project-team will continue to work with the Funding and Governance Work Group to evaluate potential opportunities for shared funding and governance.

Related to the Managed Lake Alternative, several commenters provided specific questions or comments as follows:

- Include costs for ongoing maintenance of a lake.
- How can ongoing maintenance funding be assured long-term?
- The cost of maintaining is worth the money as it contributes to health and well-being of community and is a tourist draw putting money into the local economy.
- Dredging costs for a managed lake were “severely exaggerated” by the Capitol Lake Alternatives Analysis – Public Review Draft and that the dredging cost estimates associated with an estuary were “grossly underestimated.”
- Evaluate costs associated with raising the berm around the lake and raising the dam over time in response to sea level rise.
- Evaluate costs of modification to the rail line to maintain service in response to sea level rise.
- Evaluate the long-term costs of replacing and maintaining the dam in workable order.

Related to the Estuary Alternative, several commenters provided specific questions or comments as follows:

- An estuary would have substantially higher initial capital costs.
- An estuary would have higher long-term management costs (due to dredging costs in Budd Inlet).
- Include costs to maintain (mitigate) the impacts to the Port of Olympia Marine Terminal and Olympia Yacht Club through ongoing dredging, noting that this should be done in coordination with the Port’s long-term plans. Several requested that the analysis consider recent dredging costs undertaken by the Port of Olympia and the Olympia Yacht Club.
- Include costs to mitigate impacts of dam removal, which may include the need to relocate Port of Olympia, Bayview Thriftway, the Olympia Yacht Club, and other businesses that may need to be relocated and/or purchased. Specifically regarding Bayview Thriftway, several asked if reconstruction of bridges would be required and if this would require removal of parking currently available, potentially impacting the ability of the market to stay viable.

- Include costs associated with infrastructure improvements that will be needed such as a new bridge at 5th Avenue, or to fortify the Olympia-Yashiro Friendship Bridge and the Deschutes Parkway from tidal action.
- Land acquisition costs should be determined, both for the isthmus that will be removed and for changes to additional roadways and approaches.
- Create an “estuary district” where all members of the district tax themselves to finance an estuary, including long-term sediment management costs.
- Consider the blue carbon sequestration values of an estuary.
- Use volunteers to defray construction costs.

Planning-level costs will be prepared as part of the EIS for each of the alternatives, including proposed mitigation measures.

Scope of Economic Impact Analysis

Commenters requested that the EIS include a thorough analysis of the beneficial and adverse direct and indirect economic impacts of the alternatives. Most of these comments addressed indirect economic impacts resulting from changes in the project area (under the alternatives). A few comments addressed project-related expenditures during construction, operation, and maintenance and how those would affect local and regional economies.

Regarding the economic analysis, several asked what standards will be used to determine the adequacy of the economic analysis. Other questions included: How will the EIS provide sufficient and detailed economic impact analysis for each alternative to permit a comparative evaluation? How will the study area (geographic scope) be determined? Several requested that the economic analysis in the EIS consider an expanded area around Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet.

Several commenters requested that the EIS include an evaluation of ecosystem services. Several commenters requested that the ecological functions of the alternatives be assessed in terms of the value to the community, including benefits to flood prevention, water quality, fish and wildlife, recreation, education, and quality of life.

Many commenters requested that the EIS include a robust evaluation of impacts to the Port of Olympia and waterfront businesses (see below under Economic Impacts of Alternatives). One commenter provided a brief study he prepared with information on the value of the recreational marine industry; the economic impact of the Port of Olympia’s commercial Marine Terminal operations; and past, present, and planned investments related to Capitol Lake and Lower Budd Inlet. Another requested that the economic analysis include the revenue generated by the Port and other waterfront-dependent

businesses in downtown Olympia. At least one commenter stated that previous assessments of impacts in previous planning phases were not adequate.

Several commenters requested that the EIS consider costs to “downstream” parties if no action, or inadequate action, is taken to address waste load allocations assigned to Capitol Lake as part of the TMDL. Related to economics, commenters noted that Ecology has indicated that LOTT may be required to do even more to reduce nutrient loading to Budd Inlet, beyond the initial LOTT allocation. LOTT commented that costs of these additional nutrient reductions would potentially be hundreds of millions of dollars and would be borne by LOTT ratepayers (see also Public Services and Utilities).

Several commenters requested that the EIS address benefits and impacts on tourism, with some emphasizing economic benefits of maintaining the lake and others emphasizing the economic benefits of establishing access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching, etc. Other commenters requested consideration of recreational and commercial fishery potential under the alternatives.

At least one commenter requested that the EIS consider other projects that have been or are now being implemented that involved an estuary and how this affected economic opportunities.

Economic Impacts of Alternatives

Related to the Managed Lake Alternative, several commenters stated the lake is a major attraction and that a properly managed lake would make a significant contribution to the local economy.

Related to the Estuary and Hybrid Alternatives, several commenters requested that the EIS consider the indirect economic impacts of sediment deposition in Budd Inlet, in terms of impacts to Port activities, waterfront businesses, recreational boating, and community events. Some requested that the economic impacts on the Port and waterfront businesses (even with dredging to mitigate impacts) be considered, with others suggesting that economic impacts to Port of Olympia, Bayview Thriftway store, the Olympia Yacht Club, and other businesses would be unacceptable, and would thus need to be relocated and/or purchased. One commenter suggested there could be severe economic (business) losses if the Fifth Avenue Dam is removed because issuance or timely issuance of permits to dredge Budd Inlet cannot be assured.

Related to the Estuary and Hybrid Alternatives, several commenters requested that the EIS consider the economic benefit of re-opening recreational access (e.g., swimming, boating) in the basin. Others noted the potential economic benefits related to tourism, including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching, and fishing (if allowed downstream of the hatchery).

At least one commenter referred to a critique of analysis of the CLAMP by Cascade Economics, Inc. that describes negative economic consequences should the Fifth Avenue Dam be removed. The commenter also pointed to findings of Port of Bellingham’s Marina Benefits Analysis of 2009, which the commenter stated were not considered by CLAMP.

Although not required by SEPA, an economic analysis will be conducted as part of the EIS process and the approach or methodologies to be used will be discussed with the Work Groups.

3.4.13 Other Issues

Over 30 comments identified other issues that have not been mentioned in the sections above. These were generally issues that are outside the scope of a SEPA process.

Many commenters requested that the EIS include a cost-benefit analysis to evaluate the costs, benefits, and tradeoffs of various alternatives.

At least one commenter stated that community benefits need to include a variety of considerations including environmental justice, equity, cultural values (for all citizens of the state, local residents, and tribes), and the symbolic value of the restored system as a statement of our state's values. Several commenters requested that alternatives be evaluated based on the greatest long-range benefits from a cost perspective and community value.

One commenter requested that the EIS include a risk and sensitivity analysis to identify potential errors in analysis, to avoid unintended consequences if irreversible actions are taken.

Finally, one commenter suggested that each of the alternatives should be evaluated for its ability to incorporate adaptive management principles. Several other commenters noted that the Capitol Campus design was selected through a design competition, and recommended that a similar approach be explored for design of a long-term management alternative.

The concept of adaptive management may be discussed with the Work Groups and Community Sounding Board as part of the EIS process. Only a conceptual level of design is needed for the EIS to evaluate impacts of the alternatives; design of the preferred alternative identified in the Final EIS will be further advanced in Phase 3 of the project.

3.5 COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVES

More than 100 individual comments on project alternatives were received. Most of these comments focused on specific resource topics and are summarized above under the relevant topics. This section summarizes the handful of design-related comments and questions on the primary alternatives, new concept proposals for long-term management, and mitigation measures that were proposed.

3.5.1 Primary Alternatives

The 2018 legislative proviso requires Enterprise Services to evaluate the primary alternatives, stating that, "the alternatives considered must include, at a minimum, a lake option, an estuary option, and a

hybrid option.” Following that directive, these primary alternatives will be evaluated in the EIS. The primary alternatives also represent the range of potential options for long-term management. Therefore, the scoping comments on these alternatives provide the project team with additional clarity on what the public considers important to the analysis, or what key questions should be answered by the EIS. The design-related comments and questions on the primary alternatives are summarized below.

Managed Lake Alternative

The most commonly received comment for the Managed Lake Alternative was a request to dredge the lake. Commenters suggested that dredging the lake would improve conditions and allow it to function effectively as a managed lake. One commenter asked whether a dredging plan was considered when the lake was constructed, and if that plan could be implemented to ensure ongoing maintenance. Another asked whether the dredging plan assumed as part of CLAMP could be reevaluated to potentially reduce dredging quantities and therefore minimize costs. The question of beneficial reuse of dredged material was also posed. Others asked if a managed lake was a viable alternative considering the regulatory environment.

Several suggestions were provided to improve water quality under the Managed Lake Alternative. A detailed proposal was put forward for nutrient harvesting, by means of a rotating photo bioreactor (another commenter recommended a “lake style Roomba”), which would mechanically extract plants and sediment from the lake basin to remove nutrients from the system and improve water quality. The commenter suggested that nutrient harvesting would:

“[produce] a nutrient rich topsoil, a bioenergy crop that can be converted to renewable fuels, renewable inorganic calcium phosphate, and concentrated ammonia diesel exhaust fluid for NOX SCR. The value of the products will greatly exceed the capital and operating cost of harvesting. The technology will also remove large quantities of CO₂ from the atmosphere as well as detritus nutrients necessary to sustain the New Zealand mudsnail. This is a solution that will have the least adverse impact on the citizens of the Deschutes river watershed, solve the Capitol Lake Budd Inlet water quality problems, and address the urgent global warming issues presented in the latest IPCC report.”

At least one commenter stated that the process proposed for nutrient harvesting is still in an experimental phase, which presents a significant level of risk of failure.

In response to these comments, initial and ongoing maintenance plan(s) for dredging will be evaluated for the Managed Lake Alternative, and may include an evaluation of potential reuse of the dredged material. The EIS will also include a regulatory review of the alternatives, including the Managed Lake Alternative.

Mechanical extraction of plants and sediments may be evaluated in the EIS as a potential mitigation measure to address impacts to water quality.

Estuary Alternative

Sediment management is an integral component of the Estuary Alternative, and many comments reiterated the need to avoid potential impacts to downstream resources, including the Port of Olympia, marinas, and the navigational channel that supports those uses. “It is not right to dump on your downstream neighbor. We should define the estuary restoration project boundary to include managing/mitigating these [sediment] impacts in the most cost-effective way.” The location of sediment deposition, dredging, and potential sediment control features should be evaluated. Additionally, the EIS should closely evaluate potential opportunities to mitigate for sediment deposition to ensure that impacts to downstream resources are avoided.

Commenters described the potential tidal influence on surrounding infrastructure, such as the Deschutes Parkway, the Heritage Park berm, the railroad crossing at the Middle Basin, and the Fifth and Fourth Avenue Bridges, and stated that these areas may need to be armored or improved prior to estuary restoration. Potential impacts to stormwater and other public utilities were noted in these comments. Commenters also suggested that an estuary could store carbon and help to offset potential impacts from climate change, minimizing potential effects to surrounding infrastructure, while other commenters suggested that higher water elevations would exist within the basin under an estuary alternative.

Several commenters questioned the extent of estuary restoration, citing that much of the historical estuary has been filled, and a portion of the historical estuary (such as Moxlie Creek) is outside of the area currently considered as part of this alternative.

Several of the recurring design questions are listed below.

- **Hydraulics.** What is the appropriate or assumed width at the Fifth Avenue Bridge under the Estuary Alternative? What is the appropriate or assumed width at the railroad crossing, and would the current opening limit the effectiveness of estuary restoration by restricting flow?
- **Infrastructure.** What type of bridge is assumed if the dam is removed? What improvements are assumed for Deschutes Parkway? Would the roadway alignment remain accessible to non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians? Would the roadway alignment be compatible with other existing transportation infrastructure? Where are retaining walls and other hardened or armored shorelines needed under the Estuary Alternative?
- **Impacts.** Can a trial period of dam opening be performed to evaluate potential impacts of dam removal? The commenter suggested that this could provide information on community acceptance, recreational opportunities, and impacts to invasive species from the Estuary Alternative. There may be an extensive period of construction under the Estuary Alternative; can construction-related impacts be adequately mitigated?

In response to these comments, initial and ongoing maintenance plan(s) for dredging will be evaluated in the EIS for the Estuary Alternative, including an evaluation of potential impacts to downstream resources. Mitigation measures to offset impacts from sediment deposition will also be evaluated. Potential changes or improvements to surrounding infrastructure will be evaluated for all long-term alternatives. The extent of the historical estuary will be described in the EIS. The EIS will include conceptual level of design for the alternatives to support evaluation of key design questions.

Hybrid Alternative

The primary technical questions were related to configuration of the retaining wall or water supply to the reflecting pool. Commenters asked whether the wall shape could be adjusted to be more aesthetically pleasing. They also suggested that a freshwater-fed reflecting pool, using groundwater, treated stormwater runoff, treated water from LOTT or some other source, would be preferred over saltwater.

The question of management was also asked – whether the reflecting pool could be managed like a landscape amenity instead of a lake, so management activities could occur more frequently, without the need for ongoing regulatory approval.

The EIS will include a conceptual level of design for the Hybrid Alternative and will investigate feasibility and many of the issues raised in the scoping comments.

The EIS will include regulatory review of the alternatives, including the Hybrid Alternative.

3.5.2 New Concept Proposals

Five new concept proposals and additional variations of these proposals were suggested during scoping. Soliciting input on potential alternatives for a project is a fundamental purpose of SEPA. The primary components of the concept proposals are summarized here, and the full descriptions of these proposals are included in Appendix D.

The concept proposals summarized below will be reviewed by the project team once a set of measurable evaluation criteria has been established. The concept proposals will be screened against the criteria to determine their ability to meet project objectives; they may also receive a preliminary feasibility review. This screening process will be used to identify the range of alternatives that move forward for detailed technical analysis in the EIS.

Community Waterfront Management Plan

The Community Waterfront Management Plan would retain the North Basin as a reflecting pool and would transition the Middle and South Basins to an expansive network of freshwater wetlands. The primary components of the Community Waterfront Management Plan are summarized here, and additional supporting information and a full description of the plan is included in Appendix D.

The Community Waterfront Management Plan proposes an expansive network of freshwater wetlands in the Middle and South Basins. The proponents suggest that the wetlands would improve water quality; provide insects for existing populations of bats, fish, and other aquatic species; and provide an opportunity for wildlife viewing.

A sediment trap could be installed in the Middle Basin to manage sediment. A hidden hydraulic dredge system would remove trapped sediment and the dredged material would be dewatered in a nearby staging area. The material could be evaluated for beneficial reuse.

The proponents propose that the North Basin be retained for the aesthetic and social cohesion it provides to the community, intending it to support community recreation, such as swimming and boating, and also serve as a sediment trap. To address water quality in the North Basin, “this plan would include plant harvesting at an interval necessary to significantly reduce the Ecology focused carbon contaminant load from the upper watershed and urban stormwater runoff to Budd Inlet.”

North of the reflecting pool and the 5th Ave Dam, in Budd Inlet, the concept proposes to restore mudflats. This concept recommends that the railroad bridge in West Bay be removed to facilitate restoration of historical mudflats and that a boardwalk extension be constructed. (Note that this alternative is being evaluated by the City of Olympia as part of a separate project.) The plan would also consider restoration activities in East Bay.

The concept proposes to improve Percival Creek, which supports anadromous fish runs that the Deschutes River does not. “The plan is simple: provide ample woody debris and engineered log jams strategically in Percival Creek.” The proponents also ask that the ability to reestablish the hydraulic connection between Percival Creek and Budd Inlet be evaluated. (The concept of reconnecting Percival Creek to Budd Inlet was proposed by another commenter, outside of this plan, with a request to evaluate the viability.)

The plan would also “set aside the south end of West Bay Park (next to Rotary Point Park) or a portion of the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park, area for the Squaxin Tribe to construct a cultural center/museum/activity area.” It also recommends a portage route beneath the Fourth Avenue Bridge.

Dual Lake/Estuary Idea

The Dual Estuary/Lake Idea (DELI) is similar to the Hybrid Alternative but proposes the construction of a rock containment wall (instead of a sheet pile containment wall) to maintain a 48-acre freshwater reflecting pool (instead of a 40-acre saltwater pool). It also proposes a sediment trap

and pumping station to manage sediment. DELI was proposed during Phase 1 and was suggested again during scoping.

During scoping, the commenter suggested that the freshwater reflecting pool would have “profound benefits for wildlife use and human enjoyment,” through the wildlife habitat and recreational space that it provides. The commenter asked the project team to evaluate several questions as part of this proposal, which fall into the following categories.

- **Constructability.** Can the rock containment wall be constructed similar to the railroad embankment, using rock from the Black Lake Quarry, transported by rail? Can the interior of the rock containment wall be sealed to prevent saltwater intrusion or discharge of freshwater at low tides? Confirm the hydraulic effects of freshwater input on the east side of the reflecting pool, and discharge on the west.
- **Sediment Management.** Consider a permanent dredge pumping system in the Middle Basin. Evaluate sediment transport under different span-widths at the Fifth Avenue Bridge. Consider leaving sediment in the Middle and South Basins to establish salt marsh vegetation.
- **Recreation.** Can a pedestrian trail be built on the rock containment wall? Can a liner be placed beneath the sand to support a swimming beach? Evaluate recreational opportunities such as docks and log booms to form swimming areas.
- **Water Resources.** Evaluate the feasibility of groundwater or reclaimed water from LOTT to supply the freshwater reflecting pool.
- **Public Utilities.** Evaluate the feasibility to use the reflecting pool for stormwater retention during flooding events. Evaluate whether the reflecting pool could serve as an emergency freshwater drinking source in the event of a disaster.

Temporal Hybrid

A Temporal Hybrid is a broad category that describes a basin configuration that changes with time – part-time Managed Lake and part-time Estuary Alternative. During Phase 1, and again during scoping, a seasonal (or Temporal) hybrid was proposed. It suggested that a reconstructed Fifth Avenue Dam could be lowered during the fall and winter seasons to establish a tidal estuary. In the spring and summer, the dam would be raised to allow the formation and retention of a reflecting pool.

Other variations of the Temporal Hybrid were proposed, including a concept where water elevations would be managed in the North Basin to match tidal levels, and the dam would be lowered periodically to flush accumulated sediment and allow for water exchange.

One commenter suggested a split timing that would have the reconstructed Fifth Avenue Dam raised during the day to provide a reflecting pool in daylight hours. At night, the dam would be lowered to allow the tidal exchange of an Estuary Alternative. As part of this proposal, the commenter asked the project team to evaluate the following:

- Would any critical estuary habitat functions be adversely impacted by keeping the basin full of water during the day?
- How would water quality in the basin and Budd Inlet be affected in this configuration?
- What operating principles would need to be in place for the reconstructed Fifth Avenue Dam?
- What funding and governance mechanism could be developed to provide local, state, and federal funds, and an interagency structure for governance?
- How can maintenance dredging help to avoid impacts to downstream resources, and can a salmon hatchery be located upstream to support tribal treaty obligations?

Expanded Park Space

This concept is similar to one proposed in Phase 1, where a significant portion of the North Basin would be filled to provide expanded park space. A commenter suggested that dredged material from the basin could be used to fill the sides of the reflecting pool, reducing its size. In this concept, sediment traps would be installed south of the railroad crossing. The sediment trap would be routinely dredged to supply fill for the park space in the North Basin. The purpose would be to provide “a huge park area for all kinds of activities and provide healthy habitat for all kinds of animals.”

Similarly, one commenter recommended that a retaining wall be constructed parallel to Deschutes Parkway – from the Fifth Avenue Bridge to the railroad bridge. The cell created by this retaining wall would be filled with dredged material from the lake and a park could eventually be developed. This concept would support the need for dredging within the lake and would “keep park supporters happy.”

Expanded Freshwater Wetlands

This concept is similar to one proposed in Phase 1, where a retaining wall is constructed south of the existing reflecting pool. To the north, within the existing reflecting pool, tidal flow would be reestablished. To the south, freshwater wetlands would be protected and enhanced. In the comment received during scoping, a fixed dam would serve in place of the retaining wall to hold water and sediment. Dredged material from the former reflecting pool would be used to construct naturally planted islands and/or wetlands in the south basin.

An alternate option to the expanded freshwater wetlands is more similar to the Managed Lake Alternative but allows the South and Middle Basins to transition fully to freshwater wetlands. In this concept, tidal flow would not be restored within the North Basin; instead, the reflecting pool would be retained. The commenter suggested that expanded freshwater wetlands could improve water quality.

4.0 Next Steps

The project team has reviewed all of the scoping comments received and will use them as appropriate to shape the environmental analysis included in the Draft EIS. This will include identifying specific environmental analyses for the elements of the environment and the range of alternatives to be analyzed in the Draft EIS. Following is a summary of the anticipated approach to incorporating the scoping comments received.

4.1.1 Elements of the Environment

Based on review of the scoping comments, the following elements are reaffirmed from those identified in the Scoping Notice for inclusion in the Draft EIS: Water Resources, Earth Resources, Sediment Transport and Geomorphology, Air Quality, Plants and Animals, Invasive Species, Sea-Level Rise and Climate Change, Recreation and Land Use, Aesthetics, Transportation, Historic and Cultural Resources, and Economics. Based on scoping input, the following additional elements will be addressed in the Draft EIS: Public Services and Utilities, Sediment Quality, and Environmental Health. In the summary sections above, the project team has provided some context for how certain scoping comments may be addressed in the EIS (*in italics*). As the environmental review process continues, the project team will be further discussing certain analytical approaches with the Work Groups (<https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/advisory-groups>) and Community Sounding Board (<https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/get-involved>) and keeping the groups apprised as analysis proceeds.

4.1.2 Alternatives Development and Screening

An alternatives development and screening process will be used to identify the range of alternatives that move forward for detailed

Long-Term Management Objectives

In 2016, Enterprise Services, in collaboration with stakeholders, identified the following objectives:

- Improve water quality
- Manage sediment accumulation and future deposition
- Enhance ecological functions
- Restore active community use
- Use an approach that is environmentally and economically sustainable for long-term management

technical review in the EIS. This will include review of concept proposals summarized in Section 3.5.2. To be reviewed as part of this process, all of the concept proposals must be applicable to the project area and must present a type of solution that could meet the project's objectives.

The alternatives development and screening process will consist of the following steps:

1. Compile and define concept proposals to be evaluated (clarify the description of each concept proposal with comment submitters, if needed).
2. Establish measurable evaluation criteria that address project objectives (reviewing this criteria with the Work Groups and Community as appropriate).
3. Screen concept proposal against the measurable evaluation criteria to identify those that meet project objectives and should move to feasibility review.
4. Conduct a preliminary feasibility review to determine which concept proposals are feasible and should move forward for detailed technical review in the EIS, either as a standalone, new alternative or an option for one of the primary alternatives.
5. Conduct conceptual design. The alternatives that pass this initial screening described above will be further developed to allow for impact analyses in the EIS.

As part of establishing measurable evaluation criteria (step 2), the project team will engage with agencies and the community at Work Group and Community Sounding Board meetings to request input on criteria that should be used to screen the alternatives.

As part of the preliminary feasibility review (step 4), if the project team determines that an alternative would have substantially higher impacts or costs without having substantially higher benefits, it will be considered unreasonable for SEPA purposes. However, the alternative first will be evaluated independently for costs, logistics constraints, and technological feasibility to determine whether an alternative is practicable. If an alternative is found to be practicable and has less adverse impacts to the environment, it will be retained for detailed analysis in the EIS.

4.1.3 Draft EIS Publication and Review

The Draft EIS, anticipated to be published in 2020, will be available for public review and comment. Following publication of the Draft EIS, agencies, affected tribes, and the public will have an opportunity to comment on the content of the document. At least one public hearing will be held during the comment period. Notice of that public hearing and the public comment period will be posted in The Olympian, on Ecology's SEPA Register, and will be sent directly to all parties who submitted scoping comments, affected tribes, agencies with jurisdiction, and those who have specifically asked to receive notices about the project. Notice will also be posted on the project website (<https://capitollakewatershedeis.org>).

After the Draft EIS comment period, Enterprise Services will prepare the Final EIS, which will identify a preferred alternative.



Appendices

Appendix A Determination of Significance/Scoping Notice



**Washington State Department of Enterprise Services
Determination of Significance and
Request for Comments on Scope of EIS
Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project**

What is the Capitol Lake / Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project?

Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed includes the 260-acre Capitol Lake Basin, located on the Washington State Capitol Campus, in Olympia, Washington. The Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (Enterprise Services) is responsible for the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the Capitol Lake Basin. This waterbody is an important recreational resource and valued amenity; however, it suffers from numerous environmental issues including water quality standards violations, inadequate sediment management, and the presence of invasive species, all of which have restricted active community use for more than 20 years. Long-term management strategies and actions are needed to address these issues in the Capitol Lake basin and surrounding watershed.

The Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project is the Enterprise Services-led effort to:

- Identify common goals for long-term management of the resource (Phase 1)
- Evaluate potential alternatives and identify the preferred alternative for long-term management (Phase 2)
- Select and implement a long-term management alternative (Phase 3)

In 2016, stakeholders, in collaboration with Enterprise Services, identified common goals that should be satisfied by any long-term management alternative. The project is now in Phase 2, where an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared to evaluate potential alternatives and to support the selection of a preferred alternative for long-term management of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed.

Where is the project located?

The Capitol Lake Basin is located within the area extending from the south end at Tumwater Falls in the City of Tumwater to the north end at the Fifth Avenue Dam in the City of Olympia. The Capitol Lake Basin is part of the larger Lower Deschutes Watershed. While the limits of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project are focused on the area that Enterprise Services maintains (the Capitol Lake Basin), it is recognized that the interconnectedness of the system requires coordinated agency efforts.

Map of Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed and Surrounding Area



What alternatives are being evaluated?

Enterprise Services, as the lead agency under SEPA, has identified a minimum of four primary alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS. The fundamental concepts for these four primary alternatives are summarized below. Several options or variations of the primary alternatives have also been proposed. A screening process will be used to identify the range of alternatives that move forward for detailed technical review in the EIS. Options and concepts will be screened for their ability to meet project objectives and their feasibility.

The four primary alternatives under consideration are summarized as follows:

Managed Lake Alternative. The Managed Lake Alternative is similar to existing conditions, with additional strategies to manage sediment accumulation and future deposition, including maintenance dredging within the North and Middle Basins and selective dredging within the South Basin. The Managed Lake Alternative would retain the Fifth Avenue Dam and tide gate in its current configuration to maintain the historic reflecting pool and the Capitol Lake Basin.

Restored Estuary Alternative. Under the Restored Estuary Alternative, full tidal hydrology would be restored throughout the entire basin. An opening in the Fifth Avenue Dam would be constructed sufficient in size to allow tidal exchange within newly formed mudflats. This opening would allow tidal flow (saltwater) within North Basin during approximately 75 percent of tidal elevations. Sediment would be managed through initial dredging in the Capitol Lake Basin and recurring maintenance dredging in Budd Inlet.

Hybrid Alternative. The Hybrid Alternative allows management of the basin by establishing a tidal estuary in the western portion of the North Basin, and throughout the Middle and South Basins. An opening at the Fifth Avenue Dam would be constructed to allow for tidal flow. A retaining wall also would be constructed, at approximately the centerline of the North Basin, to develop a 39-acre saltwater reflecting pool adjacent to Heritage Park in the North Basin. Construction and maintenance of the smaller reflecting pool, in addition to restored estuarine conditions in part of the basin, gives this option its classification as a hybrid. Sediment would be managed through initial dredging in the Capitol Lake Basin, and recurring maintenance dredging in Budd Inlet.

No Action Alternative. A “no action” alternative must be evaluated in accordance with SEPA. The No Action Alternative is intended to represent the likely future for the project area if the project is not implemented. Operations and maintenance activities to retain the existing Fifth Avenue Dam and tide gate in its current configuration would continue. Enterprise Services would continue to implement invasive species management strategies. Sediment management strategies, like maintenance dredging, would not occur. The No Action Alternative would also include planned and funded actions that have been identified by the Washington State Department of Ecology and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as part of a water-quality improvement strategy.

Enterprise Services acknowledges that these alternatives may be modified, changed, or replaced during the EIS scoping process or preparation of the EIS.

Who is the Proponent and Lead Agency?

The Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (Enterprise Services) is the project proponent and is serving as the SEPA lead agency.

What will be in the EIS?

Enterprise Services, as the SEPA lead agency, has determined that this proposal may have a significant adverse impact on the environment. An EIS is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared.

Enterprise Services has *preliminarily* identified the following natural and built environment elements for analysis in the EIS:

Natural environment *and* built environment

- Water Resources
- Earth Resources
- Air Quality
- Plants and Animals
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Land and Shoreline Use
- Recreation
- Aesthetics
- Transportation
- Historic and Cultural Preservation

Additional environmental topics were discussed in coordination with various stakeholders during Phase 1. These topics, which are expected to be analyzed in the EIS due to the potential for significant adverse impacts, include:

- Sediment Transport and Geomorphology
- Invasive Species
- Economics
- Sea Level Rise and Climate Change

What is Scoping?

Scoping is the first step in the EIS process, as mandated by SEPA (WAC 197-11-408) and includes a public comment period. The purpose of scoping is to determine the range, or “scope,” of issues to study in the EIS. Pursuant to SEPA, Enterprise Services is notifying the public of the intent to prepare an EIS so that agencies, tribes, communities, organizations, and members of the public have an opportunity to comment on the scope of the impacts to be analyzed.

How can I comment?

Enterprise Services invites agencies, tribes, communities, organizations, and members of the public to comment on the scope of the EIS, including elements of the environment, alternatives, probable

significant adverse impacts, mitigation measures, and licenses or other approvals that may be required. Methods for presenting your comments are described below. All comments are due no later than **5:00 PM, November 13, 2018**, and may be submitted:

- **Online** at: CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.participate.online
- **Via e-mail** to: comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org
- **In writing** to: Department of Enterprise Services, c/o Bill Frare – Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed EIS, PO Box 41476, Olympia, WA 98504
- **In writing and/or verbally at the EIS Public Scoping Meetings:** These meetings will provide an opportunity to learn more about the project, and to provide input on the environmental review process.

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 (Scoping Meeting 1)

Time: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Open House
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Public Comment

Location: Hotel RL (formerly, Red Lion Olympia)

Address: 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW; Olympia, WA

Date: Monday, October 22, 2018 (Scoping Meeting 2)

Time: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm: Open House
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Public Comment

Location: Washington Center for the Performing Arts

Address: 512 Washington Street SE; Olympia, WA

Project-related information can be reviewed on the project website at: CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org.

For questions about the project, or the scoping process, please email info@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org

Date: September 26, 2018

SEPA Responsible Official:



William J. Frare, P.E.
Enterprise Services

Appendix B SEPA Register Notice

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Register

SEPA and NEPA documents posted by the Department of Ecology since 2000

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Lead Agency

WA Department of Enterprise Services

Website

<http://www.capitollakewatershedeis.org/> (<http://www.capitollakewatershedeis.org/>)

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County

THURSTON

Region

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Proposal Description

Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project: Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed includes the 260-acre Capitol Lake Basin, located on the WA Capitol Campus. The WADES is responsible for the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the Capitol Lake Basin. This waterbody is an important recreational resource and valued amenity; however, it suffers from numerous environmental issues including water quality standards violations, inadequate sediment management, and the presence of invasive species, all of which have restricted active community use for more than 20 years. Long-term management strategies and actions are needed to address these issues in the Capitol Lake Basin and surrounding watershed. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared to evaluate potential alternatives and to support the selection of a preferred alternative for long-term management of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed.

Related Record**Notes**

Associated Documents: <https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/library>

Location

Address: The 260-acre Capitol Lake Basin; located within the area extending from the south end at Tumwater Falls in Tumwater to the north end at the Fifth Avenue Dam in Olympia
Olympia and Tumwater, WA


Applicant


WA Department of Enterprise Services


Applicant Contact


PO Box 41476
Olympia, WA 98504

Documents


 201805319 ECY Comments - Capitol Lake-Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Scoping.pdf (Document/DocumentOpenHandler.ashx?DocumentId=48794) (5 MB)

 CL-LDW Long-Term Management DS Scoping Notice.pdf (Document/DocumentOpenHandler.ashx?DocumentId=45468) (4 MB)

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Appendix C Scoping Comments

Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
1	26-Sep	Zena Hartung	Olympia Urban Waters League	Natural systems are the most sustainable. Deschutes River had a useful Estuary before the dam created a trap for sediments. Now the summer temps rise and the algae love it but the water isn't good for much else. Remove the dam! Let the water flow out, the sediment feed the beaches.	No
2	26-Sep	Trae Dunn	Citizen of Olympia WA	Free the damned estuary! Remove the 5th Ave dam. Restore the estuary according to the plan put forth by the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team (DERT). In it's current state the 'man made' lake is essentially a backed up septic system and is unusable for recreation and environmental education. Opening the estuary will allow the sea to mix with the river and restore the original healthy brackish environment. This in turn will flush out the non native, intrusive species which have been allowed to take up residence. The tribes have the longest history of the estuary; listen to their wisdom regarding the restoration of the estuary.	No
3	26-Sep	Ben Cody		I'm pretty much only interested in seeing a restored estuary. The 'lake' is a serious mess, and taking out the dam is an easy thing we can do to help salmon and our resident Orca populations.	No
4	26-Sep	Dani Madrone		I feel confident that a review of the current legitimate, peer-reviewed science and the multitude of studies on this issue will provide good direction for this EIS. This project is the highest priority for protecting salmon and enhancing water quality in Budd Inlet. These goals are shared across the community. In addition, there are legal obligations around tribal treaty rights and the Clean Water Act. Please, please, please: at the end of this EIS, let's have a clear direction forward. Let's narrow four alternatives down to one. Let's be ready to move forward. Thanks for your work on this!	No
5	27-Sep	James Lengenfelder	Private citizen	<p>Previous Dept of Enterprise Services (DES) 'Capitol Lake Long-Term Management Planning identified sediment management as the top concern. It must be addressed for all options selected for evaluation. Regardless of which 'lake or no- Lake Option' is selected a plan for how the sediment is going to be handled must be evaluated. An item not spoken to any previous 'study' is the impact of the railroad bridge that separates the middle and north basins. It is man-made and does restrict flow.</p> <p>A third item is the future impact of the planned Tumwater fish hatchery. Regardless that WDFW's determination of non-significance we all know that fish poop and some of it is going to get into Capitol Lake and/or Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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6	27-Sep	William Golding	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	Thank you for providing a vital public service to assess Capitol Lake and the Lower Deschutes Watershed. I would like to comment on the need to assess the historic implications of the development of Capitol Lake. The creation of Capitol Lake built on fill material over the estuary of the Deschutes River violated reserved treaty rights of peoples of the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854, signed by the United States and a number of Southern Salish Sea Indigenous Nations who some are and some who are not federally recognized presently. The creation of this artificial lake through the development of the 5th Avenue dam violates the reserved rights established by the Medicine Creek Treaty to fishing, hunting, and gathering at Usual and Accustomed areas. The Steh-chass people were signers to this treaty and inhabited the area that now encompasses Capitol Lake, clearly signifying this place as Usual and Accustomed area that should have been provided reserved protection from development. It is imperative that the Environmental Impact Statement address the historic fact of initially violating the treaty rights of Medicine Creek Treaty tribes and provide reasoning for why this was allowed, as well as provide reasoning on how this existing development continues to violate reserved treaty rights of the sovereign Indigenous Nations of this land and water. All potential development alternatives for this area should address if the reserved treaty rights will continue to be violated, or if reparations will be provided in an effort to restore these treaty rights to their required terms	No
7	27-Sep	Liz Howe		I would love to see this area returned to an estuary!	No
8	27-Sep	Liz Howe		I would love to have Capitol Lake made into an estuary!	No
9	29-Sep	John Miller		I believe that Capital Lake is the centerpiece of downtown Olympia. On a daily basis there are joggers, bikers and families walking around the lake. While I understand the relative merits of the estuary option, I believe that detracting from the open space of the lake would be a mistake. The hybrid option would appear to be the best realistic option that would fit the needs of all groups to some degree. While I understand this would be the most expensive option I do believe this is an investment in the future of Olympia and cost should be the secondary issue. This is the one chance to make a change and the best option should be chosen.	No
10	29-Sep	Byron Rhoades		I would prefer the restored estuary option. Estuaries are very bio-diverse.	No
11	29-Sep	Rose Webster		Keep Capitol Lake as it is with appropriate dredging as will be required in the future. Do NOT turn it into an estuary. Please do nothing if that is what the solution is to keep the lake.	No

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12	29-Sep	Mark Ausman	Self	Please leave the lake as is except dredge it out. We and hundreds of other people, enjoy walking around the lake and enjoying the view and cool breeze that comes across the water. An estuary would not provide the same beauty and enjoyable walking and viewing environment. After about 70 years of having the lake where it is, acting as if it's not an environmental fixture and it needs to be removed is somewhat ludicrous. Years and years of neglecting to dredge the lake raises the cost of improving and maintaining the status quo. However, years of neglect and doing nothing is the cause of the higher initial cost of dredging. Thank you.	No
13	29-Sep	Gerald Cichlar		My opinion on the Capitol Lake project options is to revert the lake to its natural state as an estuary by opening the Fifth Avenue dam. The actions taken at this site should concentrate on the most natural and wildlife friendly option. The restoration of this site to a wetlands/estuary would provide the greatest habitat potential to the largest number of native fish, waterfowl and other wildlife. With Puget Sound beleaguered with problems such as pollution, species diversity decline and the crashing salmon population; a project aimed at habitat restoration to its closest original state possible is the best option.	No
14	30-Sep	Paul Brice		I vote for the Managed Lake Alternative.	No
15	30-Sep	Gillian Spencer Schadt		<p>The main lake is a community meeting place, and a jewel in the centre of town, and also a home to a lot of wildlife. We all care about the environment, certainly I do, but I think we can allow ourselves the joy of using this lake, and maintaining it to be attractive and healthy.</p> <p>The cost of maintaining it is certainly worth the money, it contributes to the health and wellbeing of the community and is a huge plus for people who visit here, which puts additional dollars into the local economy. We have been trying to decide this for so long, and haven't we already done studies on environmental impact, and still arrive at a stalemate, so nothing gets done. How about we use that \$4 million to hold a referendum of area citizens, to see what the majority of the residents want to do, and then we stick to it, that is how democracy works.</p>	No
16	1-Oct	Richard Hurst	Lacey	Keep the lake. It is beautiful! Do dredging, cleaning or whatever to keep it pristine. 15 years ago, when I first came to Olympia, there were hydroplane races and people enjoyed the water. We can do it again.	No

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17	1-Oct	Mike Duffy	Retired citizen in downtown Olympia	My wife, kids and grandkids(8) love the old Capitol Lake. We need to combine state, county, and city money to make the lake sparkle again. Get the vegetation out of the lake. Cut the bushes and trees growing wild along the south side path by the lake. Keep the bushes along the north side of the lake low so walkers can see the lake but Geese will not be attracted. Raise the lake to a level where there could be kayaks and canoes and maybe RC toy boats. I'd like to see swimming return to the lake, but too many opponents. As far as estuary, NO. Allow fish to continue to get to Deschutes through the lake. The Capitol Lake is a Capitol gem. Make it a fine asset.	No
18	1-Oct	Kathy Leitch	Ms.	<p>I want to make sure that the environmental impact statements for the various options take into account the effect on Puget Sound. During the previous process that EIS sponsored to analyze Capitol Lake Options they specifically stated publicly that the scope for that project did not include any effect on Puget Sound. All options analyzed should include environmental impact on Puget sound, a fragile body of water. The statement should include the impact of removing the dam --if it is true that Capitol Lake water and sediment includes fecal coliform, invasive species and accumulation of silt any environmental impact should look at whether it is expected that these issues will become part of a Puget Sound problem if the dam is removed.</p> <p>It should also include information about the cost to mitigate negative effects of dam removal to create an estuary. The Deschutes river has several issues that effects its water quality including failing or not monitored septic systems and inadequate management of farmland animal waste and fertilizer. Silt will undoubtedly accumulate in Puget Sound as well and may need to be dredged. Removing the dam also has effects on the City of Olympia which may need to build a new bridge, Bayview Grocery Store, the Olympia Yacht Club and other businesses that will need to be relocated and/or purchased as part of eminent domain. The Port of Olympia may need to consider the cost of dredging in Puget Sound.</p>	No
19	2-Oct	Dianne Hurst	Private citizen/ Olympia Yacht Club member	<p>Capitol Lake was created to enhance the Capitol of Washington. I remember when it was clean and beautiful. I remember small hydroplane races on the lake. Had it been maintained it would not be in its current state. The flow through the lake carries a great deal of sediment, both onto the lake and into Budd Inlet. That should be addressed if you hope to have a usable Port.</p> <p>Letting it revert to an estuary will be an eyesore which will not do anything to enhance the Capitol or the City of Olympia. Why are we building new high-rises and hoping to entice people to move downtown? Do people want to live next to an estuary, that may have many species but smell like salty rotten mud? Clean up the Lake and keep it that way.</p>	No

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20	2-Oct	Beverly Torguson		I'm in favor of the hybrid alternative for Capital Lake in Olympia.	No
21	2-Oct	Thomas Byun		The main topic I would like to see a study of is the recreation portion. There is a state funded hatchery upstream at Tumwater falls and fishing isnt allowed downstream of the hatchery. With the two proposals of either removing or making a hybrid I would like to see study done on the potential impact for tourism if fishing is allowed downstream of the hatchery and maybe even an extra licensing fee to help maintain the watershed.	No
22	2-Oct	John Parry		I support the retention of the northern reflecting pond (Capitol Lake).	No
23	3-Oct	Brett Riedmayer		After reviewing the alternatives proposed for Capitol Lake, I am advocating for the restored estuary alternative. Based on previous environmental studies the estuary option is the best alternative in my opinion. In lieu of climate change and the impacts of sea level rise it would behove the City of Olympia and DES to consider this option as a method to address the storm surge and other changes to the downtown landscape is will be occurring.	No
24	3-Oct	Sharon Bergquist-Moody	Ms.	<p>I speak for no one organization but have volunteered and financially supported over the years the Nisqually Land Trust, Capitol Land Trust, Native Plant Society, Olympia Parks, and the former People for Puget Sound now merged with Washington Environmental Council. I think the best alternative is to return the lake to its natural state as an estuary by opening the 5th ave. bridge. It will be cost prohibitive to maintain the lake in its current state so I consider that option not even viable.</p> <p>There could be berms on the park side as shown in the sea level reports that might help protect the downtown core from water.</p> <p>Native plantings would help with water quality, promote wildlife habitat, add asthetic beauty, and provide cover for resting juvenile salmon</p> <p>When the tide is in canoes and kyaks could enjoy going upstream to the dam as we now do at the mouth of the Nisqually Medicine Creek site.</p> <p>As far as complaints about odor, I don't buy it. I grew up in Bremerton and when the tide is out on the Puget Sound it smells wonderful....this is where we live and I love it. Let's make the Deschutes Estuary beautiful and usable again.</p>	No

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25	4-Oct	hayley gamble	none	Hello, Please weight the environmental benefits heavily in this EIS. Please consider the very long-term benefits and costs associated with each option. While historical plans should be considered, at the time the lake was planned designers did not foresee issues of water quality, invasive species and closing the lake to public use. The value of having a lake very limited given these issues. Please base final decisions on science and the health benefits to people and other living things that use the lake/Budd Inlet. This is a huge opportunity to restore and important ecosystem and improve the health of the Sound. Please consider the environmental impacts beyond the immediate community, improving the health of the Sound is a regional-wide impact. It is possible resources to complete this project will also be available beyond the immediate community (federal/state funding.) The EIS should include options that provide examples of mitigation to those negatively impacted by Estuary restoration, such as dredging schedules or relocation options for the Yacht club.	No
26	6-Oct	H Algieri		I have lived here my entire life. I don't want the lake removed and have a smelly mudflat to walk around on our beautiful summer days. Why did we spend taxpayer money on beautifying the area around the lake and now some groups want to screw it up with tidal flats. This area is not Nisqually Valley and should not be compared. Let's clean the lake and keep it beautiful like it was when I was growing up!	No
27	7-Oct	Cameron Smith		Please find a way to dismantle the capitol lake dam and restore the area to its natural state. Many of us now understand the disruptive impacts of the dam and the lake to the local wildlife. Please do not consider arguments based on 'beauty,' as estuaries are quite beautiful, and the lake as it is now is decidedly not. Consider also that if we are to be responsible stewards of the land, we need to learn to live alongside natural patterns, not demand their conformity. We should also be mature enough to admit when we've made a mistake. I think the dismantling of the dam could be of some national ecological interest if it is properly documented and publicized.	No
28	7-Oct	Jennifer Stockwell		RESTORED ESTUARY ALTERNATIVE. Capitol Lake is a sick, toxic, infested, artificial body of water that the public cannot even use as it is. RESTORE THE ESTUARY. Let nature do the work of combating the invasive freshwater species. Increase our estuarine habitat to support our salmon. I read the CLAMP report ELEVEN years ago in 2007 and restoring the estuary still stands as the best and most economic option to address issues with Capitol Lake that are only going to get worse. It is wrong to call the lake a 'historic reflecting pool' when the estuary is actually the historic body of water and the 'reflecting pool' can't reflect for half the year due to being covered with stinking unsightly algae mats. Restoring the estuary is the only option that makes environmental and economic sense.	No

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29	7-Oct	Daniel Einstein	Olympia Coalition for Ecosystems Preservation	In addition to the basin/dam/estuary question that is the core to this process, I recommend that the scope include untreated stormwater into the current Capitol Lake Basin as well as the entirety of the Percival Creek Watershed. Of the approximately 40 untreated stormwater outfalls that spill into Capitol Lake, more than half belong to the State of Washington. Untreated stormwater is lethal to young and adult Coho. Two out of three of our local Coho runs have been declared functionally extinct by WDFW. That decline has been most marked over the past 15 years. Percival Creek is as integral to the Deschutes Estuary as the Deschutes River. Impacts and enhancement of the water quality in Percival Creek should be considered.	No
30	9-Oct	Joenne McGerr		I want to see this returned to an estuary. It will be beautiful, and it's right to restore it completely. Let our fish come home... Thank you	No
31	9-Oct	Angela Ruiz	Olympia Resident	I participated in the CLAMP work and other meetings since regarding what to do about the lake. I will not be attending any of these " new scoping meetings" because it appears to be another re-hash of the same issues that have already been studied to death. What is needed now is for someone to actually commit to a decision! My recommendation is to stop stalling with meetings and take action I strongly prefer to see the lake maintained, with dredging, as an established habitat for bird and mammal populations that have taken residence in the current configuration.	No
32	10-Oct	Jim Flynn	Olympia resident	I prefer a managed lake or hybrid option. I am nearing 80 years of age and remember the unsightly appearance and foul odors prior to construction of the dam when the tide was out. When Heritage Park was constructed, spawning grounds for salmon appear to have been destroyed where artesian springs bubble up, below the General Administration building. I had a Fourth floor office and could view the salmon congregating there. I believe consideration should be given to the the beauty of the reflecting lake. Much money, time and public testimony were contributed to develop the 'Open Space and Recreation Plan for Capitol Lakes, Project No. P-114, December, 1966.' Good plan, never funded. Hope this time consuming, energy-draining effort doesn't meet the same fate.	No

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33	11-Oct	David Palazzi		<p>1. In considering the economic effects consider the following factors: a. Costs to maintain lake under current conditions; essentially an unusable water body that support several invasive flora and faun with serious water quality issues. b. What would be the economic benefit of creating a waterbody that could be used by the community for swimming, boating Lake Fair activities and other uses. 2. Cost to maintain the Port of Olympia marine terminal (note: this should be done in coordination with the ports long term plans for use of the port. The marine terminal has a long history of operating at a loss and the community has shown interest in eliminating it) 3. Comparable cost of dredging the yacht club and downtown marinas versus establishing and maintaining the 'hybrid alternative.' 4. What is the best alternative that provides the greatest long-range benefits from a cost perspective and community value. ie. is a clean function lake/estuary provide more value to the community than maintenance cost to the marine terminal, yacht club and downtown marinas?</p> <p>5. How/would the estuary alternaive or hybrid alternative benefit water quality in Budd Bay?</p> <p>6. How would removing the dam at 5th benefit the salmon runs on Percival Creek?</p> <p>What would be the benefit to the recreational and commercial fisheries? What if any other fisheries would benenfit from removing the dam?</p> <p>7. Cost to maintain current dredging of downtown marinas and port versus maintaining the estuary alternative or hybrid alternative?</p>	No
34	11-Oct	Lisa Palazzi	NA	<p>I prefer the hybrid alternative, in that it accomplishes some of what both of the far divided stakeholders desire -- some estuary and some reflecting pool. That said, I know there are challenges in accomplishing the task.</p>	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
34	11-Oct	Lisa Palazzi	NA	<p>know there are toe slope seeps and a great deal of stormwater runoff from the Capital Campus that can be used to feed the freshwater reflecting pool, because I have worked on defining some of the toe slope wetlands and hydrology in past projects. However, I am not sure there is enough of that water to support the reflecting pool during extended summer droughts. I think we could perhaps use some of the treated water from LOTT if available, or possibly find other water resources for that purpose, but I have not done that research. I would assume the reflecting pool would simply be a landscape amenity, and therefore could be managed differently than a natural wetland or estuary. For example, the snails could be hopefully eradicated through a series of actions with careful draining, dredging and flooding with salt water during the transition to creating the pool separate from the estuary; weeds in the lake could be harvested mechanically without needing a permit; lake water could be aerated to increase O2 levels and reduce growth of algae. Because the lake would inevitably overflow to the estuary during high rainfall months, it would still be important to avoid use of chemicals, or to use the lake to receive untreated stormwater runoff, or to otherwise impact water quality draining to the estuary.</p> <p>As for the estuary, I am very excited about the possibility of seeing the Deschutes River flow naturally again, and to see the daily rise and fall of tide in the basin. The biggest impact to downstream areas will of course be sediment, and the initial impacts will be great -- such as we have been watching in the Elwha River recovery. We can reduce some of those initial impacts by dredging to remove excess sediment that has been collecting for decades, however, even that dredging work will be redistributed by nature -- such as we see happening in the Nisqually delta restoration area. Overall, I believe, particularly in this time when our world is so divided that it is important to find a process that gives something to both parties.</p> <p>As for the concept drawings, I favor an oval reflecting pool that is more reflective of a natural shape, not a stark vertical line between the pool and the estuary. I also think that a gradual sloped shoreline on both sides of the eventual barrier between the two systems will provide a more natural, attractive functional habitat that is physically beautiful. I know these comments are about details that are far down the road, but I also think that presenting these options with the concepts of beauty are important in helping with the decision making process.</p>	

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35	11-Oct	Erica Benoit	Master of Environmental Studies student at Evergreen State College	<p>I am really curious about the methods to inform the public about both this scoping process and the EIS, and therefore the subsequent actions that will be taken. Our methods of consuming information have really changed, and social media could be a really useful avenue for sharing this information, especially using Facebook to create 'scoping' events that people can use to both share and RSVP. It will be really important to include the public throughout the entire process, especially considering the historical and cultural value of Capitol Lake.</p> <p>I believe that Olympia really has a chance to write a new history that we can be proud of, rather than hold on to a decades-long history of a dead lake that is associated with ecological issues, contamination, lack of recreation, etc. To get the general public on board could create a broader community-based history, in which we can be proud of our proactive efforts to both solve an environmental problem and sustain a natural resource through the ever increasing effects of climate change. In the EIS, it could be also be useful to consider the positive impacts to the public of the developing recreational, social, community, and educational uses of whatever solution is proposed and implemented.</p>	No
36	14-Oct	Alma Gaeta		<p>The process proposed for harvesting nutrients from Capitol Lake is still in an experimental phase, which itself presents a significant level of risk for inefficiency or failure. If the responsibility of nutrient harvesting is placed in the private sector, what ensures that the nutrient harvesting will be sustainable in the long term?</p> <p>While there has been significant input from tribal members and representatives, how will these concerns be represented in the EIS in a way that is reflective of those values?</p>	No
37	15-Oct	Philip Pearson		<p>The restored estuary alternative should be considered for two primary reasons. First, it seems the most likely alternative to deal with invasive species. Salt water should take care of removing the fresh water invasive species that currently occupy the lake.</p> <p>Second, as sea level continues to rise, the restored estuary would seem to be the most economical to maintain as the other alternatives would likely be expensive to maintain. The restored estuary could accommodate sea level rise without the need to maintain some artificial, human-made feature.</p>	No

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38	16-Oct	Matthew Karas	Masters of Public Administration student	<p>I am curious if the Deschutes estuary restoration/Capitol lake management project is working in collaboration with the West Bay Restoration project. A major assessment for West Bay restoration was performed by Coast & Harbor Engineering and completed in February of 2016. Public meetings were held in January of 2018 and a final master plan is scheduled to be completed in December of this year. During the public meeting last winter representatives from the engineering firm repeatedly emphasized that the West Bay Restoration project would not preclude dam removal and would be approached in a manner that would compliment estuary restoration. While these comments were meant to reassure those concerned about the dam, they also suggested that the west bay project was independent from estuary restoration. If these two projects are being studied concurrently should they not be merged into one? Both projects share similar visions and involve similar mitigation efforts. Both projects have to confront contaminated sediment and will require extensive dredging or possible capping. Both projects hope to restore tidal estuary functions, riparian buffers, and improve water quality and marine biology. Both projects are meant to beautify downtown and create recreational opportunities for the community. These projects are inherently connected, so why are they seemingly being approached separately? Can the City afford both projects? West Bay Restoration is estimated to cost between \$24.7 Million to \$33 Million, depending on which option is pursued. If it is not financially feasible, which project takes priority?</p>	No
39	17-Oct	Gerald Sheehan		<p>I feel that a tidal estuary is inappropriate in an urban setting. First and foremost tide flats smell at low tide and would detract from the ambience of the city and would limit the opportunities for additional tourism. I believe it would adversely affect business in the downtown area leading to an economic decline.</p> <p>Both the lake and estuary options would require periodic dredging but the lake option would benefit many more citizens (children, swimming, lake activities and views. Even if the lake dredging costs more it should be viewed as the cost to maintain an attractive park with the benefits accruing to the citizens far outweighing its cost. I'm not sure what changed, but when we first moved here in 1977, the lake support swimming, sailing, boating, windsurfing, and fishing. It served as a reflecting lake highlighting the capitol grounds.</p> <p>I think the state, which I believe owns the lake, should work with the city of Olympia to retain the lake and find an equitable way to fund the periodic dredging that would be required even if that dredging would cost more than the estuary option. Thank you for the opportunity for me to make my voice heard.</p>	No

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40	18-Oct	Karen Messmer	Intercity Transit Authority	Marinas need deep water that may not be possible to maintain with the estuary option. So, find another location for marina activities such as an expansion of West Bay marina or the Port marina at East Bay. Moving the Yacht Club may be a lower cost alternative than continuous dredging to keep the water deep for the boats	No
41	18-Oct	Anonymous Anonymous		Blank	No
42	21-Oct	Susan Southwick		My husband and I have lived on Olympia's Westside since 1980. During this time I have walked down to and around the lake many many times. I have also walked along Percival Landing many times. I have enjoyed these walks but I have become increasingly concerned about the state of the lake. I much prefer looking into the bay, I love to watch how it changes with the tide. I was very excited when I first heard talk of taking out the dam and returning the lake to an estuary. I waited patiently while a study was performed. My understanding is that study found that, yes, it is the correct action to take. This is not too much of the surprise considering the very positive outcomes of the dams that have been taken out other places such as the Elwha River. I do enjoy walking around the lake because it is a convenient distance. I would love to be able to walk around the reclaimed estuary. I would like the EIS to address designs for a similar trail to surround the ever changing estuary.	No
43	21-Oct	Lewis Cox		I think Mud Bay is one of the most beautiful places in the world.	No
44	21-Oct	Pyke Johnson		I believe we should maintain Capitol Lake as a recreational lake for the citizens of this area to enjoy. While turning it into an estuary might appeal to some, I feel the detrimental effects on downtown development and use would outweigh the benefits. If it cost more money to dredge and maintain the lake in order to return it to good health, so be it. I, for one, would be willing to accept a tax increase to pay for it. The city of Olympia is trying to restore the downtown area in an effort to encourage development and use. Turning the lake back into an estuary would be counterproductive to that goal.	No
45	22-Oct	Cathy Freer		I believe that anything other than complete estuary restoration would be a waste of time and money. I have seen the restoration of tidal flood lands in Snohomish County and ongoing project there. It is the right thing to do for the environment and would reap the most benefit for all. Other measures being considered are simply stop gap. Don't waste our money with stop gap measures or by doing nothing. Restore it to its natural state! Thank you for the opportunity to voice an opinion.	No
46	26-Sep	Anonymous Anonymous		Removing the dam will not equate to restoring the estuary. Des chutes Parkway runs almost the entire length of the western shore. Road, bridge and other modifications would be subjected to tidal flux and need to be either eliminated or armored.	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
46	26-Sep	Anonymous Anonymous		At least half of the historic estuary was outside and north of the dam. East Bay, the historic estuary of Moxlie Creek, was a significant part of the historic estuary occupying about 1/3 of the area of nearshore and tide flats. The Westman Mill development which has moved through the regulatory process would forever eliminate the option of restoring the Moxlie Creek estuary. There were no salmon runs in the Deschutes River because of the waterfall. Native salmon spawned in the streams. If we're going to have a meaningful debate, let's at least put everything on the table. What would a restored estuary include?	
47	26-Sep	Laurie Pierce		<p>I believe that whatever options are considered to resolve the legacy issues associated with Capitol Lake should include improved infrastructure which addresses as many issues as possible. Simply basing this process on aesthetics, individual concerns, or sentimentality will not meet the ultimate community need to manage stormwater, reduce nutrient impacts on Budd Inlet, and mitigate the impacts of Sea Level Rise. We need to do whatever it takes to sustain both our natural and built environments and repair the mistakes that were made by our forefathers (who may not have understood the long-term impacts of their actions). Our community has made incredible investments in our Capitol City - lets make sure that those investments are protected as much as we possibly can. I understand that every option will have a downside, so we must all enter into this process knowing that some of us will not be entirely pleased with the outcome. However, if we can see that DES is making a good faith effort to consider all viewpoints, it will be much easier to support the final outcome. It has taken so long to get to this point, so much work has already been done, I would hate to see us waste those efforts. If there is any usable, relevant information from prior work, I hope that the facilitators of this effort will include it in their deliberations.</p> <p>I also hope that the final project will be something that we can all be proud of, that represents our community values and that is manageable as we move forward. If the state is not willing to maintain whatever asset is created when this is all through, this will not be a successful project. If there is some way to preserve/ conserve some of our natural resources through this project, I would also consider that as a measure of success. Thank you for allowing me to be involved and for hearing me out - painful as it may be. I have much more specific ideas about what could be done, but I will keep them to myself and leave the outcome to greater minds with far more experience. Again, if we remain true to our overarching values and environmentally sustainable goals, I am certain we will derive the best solution for all involved. Your patience and consideration are greatly appreciated. Sincerely,</p>	No

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48	27-Sep	Erica Williamson		I am all for restoring Capitol Lake to an estuary alternative. I am interested to see the environmental impacts from this EIS to get to the point of restoration. Or dredging maintenance that would need to take place. I love the south Budd Bay, but being 'at the end' of the sound has some disadvantages. Restoring the Lake seems like a natural step to take at this point. How would this affect people who use the lake or downtown frequently? How could we help prevention of people littering? How would we get rid of the invasive snails?	No
49	29-Sep	Tom Fell		We, like some other lucky people in Thurston County, live on an estuary. In our case, the Henderson Inlet estuary. The day-to-day and season-to-season diversity of bird and mammal life is astounding. Birds are present at all phases of the tidal changes. Seals and otters are frequent visitors. All kinds of little critters live in the mud and there must be enough fish to help support all of the activity. Because of government action, the water quality has improved and there is a flourishing shellfish farm. When the tides in, small boat rotation is not only possible but common during every season. The Deschutes estuary could be the same if the tides are allowed to return.	Yes
50	29-Sep	Jim Rush		I have told others about this idea and they all think it is a good plan. First make the reflecting lake smaller, by filling in with dredged silt and other fill. Second create a meandering Deschutes river by dredging and filling in the lake south of the railroad while creating a silt trap that would collect silt that could be used as fill. This would take years to accomplish but would give us a huge park area for all kinds of activities and provide healthy habitat for all kinds of animals. The reflecting lake size would be determined by the GPM of the Deschutes and Percival rivers that would allow for a clean water lake that maybe just maybe kids could even wade in. See Attachment.	Yes
51	1-Oct	Judy Thompson		I am all for environmental issues, especially renewing the health of Puget Sound and our rivers in Washington. Compromise seems to be a dirty word in today's world, but when looking at the progress that is being made on other projects at state wide level, I think preserving Capitol Lake is deserving of some compromise. Olympia is the capitol of our state. Capitol Lake is the 'Jewel of Olympia'. I wonder how many people who are involved in the decision making for this proposed project have had the pleasure of walking around the lake on a beautiful fall day. Everyone needs to do that and then tell me it isn't worth preserving! Is there no value placed on sheer beauty, or walking trails, or parks, or tourists. Every time we have guests visit from out of town, we always take them for a walk around our beautiful lake. I say let's spend whatever it takes to dredge the lake, kill the snails, maintain the dam and keep the 'Jewel of Olympia' shining.	No

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52	1-Oct	Ed Zabel		<p>Around the late 70's, a berm was built from Deschutes Parkway across the lake to the 1-5 bridge, creating a reservoir pond on the south end of the main lake, now called the Interpretive park. That reservoir pond was supposed to be an area where dredged material from the lake could be deposited. That never happened and now that area is now called a park. So, after 40 years of innumerable studies, an EIS study is still needed? The lake needs to be dredged. Why not build a retaining wall parallel to Deschutes Parkway from the 5th street dam to the railroad bridge, dredge the lake, and deposit the dredgings behind the wall. Eventually those dredgings could fill the area, and a park could be created to keep Park supporters happy.</p>	No
53	1-Oct	Orion Albro		<p>Providing a comprise plan that will include an estuary that many want, and retaining the reflective pool and the public lake/park for everyone seems to be the best compromise solution. Money of course to construct and maintain will always be an issue.</p> <p>Rather than the concrete wall, has anyone looked at the concept of dividing the north and south basin at the railroad opening with a fixed dam to hold sediment in the south basin. Dredging from the north basin could be used to construct islands in the south basin. The islands could be planted with native vegetation friendly to wildlife. Nesting boxes could be installed for water fowl on the islands. About 20 years ago the City of Centralis went through a relicensing process for their Yelm Hydroelectric project. Their canal was widened out and islands constructed and planted. Today the islands contain numerous species of wildlife along with two bald eagle nesting pair. The south basin is ideally suited for such a wildlife preserve and natural estuary.</p>	No
54	1-Oct	Joe Holliday		<p>Assuming that a long-term management plan for Capitol Lake is needed, per the instructions of the Washington state Legislature, I think 'doing nothing' is neither an option nor a plan. Something needs to be done. If we are not going to figure out how to give access to the lake to people for boating, fishing, etc, then it makes sense to return it to its natural estuarial state, or to pursue a hybrid option that preserves some of its reflective and aesthetic features.</p>	No
55	1-Oct	Penny Black		<p>I endorse keeping Capital Lake and managing sediment. I also recommend that Floyd/Snider include in it's study the impact of removing the dam on Bayview Market, the Port of Olympia, the yacht club and the marinas. Will removal of the dam and reconstruction of the downtown bridges cause removal of the parking currently available at Bayview and impact the ability of the Market to stay viable. Will the movement of sediment into Budd Bay require periodic dredging so that the yacht club and marinas can remain viable.</p>	No

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				The lake (when not accumulating algae and filling with sediment) was an attractive landmark that has drawn tourists and local residents to the downtown business community. I live on Mud Bay; when the tide is out the bay is not attractive, grasses and plants do not grow in the mud flat. In the summer months the tide is out primarily in the daylight hours, providing unobstructed views of mud with the accompanying stench.	
56	2-Oct	Dennis Burke		'Hello my name is Dennis Burke and my email address is WAENG stands for Washington engineer Wa for Washington ENG for engineer Waeng@me.com. I'd like to give a presentation at the scoping meeting. So I said that people could understand the full nature of of what is going on with Capital Lake. I made comments earlier in the previous public participation and I've also made a number of submittals but unfortunately I think they've gotten lost in the shuffle the the technology that I was proposing namely one that would remove the nutrients from Capital Lake on the shoots river if installed there would solve the problem and that was I think selected as a as an alternate or as a something to be looked at you might say in the EIS but I think I would like to make a more detailed presentation or I can make another submission of five page document that would give some insight into two people that may not be going on but anyway my name is Dennis Burke my phone number is 360-923-2000. That's 360-923-2000. I would like to make a presentation at the upcoming events. Thank you.'	No
57	2-Oct	Molly Carmody		I'm not sure where I should be submitting comment, but here goes: I appreciate the whole estuary idea, but I really love the lake as a visual and recreational benefit to Olympia. Can we somehow combine the two ideas so that both wildlife and people can use the system? I'm tired of looking at a nasty green swamp, so let's do SOMETHING to change what we have now.	No
58	3-Oct	Mary Chramiec		I am writing to express my thoughts on the proposals set forth for managing what is now Capitol Lake. In my mind, restoring it as an estuary is the best approach. Not only would this approach benefit wildlife, it would increase the beauty of our downtown. The lake is disgusting! Cleaning it up and maintaining it as a lake is not a good solution. Allowing the Deschutes River to flow naturally and allowing the tides to shape the landscape as they are meant to do would be an incredible change. People complain that it will smell but guess what - olympia smells at low tide no matter what. That's not going to change by keeping the lake. An estuary will bring added tourism and the money required to maintain a lake could go into nature paths, interpretive centers, and all around habitat restoration. Using Woodard Bay and Nisqually Basin as examples, what is there not to like about it? Lastly, I believe restoration will promote the health of our waterways (Budd Bay and beyond) which is so desperately needed.	No

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59	4-Oct	Ester Kronenberg		<p>As a member of the League of Women Voters, I have been studying water issues in Thurston County. It seems clear, for many reasons, that the best solution to the problems of Capitol Lake is to restore the estuary. Department of Ecology has learned that the largest contributor to low dissolved oxygen in Budd Inlet is the 5th avenue dam. Trying to maintain Capitol Lake will require continual dredging. The ecosystem present now is unsustainable.</p> <p>We know that salmon will return in greater numbers once the dam is removed and the Deschutes is free to flow. We know that the orcas depend on the chinook salmon that inhabit the Deschutes, and that their continued existence is at risk without more chinook. The damming of the Des chutes has been a failed experiment in environmental manipulation. We see how quickly the Nisqually and the Elwha have recuperated once they were restored from artificial constraints. Let nature takes its wise course once more and restore the Deschutes estuary.</p>	No
60	6-Oct	Ann Clark		<p>How many more studies and monies will be spent on yet another study of Capitol Lake?? This is ridiculous and now the results of this study will not be available until 2020. The bottom line is that no-one or no agency is willing to make a decision. If find this ludicrous and a waste of money that could be put towards a workable solution to dredge the lake or make it a estuary and remove the dam. I vote to dredge the lake and make it the beautiful showcase to our Capital and downtown Olympia that it once was and could be in the future.</p>	No
61	8-Oct	Larry McCallum		<p>The purpose of these comments is to list areas that should be emphasized in developing the EIS and determining future development scenarios. As a broad statement, I would emphasize the need to be aware of the complexity and critical nature of this study going forward. This is not just a lake or reflecting pool, but a critical link to the entire South Puget Sound area; the watershed, estuary, uplands, and ultimately, the sound itself. The EIS needs to address not only the impacts to each assessment areas listed below, but take a holistic approach and model the entire ecosystem and the changes that will occur under all alternatives. As a general comment, past studies should be reviewed and, when found lacking should be supplemented with new data Each alternative will have specific impacts on all topics listed below and some not emphasized here:</p> <p>In summary, the DEIS should examine all management options in light of the overall impact to the ecosystem. This not only includes the upper watershed and mouth of the Deschutes River, but also Budd Inlet and, ultimately the Sound, as a whole. The study should ferret out the connections and provide solid data, whether by modeling or additional on-site surveys to provide a solid base for decision-making. I believe this is one of the most critical studies to be undertaken for this area.</p>	No

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61	8-Oct	Larry McCallum		<p>CRITICAL EIS ASSESSMENT AREAS - Deschutes River Watershed The EIS should focus on what's happening in the watershed and impacts to the river mouth. Topics for analysis should include: -Plants and Animals; how they will be impacted by each alternative -Erosion; what rate is the upland eroding and impacts to the mouth and Budd Inlet, based on implementation of each alternative -Water quality; metrics on quantities and types of non-point source pollution and impacts on the ecology of the river mouth and Budd Inlet; which alternative will mitigate the impacts to water quality and help mitigate existing clean water violations in the current lake. Of note: The Capitol Lake dam causes the largest negative impact on dissolved oxygen of any activity evaluated due to the dam's combined effects of changing circulation as well as nitrogen and carbon loads.' The EIS should include how all alternatives will mitigate water quality issues. -Critical watershed areas (wetlands, springs, etc); linkages not only in the watershed, but to the estuary ecosystem.</p> <p>Sediment Transport and Geomorphology -Rate of sedimentation under each alternative and impacts to benthic macro and micro flora and fauna. How will each alternative support naturally occurring erosion and filling activities that will be closest to natural conditions. -Economic impacts due to cutting and filling from dredging activities in the fresh water and marine environments -Impacts to nearshore areas; what types of development would be suitable for enhancing or preserving future ecosystems -How does each alternative impact natural water circulation patterns in the current degraded estuary and Budd Inlet. Models should be developed to show how each alternative will either mitigate or impact natural erosion and sedimentation forces. The DEIS should concentrate on how the tide regulates sediment load and deposition and how each alternative will have negative and positive impacts on the ecosystem. This will require modeling of tidal currents, sediment loads, etc.</p> <p>Land and Shoreline Use -Impacts to future land use of the shoreline; how the shoreline resource will be altered, especially how each alternative, if implemented will alter the upland, nearshore, and benthic flora and fauna. What mitigation measures will minimize the impacts? -Recreation activities possible under each alternative; emphasis on public access, and intensive vs non-intensive impacts to the natural environment</p> <p>Water Resources -Impacts to fresh water flow in Deschutes River, due to increased withdrawal of ground water aquifers, continued development in the watershed, and increases in impervious surfaces, such as roads, etc. from land use activities. The 'flashy' characteristics of the Deschutes during heavy rains and flooding (extreme flows and lack of flow over short periods)has a major impact to the estuary and Budd Inlet. How can this be mitigated, under the existing alternatives.</p>	

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61	8-Oct	Larry McCallum		<p>Sea Level Rise and Climate Change -The effect of each option on the blue carbon ecosystems for this area and the potential to store carbon (carbon sequestering) to mitigate against global warming, In essence, if wetlands are created, or if that option is not available, what are the impacts? -</p> <p>Invasive Species -Impacts/effects of each alternative on protecting and enhancing native flora and fauna and eliminating invasive species -</p> <p>Historical and Cultural Preservation -Evaluate the intrinsic values in the landscape that will be evident from implementation of each alternative. In essence, which alternative will provide Native Peoples maximum access and benefit to their natural and cultural heritage.. How can the alternative enhance, create, and/or protect historical resources, both cultural and natural.</p> <p>Economics and Recreation -Beneficial and adverse Impacts from each management alternative. the Economics should cover maintenance, shoreline use, future scientific study, if an estuary is restored, salmonid migrations and fishery potential, and other parameters, associated with implementation. the study needs to review other on-going projects that are now being implemented that restored the Water and land use interface and created economic opportunities.</p>	
62	8-Oct	John Parry		I am for keeping and maintaining Capitol Lake (the northern reflecting pool)	No
63	8-Oct	Doug&Lillian Ryan		<p>In my opinion, the option of removing the 5th Street tide gate and restoring the lower Deschutes into a tidal estuary presents the State of Washington with a golden opportunity to benefit both the Deschutes River and the Salish Sea ecosystems as well as the people who live in the surrounding communities. This option would restore a healthy tidal channel and mudflats in the area that is currently occupied by Capitol Lake. This Lake presently becomes choked with floating algae each summer causing life within it to die as it experiences nutrient-induced low dissolved oxygen.</p> <p>Restoring a healthy tidal estuary would end this summer die-off and thus enhance the survival of migrating salmon and sea-run trout to and from the Deschutes River and the Salish Sea.</p> <p>Restored tidal flows of salt water would also eliminate the aquatic invasive species, including New Zealand mud snails, which currently inhabit this artificial Lake. Removal of these invasive species would benefit the surrounding communities by permitting water-contact recreation once again in the Lake such as rowing, kayaking and fishing.</p> <p>Removing the tide gate would also remove the need for regularly dredging the mud that accumulates in the bottom of the current Lake, saving the surrounding communities the considerable expense of dredging and dredge spoil disposal. Altogether I think that removal of the tide gate to restore the natural tidal estuary is the best option because it would bring the most important benefits to the natural ecosystems and to the surrounding communities at a reasonable cost.</p>	No

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64	8-Oct	Dick Wadley		I am fundamentally opposed to removing Capitol Lake. But, perhaps, some accommodations can be made with a different dam design. While I don't have access to all the science, but it occurs to me that a possible general approach may be to replace the dam with a new dam which would change lake levels based upon tidal levels. And at times, open the dam to flush sediment layers out of the basin. Thanks for the opportunity to voice an opinion.	No
65	8-Oct	Mary Wildenhaus		For years now the debate concerning what to do with our lake has been studied, debated and shelved yet again. We need to MOVE toward resolving the issue. While I respect the studied views of those who want to return the lake to an estuary, I strongly support dredging the lake to make it once again a jewel - a clean lake for our community and visitors - a place to relax, stroll around and perhaps even swim in again. Olympia sorely needs beautiful places to attract people to the downtown. And the reflection lake is a lovely spot to make us all proud of our capitol. PLEASE stop the incessant discussion and ordering of yet another study. There are two sides both of which have good points. We NEED a beautiful place in Olympia. Keep our lake!	No
66	9-Oct	Patty Finnegan		Thank you for soliciting public comment about the future of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed. I live and work in the immediate area and would like to see the following actions: 1. Develop the 'Hybrid Alternative' with the tidal estuary in the western and North Basin and throughout the Middle and South Basins. 2. Create a wildlife preserve that encompasses, at minimum, the current heron rookeries. With appreciation,	No
67	9-Oct	Dale Putnam		The publication 'A River Flows Through It: Thurston County's Deschutes River - A publication from the Stream Team' states that " Unlike most rivers in the Pacific Northwest, the Deschutes did not have a native run of salmon." Given this, supporting dam removal and letting the lower Deschutes (Capitol Lake) run free to encourage a salmon run shouldn't be characterized as returning the river to a natural state as it never had a natural salmon run. It is likely dredging will be required sooner or later, no matter which alternative is chosen, I fully endorse a reflecting pool that can and will be enjoyed by far more people than a smelly mud flat. With a mud flat, visitors parking and walking around it will soon make their thoughts known. The 'aroma of Tacoma' was known far and wide. With a mud flat, what will Olympia become known for?	No
68	10-Oct	William Campbell		Firstly I prefer the Estuary Alternative. I believe there are opportunities regarding this project. 1) I think handicap access can be improved, also Fishery opportunities. Salish voices need to be at the table. Every effort should be made to encourage their involvement. Perhaps offer grants to be used for staff - If FTEs Are a cocern. SQAX'n representative is not sufficient, Their absense could lead to future litigation.	No

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68	10-Oct	William Campbell		<p>Ignore comments re: remove of DES as lead agency</p> <p>2) Dredging is drastically needed, but consideration should be made for shade and woody debris.</p> <p>3) Additional efforts need to be made to include all 'Salish' tribes (acknowledging there are areas of conflict between Tribes), Still, All should be included where possible.</p> <p>4) The 5th Ave bridge should be removed replacing the bridge with a wider bridge. Analysis should be to made regarding traffic patterns. Ideally, The 5th Ave bridge should become a pedestrian bridge.</p> <p>5) A moratorium should be considered on development until such time as proper assessments can be made Associated with the project.</p> <p>6) A hydrology survey should be conducted to ensure adequate water is available for Wells and Aquifer contributions</p> <p>7) water treatment facilities need to be considered with sea- level rise possible inundation of treatment facility and if so what would be the impacts of that contamination source.</p> <p>8) Treaty Tribes should be encouraged to avoid Gill nets in Budd Inlet</p> <p>Corps of engineers dredging is a concern at sensitive points; such as salmonid releases/returns</p>	
69	10-Oct	Ben Dennis		See Attachment	Yes
70	5-Oct	Judy Thompson		<p>I am all for environmental issues, especially renewing the health of Puget Sound and our rivers in Washington. Compromise seems to be a dirty word in today's world, but when looking at the progress that is being made on other projects at state wide level, I think preserving Capitol Lake is deserving of some compromise.</p> <p>Olympia is the capitol of our state. Capitol Lake is the 'Jewel of Olympia'. I wonder how many people who are involved in the decision making for this proposed project have had the pleasure of walking around the lake on a beautiful fall day. Everyone needs to do that and then tell me it isn't worth preserving! Is there no value placed on sheer beauty, or walking trails, or parks, or tourists? Every time we have guests visit from out of town, we always take them for a walk around our beautiful lake. I say let's spend whatever it takes to dredge the lake, kill the snails, maintain the dam and keep the 'Jewel of Olympia' shining.</p>	No
71	10-Oct	Elizabeth Bachman		Before I die, I want to see the tide ebb and flow the DeSchutes River estuary. part of the time it would be lake and inlet; part of the time, tide sculpted mud flats. . If the mud flats actually have a polluted stink, there is more work to do before dam removal. But why not open the dam gates and, at least, give it a try? Work with nature not against it.	No

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72	17-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>As you requested, CLIPA is providing a 'New or Modified Lake Management Alternative' for inclusion in the EIS process. This alternative could be considered a Lake Management Alternative or a Split Lake Hybrid, and is similar to one of the five alternatives that were identified in the State EIS in the May 1999 Final EIS. We have expanded the benefits and increased the identified 'mitigation values' for many of the optional designs provided in the 2017 DES Report to the legislature. As noted in your instructions for Scoping Comments, we have provided as our alternative the 'Community Waterfront Management Plan--A Balanced Community & Environmental Management Program as a Hybrid/Split Lake With Restored Estuary and Waterfront Plan'. We also list a series of potential 'mitigation actions the CLIPA Community Plan Provides' and highlight some specific studies that we believe the EIS Team must undertake to confirm the facts and field findings for critical EIS responses to existing and identified 'Community and Environmental Impacts' that the other options listed will have on the Community and the Environment. CLIPA has a web (www.savecapitollake.org) that has an extensive library of studies that support the Community Plan Alternative Design. We will provide many of these studies to support our anticipated comments related to the drafting of the EIS after the scoping process is completed. Following is the list of potential 'mitigation needs or mitigation potential strategies' that we believe will be a part of the List of Alternatives in the DES Public Documents and that are also reflected in the CLIPA Managed Lake alternative. The CLIPA Alternative is presented after the list.</p>	Yes

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72	17-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>CAPITOL LAKE & LOWER DESCHUTES WATERSHED --MITIGATION NEEDS AND POTENTIAL: 1) The CLIPA Alternative is designed as an environmental enhancement program that efficiently manages sediment, protects the listed species of concern (potentially endangered) that are found in Capitol Lake, provides for community use of the Lake for family water recreation (north basin) and family environmental & naturalist access on water & around the Lake (mid and south basins). 2) The CLIPA Alternative provides for tribal use of the Lake consistent with historical pathways and shoreline usage via a portage. 3) The CLIPA Alternative serves as a major natural treatment system for contaminants flowing into the Lake from the entire watershed. 4) The CLIPA Alternative provides for recycling of sediments for landscaping to reduce the need for landfill or deep water disposal. 5) CLIPA contracted with an independent national expert on the NZMS to identify the current inconsistency in the Lake control program, identifies a possible disposal of dredge material disposal that will reduce cost and outlines a Lake management strategy for the NZMS that would be lost with the estuary Alternative 6) The CLIPA Alternative design minimizes new disruptive infrastructure requirements and can be built in 'adaptive management phases' to accommodate new information and changes in water front use. 7) The CLIPA Alternative identifies two near by marine mud flat areas that currently sit ored but immediate opportunity mitigation) to test the 'estuary restoration' concept in a similar setting in the tidal mudflat zone of lower Budd Inlet. 8) The CLIPA Alternative would provide for an immediate field sampling program from Henderson Boulevard to Priest Point Park in 2019 to 2022 to collect real data that will validate or not, the findings of the Ecology TMDL model. The results may significantly impact the regulatory findings and the ultimate TMDL recommended program by EPA. This will impact the final management plans being evaluated in the EIS and so it is a significant mitigation opportunity.</p> <p>9) Each Alternative being evaluated by the EIS and considered in the TMDL recommendations must be addressed under a common set of project design assumptions, water quality impacts and achievable environmental improvements that the entire community will consider. This means that the 'stated Scoping and EIS project definitions' must include critical features that are 'not inconsistent' with the Ecology TMDL water quality studies, or the Ecology data must be invalidated in the EIS process if it is linked to hydraulics (. See Dr Milnes' 140 page critique). Also the 'estuary dam breach/opening of 200 meters (220 yards=660 feet) must be consistent. These mitigation needs and potential strategies need to be based on current field sampling results. They should not be based on a mathematical model (the Ecology TMDL Model) that is not field verified and using in-consistent design parameters related to hydraulics and twice daily tidal influences..</p>	No

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72	17-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN A BALANCED COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PROVIDING A HYBRID/SPLIT LAKE WITH RESTORED ESTUARY AND WATERFRONT PLAN ,August 1, 2018</p> <p>BRIEF BACKGROUND: The Deschutes River Urban Watershed, extending from the Pioneer Park area near Henderson Boulevard to Priest Point Park in lower Budd Inlet, is the premier active community area for almost 300,000 residents of Thurston County. The population of Thurston County is projected to grow to almost 500,000 people over the next 25 years. The community and state government plan for this 'front yard' area will impact the quality of life, the economic future of its citizens and importantly, the urban environment. A properly managed shared use of this vital area is imperative. In May 1999 the then 'Final EIS', for the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan was prepared by the State DES/General Administration and the Thurston County Regional Planning Council. Five Alternatives wereevaluated, plus a sixth 'no action alternative'. The focus, benefits and costs were limited primarily to the perspective of the State of Washington, and limited to only the Capitol Lake. Little attention was given to the impacts of the Capitol Lake Management on the larger Thurston County community. Particularly significant omissions included how to manage the sediments, the economy of the Downtown Olympia area, and how local/state governments will fund the plan's implementation. Early in 2000, a new group, the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) team contracted with the State's Department of General Administration (now DES) for about \$3.0 million in State funded new studies to evaluate three of the 1999 Alternatives, inexplicably leaving behind two of the hybrid Lake Management alternatives.</p> <p>WHY A BALANCED 'COMMUNITY PLAN'IS NEEDED: In 2016 the DES' Capitol Lake Long-Term Planning Group, consisting of the Cities of Olympia & Tumwater, Thurston County, the Port of Olympia & the Squaxin Tribe, reformatted the work of CLAMP, continuing to ignore most of the alternatives and work included in the 1999 EIS. Important considerations regarding impacts to the entire community were often only partially included or simply excluded. With meaningful input from informed community members being severely limited, this government group recommended that another EIS costing \$5 million be funded by the State Legislature. The 2018 Legislature partially funded that request. Therefore, it is imperative that the State Legislature and agency leaders understand what the community desires. As it now stands, information provided to the Legislature from the 2016 DES/local process does not adequately include community needs or priorities as specifically defined by community stakeholders. Hence, a more balanced community plan is required. Note: Readers requiring confirmation that community needs are being disregarded are directed to the DES Long Term Planning Executive Work Group's 'Purpose and Need' document.</p>	

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72	17-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>NOTE ON THE ECOLOGY DESCHUTES RIVER/BUDD INLET TMDL: Concurrently with the State Capitol Lake review, the Department of Ecology has continued to work on the federally (EPA) mandated Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis, which links all impacts in the Deschutes Urban Watershed into one ecosystem and related water quality management plan. Obviously, the upper rural sub-watershed of the Deschutes River impacts the downstream Urban Watershed. Thus County and city land use and utility service regulations that continue to provide for discharges into the water ways, impact the entire system downstream to Puget Sound. The primary focus of Ecology are the water quality issues identified in Puget Sound and to suggest to DES in general terms how to improve the watershed water quality today and in the future. Of special note, in June 2018, EPA notified Ecology that it has rejected/not approved the Ecology recommended TMDL plan for the upper watershed, due primarily to Ecology's failure to adequately involve the public in the review of the proposed plans that will impact all citizens of Thurston County.</p> <p>A PROPOSED WETLAND, ESTUARY, LAKE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY WATERFRONT This proposed Wetland, Estuary & Lake Plan (COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN) is a hybrid of all of the best elements of the previous studies and builds on one of the two 1999 DES/GA EIS Alternatives. It incorporates the findings of the STATE/CLAMP/COE (Corps of Engineers) Consultant Studies related to sediment management and infrastructure requirements. It adds the potential to restore the only natural salmon spawning stream (Percival Creek) in the Deschutes River watershed and protects species that are under consideration for protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act. This plan is by far the most consistent with the Ruckleshaus Commission's recommendations. The infrastructure, restoration, and larger urban watershed program can be adaptively built in phases to accommodate funding and future local government sea water rise protection strategies. It also provides for several tribal and other cultural centers of development to reflect all of the rich history of the Urban Waterfront and State Capitol Campus. See the ATTACHED MAP of the 'PROPOSED--COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN' super-imposed on an actual photo of the Urban Watershed. The Map shows both the existing sources of contamination impacting the Budd Inlet area of Puget Sound, and the key new community projects that will make this COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN an implementable program for the entire community in the near future. The following further describes the key elements of the COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>DESIGNATE THE MIDDLE AND SOUTHERN BASINS OF CAPITOL LAKE AS WETLAND -- Convert the Middle and Southern Basin (approximately 2/3 of the Capitol Lake basin) to a managed and enhanced wetland natural treatment system with a middle basin sediment trap (optional) designed to protect the Yuma Myotis Bat Population, provide wetland waterways to historical tribal village sites, and for wildlife observation and community outreach. The North basin (north of the Lake railroad trestle) would serve as the primary sediment trap and natural water quality treatment (similar to the LOTT's multi-million dollar nitrogen removal system--but with virtually no public cost). Additionally, this system helps to accommodate waste products from the existing and proposed fisheries enhancement projects while providing the most popular urban family recreation objectives of the community, swimming and boating in the North Basin of the Lake. THE SEDIMENT TRAP/MANAGEMENT SYSTEM--- As documented by CLAMP, over 400,000 cubic yards of existing sediment build up will be required to be removed from the Lake and marine water area to start any project except 'No Action'. A permanent (mostly hidden) hydraulic dredge system would be installed to periodically remove (uncontaminated) River sediment (35,000 cu yards are transported by the River annually) via a hidden dredge to the State owned staging area west of the City of Olympia Pump Station along the Deschutes Parkway for de-watering and reuse for public landscaping. Dredging and expensive upland deposition from the legacy contaminated marine waters in Budd Inlet will only be required rarely for deep water shipping.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>RESTORATION OF ESTUARIES---The COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN would remove the west shore Budd Inlet railroad bridge and berm connecting West Bay Park with the 4th Ave area and complete restoration of that area into a mud flat estuary similar to that recommended by the pro estuary plans. Additionally, the plan would install a boardwalk extension along the toe of the west side bluff between the 4th Ave area and the Park and restore another mud flat estuary at the south end of East Bay (south of Swantown Marina). FOSTER AND PROTECT SALMON HABITAT--The Plan allows the Middle & South Lake Basins to serve as highly productive wetland ecosystems which provide habitat for aquatic insects (critically important for our Yuma Myotis Bats, juvenile salmon and other aquatic species). The basin will continue as a transition area for salmon returning to the proposed Deschutes hatchery (the new multi-million dollar fish hatchery at Pioneer Park to enhance the man made Deschutes River Salmon fishery). The Plan will allow the continuation of minimal compression points (water body narrowing) thus reducing severe marine mammal predation of salmon which would occur with removal of the tide locks. Removing the 5th Avenue dam would quadruple the number of marine predator compression points. WATER QUALITY ISSUES & TREATMENT-Department of Ecology and EPA 303d listings for the upper Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet are out of date. Recent comments on water quality violations are generally based on field sampling programs completed 20 years ago by State consultants. Almost all of the contaminants found in Capitol Lake come from the upper watersheds. New contaminants will be added to the Deschutes River from the proposed Pioneer Park Fish Hatchery and expansion to the Tumwater Falls Park Holding Ponds. Therefore the contaminant load attributed to Capitol Lake which is measured at the outlet of the Lake at the 5th Ave tide locks, originate from the 80 or more local and State storm water discharge pipes, WDFW fish holding & rearing ponds, golf course run-off, livestock, failing septic tanks in the Olympia, Tumwater & County residential areas, road run-off from 1-5, State and local government roadways and upper watershed farm and forestry land. Capitol Lake is currently serving as a 'natural nitrogen (and Carbon) and phosphorous treatment sump for the upper watershed' attaching to the sediments in the Lake and reducing the contaminant load prior to flowing into Budd Inlet.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>PLANT HARVESTING TO REDUCE CARBON LOADING IN BUDD INLET This plan would include plant harvesting at an interval necessary to significantly reduce the Ecology focused Carbon contaminant load from the upper watershed and urban storm water run offs into Budd Inlet. Additionally, harvesting will significantly improve summertime Capitol Lake aesthetics. SAFETY HAZARDS OF A RE-CREATED MUDFLAT -- If the tide gate is removed, the Lake Basin will become a twice daily mud flat with high velocity discharge into Budd Inlet. Carcinogenic contaminants, currently affecting Budd Inlet sediments will spread throughout the entirety of the Capitol Lake Basin. Additionally, as noted by the Thurston County Health Department, mudflat sediments may entrap humans and animals. The Community Plan would preclude this new community problem in the heart of our downtown. Coho Restoration Project-- With the exception of modest spawning in Percival Creek, there has never been significant sustainable spawning of native or wild salmon in the entire Deschutes River watershed, including the Capitol Lake basin. This is primarily due to the existence of Tumwater Falls as an upstream migration barrier. (Other than the rare stock of chum, salmon do not spawn in saltwater.) Although Percival Creek's spawning habitat has been seriously harmed by human development in its upper reaches, CLIPA's proposed 'Coho Habitat Restoration Project' in lower Percival Creek could help to provide a modest sustainable fishery for wild coho, and possibly steelhead and chum in this watershed. The plan is simple: provide ample woody debris and engineered log jams strategically in Percival Creek. WDFW should decide if adequate spawning habitat still exists in Percival Creek to support the cost of this project. Percival Creek Extension Plan--Percival Creek currently empties into Capitol Lake. Some have speculated that a direct access from Percival Creek to Budd Inlet could possibly benefit easier passage of juveniles and adults into and out of this waterway. A sinuous meandering channel just west of the current north basin of Capitol Lake and emptying into the southwest corner of Budd Inlet could accomplish this. Tidal flows for improved ingress of stray juvenile salmon (from watersheds other than the Deschutes) for rearing might possibly be increased by this re-channeling. As for the Coho Restoration Plan, WDFW should evaluate the wisdom of this strategy.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>TRIBAL CULTURAL CENTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS---The Plan would set aside the south end of West Bay Park (next to Rotary Point Park) or a portion of the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park, area for the Squaxin Tribe to construct a Cultural Center/Museum/activity area. It would provide for a traditional canoe 'portage route' under the 4th Ave Bridge/crossing the new Percival Creek waterway to access the Lake and wetlands in the Middle and South Basins. A similar portage could be built around Tumwater Falls. The Plan could provide for a Tribal Communications/Site near Percival Cove, near the Mitigation Area at the South end of the Middle Basin and a Steh-chass village at the bottom of the Tumwater Falls. All Tribal Communication Areas & sites could be a continuation of the Squaxin and Nisqually tribal programs in Budd Inlet. PHASED CONSTRUCTION, COSTS AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>This Community Management Plan is a Hybrid/Split Lake/Restored Estuary/Community Waterfront Plan that will be adaptive and constructed in phases (in contrast the Estuary Plan/Removal of the 5th Ave Tide gate alternative would require a 90% Completion to function). This Community Waterfront Plan of Projects when completed would cost about 10% of any alternative that removed the 5th Ave Tide Gate or about \$40 million versus \$400 million over 20 years. This cost savings could be applied to projects far more productive in terms of salmon habitat rehabilitation and water quality improvement in other Puget Sound areas. Annual operating costs for this Community Plan would also be about 5% of the Estuary/Tide Gate removal alternative. Cost sharing and management will be a Local/State/Tribal/Federal Cost. If cost sharing is to include property owners, the Plan will require some form of a Special District where the local, State, Tribal and private business stakeholders share in the costs and have representation on the Management Board.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>SEA WATER RISE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT--- Sea Water rise strategies for the Downtown Olympia area are still under discussion. Sea Water rise problems are a phased response requirement, but the design is required soon to ensure that the Downtown Redevelopment follows a program based on long term policies and investments. The sea water rise is a 'scheduled tidal rise issue' that is approximated by the current 'Deschutes Flood Stage and King Tide Events' that are somewhat predictable and can be managed, if proper plans are in place. Continuation and enhancement of the Downtown Flood Protection Program currently provided by the DES management of Capitol Lake Tide Gate Operations is the least cost 'first line of protection'. Protecting the Downtown area north of the Lake will involve modification of the core area, most likely a combination of a seawall and an elevated roadway/berm in selected areas. The cost of the Sea Water Rise Protection District or by the City should be a cost and design consideration in the future plans of the Tide gate/Capitol Lake EIS. INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT- The New Zealand Mud Snail are found in over 30 locations in Western Washington, including the Lake Washington Watershed. Other than Capitol Lake, none of these aquatic areas have been closed to human use. The most recent review of the Capitol Lake Mud Snail population suggests that they are now being controlled by natural predators. The snails survive in brackish and freshwater, suggesting that their future control management will be required under all alternatives for the Lake. ENDANGERED SPECIES MANAGEMENT-Species residing in Capitol Lake (such as the Olympic mudminnow) are under consideration for protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Removal of the Lake will require a compensated response for restoration of these species. The endangered Orca whales require plentiful numbers of Chinook salmon for their survival. Our Southern Puget Sound pod is in serious difficulty largely due to low numbers of Chinook. Under the current Capitol Lake and ladder system, millions of Chinook have been reared to provide sustenance to this endangered species. As noted above, removing the dam would quadruple the number of marine predator compression points, likely reducing those Chinook numbers.</p>	

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72	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPPA	<p>SUMMARY OF BENEFITS AND ADVANTAGES OF THE COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN The proposed Community Waterfront Plan provides specific benefits and advantages to the Community and Environment when compared to other alternatives being considered. Again, no other Lake management plan fits as well with the spirit of the Ruckelshaus Center recommendations of 2014. Through compromise and creativity, it provides a remarkable system which balances the values and needs of our environment and the vast majority in our community. Some specifics follow: 1) The Plan is a hybrid of the best attributes of all alternatives being considered. These best attributes include scientifically based juvenile salmon rearing enhancement, estuary acreage restoration, massive wetland creation, and water quality improvement in Budd Inlet. 2) Preservation of the enormously valuable aesthetic and social cohesion benefits held by the community. These benefits add to the community's quality of life without causing environmental damage. 3) The Plan can be built in phases to ensure that design decisions with the intent of improving Budd Inlet water quality can be confirmed before proceeding to the next phase. It is a cost effective and adaptive management plan. 4) The Plan provides excellent family recreation in the North Basin, wildlife observation and outreach in the Middle and South Basins, and natural protections of all species of concern. 5) The Plan's cost is only about 10% of what it would cost to remove the 5th Ave Dam and 5% of the on-going maintenance cost associated with retention of the Olympia Waterfront as a family and business oriented boating waterfront. 6) Savings in the hundreds of millions of dollars could be used for more productive purposes such as rehabilitation of salmon spawning and rearing habitat (particularly 2,000 culvert restoration needs) and prevention/reduction of storm water and toxic run-off into Puget Sound. 7) The Plan has been endorsed by all individuals that understand the pros and cons of the primary alternatives as a 'workable, doable, and affordable Plan' for all citizens of Thurston County. 8) This Plan respects the Tribal and Historical uses of the Urban Waterfront and will allow all citizens of Thurston County to join together to develop historical sites that respect and embrace our collective history of our community. 9) This Plan avoids the public health and safety problems associated with dam removal. 10) Lastly, this plan would allow Budd Inlet shoreline businesses to continue. This attribute is of utmost importance to a healthy downtown.</p>	
73	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p>	No

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73	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. o Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
73	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include several scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet). Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin Island Tribe's juvenile salmon use of a restored Deschutes estuary graphics and in the context of Governor Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p>	

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73	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake.</p> <p>The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: Ecosystem services should be studied for each alternative to determine the economic value of improving the environment and the economy now and into the future. What legacy are we leaving our kids, grandkids? What are the impacts to LOTT? - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	
74	23-Oct	TK Bentler	Residence	Dredge the lake!!! Capitol Lake should be a place for people to swim, fish, paddle board to recreationally enjoy....	No
75	24-Oct	Chris Snyder		The 'Hybrid' alternative should also include an option for a remnant freshwater lake portion behind the retaining wall. Having saltwater behind the retaining wall (without constant exchange) would be an extremely big mistake as it would quickly turn fetid. There are in fact several artesian well sources that are located in the current east side lake bed of the northern basin area that could easily be developed to supply/maintain plentiful clean freshwater water to the area behind the retaining wall. As my memory serves, one artesian well source was a 12' brass pipe that used to stand vertical in the lake 50 ft or so off the shore. IMHO, a freshwater hybrid alternative would be by far the best one and everyone would have something to be happy about.	No
76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am happy to see the Legislature and DES moving the ball forward on this intractable challenge. I have lived in Olympia since 1983. I was one of the last people to swim in the lake before it was closed due to bacterial contamination. I have watched with concern as the lake quality has decreased to the current completely unacceptable condition. As a community, we should be ashamed of what we have allowed to happen. Capital Lake was supposed to be a centerpiece of Olympia and it has turned into a cess pool. It is time to break the 30 year stalemate and identify and implement a solution that works for the community. I propose a hybrid alternative here that is different than the one described in the DEIS. I think it has a better chance of success and will achieve a higher level of acceptance by the community and key governments/agencies and the legislature.	No

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76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	<p>There are unanswered technical questions about my proposal that would have to be answered before this option could be chosen, but I think it has great potential. The reason we have had such a long running stalemate on the lake is that a strong majority of people in the local communities of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater like the lake and would like to retain it. But, keeping the lake is opposed by a number of strong voices and keeping the lake only works -- if it works at all -- with a tremendous upfront investment and then high O&M costs into the future. It is highly unlikely, in my opinion, that the lake can be restored in a manner that consistently meets water quality standards, eliminates invasive species and provides high quality salmon habitat. But, the estuary restoration option means losing the lake and again, a strong majority of the local community wants to retain the lake. For any option to be successful, it will have to be supported by the local communities and the estuary option has not gained that support primarily because people want to retain the lake. That brings me to my proposed alternative. I suggest that the lake be restored to an estuary, with all the benefits that come with that option -- improved water quality, improved habitat, many invasive species eliminated, improved sediment transport, etc. But, I would add a twist. I would build a new retractable dam at the current dam site that is calibrated to the tides and the flows in the Deschutes River and Percival Creek. The dam would be automated to close each day at a time that would result in an estuary full of water during daylight hours. It would be brackish water -- it would be an estuary -- it would just be full of water during the day. The dam would be opened during night hours and would empty at low tide. It seems to me that this option gives all of us the best of both worlds.</p>	

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76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	<p>A healthy estuary that is good for people, fish and other critters and a beautiful, clean body of water that looks just like Capital Lake when it was healthy that the community would love and use by the thousands. This alternative could break the stalemate in a way that none of the current EIS alternatives will. I mentioned above some unanswered technical questions with my hybrid option. It would be important to evaluate whether any critical estuarine habitat functions would be adversely impacted by keeping it full of water during the day. Water quality impacts in the estuary and in Budd Inlet would also have to be evaluated. An engineering evaluation and perhaps the development of operating principles would have to be developed for the retractable dam. I also suggest that this alternative must be accompanied by a local, state and federal funding scheme that brings appropriate investments from all levels of gov't. LOTT would be an ideal agency to manage the lake and funds collected locally for capital and operational investments. Part of the solution must be dredging West Bay to maintain access to the Yacht Club, the marinas and to the Port of Olympia. The failure of previous options to deal with these interests is one reason why political stalemate has occurred. I would also consider funding a salmon hatchery upstream from the current hatchery -- one that helps deliver on treaty obligations to the Squaxin and Nisqually tribes. I acknowledge that these final points are beyond the scope of the EIS. I provide them with confidence that in the absence of a political solution that involves the local communities, addresses dredging needs and potential economic impacts to the Port and other maritime interests and boosts local salmon recovery projects, it is unlikely that a real solution will be available. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. These comments are submitted on my own behalf and not on behalf of any client or agency.</p>	
77	24-Oct	Brian Combs	Pacifica Restoration	<p>The EIS should include a thorough analysis of how the current lake condition is affecting water quality, whether there are any exceedances of state or federal water quality standards, and how the proposed treatments could improve water quality.</p> <p>Also to be included should be an analysis of how the current lake condition is impairing natural estuary function, impacts to non-natal and natal salmon, and options to improve the estuary.</p> <p>Also to be included should be an analysis of other coastal cities that have lower river system dams, challenges with this condition, and, in comparison, other coastal cities that have natural estuaries in the city and how those areas affect quality of life, economy, and aesthetics etc.</p>	No

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78	25-Oct	Jim Sweeney		All alternatives except 'No Action' involve changes to the dam. A good way to test the viability of each alternative would be to do a controlled experiment. Open the dam and leave it open for a long enough time to allow the collection of meaningful scientific information on the potential impacts of dam removal and modification alternatives. For example: community acceptance of a restored estuary (cultural impacts), capital lake kayaking (recreational opportunities), invasive species impacts (estuarine ecology).	No
79	25-Oct	Laurence Reeves	N/A	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the scope of the EIS for management of Capitol Lake. I believe the EIS should include the following items: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and " king tides" .</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: oThe EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The " Boldt Part 2" decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include several scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding, with the assumption that a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir.</p> <p>Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost.</p> <p>Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change.</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults;</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species.</p>	No

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79	25-Oct	Laurence Reeves	N/A	Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Ecosystem services should be studied for each alternative to determine the economic value of improving the environment and the economy now and into the future. - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching, which is now precluded from use due to the invasive snail. - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.	
80	25-Oct	Jim Sweeney		I've noticed the people who actively oppose restoration of the Deschutes estuary appear to have a vested interest in either the Olympia Yacht Club or the Port's deep water terminal. It's obvious they favor continued capture of sediments upstream of the dam to avoid the cost of maintaining their recreational boating and marine shipping operations. Much of these costs are likely associated with dredging sediments that are now deposited in the Capital lake reservoir. However there is a substantial additional cost to dredge and dispose of contaminated sediments. I would like to see the EIS include sampling sediments near the deep water terminal and the yacht club, focusing on those areas most likely to contain contaminated sediments such as place(s) the yacht club used to use to scrape bottom boat hulls, and underneath the private boat houses.	No
81	30-Oct	Phillip Smith		Why no dredging of the lake for over 30 years? \$4 M on a study when that money could go to dredging, money well spent? If we are turning this back into an estuary, will you take out Deschute's rd. so that the estuary is pristene? How about the 5th ave. bridge, will that be taken out so that the estuary is back to the 1950's? What about the silt washing into the shipping turn around basin, who will be responsible for paying that bill? Are tourists going to be more interested to see the Capitol Lake reflection lake (like the original architects planned) or a mud flat? I cross Mud Bay every day coming into town and I don't see a lot of tourists taking in it's beauty. That was snark. Thanks for listen to my rants!	No
82	31-Oct	Keith Anderson	Keith Anderson Photography	I definitely prefer the 'No Action Alternative'. Remove the gates on the Dam, or leave them open as has been done in the past. Replace the Dam with a bridge when road safety makes it necessary. The Estuary is a fine idea, but let nature run its course. No need to spend taxpayer dollars on this project because nature is doing it in her own time. As the Estuary develops, use volunteers to create trails, etc. Save the taxpayer money to pay for future dredging of the Port of Olympia and the Marinas that WILL be required as the silt is naturally flushed (as was done at the Nisqually Delta) into Bud Inlet. Also use dollars for additional City Police to patrol the Homeless camps that WILL materialize.	No
83	31-Oct	Kathleen Saul		This topic has been studied to death! Every few years a new study gets conducted but the results lead to no action. Stop studying and start doing!	No

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83	31-Oct	Kathleen Saul		<p>As we all know, climate change and rising sea levels are upon us. More and more, the downtown area will be inundated with the waters of the the Salish Sea and Budd Bay. In some ways we should view this as nature trying to reclaim a part of the Sea that humans took away with fill, dams, and large scale construction projects. As we have seen in other areas, fighting against nature does not work.</p> <p>We would be better off working with nature and returning the lower Deschutes to its natural state. Remove the dam and restore the estuary. Let nature return.</p>	
84	31-Oct	Paul Dobson		<p>I find this process confusing in a time when we understand that removing a dam is a good thing. Up to eighty percent of Washington's wetlands have been destroyed due to development and dams. I find this process confusing when we understand that Capitol Lake is a disaster that should have never happened</p> <p>Removal of the dam and restoration of the estuary would enhance and create habitat for chinook and coho salmon.</p> <p>Removal of the dam and restoration of the estuary would improve water quality, improve sediment transport, restore native species, and discourage invasive species. Removal of the dam and restoration of the estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters.</p> <p>Removal of the dam and restoration of the estuary would eliminate ongoing costs - especially the need for dredging and dealing with invasive species.</p> <p>Removal of the dam would offer positive impacts on the climate with blue carbon storage and reduction in methane releases.</p> <p>Removal of the dam would reopen recreational access to the estuary and improve tourism</p> <p>Keeping the dam provides no environmental benefits. Dredging and keeping the lake has no environmental benefits. 35,000 cubic feet of sediment are transported into Capitol Lake annually. Dredging and keeping the lake would be a never ending, costly process that would not benefit the estuary or salmon habitat.</p> <p>Water quality issues in Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet will continue to deteriorate as long as the dam remains. Capitol Lake and the dam are the largest factors negatively impacting water quality in Budd Inlet. The dam and the lake are cancers that should be removed.</p>	No
85	1-Nov	Dan Miller		<p>Capitol lake was created to be a reflecting pool for the State Capitol and sediment trap for the Deschutes river, it performs these purposes very well.</p> <p>Additionally, the lake provides immense recreational opportunities like boating, swimming and tourism and is the center piece of our community.</p>	No

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85	1-Nov	Dan Miller		ecause it is a sediment trap it was understood that it would require periodic maintenance but this has been deferred for many years. The lake needs to be dredged to its design depth and then maintained as intended. Returning the lake to an estuary will destroy all of its aesthetic value which is a fundamental part of the Capitol Campus plan. It will also eliminate recreational opportunities. The estuary plan should be abandoned and the lake should be dredged.	
86	1-Nov	Noel McHugh		I like the hybrid alternative. As downtown Olympia is rejuvenated, retaining the part of the original Wilder and White idea of a reflecting pond would make that part of downtown more visibly attractive for residents and visitors. I think the hybrid plan addresses the many of the environmental issues with restored tidal flow, and would also open up that area to small boat recreation such as canoes and kayaks. I could see a rental boat stand at the new West Bay Park where residents and tourists could rent kayaks and paddle upriver the falls under the Capitol Dome. In the right weather and tidal conditions that would be a fantastic outdoor recreation experience right in downtown Olympia! Thank you	No
87	15-Oct	Sean Ford		While I trust in DERT's assessments below concerning the restoration of Capitol Lake, I would also like to add how deeply I feel about the restoration of the Capitol estuary. As a local landscape designer specializing in sustainability, I cannot imagine anything more beautiful than a natural estuary in the heart of Olympia. If planned well, an estuary restoration project that balanced the needs of the human community with a natural habitat and healthy estuary could become a focal point for the downtown area, that truly reflects the values of the community more than a dead Capitol Lake that does little to bolster anything other than milfoil and invasive snails and toxic waters. If it is so important to have a reflection pond for the Capitol, would it not be beneficial that the pond were not toxic? While the lake is currently a major part of the community and it's activities, it could be much more as a national example of environmental stewardship.	No

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87	15-Oct	Sean Ford		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. o Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data, we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia I am in support of estuary restoration.</p> <p>This is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. - Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet). - Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself with minimal long- term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p>	

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87	15-Oct	Sean Ford		<p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake)</p> <p>and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment</p> <p>The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	
88	17-Oct	Tim Teets		There is a Chinook salmon hatchery just up river from the falls, hatchery Chinook, travel these waters back to the hatchery, also steelhead (I think) and wild stock fish are allowed to pass up river. this needs to be taken into account. A healthier estuary will likely help these runs.	No
89	18-Oct	Susan Davenport		My home is on the westside and I pass over the East West bridges everyday. Capitol Lake, with its surface growing an increasing algae layer has been and is becoming an increasingly derelict eyesore. Restoring the river delta estuary of the Deschutes is an elegant solution to the existing debacle of the concrete basin holding in all that foul water. It is unfortunate that the State put so much time and money into the half finished state park. It never appeared to be 'finished' and the ridiculous 'viewing mound' that looks like a a pile of construction soil displacement is an unwatered eyesore in the summer. A free flowing river, into a filtering estuary sounds like bird song and water murmurs as a legacy to the next generations.	No
90	19-Oct	Shasta Willson		Comment on scope of EIS for Deschutes Estuary/Capitol Lake Watershed: I have a lot of concerns around the potential long-term costs of trying to maintain a 'reflecting lake' where Capitol Lake is. Given the toxic conditions of the lake now, it seems that there will be extensive ongoing maintenance costs. Any evaluation needs to consider not only the immediate costs of restoration to a lake vs. restoration to an estuary, but also the ongoing maintenance costs to keep those solutions within environmental standards. How often will a new lake have to be dredged? Importantly, what is the environmental fallout if some future government decides not to fund that maintenance?	No

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90	19-Oct	Shasta Willson		<p>Climate change must also be considered: as sea levels rise and flooding (e.g. 'king tides') become more common, which of these plans will minimize the costs and impacts on surrounding parts of Olympia? If we restore a reflecting lake, and it becomes toxic again, is there a risk of that toxicity leaking out during such a flood? How often will we have to dredge such a lake to prevent that? What other environmental implications are there to each of three scenarios: a) estuary b) properly maintained lake c) unmaintained lake?</p> <p>Additionally, we are in a crisis situation with state Salmon. How many salmon used to use this estuary? What are our obligations to the Tribes to correct this man-made damage to a natural resource and legal obligation? How much would this help our Orca populations? Our evaluation of options needs to include these wider state-level issues, which affect the spirit and economy of Washington.</p> <p>Finally, while not directly related to environmental impact, I think a thorough analysis of options needs to include consideration of the opportunities for recreation that an estuary or a lake provides, once again with maintenance considered. (i.e. what are the odds of winding up right back where we are now, if future funding falls short?) Thank you so much. I'm excited about the opportunity for our state to get this right, and hope you will consider these, and I'm sure many other issues in your report.</p>	
91	20-Oct	Meghan Hopkins		<p>I believe in the ecological and economic benefits of a restored estuary. I support the following recommendations made by DERT.</p> <p>The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations</p> <p>. Relating to Economics The EIS should address: Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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91	20-Oct	Meghan Hopkins		Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon	
92	20-Oct	Jon Kime		No, Capitol Lake isn't a natural lake but an in city tide flat / estuary wouldn't be natural either and would wind up silting up the Port. And no, the salmon run isn't natural either, it's all man made. We understand that no one wants to incur the cost of dredging Capitol Lake on a regular basis but it is far better than the alternatives. A mud flat is not a real alternative anymore than it was in the late 50s when the citizens turned it into a lake.	No
93	21-Oct	Ann Chenhall		We have lived in Olympia since 1990 and have seen great potential for beauty squandered. So much money has been spent on studies, yet Capitol Lake has become an eyesore. Environmentalists, Indigenous people, and community leaders can work together to create a natural estuary that will enhance salmon recovery, clean water, recreational access, as well as proud community resource. I have seen drawings that create a wonderful area to replace the mess we have now. It is time for leadership in this area. The tides will come and go as they should. The Olympia Yacht Club might need need to move farther out, may be becoming part of the West shoreline. There appears to be a great area for them as it is being renewed. Change is good and owners of the new condos downtown should appreciate the change and a chance to kayak a few steps away during high tide.	No
94	22-Oct	Paul Allen		I strongly support Deschutes Estuary Subject restoration and therefore request the following be included in the EIS I live in Central Washington State. The effort to restore Deschutes Estuary in our WA State Capitol is gaining ground statewide. As part of this effort, I request the environmental Impact statement include the following. *The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations. Relating to Economics The EIS should address: *Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. *Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) *Re-opening of recreation al access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. *Job creation during construction.	No

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94	22-Oct	Paul Allen		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: *The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. *Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. *Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. *Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>*Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>*Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. *Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>*Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>*Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/17/18: https://www.theolympian.com/.../editori.../article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>*Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>*Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. *Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p>	

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94	22-Oct	Paul Allen		*Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon	
95	22-Oct	Dennis Burke		<p>I hope you will take to heart the comments provided in the attached pdf document. We need to solve the world's global warming problems as well as Capitol Lakes deficiencies. We can do both by selecting the right plan.</p> <p>Introduction My name is Dennis Burke. I am a professional engineer licensed in California and Washington. I have been directly involved in water quality and water and wastewater treatment for over 40 years. Attached is a brief one page summary of my professional experience. I attended most of the hearings on the Phase 1 Capital Lake Assessment and wrote a number of letters in support of 'Nutrient and Sediment Harvesting' as a means to economically eliminate the water quality deficiencies of Capitol Lake and lower Budd Inlet while providing recreational uses of the lake. Fortunately, Nutrient Harvesting was presented as a technology to be assessed in the Phase 1 Report. Comment We live in an era of distressing environmental change caused by uncontrolled fossil fuel use that has produced high levels of atmospheric CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide gas concentrations leading to water acidification, higher atmosphere temperatures, high energy storms such as hurricanes and tornadoes, rising sea levels accompanied by shoreline erosion, and extreme rainfall events producing erosive runoff and flooding, resulting in habitat loss and species elimination. The water quality problems associated with Capitol Lake are integrally connected to the environmental change occurring throughout the world. Those Capitol Lake lower Budd Inlet water quality problems have been described as the loss of use created by invasive species such as the New Zealand Mud Snail, sediment accumulation leading to the filling of the lake, and algae or phytoplankton blooms, which upon discharge to Budd Inlet and decomposition, reduce dissolved oxygen to levels that kill fish and violate water quality laws and regulations. All of the water quality issues are directly related to the input of sediment and nutrients from the urbanized and agricultural lands of the Deschutes River watershed.</p>	No

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95	22-Oct	Dennis Burke		<p>Those nutrients produce high concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus in Capitol lake and lower Budd Inlet. The Capitol Lake water quality issues are similar to other watersheds throughout the US such as Chesapeake Bay, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi River watershed that has created the Gulf of Mexico 'dead zone'. High atmospheric CO2 concentrations from fossils fuels, warmer temperatures exacerbated by global warming, and nutrients from atmospheric deposition or erosive high intensity storms provide the necessary ingredients to fertilize our waters and produce a phytoplankton 'crop' that no one wants. However, that 'crop' benefits the environment by reducing atmospheric CO2 levels, only to produce more powerful greenhouse gases (methane plus CO2) upon anaerobic decay within the sediments. The worlds warmer temperatures and high atmospheric CO2 levels must be controlled through a global warming strategy. The Capitol lake plan must be part of that strategy. Nutrients must be controlled at the local level by either eliminating the nutrient inputs within the Deschutes river basin or harvesting the nutrients from the waters of Capitol Lake after they have been discharged to the waterways within the basin. Controlling nutrient discharge within a river basin is an extremely difficult, a multi decade, resource intensive effort. After spending millions, if not billions of dollars over the past 50, years the Chesapeake Bay Commission has not been able to reduce the nutrient loads to desired levels within the largest estuary of the United States. They have now embarked on nutrient harvesting through the introduction of a billion clams that will consume the nutrients that</p>	

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95	22-Oct	Dennis Burke		<p>hopefully may be harvested as a beneficial crop¹. Substantial water quality improvements have also been achieved in Lake Michigan through nutrient harvesting by the introduction of mussels to the lake². Mussels however are not a desirable crop since that invasive species has significantly damaged the ecology of Lake Michigan while improving water quality. Introducing aquatic organisms such as clams and mussels to consume nutrients is not the wisest of strategies since the uncontrolled growth and consumption of nutrients may very well damage other aquatic organisms that need nutrients to survive. Nutrient harvesting must be controlled while producing a valuable crop, such as a renewable energy feedstock that consumes CO₂ from the atmosphere. The Rotating Photo Bioreactor (RPB) has been proposed as a controllable inexpensive nutrient harvesting technology that produces a bioenergy crop, periphyton, a consortia of algae, cyanobacteria, and diatoms. The bioenergy crop can be easily converted to a variety of liquid fuels or gaseous fuels (methane or hydrogen) and highly valued inorganic nutrients, phosphorus as calcium phosphate (apatite) and ammonia for use as a diesel exhaust fluid for NO_x removal through selective catalytic reduction (SCR). The nutrient harvesting technology will recover topsoil containing particulate nutrients and soluble nutrients through the use of the Rotating Photo Bioreactor, prior to, or at the inlet to Capitol Lake. The products will be a nutrient rich topsoil, a bioenergy crop that can be converted to renewable fuels, renewable inorganic calcium phosphate, and concentrated ammonia diesel exhaust fluid for NO_x SCR.</p>	

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95	22-Oct	Dennis Burke		<p>The value of the products will greatly exceed the capital and operating cost of harvesting. The technology will also remove large quantities of CO2 from the atmosphere as well as detritus nutrients necessary to sustain the New Zealand Mud Snail. This is a solution that will have the least adverse impact on the citizens of the Deschutes river watershed, solve the Capitol Lake Budd Inlet water quality problems, and address the urgent global warming issues presented in the latest IPCC report³. The alternative proposals that have been presented to solve the Capitol Lake problems are centered on removing all or a portion of the Capitol Lake dam thereby converting the lake to an estuary. Those proposals do not improve water quality or reduce global warming. Those proposals simply move the sediments and nutrients discharged by the Deschutes river from the freshwater Capitol Lake to the saltwater Budd Inlet. The suspended particulate matter discharged from the Deschutes river will accumulate in Budd Inlet rather than Capitol Lake where their value as a topsoil will be eliminated due to salt contamination. Adding nutrients to lower Budd Inlet will exasperate the existing high nutrient loadings from the LOTT wastewater treatment facility that currently uses expensive advanced technology to remove nitrogen. The complete or partial estuary proposals will add sediments to the Port of Olympia shipping lanes and create a toxic sediment that must be disposed within a confined encapsulated disposal area. The unnecessary cost may be paid by the federal government, aka 'All Americans'. The alternative proposals do not address the key water quality factors such as removal of nutrients or sediment. Those 'plans' simply move sediment and nutrients downstream to be solved by others at a later date at significantly greater cost.</p>	
				<p>We can not go back several centuries when the population was 0.1 person per square mile, trees and forests were the primary land use, and nutrient and sediment runoff was essentially nonexistent. We can not get rid of our urban, suburban, and rural population, homes, buildings, roads, farms, animal 1 Baltimore Magazine, 2018 - click on link https://www.baltimoremagazine.com/2018/2/28/a-new-partnership-aims-to-add-billions-of-oysters-to-chesapeake-bay 2 Chicago Tribune 2018 - click on link http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-met-lake-michigan-water-clarity-20180126-story.html 3 UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), October 2018 husbandry, plane, bus, and auto transportation and all other developments that have occurred over the centuries that produce greater sediment, nutrient, and hydraulic loads to our waterways. But we can solve the problem using our human abilities.</p>	

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96	22-Oct	Philip Fenner		<p>Capitol Lake is the epitome of environmental damage caused by the mistaken notion that we humans can and should change anything about the natural world that we somehow think we can 'improve' for our own sake. In this case the lake was formed by a damming the river at its outlet for the most frivolous of reasons, thereby destroying the most ecologically important part of the river, the estuary. Most dams at least can claim to have some practical purpose (hydropower, flood control, or irrigation) but not this one.</p> <p>Ecology was not understood at the time the dam was built, but it is very well understood now, and salmon recovery is a top priority now. Functioning estuaries provide critical salmon habitat. The Nisqually delta near Olympia should be the beacon that leads the decision making on Capitol Lake, and its message is simple: breach the dikes and dams and the estuary will restore itself!</p> <p>I hope the science genuinely is used to guide this decision, as there is no doubt that the biology and geology favors removing the dam that retains Capitol Lake so that a viable estuary can be restored. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>	No
97	22-Oct	Hugh & Marilyn Milburn		<p>We moved to Lacey from north Seattle 3 years ago and were shocked when we first saw the big mess of Capitol Lake. Our vote would be to spend money and make the Lake work like Green Lake in Seattle. That is a good example of what can be done, and you can see the extraordinary benefits that can result from that effort. An estuary sounds good, but our large tidal range leaves a muddy sticky swamp for 12 hours a day - not something we need in the shadow of our Capitol and next to our waterfront and downtown area. A hybrid would be a cop-out. It is not a good solution, just an attempt to appease the most. Doing nothing is wrong. Please use some common sense in this critical issue.</p>	No
98	22-Oct	Natalie Anonymous		<p>I strongly support Deschutes Estuary Subject restoration and therefore request the following be included in the EIS I live in Seattle, Washington. The effort to restore Deschutes Estuary in our WA State Capitol is gaining ground statewide. As part of this effort, I request the environmental Impact statement include the following.</p> <p>*The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: *Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. *Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) *Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. *Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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98	22-Oct	Natalie Anonymous		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: *The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. *Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty- guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. *Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. *Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>*Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>*Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. *Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>*Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>*Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/17/18: https://www.theolympian.com/.../editori.../article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>*Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>*Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. *Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p>	

Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
98	22-Oct	Natalie Anonymous		*Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon	
99	23-Oct	TK Bentler		I live on Capitol Lake. DREDGE THE LAKE!!!! It's impossible to swim in. Last time I went in the water, I had leaches attached to my skin. It's a tragedy that Olympia has a lake that is an envy to the world in an urban area. The lake should be a place where people can swim, fish, paddle board, wind surf. It would be a clean tourist attraction for downtown retailers and restaurants to do great things for the City of Olympia. To let it become an estuary would be a disaster. Like I said, I live on the lake and would like to enjoy the lake as well as share it with other friends and visitors.	No
100	23-Oct	Vanessa LaValle		I worked across from the lake at Traditions Cafe for 3 years. The lake is a smelly eyesore more times of the year than not. We need to undam the Deschutes and allow natural healthy flow to return, and the wildlife and beauty will follow. I am also a boater and know of whisperings that it will be bad for the marinas, in my opinion nothing could be worse than the current stagnant situation. Thank you for your time.	No
101	23-Oct	John MacLean		Thank you for hosting the public comment event last evening in Olympia. I am writing to follow up on comments made verbally. 1. Permitting Question: Is maintaining the Lake really an option? Maintaining the Lake requires dredging. My understanding is that DES has already conducted a permitting study to see if permits to dredge the Lake in the context of maintaining the would be difficult to obtain because environmental benefit, meaning improved water quality in an impaired water body, could not be demonstrated as required under NEPA and SEPA. I want to inquire if this is correct, and if so, we should focus our resources on coming up with an acceptable plan for estuary restoration (including hybrid options) which I understand is the best and only way to improve water quality. Feasibility of obtaining permits for the Lake Maintenance option could therefore be a critical path threshold question to address in the EIS scoping process.	No

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101	23-Oct	John MacLean		<p>2. LOTT Discharge Permit. We know that the status quo not sustainable; the Lake is filling with sediment and water quality in the lower estuary waters, the Lake and Lower Budd Inlet violate clean water standards on a number of metrics. Again, my understanding of the scientific conclusions so far is that estuary restoration is the only way to improve water quality. I want note that the Lacey Olympia Tumwater 'T) waste water treatment plant recently received in April, 2018 a five year extension on its discharge permit. I question whether this discharge permit should have been renewed in the absence of an active plan to improve the meet federal Clean Water Act standards. I understand that we can not strand this critical infrastructure and that a discharge permit renewal is logical but isn't there an obligation to address the impaired water body and water quality matters in that context? Therefore, a possible EIS scoping topic and question could be to understand the impacts on LOTT in the future and future risks of public if water quality is not improved.</p>	

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101	23-Oct	John MacLean		<p>3. Civic Dialogue on Solutions and Estuary Restoration Project Design. I recommend that we actively engage those who support maintaining the Lake to understand their concerns and explore how their concerns can be addressed as part of an estuary restoration project design. Facilitating dialogue is a next step that goes beyond soliciting public comment. The Lake/Estuary is a jewel and whatever solution is developed has the potential to be a true community building project. Here are the two main concerns of Lake maintenance supporters and dam removal opponents that I have heard. a. First, people (including myself) enjoy the Lake for recreation and want to maintain and enhance the area's recreational values. In fact, I believe recreational values (and attendant tourism and recreational economic development opportunities) can be enhanced with estuary restoration, enabling boating and perhaps even fishing and swimming. b. Second is the concern about sediment management impacts and costs, especially on the Port and the Yacht Club. It is not right to dump on your downstream neighbor. We should define the estuary restoration project boundary to include managing/mitigating these impacts in the most cost effective way. The project financing plan should include resources for these purposes. Perhaps the Yacht Club could relocate, e.g., to West Bay area? Of course, a program and steps to reduce erosion in the upper watershed can be useful to reduce future sediment flows. I think these topics could benefit from facilitated public dialogue and creative problem solving. We have some excellent local resources in town that could be deployed for this purpose. The Dispute Resolution Center is one such organization, the DRC has been involved in similar local issues, e.g., relocating homeless encampments, and is practiced in the arts of democracy, active listening and group problem solving. So, I recommend that the EIS process, at some point, include facilitated dialogue on the project design. I also think it is most valuable to deploy local facilitators who are based in Olympia and know the community in this process. Is there a possibility to add a local consultant to the Floyd Snider consulting team for this purpose? We have a wealth of local organizations including Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team and Olympia Coalition for Ecosystems Preservation and Olympia Urban Waters League all concerned with Puget Sound water quality and taking practical action in concert with local authorities, e.g., creating storm-water gardens, restoring heron rookery habitat on the Westside of Olympia. There is a depth of good will in Olympia for doing right by our ecosystems which this project can tap and promote.</p>	

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101	23-Oct	John MacLean		<p>c. Similarly, estuary restoration offers an opportunity for healing, truth and reconciliation with our native peoples: Squaxin, Nisqually, and others. It is a chance to give honor back to the original inhabitants of this area who knew how to live sustainably in community and harmony with natural systems. It is essential to restore salmon habitat and enable more hatcheries in the Deschutes. I know the EIS process will engage the several tribes. Creating opportunities for tribes to speak to the moral and cultural issues involved with estuary restoration is important and could be incorporated into a community facilitated dialogue process.</p> <p>4. Design Competition Concept. The goal of the EIS process as I understand it is to determine a solution and maps the way forward to implement the project. One way to engage the community, too, could be through a design competition or even a design charrette as a more multi-stakeholder process. I note that our Capitol Building design was the result of a design competition.</p> <p>5. Financing Plan. Will the EIS look at and assess ways that the project can be financed? This is a practical topic. Major federal dollars will be needed and our Congressman Denny Heck is well positioned for this purpose. I note that carbon sequestration values from estuary restoration should/will be studied. If I-1631 passes, a portion of this project could be eligible for 1-1631 funding consistent with estimated carbon values. Established protocols for measuring and verifying "blue carbon" sequestration exist; I can provide further references on request.</p>	
102	2-Nov	Monica Anney		<p>I am in favor of estuary restoration, and I would like to see the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team's recommendations followed in the environmental impact statement</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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102	24-Oct	Monica Anney		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state - Native treaty rights in Washington State: - The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: - Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia</p> <p>They are as follows: The EIS should Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area, including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	
102	24-Oct	Monica Anney		<p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration Water coming in and Water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself, with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article 218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) .</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p>	

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102	24-Oct	Monica Anney		<p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/blue-carbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p>	
103	24-Oct	Alisa Brayden		<p>I am in support of estuary restoration. For close to a decade, I've taking weekly walks with friends around Capital Lake and down through Heritage Park. Our talk is often about the Herons, the Bald Eagles, the Salmon and the Otters. It's easy to imagine that instead of it being a lake it be restored to an estuary and all of those things that draw us to that area could be flourishing. How beautiful that would be against the back drop of the Capital. In addition to those benefits, estuaries are vital in the process to clean water. My family farms shellfish and that wouldn't be possible without clean water. Please taking the steps to estuary restoration for Capital Lake.</p>	No
104	24-Oct	Agatha Burstein		<p>I am a resident of Olympia, WA and I think the EIS should study: - Salmon habitat created, esp. chinook and coho salmon</p> <p>Current violation of federal Water quality standards in Budd Inlet</p> <p>Sediment transport</p> <p>Native plants and wildlife return - Natural ways to discourage invasive species - Impacts to bat populations</p> <p>Flooding models using most recent sea level rise predictions - blue carbon science</p> <p>Native treaty rights in WA state; impacts on rights by tribes in Medicine Creek Treaty</p> <p>Recreation access</p>	No
105	24-Oct	Steven Byers		<p>I'd like to offer comments regarding what I feel should be included in the Capitol Lake Watershed EIS. My views are closely aligned with those of the DERT Team!</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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105	24-Oct	Steven Byers		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>The EIS should: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. - Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration Water coming in and Water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p>	

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105	24-Oct	Steven Byers		Address the best way to return Native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which Natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential Impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those Impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.	
106	24-Oct	Rebecca Canright		I am a college student who cares deeply about protecting our local watershed and estuary ecosystem. I am in support of estuary restoration and hope you will make legislative decisions to advance the regeneration of our incredible estuary ecosystem. Thanks for your time and kind consideration!	No
107	24-Oct	Joel Carlson		Restoring the Deschutes Estuary will not only greatly help salmon, orca, Puget Sound recovery and make the Olympia area much more desirable but will store carbon to save life on earth from fossil fuel global warming. We must get this done now!	No
108	24-Oct	Daniel Cherniske		am a small business owner in Olympia Washington. I care deeply about our native ecology and think it is an absolute disgrace that an incredible valuable and important river, the Deschutes, is choked and gagged right before it meets the sea. It's an ecological crime, and an embarrassment pure and simple. I would like to see the following covered in the environmental impact statement: -Ecosystem health -Climate change impacts -Cultural heritage - And economics Thank you.	No
109	24-Oct	Christine Cole		Hello, Washington State Dept. of Enterprise Services: The following are issues I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement for the Lower Deschutes Basin: I am an Olympia resident in support of estuary restoration. Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.	No

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109	24-Oct	Christine Cole		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this vital issue.</p> <p>Accordingly, the EIS should address the following areas: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. . Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration Water coming in and Water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality</p>	

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109	24-Oct	Christine Cole		Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/ake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.	
110	24-Oct	Diana Connor		I am in support of an estuary restoration. If we are truly concerned about the environment of the Puget Sound, which includes salmon and our beloved orcas, we need to restore the lake back to its native beauty. Our capital building needs to reflect what we Washingtonians truly stand for which is not an artificial lake.	No
111	24-Oct	Josh Diamond		This is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement. I am in support of estuary restoration: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet). Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality. Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts	No

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111	24-Oct	Josh Diamond		Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.	
112	24-Oct	Alex Freilich		<p>Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area-now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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113	24-Oct	Rachel Friedman		<p>The EIS should: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and " king tides" .</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: - The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty- guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource studies: - Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include several scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	No

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113	24-Oct	Rachel Friedman		<p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>- Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editor</p> <p>- Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin Island Tribe's juvenile salmon use of a restored Deschutes estuary graphics and in the context of Governor Inslee's Orca Task For</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Ecosystem services should be studied for each alternative to determine the economic value of improving the environment and the economy now and into the future. What legacy are we leaving our kids, grandkids? What are the impacts to LOTT? - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	
114	24-Oct	Merrie Gough		<p>Please include in the study: 1. total watershed ecosystem health 2. increase salmon habitat - salmon are critical for themselves, the orca, the entire ecosystem and us.</p> <p>3. improve water quality in Budd Inlet</p>	No

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114	24-Oct	Merrie Gough		4. Native treaty rights in Washington State. impacts of the current status on rights under the Treaty of Medicine Creek. 5. How options improve impacts on Native treaty rights. 6. Improve and preserve our ecosystem for future generations 7. Consider Native cultural relationship to the ecosystem and Budd Inlet 8. Consider Tribe's historical data of this area and Tribe's knowledge of the changes that have occurred.	
115	24-Oct	Anne Hallee		<p>Thanks for taking public comment. I am thrilled to stand behind the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team in promoting the following criteria for the Environmental Impact Statement. The EIS should: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long- term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>- Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>- Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p>	No

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115	24-Oct	Anne Hallee		<p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. o Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia</p>	
116	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>CLIPA previously forwarded to the Scoping Committee their updated Alternative for a Managed Lake and a list of existing or potential mitigation factors that need to be considered in the EIS. In that document reference is made to the importance of providing clear and consistent definitions of the key design factors of each Alternative. The EIS, evaluation comments must be based on consistent definitions to compare the impacts correctly.</p> <p>One of the major impacts both on the project hydraulics of tidal flow and Lake discharges is the potential opening of the Tidal/Dam Breach anticipated in the Estuary option. Associated with this is the cost, aesthetics and environmental impacts that the proposed design will have on the necessary changes required to the 5th Avenue and 4th Avenue transportation systems to the West Olympia and Deschutes Parkway.</p>	No

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116	23-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>Attached is an independent review of the CLAMP Consultant Report by Moffatt & Nicholls consulting firms report prepared by Charles Gloyd PE, retired State Chief Bridge Engineer in August 2011. His Report is attached and available in the CLIPA Library for review. Following are some key Mitigation related issues that must be considered in the EIS. 1) The Gloyd Report was done in 2011. All cost information needs to be updated to the date of the assumed EIS construction period. 2) The Gloyd Report increases the previous CLAMP estimate from \$49,282,350 to \$58,605,779. for an equivalent transportation design, adjusted by Gloyd for stated reasons. However the CLAMP/Gloyd analysis is based on a 500 foot opening, and Ecology is using a 660 foot opening for all of their TMDL modeling studies. Also the CLAMP/Gloyd study assumes that the cross Lake railroad bridge will only have a 200 foot opening which does not accommodate the Ecology Estuary modelling assumptions. 3) Depending on the final Alternative Design selected by the Scoping Team, the Ecology Model or the CLAMP and Gloyd analysis will need to be updated. Key to this question is how much larger the embankment and removal of the Isthmus land must be cut back to accommodate the selected opening. If the Ecology model of 660 feet is selected, the required abutments may impact Bayview Market and other structures requiring a major new economic and community impact consideration. If the DES stated opening of 500 feet is used, the Ecology TMDL model may be producing incorrect results for their model of impacts to be used in the EIS. 4) Other infrastructures such as water, sewer, electrical, storm water and other City systems may or may not be fully considered in these analysis. This is a major new impact that will need to be mitigated under the estuary and the one hybrid option that the DES information is referring to. 5) The CLIPA Alternative, will require a very minimum of infrastructure changes and therefore is a major mitigation value by design.</p>	

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116	2-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>PROPOSED DESCHUTES UPPER WATERSHED MITIGATION STRATEGY TO IMPROVE BUDD INLET WATER QUALITY-A CAPITOL LAKE AQUATIC PLANT HARVEST PLAN The Department of Ecology, as a part of their TMDL studies for the Upper Deschutes River, has identified nutrient, nitrogen, and phosphorus contaminant loads discharging into Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet. Currently Capitol Lake is providing a significant low cost natural treatment of these contaminants prior to discharging from the Lake into Budd Inlet that exceeds the volume/weight of nitrogen removal provided by LOTT by about 150%.. This low cost treatment system would be lost if the dam is removed. Alternatively, the natural treatment system can be inexpensively improved to provide an even greater mitigation on the upper watershed non-point contaminant load impacting Budd Inlet water quality. The Ecology TMDL study is not currently presenting these benefits in the Upper Deschutes Draft TMDL or the TMDL program for the Lake and Budd Inlet. The EIS scoping must therefore include this evaluation in the EIS analysis CLIPA has obtained a proposed plant harvesting program for Capital Lake from a commercial lake management company. This information, along with Department of Ecology cost of nitrogen and phosphorus removal (See Ecology Publication # 11-10-060, June 2011) was used to help evaluate the benefits of a routine Aquatic Plant Harvesting Plan. This plan could be initiated now to test the benefits by actual field tests and demonstrations. The CLIPA proposal would provide for the development of a long term lake aquatic plant management plan to be part of their recommended Community Lake Management Plan. This Plan recognizes that the Middle and South basins would be managed primarily as aquatic wetlands to maximize plant nutrient uptake and harvesting. It would also provide habitat for various species of fish, birds and mammals. The North basin would be designed for sediment management, recreation, esthetics and a selective plant management area Nutrient nitrogen pollution is considered one of the largest threats to the water quality of Puget Sound. The Deschutes River and the watershed surrounding the Lake as it discharges into Capitol Lake has the highest summertime dissolved nitrogen content (DIN) of any tributary in South Puget Sound.</p>	

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116	2-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>(1.) The source is from the WRIA 13/Deschutes River Watershed, including forest land urea fertilization, farm run-off, septic tanks and many ditch and storm water discharges. The Department of Ecology's and the County's previous sampling program documents that the nitrogen content of the water from the River in contrast to the flow out of the Lake during the summer months via the tide lock has been reduced by approximately 72%. (2.) This significant nitrogen reduction is due primarily through nutrient uptake by Lakes aquatic plants and algae during their growing season and the removal increased with an effective harvesting program. Ecology Report # 11-10-060 to see the significance of this volume and efficiency of this naturally occurring treatment process. Rooted aquatic plants are attached to the lake bottom by their root system. When the plants dieback in the fall season they fall to the Lake bottom and are decomposed by bacteria. Floating plants and algae on the other hand are not attached to the lake bottom and spend the growing season floating on or near the surface of the water with the possibility of being washed through the tide lock and into Budd Inlet where they often sink and decay on the bottom. Depending when the plants discharge into Budd Inlet, they will contribute adversely to the dissolved oxygen problem in the Inlet. Harvesting these floating plants and algae, primarily in the north end of the Mid Basin and in the North Basin, would intercept their possible progression into Budd Inlet and increase the volume of the nitrogen and phosphorus removed. The major algae species tend to 'bloom' and consolidate with floating plant material into unsightly floating mats during the summer months. A floating mechanical harvester would be employed to skim this floating algae and plant masses, and offload the harvested material on shore for transport to an upland composting site. Some concern has been expressed on how to control the NZMS in this harvest proposal. See the CLIPA NZMS Report for more information on the control and disposal of NZMS from floating plants.</p>	

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116	2-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>To estimate the direct value of the mitigation value the Lake is now providing for Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed TMDL benefits, the following provides an abbreviated example using Department of Ecology data. Assume that it becomes apparent that patches of floating plants and algae mats have formed over 50 acres of the mid and North Basin. The harvester would 'skim' these open floating mats to a 2-3 inch depth. This would remove an estimated 3,000-9,000 cubic meters of wet plant material depending on the plant density of the mat. Floating garbage and trash embedded in the mat would also be collected during this operation. In addition to improving the lake's aesthetics this harvesting operation with its upland disposal of the plant material will have removed significant amounts of nitrogen and carbon from the aquatic ecosystem. Dry weight Carbon and Nitrogen removed in this example is estimated to be: Carbon = 0.58x10⁵/kg -- 2.07x10⁵/kg or (58,000kg --207,000kg) or (127,600lbs -- 455,400lbs) or (64 tons - 228 tons) Nitrogen=0.87x10⁴/kg-3.11x10⁴/kg or (8,700kg -- 31,000kg) or (19,140lbs -- 68,000lbs) or (10 tons-34 tons) Adding perspective to the benefits associated with the water quality improvement associated with a Lake aquatic plant management plan, we compared the volume and estimated pounds removed with that removed by the advanced nitrogen removal process by the LOTT wastewater treatment operation.</p> <p>During the summer growing season (April-Sept) LOTT is required by the Department of Ecology to reduce at, extra expense, and the amount of nitrogen in their daily wastewater discharge to Budd Inlet by approximately 36% or 105kg/day. Extending this amount to the April-September growing season the LOTT system produces a total 19,215kg that must be removed by their treatment process. Comparing this with the above Lake nitrogen plant uptake and harvesting: LOTT Required Nitrogen Removal Process--- 19,215kg (42,273lbs or 21tons) Lake Harvesting Program (N Basin only) --- 8,700kg-31,000kg (19,140lbs-68,000lbs or 9.6tons - 34tons) Using Ecology's State Guidelines that estimate the cost of installed nitrogen removal costs, the mitigation value of the existing Lake natural treatment process exceeds the benefits to Budd Inlet water quality improvement objectives by more than 150%. Since the LOTT system is not able to divert and treat the Deschutes Watershed flow and nitrogen load, this mitigation value a properly managed Lake benefitting Budd Inlet will be lost if the dam is removed. CLIPA recommends that the EIS Team design and implement a near term annual water quality sampling program in 2019 from Henderson Bridge to Priest Point Park as part of a field test of the plant harvest program. This testing program will provide field verification of both the benefits of the harvesting program and improve Lake Aesthetics pending completion of the EIS and implementation of the selected alternative.</p>	

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117	24-Oct	Kevin Head		I am very concerned about Climate Change and our Deschutes Basin. I would love to see how if turned back into a river how with Ocean rises will that help or hurt our area. My unscience opinion would be that it could help. I also want to see more native plants in our area. I think taking down the fifth street dam would help everything including looks. So please do a through job and would love to hear how it goes.	No
118	24-Oct	Steven Herman		Hello, I am much in favor of this proposed estuary restoration. Many of the negative predictions concerning the action have been obviated by the spectacularly positive outcomes of dam removal on the Elwah River. Nature heals itself, often quickly.	No
119	24-Oct	Jim Lazar		RIMS 2016_ Sea Level Rise Will Be Worse and Come Sooner.pdf (-701 KB) I would like to see the following addressed in the DEIS: 1) Impact of three meters (ten feet) of sea level rise on each alternative. Yes, this seems like a lot. But, the attached article from Insurance Journal shows that this is the level that NOAA has advised insurance companies, at the Risk Management Society annual meeting, to anticipate over the next 40 years. Yes, other sea level rise assumptions should ALSO be considered. But it would be irresponsible to cut this analysis off at a level below that reported by NOAA to the insurance industry. 2) Impact on the New Zealand Mud Snail of each alternative. 3) Impacts on flooding during high-runoff / high-tide events. 4) Cost and effectiveness of raising the berm around the lake and raising the dam over time in response to sea level rise to accurately reflect the cost of preserving the 'lake' option. 5) Cost of modification of the rail line to maintain service as sea level rise is effective. 6) Accurately assess the cost of upland disposal of dredge spoils (initially and over time) if those spoils are contaminated and require transport and safe disposal.	Yes
120	24-Oct	Melody Mayer		(I am in support of estuary restoration. The following is what I would like to see studied in the nvironmental impact statement : Relating to Environmental Analysis: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. - Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).	No

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120	24-Oct	Melody Mayer		<p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. - Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/ake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	

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				<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: - Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
121	24-Oct	Eika Petermann		I'm writing in favor of returning Capitol Lake to an estuary. That's what it was before we arrived and it functioned superbly, doing what it was supposed to do and providing natural habitat. I've never seen a case where humans have improved on nature. It seems time and time again it is proven that when we live in harmony with the natural habitat, everyone thrives. Dismantling dams is a case in point.	No
122	24-Oct	Charlton Price		Cleaning up and flushing out Capitol Lake and the estuary of the Deschutes River into the bottom of Puget Sound can be a landmark accomplishment of environmental restoration, public health, and a model/inspiration for similar actions elsewhere in the nation., DERT's persistence will pay off bigly.	No
123	24-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	<p>The EIS should: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	No

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124	24-Oct	William Scheidt		<p>(I am in support of estuary restoration. The following is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement : Relating to Environmental Analysis: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. - Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p>	No

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124	24-Oct	William Scheidt		<p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/ake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: - Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
125	24-Oct	Rebecca Swingle		<p>I am in support of estuary restoration! I have lived in Olympia for 25 years and I walk the current 'lake, but want a healthy, prosperous watershed and down town!! I support DERT's recommendations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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125	24-Oct	Rebecca Swingle		Determine potential Impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those Impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.	
126	24-Oct	Polly Taylor		Hello, I am in support of full estuary restoration.	No
127	24-Oct	Cherly Waitkevich		<p>This is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. . Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia. I am in support of estuary restoration.*</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
127	24-Oct	Cherly Waitkevich		<p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>- Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species.</p> <p>Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	
128	25-Oct	Rachel Benbrook		<p>I am a strong proponent of a full restoration option for Capitol Lake. Washington is a state committed to environmental conservation and habitat restoration and it is a crying shame that our government is represented by a habitat disaster like Capitol Lake. We need to start at the state's front yard and fix this mess so the Deschutes River can flow free! There are so many reasons to do so, and so few not to.</p>	No
129	25-Oct	Zinnia Cardamomum		<p>I believe the EIS should please: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p>	No
129	25-Oct	Zinnia Cardamomum		<p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	

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				<p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/ake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p>	
130	25-Oct	Diane Frank		<p>I have been frequenting the Deschutes Estuary for decades and always wondered what it would be like in it's natural state (restored). We have so few places with potential for examining nature as she truly is in Thurston County and this location is prime for getting back to nature'. I support the requirement for all conceivable studies and actions required to return this treasure back to its pristine nature.</p>	No

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>GENERAL COMMENTS Capitol Lake was developed as an integral part of the State of Washington Capitol Campus nearly seventy years ago. Since that time, the City of Olympia has grown from a small, quiet town of 16,000, surrounded by mud flats, to a vibrant urban area, with Capitol Lake and the Budd Inlet waterfront providing a setting, among the most picturesque in capital cities across the United States. Capitol Lake has been further enhanced by the development of a circle of parks; from Heritage Park around the North basin, to Marathon Park and the Interpretive Center along Deschutes Parkway, and to Tumwater Historical Park at the South basin. The Lake has been a central part of Olympia and a hub of activity, connecting the Capitol campus to the Waterfront and Downtown Olympia. However, the Lake has also developed some problems, largely due to neglect and a lack of proactive management. Instead of developing a routine dredging plan to remove the sediments that accumulate each winter, DES has failed to remove any sediment for over thirty years, thus reducing the lake volume and depth, and encouraging plant growth. On the positive side, County sampling results confirm that water quality in the lake has improved to the point that the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) is not including water quality issues in the Lake itself in their current TMDL analysis. (WDOE is considering water quality issues in the upstream Deschutes River, and Lake caused issues in Budd Inlet, but that will be the subject of further, detailed comments on water quality.) The foregoing is intended to provide some general context for my overall opinion favoring the alternative of retaining Capitol Lake, and using an adaptive management approach to resolving the current and future issues with the entire Deschutes urban watershed, from the Tumwater Pioneer Park to lower Budd Inlet at Priest Point Park. Although this approach is similar to that advocated by the Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA), of which I am a Board Member, these are my own, individual comments. My intent in providing these scoping comments is to assure that DES and the EIS consultant are made aware of and fairly consider the many relevant issues I have observed and researched over the past several years.</p>	No

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>8. Risk and Sensitivity Analysis Each alternative has its own unique risks, which should be evaluated as part of the project scope. Foremost among the risks is the question: what if the estimates, projections or assumptions are in error or result in unintended consequences? I have described the adaptive management approach which is embodied in the CLIPA Managed Lake alternative. For this alternative, a problem would lead to reevaluation and a course correction. Whether this relates to water quality, sediment management, invasive species or any of the other project factors, we can return to prior conditions and reevaluate. However, for any alternative that includes removing the dam, whether an intertidal mudflat or dual basin is created, an error will be difficult to reverse. We will never be able to put the dam back in place. Removal of the dam is an irreversible, extremely costly event and we will all live with the consequences. A current example of unintended consequences is the impact on the Port Angeles municipal water supply from the dam removal project on the Elwha River. Port Angeles is now suing the Federal Government for \$60 million to compensate them for the operation of additional water supply equipment due to excessive sediment in the collectors. Another related factor that should be considered is the sensitivity of any actions. For an adaptive management approach, where incremental changes can be made, there is little sensitivity, or exposure, with each change. Just the opposite is true for a major, irreversible change such as dam removal. There is no potential for course corrections or off ramps. Somehow, Floyd Snyder needs to find a way to include these risk and sensitivity issues in the project scope. Of all the various issues related to the alternatives, this may be the single most important one for the larger community. We are considering alternatives, some of which could cost several hundred million dollars more over the life of the project. These funds could instead be used for other critical community issues, such as sea level rise, homelessness, drug addiction or tangible environmental improvements. To embark on an irreversible alternative, runs a significant risk of squandering the limited resources of this community.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>9. Water Quality The impact of each alternative on the water quality in both Capitol Lake Basin and Budd Inlet should be a key component of the project scope. That is why I asked, at the beginning of these comments, for a sampling plan that would provide a current, real-world picture of where water quality stands now. The task for the EIS with this information, then, is to determine where water quality impairments currently exist, and how each alternative will improve these impairments. For water quality information, analysis and conclusions, the initial Floyd Snyder work has relied heavily on the Deschutes Watershed TMDL work by WDOE. This is appropriate and understandable. It should be noted, however, that WDOE's work to establish the impacts of the various alternatives is based on their interpretation of the results of a model that was developed about thirty years ago to assist the LOTT Wastewater Treatment Plant in obtaining a new discharge permit. A local scientist and retired Evergreen College professor, Dr. David Milne, has studied the WDOE model and its interpretation, and has raised a number of serious and substantial questions about the WDOE conclusions. You have been given copies of his reports and I will leave it to you to evaluate them, with one caveat. Some members of the community, and also of the Executive Committee for this EIS project, have discounted Dr. Milne's work because it has not been independently 'peer reviewed according to WDOE standards. I maintain that Dr. Milne's work is a peer review; of WDOE's use of the model and subsequent reports. As such, it doesn't need a further independent peer review itself. The questions he has raised need to be addressed by WDOE, but, unfortunately, they have declined any meaningful review. These are not the questions of a layman, but of a sincere, thoughtful , local expert in the topics relevant to this EIS. The Ruckelshaus report, commissioned by DES, recommended unbiased, independent third-party expert review for those technical issues that could not be resolved. Because WDOE's position in not responding has been '...we'll just have to agree to disagree...', this appears to be exactly the type of issue that Ruckelshaus recommended for third-party review.</p> <p>The proposed CLIPA alternative is the culmination of several years of study and is presented in considerable detail; but there will inevitably be questions, misinterpretations and adjustments necessary as we move through the EIS project. I am hopeful that we can continue a dialog during this interim period that will result in clearer understanding for everyone and lead to an improved outcome. Likewise, I also hope that through these interest group briefings we will be able to better understand the features of the other alternatives which to date have not been well developed.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>1. Sampling The water quality sampling used to inform most of the preliminary work done by DES is outdated; with many samples going back to the 1990's. This lack of current information has led to much of the confusion and conflict that exists regarding the various alternatives. The best solution would have been for DES to begin a comprehensive sampling program two years ago at the start of the EIS process. We would now have that information available. Despite requests for this, DES actually eliminated the only partial sampling for Capitol Lake, done by Thurston County for a number of years. So, I encourage you to include in the scope of this EIS process, initiation of a comprehensive sampling program, beginning above Tumwater Falls and extending into lower Budd Inlet. To meet WDOE criteria, the sampling needs to cover the entire calendar year, so time is of the essence to provide results that can be analyzed and used in the current EIS process. Incidentally, this sampling could also provide information for the public to evaluate water quality issues, and for WDOE to evaluate the validity of their model predictions for their current TMDL work in Budd Inlet.</p> <p>2. Geographic Scope The inclusion of Olympia, Tumwater, Thurston County and the Port of Olympia on the Executive Committee would indicate that DES intends to have an EIS scope extending beyond the immediate Capitol Lake perimeter. I advocate for the study area to include the Deschutes watershed from Tumwater's Pioneer Park to Lower Budd Inlet in the area of Priest Point Park, which I will refer to as the Deschutes Urban community area. For reference, this urban area has grown to a population of more than 175,000 (2010) and is projected to grow substantially over the next two decades. This larger geographic scope is important because any alternative selected will significantly impact both upstream and downstream areas of the current Capitol Lake Basin. This is true not just for traditional water quality issues, but also for sediment management, fish passage, invasive species migration, recreation opportunities, waterfront and Port survival, and overall economic vitality in the downtown area.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>3. Adaptive Management The scope of the EIS should include an answer to the question of how each of the alternatives will address incorporation of adaptive management principles in their plan. From early on, adaptive management has been a key element in this process, and in fact, is included in the name CLAMP in the initial study. Using this approach, I suggest that an alternative that incorporates an incremental, trial and error approach to resolution of problems has more flexibility and is potentially more cost effective than one that implements irreversible changes, particularly when the proposed benefits are based on subjective and questionable assumptions. I suspect that an incremental, open-ended approach does not fit well with how a project-type EIS usually works. As a 40+ year project manager myself, I'm used to projects having a beginning, middle and end, rather than being open ended. However, this project is too important for the future of the Olympia area to be burdened by discounting a potentially optimal, albeit unconventional, approach. Floyd Snyder has indicated in our initial review meeting that DES has asked them to go beyond the standard EIS procedures in some areas due to the unique nature of this project. An example is the more fully developed public outreach and extension of public comment periods. Adaptive Management may be an area that also needs some creative thinking in the evaluation of the alternatives. So, what I'm asking here is a repeat of the question in the first sentence of this section; how will each of the alternatives address the incorporation of adaptive management principles in their plan? And by extension, how will Floyd Snyder fairly assess their answer to this question?</p> <p>4. Sea Level Rise The impact of sea level rise for each of the alternatives should be included in the scope of the EIS. Consideration should be given to the barrier that the isthmus and dam provide for Heritage Park and the area South of Fifth Avenue from high tides. DES currently has a protocol dealing with manipulation of the lake level to provide capacity to absorb flows during storm/high tide events. This has avoided flooding several times each year, and can continue in the future as these events occur more frequently. Without the dam, these storm/high tide events will result in immediate flooding in both the North end of the basin and in Tumwater's Heritage Park, with both increased frequency and severity as we move forward. In the near to mid-term, the dam and Heritage Park berm can be raised to accommodate sea level rise. In the long term, however Olympia will need to address sea level rise, either by raising and hardening the shoreline, raising structures, creating a tide gate or other barrier, or some combination of all. This time will come sooner without the dam to buffer the impacts. A basic question regarding sea level rise that we must answer is: why would we get rid of a perfectly good dam which provides interim flood protection, when there is a high probability that another barrier north of this will be required in the future to protect Olympia from sea level rise?</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>5. Mitigation The earlier report by Floyd Snyder for EIS preparation included mitigation as an element in the qualitative economic analysis of the alternatives (bar chart, Fig 8). I support inclusion of this element in the scope of the project, with the following comments. For the proposed CLIPA alternative, which I support and which keeps the dam in place, mitigation identified in the earlier report was for maintenance dredging. This dredging would take place primarily in the North basin, with most of the middle basin reverting to a freshwater wetland. Mitigation required, if any, should be of minimal cost as additional wetland habitat would be created rather than eliminated. The CLIPA alternative also calls for enhancing two areas that are currently unproductive intertidal mudflats that could provide additional marine wetland habitat. The earlier economic analysis also included a construction impact mitigation element, but with no significant construction anticipated in the CLIPA alternative, this should not be a factor to consider.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>In the case of all alternatives that remove the dam and create either a partial or complete intertidal mudflat, mitigation would be required for at least the following: - Tidal action will result in higher water levels at high tide than currently exist throughout the Capitol Lake basin. This will result in saltwater inundation along the shorelines of the North and Middle basins, throughout the South basin and in Tumwater's Heritage Park. In these areas, the established freshwater wetland plants and habitat will be lost, and this loss should require mitigation. Removal of the dam and a portion of the isthmus will eliminate a barrier to New Zealand Mud Snail (NZMS) migration. This, and the twice daily tidal action will likely result in the spread of NZMS both into lower Budd Inlet and South into the middle and south basin areas. This expansion of an invasive species will require additional controls, more extensive eradication efforts or mitigation of some type. Of note is that the positive northward flow of the Deschutes River through the North basin, combined with the barrier at Fifth Avenue, likely contains the NZMS in a relatively small area of the North basin. Removal of the dam, the Fifth Ave roadway and excavation to create a 500-600 foot opening from Fourth Ave/Bayview to Fifth Ave/Heritage Park, along with construction of a new Fifth Ave Bridge, Deschutes Parkway and other roadway/roundabout modifications and modifications to the Fourth Ave Bridge, all make this a major project by any standard. Combine this with the work taking place at the only connector from downtown Olympia to the Westside, and it is obvious that substantial mitigation for construction impacts will be required. The earlier EIS preparation work showed this mitigation to be a modest one to two percent of project costs. This requires a much closer examination as the details of the construction activity emerge. To a somewhat lesser degree, the same considerations need to be applied to construction activities at the pedestrian walkway/RR Bridge at Marathon Park. A 500-600 foot opening is also required here, resulting in removal of the East portion of Marathon Park. The two projects described above will take place over the waters of a salmon migration route. These sensitive areas will require limits on the timing and scope of construction activities, and may also result in mitigation for any losses. You might want to talk to the LOTT Engineering Manager about the hoops they were required to jump through when the pedestrian walkway bridge between the North and mid basins was rebuilt in about 2004 to accommodate a new wastewater interceptor line.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>6. Dredging, Disposal and Sediment Management This topic is one of the most important elements of this project EIS. The scope must include both the sediment management in the existing basin for the material that has accumulated over the past thirty plus years, as well as the management of future sediment deposition for each alternative in the future. The scope should include, for each alternative, the volume and quality of sediments in both fresh and marine waters, appropriate techniques for removal, disposal options and cost estimates. The CLAMP study, completed in 2007-2009, recognized the importance of this element and devoted considerable work to analyze the costs and impacts for each alternative. This was also an important area of interest for me when I first began to look at the Capitol Lake issues in 2011. Together with Don Melnick, a retired Civil Engineer, we prepared a Dredging Evaluation report for the CLIPA Group after a detailed review of the CLAMP documents. We did not take a position regarding a preferred alternative, and neither of us were CLIPA members at that time. We highlighted several areas of concern with the CLAMP analysis and recommended that further, independent study was needed. I am attaching this report, with references, for your review. My reason for this discussion is that Floyd Snyder's work to date has relied heavily on the earlier CLAMP studies. Not only is this CLAMP work more than ten years old; as you can see from our report, there were questionable assumptions, inconsistent approaches to the various alternatives and even errors in calculations. Because of this, I encourage you to expand the EIS scope to include a new analysis for dredging, disposal and sediment management for each proposed alternative, and not depend on the flawed and outdated CLAMP study.</p>	

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131	25-Oct	Bob Holman		<p>7. Economics The scope of the economic evaluation for each alternative should include a short term analysis, a long term analysis and an analysis of indirect economic impact, as described below. The short term analysis should include costs of pre-dredge requirements, infrastructure costs, mitigation costs for construction impacts and the first few years operating and dredging costs. The total of these relatively short term costs should provide a good comparison for the costs of the various alternatives. The long term costs, primarily dredging, mitigation and maintenance, should be considered separately, for several reasons. First, because of increasing uncertainty as we look forward as much as fifty years, these costs become much more subjective. They cannot be simply aggregated with the short term costs. At a minimum, they should be discounted for the time value of money, with a present value analysis. Second, if we are to assume that an adaptive management approach is used, then it is likely that over time the repetitive cost of dredging, which in the earlier Floyd Snyder cost comparison was by far the largest factor, will be substantially reduced. We have all seen this learning curve principle in action, in areas like the cost of phone service, airline travel and computing power, for example. And third, outside influences, in particular sea level rise, may have an unpredictable impact that could dramatically change the economics. I'm not saying we should ignore these longer term costs in the alternative comparisons, but, we should not let these more subjective and less predictable factors swamp the short term analysis. Indirect economic impacts for each alternative should also be evaluated. This could include the impact of sediment deposition in lower Budd Inlet, affecting recreational boating, Port activities and community events. For guidance, Floyd Snyder could look to other communities, such as Bellingham, for their analysis of the economic value of waterfront and Port businesses. I also have a couple specific items that should be included in the EIS economic scope for the appropriate alternatives: For the Estuary and Dual Basin alternatives, land acquisition costs should be determined, both for the portion of the isthmus that will be removed and for the additional roadways and approaches. For all alternatives, the difference in disposal costs for clean versus contaminated sediments must be determined. During the past two years, both the Port of Olympia and the Olympia Yacht Club have completed dredging and disposal projects. Their costs for this work could be useful for your calculations.</p>	
132	25-Oct	Robert Jensen		<p>The proposed CLIPA alternative is the culmination of several years of study and is presented in considerable detail; but there will inevitably be questions, misinterpretations and adjustments necessary as we move through the EIS project. I am hopeful that we can continue a dialog during this interim period that will result in clearer understanding for everyone and lead to an improved outcome. Likewise, I also hope that through these interest group briefings we will be able to better understand the features of the other alternatives which to date have not been well developed.</p>	No

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133	25-Oct	Sue Lundy		<p>Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long- term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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133	25-Oct	Sue Lundy		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. o Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia</p>	
134	25-Oct	Diana Moore		<p>- Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>- Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. - Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts.</p> <p>the EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p>	No

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134	25-Oct	Diana Moore		<p>It should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p> <p>The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
135	25-Oct	Marsha Schaefer		At a time when Orcas need all the help they can get, restoration of Capitol Lake is a must. It needs to be an estuary again, to thrive and provide shelter for salmon smolt.	No
136	25-Oct	Sandia Slaby		I am of the same opinion as was expressed in DERT's comments as to what the EIS should include. I will not bother trying to say it differently; consider my comments to be 'ditto' to the one they submitted, please. Thank yo for considering/hearing my voice on this too.	No
137	25-Oct	Carol Trasatto		The EIS should: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.	No

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137	25-Oct	Carol Trasatto		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: - The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: . Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. - Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return Native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which Natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential Impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p>	

Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
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137	25-Oct	Carol Trasatto		<p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	
138	26-Oct	James Harrington		<p>- Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>- Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into co</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	No

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138	26-Oct	James Harrington		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. o Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia I am in support of estuary restoration.</p>	

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139	26-Oct	Allen Miller		<p>Under WAC 197-11-440() (iv) Urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and the design of the built environment, the scope of the EIS needs to include the impacts to the Washington State Capitol Campus National Historic District since Capitol Lake is a significant part of the historic district by Wilder and White in 1911 and the Olmsted Brothers in 1928 The scope of the Environmental Impact Statement must take into account the nationally significant City Beautiful Movement design principles of the State Capitol Campus which is on the National Historic Register.</p> <p>In 1911, the architectural firm of Wilder and White created a master plan for the Washington State Capitol Campus as part of a nation-wide design competition. This plan captured the imagination of the competition judges with its unique approach, a group of symmetrically arranged buildings in a forest, atop a bluff overlooking a reflective lake, the City of Olympia, and Puget Sound. As stated by Wilder and White in their August 29, 1911 report to the State Capitol Commission, 'a tide lock at [5th Avenue) would form a lake and the whole effect would be visible from most points of the City as well as the Sound.' 'Washington's Audacious State Capitol and Its Builders,' Norman Johnston, p. 33, (1988).</p> <p>Wilder and White incorporated five design principles into their plan for the State Capitol Campus. These principles include: (1) the City Beautiful Movement, (2) the Capitol Group of buildings, an unprecedented design of separate legislative, executive, and judicial buildings to look like a singular Capitol building when viewed from Budd Inlet, downtown Olympia, and the Fourth Avenue Bridge, (3) the borrowed landscapes of the Olympic Mountains and Budd Inlet to frame the design (4) the northern orientation of the Capitol Group and Campus to Budd Inlet and the Olympics and (5) a lake to reflect the beautiful buildings on the bluff.</p>	Yes

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139	2-Nov	Allen Miller		<p>It was at Olympia, Washington, that the American Renaissance in state capitol building reached its climax ... Such a collection of Classical buildings on a plateau surmounting a green hill 117 feet above sea level proved an irresistible vision. It would be a spectacular monument, with Mount Rainier in one direction, the Olympic Range in another ... all mirrored in the blue water below. The City Beautiful, a concept of perfection evolved for dense urban scenes, seemed destined to achieve its finest expression in the natural landscape of the Pacific Northwest. No architect or dreamer could have asked for a more splendid setting.' Temples of Democracy, The State Capitols of the USA, Professor Henry-Russell Hitchcock (1976), pp. 257-259.</p> <p>The Olmsted Brothers 1928 plan for the landscape involved Capitol Lake to reflect the buildings. Maintenance of Capitol Lake as a reflective lake is necessary in order to preserve and protect the historic original vision for the Washington State Capitol Campus which is the best example of City Beautiful movement architectural design and urban planning outside of Washington, D.C. Capitol Lake stands in the design tradition of the Tidal Basin and the other reflective bodies of water along the national mall from the U.S. Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial. Failure to protect Capitol Lake would replace its mirroring and sparkling presence with the dismal mud flats of the past. 'To the south of the boulevard skirts the edge of a proposed fresh water lake secured by tide locks across the head of the Sound and will be a great addition to the city park system. The American Architect, Vol. CVIII, No. 2088, November 24, 1915, Wilder and White, p. 346 'The late 1940's were to include the beautification of the expanse at the base of the Capitol group site to its north and west. The (Wilder and White and Olmsted Brothers') plan saw this area as a grand water feature ... [to replace the] plane of mudflats ... The project also included the construction of a dam, the ensemble thereby creating a permanent body of water, Capitol Lake. Substantially completed in 1951, this new visual and recreational amenity became an appropriate setting for the acropolis of the Capitol group which it now so handsomely supported.' Washington's Audacious State Capitol and Its Builders, Professor Emeritus, Norman J. Johnston (1988).</p>	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
139	2-Nov	Allen Miller		<p>Significant progress has been made toward the completion of the Wilder and White plan since 1911. After the Capitol Group of buildings on the West Capitol Campus bluff was completed and the Olmsted landscaping plan was instituted in the 1920's and 1930's, Capitol Lake was created by Legislature in 1950 with the construction of a dam and a tide gate along 5th Avenue. Since 1991, further progress has been made toward the completion of the North Capitol Campus along the shore of Capitol Lake with the Legislature and City spending twenty-five million dollars to complete land acquisition, the Arc of Statehood, the Western Washington Inlet, the Eastern Washington Butte, the North Campus Trail, the amphitheater, the City Fountain, the City seasonal ice rink, predesign, permitting, design, and several phases of the construction of the Law Enforcement Memorial. Two million dollars in private funds have also been raised for construction of these City Beautiful elements of the North Capitol Campus. Maintaining the open water environment in the north and middle basins of Capitol Lake is the only action which is compatible with the historic 107 year plan for the State Capitol Campus. The scope of the EIS needs to consider the national significance of the historic design of the State Capitol Campus remaining intact by maintaining and improving Capitol Lake with regularly scheduled dredging every decade which occurred up until 1986.</p> <p>16 U.S.C. 470f - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides, The head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking in any State and the head of any Federal department or any independent agency having authority to license any undertaking shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, as the case may be, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The head of any such Federal Agency shall afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation established under Title II of this Act a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking-</p> <p>Under RCW 79.24.720 Capitol Lake is designated as a historic facility of the State Capitol. RCW 79.24.720 - Department of enterprise services' responsibilities. The department of enterprise services is responsible for the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the public and historic facilities of the state capitol, subject to the policy direction of the state capitol committee and the guidance of the capitol campus design advisory committee. In administering this responsibility, the department shall: (1) Apply the United States secretary of the interior's standards for the treatment of historic properties The EIS needs to analyze dredging and maintenance of Capitol Lake to the standards as applied to the National Mall in Washington D.C.</p>	

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140	26-Oct	Daron Williams		<p>I'm a restoration ecologist and in charge of multiple large scale restoration projects in the South Puget Sound. These projects have all been funded through state and federal funds and required me to provided detailed information on how the projects benefited salmon and critical habitat. I support restoration of the Deschutes River Estuary. Estuaries are critical habitat for young salmon. I have seen this first hand on one of my restoration projects. A dike was removed and new tidal channels were installed so the tide waters could flow back in. Even though this project is only a few years old, monitoring is already finding hundreds of small juvenile salmon using the restored tidal habitat. If a relatively small restoration project could have that much of an impact, just imagine what restoring the Deschutes River Estuary could do. I understand that there are economic concerns and issues with sediment. But we have to ask ourselves as a community, do we keep fighting nature and try to force it to our will as we have done so for most of our modern history. Or do we start finding a balance where nature has its place as a part of our community. We must be smarter and more creative than we have historically been. I want my 20 month old son to grow up in a community that values the natural world, not a community that ignores science and walls off nature. We must be able to address the concerns of sediment while still restoring the estuary. I know we are smart enough to do that. Thank you and please let's make Olympia, our state's capitol, a symbol of what is possible when smart and creative people decide to make a better world. Let us restore the estuary.</p>	No
141	27-Oct	Dennis Burke		<p>At the recent open-house a gentlemen gave a talk and in his presentation reputed the concept of harvesting the sediments from the Deschutes River prior to entering Capitol Lake by stating that the sediments contained 'toxic materials'. From what I can determine there are no 'Toxic Materials' in the river sediments. The DOE 303 plans clearly no not mention any impairment because of toxic sediments. The recent (2018) TMDL for fine sediments in the Deschutes River Basin quantifies the annual sediment load and states that over 75% of the load is natural with no anthropogenic origin. Please review that report and all other studies to determine if there is any authoritative basis for the statement that the sediments contain toxins and if toxins are present please establish if the concentrations exceed the 40 CFR Part 503 regulations for the land application of biosolids.</p>	No

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142	27-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>CLIPA provided your DES EIS Scoping Team with our recommended Alternative for a Managed Lake. We based this Alternative with full consideration on the existence of the NZMS in the Lake and surrounding areas. Unfortunately, the DES and WDFW created a confusion in the community with the use of the only 'quarantine from public access' to control the potential spread of the NZMS that has been used by the State in Western Washington and most of Western USA. This action created a public concern that could inappropriately shape future EIS comments if the State's actions are not objectively reviewed. CLIPA contracted with an independent expert on NZMS, Kelly Stockton-Fiji, and asked her to review the State of Washington's action in contrast to all other State's in the Western USA. Of particular concern is how other sites in Western Washington were managed in contrast to Capitol Lake. The consultant's full report is attached for your use and records. Following are several mitigation opportunities and elements that need to be fore fully addressed in the EIS.</p> <p>1). The NZMS summarizes where the NZMS is found in Washington and the Western USA and the steps the States are taking to control them per best practices. 2) The Report identifies that most likely the NZMS, if they are numerous, have been carried over into Budd Inlet for years on a regular basis. Evidently no one knows because there has been no reported sampling.by the State. The Report also address the alternatives of when the NZMS were introduced into Capital Lake, but only one sampling program was undertaken so little is known about the survival from natural predators to keep them under control. 3) The Report suggests that deep water disposal of the dredge material with potential NZMS in the mud might be successfully employed in deep water Puget Sound. Testing to confirm the possible killing of the NZMS in deep water is recommended. This disposal method would provide a very significant cost savings for all Alternatives being considered in the EIS since about 400,000 cubic yards of material must be removed under all Alternatives. 4) The Report suggests that the need to control the NZMS invasive species is the same under all Alternatives and that closing the North Basin to public contact is not a required option to meet the federal requirements. This also is a significant mitigation issue.</p>	Yes

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142	27-Oct	Bob Wubbena	CLIPA	<p>5) The NZMS is found in both the Chehalis and Deschutes watersheds which are interconnected via Black Lake and the Black Lake Drainage District that flows into Capitol Lake via Percival Creek. The State's management program for these parallel basins are not the same. This inconsistency needs to be addressed in the EIS. 6) Field sampling and testing is needed by the EIS consultant to shed some objective truth on the misleading statements of CLAMP and actions of the State during the last five years so that the EIS can be factually based on independent findings. 7) The Report suggests that 'regardless of the management action chosen for Capitol Lake the area must be open for public use.' SEE ATTACHED REPORT FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO CONTACT KELLY STOCKTON-FIJI FOR INDEPENDENT DISCUSSIONS. .</p> <p>Recommendations for Capitol Lake New Zealand Mudsail Management Prepared by Kelly Stockton-Fiti KASF Consulting, LLC Prepared for Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA) Jack Havens, Denis Curry & Bob Wubbena August 2018</p> <p>CLIPA Plant Harvest Plan and Mitigation Benefits. (5) oct 27.docx (~19 KB) To DES Capitol Lake EIS Scoping Team From Bob Wubbena, member of CLIPA Attached is a brief summary of the CLIPA analysis of the benefits that are now being provided by Capitol Lake's natural treatment process that Budd Bay benefits from. It is estimated, using Department of Ecology and Thurston County's field sampling data that 72% of the nitrogen contaminant load entering the Lake from the upper watershed, is removed during the critical summer months. This benefit could be increased substantially with a low cost plant harvesting program. The existing benefits, an the chance to improve the conditions that Ecology has reported on in the Upper Watershed TMDL Recommendations, will all be lost if the Tide Gate is removed. See attached CLIPA Plant Harvesting Plan for more details.</p>	No

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				<p>PROPOSED DESCHUTES UPPER WATERSHED MITIGATION STRATEGY TO IMPROVE BUDD INLET WATER QUALITY-A CAPITOL LAKE AQUATIC PLANT HARVEST PLAN The Department of Ecology, as a part of their TMDL studies for the Upper Deschutes River, has identified nutrient, nitrogen, and phosphorus contaminant loads discharging into Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet. Currently Capitol Lake is providing a significant low cost natural treatment of these contaminants prior to discharging from the Lake into Budd Inlet that exceeds the volume/weight of nitrogen removal provided by LOTT by about 150%.. This low cost treatment system would be lost if the dam is removed. Additionally, the natural treatment system can be inexpensively improved to provide an even greater mitigation on the upper watershed non-point contaminant load impacting Budd Inlet water quality. The Ecology TMDL study is not currently presenting these benefits in the Upper Deschutes Draft TMDL or the discussion in TMDL program for the Lake and Budd Inlet. The EIS scoping must therefore include this evaluation in the EIS analysis CLIPA has obtained a proposed plant harvesting program for Capital Lake from a commercial lake management company. This information, along with Department of Ecology cost of nitrogen and phosphorus removal (See Ecology Publication # 11-10-060, June 2011) was used to help evaluate the benefits of a routine Aquatic Plant Harvesting Plan. This plan could be initiated now to test the benefits by actual field tests and demonstrations. The CLIPA proposal would provide for the development of a long term lake aquatic plant management plan to be part of their recommended Community Lake Management Plan. This Plan recognizes that the Middle and South basins would be managed primarily as aquatic wetlands to maximize plant nutrient uptake and harvesting.</p> <p>It would also provide habitat for various species of fish, birds and mammals. The North basin would be designed for sediment management, recreation, esthetics and a selective plant management area Nutrient nitrogen pollution is considered one of the largest threats to the water quality of Puget Sound. The Deschutes River and the watershed surrounding the Lake as it discharges into Capitol Lake has the highest summertime dissolved nitrogen content (DIN) of any tributary in South Puget Sound. (1.) The source is from the WRIA 13/Deschutes River Watershed, including forest land urea fertilization, farm run off, and many ditch and storm discharges. The Department of Ecology's and the County's previous sampling program documents that the nitrogen content of the water from the River in contrast to the flow out of the Lake during the summer months via the tide lock has been reduced by approximately 72%.</p>	

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143	2-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>(2.) This significant nitrogen reduction is due primarily through nutrient uptake by Lakes aquatic plants and algae during their growing season and the removal increased with an effective harvesting program. See the Ecology Report # 11-10-060 to fully understand the significance of this volume and efficiency of this naturally occurring treatment process as a mitigation benefit, and loss of the same if the Tide lock is removed. Rooted aquatic plants are attached to the lake bottom by their root system. When the plants dieback in the fall season they fall to the Lake bottom and are decomposed by bacteria. Floating plants and algae on the other hand are not attached to the lake bottom and spend the growing season floating on or near the surface of the water with the possibility of being washed through the tide lock and into Budd Inlet where they often sink and decay on the bottom. Depending when the plants discharge into Budd Inlet, they will contribute adversely to the dissolved oxygen problem in the Inlet. Harvesting these floating plants and algae, primarily in the north end of the Mid Basin and in the North Basin, would intercept their possible progression into Budd Inlet and increase the volume of the nitrogen and phosphorus removed. The major algae species tend to 'bloom' and consolidate with floating plant material into unsightly floating mats during the summer months. A floating mechanical harvester would be employed to skim this floating algae and plant masses, and offload the harvested material on shore for transport to an upland composting site. Some concern has been expressed on how to control the NZMS in this harvest proposal.</p> <p>See the CLIPA NZMS Report for more information on the control and disposal of NZMS from floating plants. To estimate the direct value of the mitigation value the Lake is now providing for Budd Inlet and Deschutes Watershed TMDL benefits, the following provides an abbreviated example using Department of Ecology data: Assume that it becomes apparent that patches of floating plants and algae mats have formed over 50 acres of the mid and North Basin. The harvester would 'skim' these open floating mats to a 2-3 inch depth. This would remove an estimated 3,000-9,000 cubic meters of wet plant material depending on the plant density of the mat. Floating garbage and trash embedded in the mat would also be collected during this operation. In addition to improving the lake's aesthetics this harvesting operation with its upland disposal of the plant material will have removed significant amounts of nitrogen and carbon from the aquatic ecosystem. Dry weight Carbon and Nitrogen removed in this example is estimated to be: kg or (58,000kg --207,000kg) or (127,600lbs -- 455,400lbs) or (64 tons - 228 tons) Nitrogen=0.87x104/4kg-3.11x104/kg or (8,700kg -- 31,000kg) or (19,140lbs -- 68,000lbs) or (10 tons - 34 tons) Adding perspective to the benefits associated with the water quality improvement associated with a Lake aquatic plant management plan, we compared the volume and estimated pounds removed with that removed by the advanced nitrogen removal process by the LOTT wastewater treatment operation.</p>	No

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143	2-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>During the summer growing season (April-Sept) LOTT is required by the Department of Ecology to reduce at, extra expense, and the amount of nitrogen in their daily wastewater discharge to Budd Inlet by approximately 36% or 105kg/day. Extending this amount to the April-September growing season the LOTT system produces a total 19,215kg that must be removed by their treatment process. Comparing this with the above Lake nitrogen plant uptake and harvesting: LOTT Required Nitrogen Removal Process--- 19,215kg (42,273lbs or 21tons) Lake Harvesting Program (N Basin only) --- 8,700kg-31,000kg (19,140lbs-68,000lbs or 9.6tons-34tons) Using Ecology's State Guidelines that estimate the cost of installed nitrogen removal costs, the mitigation value of the existing Lake natural treatment process exceeds the benefits to Budd Inlet water quality improvement objectives that the State requires from the LOTT Waste Water Treatment Plant by more than 150%. Since the LOTT system is not able to divert and treat the Deschutes Watershed flow and nitrogen load, this mitigation value a properly managed Lake benefitting Budd Inlet will be lost if the dam is removed. CLIPA recommends that the EIS Team design and implement a near term annual water quality sampling program in 2019 from Henderson Bridge to Priest Point Park as part of a field test of the plant harvest program. This testing program will provide field verification of both the benefits of the harvesting program and improve Lake Aesthetics pending completion of the EIS and implementation of the selected alternative.</p>	

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144	27-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>The attached four page summary of the 'nature' of Capitol Lake was prepared in 2011 by two distinguished PhD and Emeritus Members of the Evergreen State College. This document was one of several that guided the CLIPA group of about 20 professionals in their search for facts on how the Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet functions now, and how it might function without the dam. These two individuals, along with Dr Milne, used Capitol Lake, Budd Inlet, Eld Inlet and other area waterways for many years to teach future 'young scientists, regulators, and land use managers' how the watershed functions and how some are different. CLIPA has repeatedly asked Ecology to provide side by side comparisons of the water quality found in the Eld Inlet with that in Budd Inlet to test some of their conclusions. They have chosen not to publicly make that comparison and use it to support their claims of benefits for a Budd Bay Estuary. Both Inlets are at the 'end' of Puget Sound with a fresh water stream/river flowing into the marine waters (see attached discussion of how they operate). Eld Inlet has no dam. Eld Inlet water quality without the dam and with much less impacts from development in the watershed, has more water quality problems in the marine water than does Budd Inlet. There should be more discussion of this comparison in the EIS. Much of the Consultant Studies guided by CLAMP are reasonably consistent with the authors layman's summary of how Capitol Lake sediment and mud flats are forming. What is not consistent is how CLAMP selectively shared the findings to support their conclusions about the current conditions and their projected future without the dam. CLAMP's projections about the benefits of returning Capitol Lake to an 'estuary' is inconsistent with the attached article. Dr Milne's 140 page 'Peer Review' of the Department of Ecology's TMDL Model and its findings, provides a much more detailed discussion of how the Lake and Inlet actually operates and high lites many of the same errors that CLAMP was using to reach their conclusions. A re-assessment of the 'Nature of Capitol Lake (as promoted by the CLAMP Reports and some Ecology Estuary Advocates) is needed by the EIS Scoping and EIS process to ensure that the very basic science is documented and then used as a basis for comparing the benefits of the Dam vs No Dam discussion. Accepting the previous conclusions by CLAMP with out reviewing these very fundamental realities of how the Budd Inlet interacts with the Deschutes River and Capitol Lake will result is some major shortcomings.</p> <p>THE NATURE OF CAPITOL LAKE Prepared by Kaye V. Ladd; PhD and Oscar H. Soule; PhD July, 2011</p>	Yes
145	28-Oct	Neil Peck		<p>What will maximize Beneficial habitat for salmon and wildlife.</p> <p>What steps will best improve water quality in the lower Deschutes river and Budd Bay. - What steps will best support stormwater runoff management.</p> <p>What steps will best Address expected effects of sea level rise.</p>	No

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145	28-Oct	Neil Peck		I am in support of estuary restoration.*	
146	28-Oct	Paul Pickett		<p>The environmental impact statement should be based on the 'triple bottom line' principle of sustainability:</p> <p>1) Economic A full assessment of costs and benefits should be completed using the principles of Ecological Economics. The ecological functions of the lake or estuary options should be assessed in terms of the value to the community from the ecological capital available. This can include benefits to flooding, water quality, fish and wildlife, recreation, education, and quality of life. Secondary benefits should also be assessed, such as which option will attract visitors who might spend money in the community.</p> <p>1) Economic A full assessment of costs and benefits should be completed using the principles of Ecological Economics. The ecological functions of the lake or estuary options should be assessed in terms of the value to the community from the ecological capital available. This can include benefits to flooding, water quality, fish and wildlife, recreation, education, and quality of life. Secondary benefits should also be assessed, such as which option will attract visitors who might spend money in the community.</p> <p>3) Community Community benefits need to include a variety of considerations such as: environmental justice, equity, cultural values (for all citizens of the state, local residents, and tribes) and the symbolic value of the restored system as a statement of our state's values.</p> <p>For myself, I am in support of estuary restoration. A small fresh-water reflecting pool next to the estuary would be acceptable.</p>	No
147	28-Oct	Michael Stone		<p>The EIS should: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet). Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p>	No

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147	28-Oct	Michael Stone		<p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. Job creation during construction.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
148	29-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	Please find my comments for the World Temperate Rainforest Network attached.	Yes

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148	29-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	<p>1. What is a watershed? Definition, map, illustration. A watershed is a land area that channels rainfall and snowmelt to creeks, streams, and rivers, and eventually to outflow points such as reservoirs, bays, and the ocean.</p> <p>2. What is the name of the river watershed that empties into Puget Sound in Olympia? Deschutes River Watershed</p> <p>3. What is the Deschutes River Watershed and where is it? Include map. The Deschutes River is a river flowing almost entirely within Thurston County into Puget Sound. It runs 57 miles from its headwaters in Lewis County, past Rainier and through Tumwater, until it reaches Budd Inlet in South Puget Sound. It drains a total area of 162 square miles. https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/public-works/utilities/stormwater/surface-waters/deschutes-river Lacey Spurgutin Cree Deschutes River ty River och Rue</p> <p>4. What is an estuary? The definition, description. Estuaries and their surrounding wetlands are bodies of water usually found where rivers meet the sea. Estuaries are home to unique plant and animal communities that have adapted to brackish water-a mixture of fresh water draining from the land and salty seawater. Estuaries are among the most productive ecosystems in the world. Many animals rely on estuaries for food, places to breed, and migration stopovers. Estuaries are delicate ecosystems.</p> <p>5. What are the watersheds of the Salish Sea? Include maps and list of watersheds. The SALISH SEA extends from the north end of the Strait of Georgia and Desolation Sound to the south end of the Puget Sound and west to the mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, including the inland marine waters of southern British Columbia, Canada and northern Washington, USA. These separately named bodies of water form a single estuarine ecosystem. Formally adopted by British Columbia and Washington State in 2009, 'The Salish Sea' as a name for these waters has been embraced by citizens on both sides of the border for years including the Coast Salish Gathering (the alliance of Coast Salish Tribal and First Nations leaders) The Salish Sea is connected to the Pacific Ocean primarily via the Strait of Juan de Fuca (with relatively slight tidal influence from the north around Vancouver Island and through Johnstone Strait) and is contained by Vancouver Island and the Olympic Peninsula. In addition to the Gulf and San Juan Islands the watershed contains the lower Fraser River Delta and the Puget Lowlands as well as the Hood Canal, the Tacoma Narrows and Deception Pass. Over 7 million people live within the drainage basin of the Salish Seal (sometimes referred to as the 'Georgia Basin - Puget Sound' watershed), including the cities of Vancouver, Seattle, Victoria, Olympia, Nanaimo, Bellingham, Everett, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and Tacoma.</p> <p>http://staff.wvu.edu/stefan/salish-sea.shtml</p>	No

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148	29-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	<p>https://www.eopugetsound.org/maps/puget-sound-watershed-boundary List of watersheds emptying into the Salish Sea. https://www.eopugetsound.org/terms/86 Crescent-Hoko Watershed Deschutes Watershed Dungeness-Elwha Watershed Duwamish Watershed Fraser Watershed Hood Canal Watershed - Lake Washington Watershed Lower Skagit Watershed Nisqually Watershed Nooksack Watershed Puget Sound Watershed Puyallup Watershed San Juan Islands Watershed Sauk Watershed Skokomish Watershed Sky komish Watershed</p> <p>Snoqualmie Watershed Stillaguamish Watershed Strait of Georgia Watershed Upper Skagit Watershed Port Alberni Vancouver ad .Coquitlam Nanaimo Surrey batafor Fraser Nooksack Strait of Georgia .Duncan Bellingham San Juan Islands Upper Skagit Lower Crescent-Hoko eria Skagit Strait of Joan de Fuca Mount Ven J Oak Harbor Dungeness-Stillaguamish W Shohomisi Sauk HINGTON) Elwhat Everett PARM Skykomish INS Lake Hood Canal Seattle Snoqualmie Washington Skokomish Puget Sound Rent Durwamish Puyallup Aberdeen Nisqually Deschutes 6. What is the function of an estuary in a watershed? https://www.epa.gov/nep/basic-information-about-estuaries An estuary is a partially enclosed, coastal water body where freshwater from rivers and streams mixes with salt water from the ocean. Estuaries, and their surrounding lands, are places of transition from land to sea. Although influenced by the tides, they are protected from the full force of ocean waves, winds and storms by land forms such as barrier islands or peninsulas.</p> <p>Estuarine environments are among the most productive on earth, creating more organic matter each year than comparably-sized areas of forest, grassland or agricultural land. The sheltered waters of estuaries also support unique communities of plants and animals specially adapted for life at the margin of the sea. Many different habitat types are found in and around estuaries, including shallow open waters, freshwater and saltwater marshes, swamps, sandy beaches, mud and sand flats, rocky shores, oyster reefs, mangrove forests, river deltas, tidal pools and seagrass beds. http://www.psp.wa.gov/NEP-puget-sound-estuary.php As transition areas between fresh and saltwater, and land and sea, estuaries are rich in nutrients. They create a nourishing foundation - from plankton to plants - that supports the abundant array of life in Puget Sound. From oysters, clams and crab to salmon, orca and birds, all are sustained by estuaries. Estuaries: - Provide habitat for animals to live, feed and reproduce Serve as buffers to protect shorelines from erosion and flooding Filter pollutants, improving water quality - Estuaries are also among the most biologically productive ecosystems on earth, supporting Washington's multi-million-dollar shellfish and fishing industries, as well as estuary-dependent tourism and recreation industries. 7. Which river estuaries in Puget Sound are being restored? http://www.psp.wa.gov/NEP-overview.php</p>	

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148	29-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	<p>PUGET SOUND National Estuary program (NEP) NEP OVERVIEW PUGET SOUND ESTUARIES HEALTH OF PUGET SOUND REGIONAL APPROACH TO RECOVERY WHAT RECOVERY IS HAPPENING LOCALLY? HOW IS THE NEP FUNDED NEP SOLICITATION AND GRANTS NEP COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT Congress created the National Estuary Program in 1987. Twenty years later, in 2007, Congress designated Puget Sound as an Estuary of National Significance because it is</p> <p>critical to the environmental and economic well-being of the nation. Also In 2007, Washington passed legislation creating the Puget Sound Partnership, a state agency dedicated to protecting and restoring Puget Sound. The Puget Sound National Estuary Program is a non-regulatory initiative and a forum for engaging and aligning diverse organizations in partnership to create, implement and monitor approaches to achieve economic and environmental health of the Puget Sound. These organizations include federal agencies, tribal governments and organizations, state agencies, regional entities, local governments, not-for-profit organizations, higher education, the private sector, and people from around the Puget Sound region. Collectively, the governments, organizations, businesses, and individuals engaged in Puget Sound recovery are called the Management Conference. Using a collaborative, consensus-building approach, the Management Conference engages in developing and implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda. The Action Agenda serves as the Puget Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. It aligns and integrates regional conditions, builds upon local input and supports both local and regional priorities for protection and recovery of Puget Sound. In 2016, Region X of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implemented a funding model intended to accelerate recovery and protection of Puget Sound. Under this model, the Puget Sound Partnership acts as a convener of the Puget Sound Management Conference and curates the Puget Sound Action Agenda. The funding model supports the Partnership, the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, and three strategic initiatives - habitat, shellfish, and stormwater managed by state agencies, the Strategic Initiative leads. Those aligned under the EPA funding model work to maximize and leverage National Estuary Program dollars, and seek tangible on-the-ground results. http://www.psp.wa.gov/NEP-regional-approach.php</p>	

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148	29-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	<p>A REGIONAL APPROACH TO PUGET SOUND RECOVERY With hundreds of organizations and thousands of projects dedicated to recovering Puget Sound's health, aligning those efforts is both necessary and challenging. With National Estuary Program support, Puget Sound partners work together to develop the Puget Sound Action Agenda - the organizing framework guiding Puget Sound recovery efforts. The Puget Sound Partnership, in turn, leads implementation of the agenda, creating and implementing systems and programs that make Puget Sound restoration, protection and recovery efforts: 1. Accountable - The Partnership tracks the progress of Action Agenda implementation and individual project performance. 2. Measurable - The Partnership assesses environmental progress and evaluates the effectiveness of key management actions. 3. Rigorous and Adaptive - The Partnership supports, synthesizes and communicates relevant science information to improve management programs, and to identify and adapt to emerging threats. 4. Aligned and Integrated - The Partnership works with local entities to align and integrate their programs with ecosystem-level priorities and strategies. http://www.psp.wa.gov/gis/NEPATlas/LocalAreas</p> <p>Investments in local areas 8. What role does the Deschutes River play in providing salmon for Endangered Southern Resident Orcas? https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/struggling-orcas-heavily-rely-on-urban-chinook-from-seattle-area-rivers-new-analysis-shows/ Southern-resident orcas depend on a wide diversity of chinook-salmon runs throughout a big geographic range, according to the analysis by NOAA Fisheries and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. July 24, 2018 By Lynda V. Mapes Seattle Times environment reporter Struggling orca whales need even urban chinook to survive, new findings show. A new look at just where orcas are eating big kings reveals the importance of rivers in north and south Puget Sound to the orcas' survival. Even the Puyallup, Green and Duwamish rivers count for the top predators. The Nooksack, Elwha, Dungeness, Skagit, Stillaguamish and Snohomish to the north and Nisqually, Puyallup, Green, Duwamish, Deschutes and Hood Canal river systems to the south were among the rivers most important to the whales for providing the chinook that the critically endangered southern-resident killer whales eat, according to the analysis by NOAA Fisheries and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 9. When was the Deschutes River dammed? 1951</p>	
149	30-Oct	Peter Impara		I am very interested in seeing the potential increase in salmon habitat, especially as regards habitat available for salmon leaving other rivers or returning to other rivers, as a study issue for the upcoming EIS for the Lower Deschutes Basin.	No

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150	30-Oct	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	You must change the e-mail address you are using. There is no such thing as a Capitol Lake Watershed. It's the Deschutes River Watershed. As you can see on this City of Tumwater map it's the Deschutes River. The Deschutes River is a river flowing almost entirely within Thurston County into Puget Sound. It runs 57 miles from its headwaters in Lewis County, past Rainier and through Tumwater and Olympia, until it reaches Budd Inlet in South Puget Sound. It drains a total area of 162 square miles. https://www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/departments/public-works/utilities/stormwater/surface-waters/deschutes-river Deschutes River	No
151	22-Oct	Denis Curry		<p>My Comments on the Scope of the EIS Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of the EIS concerning Capitol Lake and the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet. First: It is important to clearly delineate the geographic area of the study which should include the Deschutes watershed area from the Henderson Bridge to Priest Point Park and the surrounding land areas. The latter should encompass all of Thurston County insofar as economic and financial aspects are concerned.</p> <p>Since there is a time/money factor involved, the EIS should include projected costs of each option at intervals (each ten years for example) using best available estimates of cost adjustment factors over time. To be credible, the EIS should address costs realistically and as accurately as possible in real dollar terms and not just in graphic displays.</p> <p>Fifth: It is extremely important that the EIS address the economic impact of the alternatives, including those on the Port, the working waterfront, marinas (even with continuing dredging in Budd Inlet) the huge impact if there were no continuing dredging and associated peripheral impacts such as the affect on downtown livability such as those on restaurants and if Bayview Market was forced to close. Associated tax and fee revenue loss should be included in the estimates. I've attached a brief study I did in 2016 for your information.</p> <p>Sixth: The scope should include immediate resumption of water quality testing to determine the degree of pollution, if any.</p> <p>In addition, the scope should include elements of the impact on aesthetics of alternatives and the affect on livability and tourism. It would help if the scoping report would include a recommendation that DES begin dredging in the lake since all alternatives involve such dredging. In terms of aesthetics, mowing of algae would be very helpful. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p> <p>Second: The 'Managed Lake Alternative' should be that of the community plan supported by CLIPA and not that which was used in the CLAMP report. The latter would be a total waste of money and actually was not an 'adaptive management plan'.</p>	No

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151	22-Oct	Denis Curry		<p>Third: Any option that involves the elimination of the 5th Avenue tide lock needs to clearly examine and define all elements involved. These include the following: - The size of the opening on 5th Avenue. Studies indicate that from 500 to 660 feet is needed and probably more for bridge banking;</p> <p>The location of the opening and it's affect on Bayview Market, Heritage Park and transportation flow associated with alternatives; The affect on the railroad bridge and the probable need for a wider bridge opening and a new bridge; Infrastructure elements affected including the 1-5 and the 4th Ave. bridge girding and Deschutes Parkway protections; The type of bridge needed to complement the 4th Ave. bridge (see Gloyd Report);</p> <p>The amount of initial dredging to establish a channel in the lake (estimated at 485,000 cubic yards);</p> <p>- The impact on species that utilize the lake, e.g. the local bat population; The timing of the project to accommodate fisheries,</p> <p>and An absolute must is the recognition of the need for continuing dredging in Budd Inlet that was ignored in the CLAMP report. It needs to be considered that these costs will be significantly higher in the inlet based on the experience of the Port and the Olympia Yacht Club</p> <p>Fourth: The scope of the EIS should include the best possible estimates of the cost of the various options in terms of operations, capital, mitigation and dredging. In the case of the managed lake the cost components would be a project EIS, maintenance of the tide lock, periodic dredging in the North Basin, permitting and sediment removal and transport.</p> <p>In the case of any option that involves the elimination of the 5th Avenue tide lock, the best estimates of cost of each of the elements identified above along with a project specific EIS, project management, mitigation and sediment disposal. Any option that proposes dividing the North Basin and removal of the tide lock should include all of the above along with the costs specific to that option.</p> <p>Since there is a time/money factor involved, the EIS should include projected costs of each option at intervals (each ten years for example) using best available estimates of cost adjustment factors over time. To be credible, the EIS should address costs realistically and as accurately as possible in real dollar terms and not just in graphic displays.</p> <p>Fifth: It is extremely important that the EIS address the economic impact of the alternatives, including those on the Port, the working waterfront, marinas (even with continuing dredging in Budd Inlet) the huge impact if there were no continuing dredging and associated peripheral impacts such as the affect on downtown livability such as those on restaurants and if Bayview Market was forced to close. Associated tax and fee revenue loss should be included in the estimates. I've attached a brief study I did in 2016 for your information.</p>	

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151	2-Nov	Denis Curry		<p>Sixth: The scope should include immediate resumption of water quality testing to determine the degree of pollution, if any.</p> <p>In addition, the scope should include elements of the impact on aesthetics of alternatives and the affect on livability and tourism. It would help if the scoping report would include a recommendation that DES begin dredging in the lake since all alternatives involve such dredging. In terms of aesthetics, mowing of algae would be very helpful. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p> <p>ECONOMIC IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH A MANAGED CAPITOL LAKE A properly managed Capitol Lake makes a significant contribution to the economic health of the local community. This can be seen from three perspectives: 1. The investments that have been or are planned to be made that would be negatively impacted if the Capitol Lake was replaced by intertidal mudflats; 2. The economic value of the recreational marine industry that has flourished with the dam serving to keep excessive silt from entering lower Budd Inlet; and 3. The economic impact of the Port of Olympia's commercial marine terminal operations in lower Budd inlet. Summary 1. The investments that have been or are planned to be made that would be negatively impacted if the regulating dam were removed total over \$84 million; 2. The recreational marine industry in the western portion of Lower Budd Inlet generates over \$28 million annually in economic benefits to the community, pays over \$400,000 per year in taxes and fees and generates over \$320,000 in local taxes each year, 3. The economic impact of the Port of Olympia's commercial marine terminal totals nearly \$100 million annually and generates \$1.3 million per year in local taxes.</p>	

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151	2-Nov	Denis Curry		<p>Current and Planned Investments Related to Capitol Lake and Lower Budd Inlet Capitol Lake is an integral part of the Capitol Campus and has prompted development of several public gathering places. These include Marathon Park, Heritage Park with its Arc of Statehood, and the Heritage Park Fountain. Capitol Lake also serves to trap sediment that comes down the Deschutes River at the rate of 35,000 cubic yards annually and would otherwise have dumped six feet of sediment in lower Budd Inlet every ten years. If the Fifth Avenue regulating dam had not been built in 1951, it is likely that the lower inlet would have silted up except for a channel for the Port of Olympia. In this case it is the investments in Percival Landing and the new West Bay Park with Rotary Point never would have been made. As can be readily seen, removal of the dam would negatively impact those investments.</p> <p>1. Heritage Park Total State of Washington investment in land acquisition and development of Heritage Park including interpretive center: \$18,813 Million* %u2022 Heritage Park Foundation donation of \$60,000</p> <p>2. Marathon Park Total investment in development of Marathon Park by State of Washington: \$904,000*</p> <p>3. Percival Landing %u2022 Total previous investment in Percival Landing by City of Olympia from all fund sources: \$4.429 Million**</p> <p>Improvements from all fund sources: Phase 1: \$14,020,735*** Estimated costs of Phases 2 and 3, 40 Million**</p> <p>4. Fountain Total Land Acquisition and Development Cost to City of Olympia: \$3.0 Million** Annual Maintenance Cost to City of Olympia: \$45,000**</p> <p>5. Westbay Park %u2022 Planned Expenditure by City from all fund sources: \$2.5 Million for Phase 1** (No estimate is available for complete development pending completion of a master plan)</p> <p>Rotary Point - Estimated cost to Rotary Clubs of South Sound: \$300,000</p> <p>6. Total Previous Investments: \$41,361,735 (Including three years fountain operating costs)</p> <p>7. Total Planned Investments: \$42,800,000 (Not including future Westbay Park phased developments subject to completion of master plan)</p> <p>8. Total Previous and Planned Waterfront Investments: \$84.162 Million</p> <p>Sources: *Nathaniel Jones, Department of Enterprise Services ** Dave Hanna, City of Olympia, Parks Department *** Daily Olympian, August 26, 2011</p> <p>Note: Data are from October, 2013</p> <p>It should be noted that the above amount does not include the construction and earthquake repairs to Deschutes Parkway or its value as a transportation link to Mottman Hill. Neither does it attempt to put a dollar value on the significant aesthetic improvements that came with the elimination of the previous tidal mudflats.</p>	

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151	2-Nov	Denis Curry		<p>The Economic Value of the Recreational Marine Industry in Lower Budd Inlet The area of Budd Inlet immediately north of the Fifth Avenue dam contains four marinas and the Olympia Yacht Club providing a total of 879 slips for a very active recreational boating industry. BST Associates of Bothell, Washington, conducted the most pertinent study of the economic value of this type of industry for the Port of Bellingham. The Port was exploring a number of options for expanding the use of their waterfront including a new marina. The BST report, Community Economic Benefits of a New Downtown Clean Ocean Marina estimated both the direct and indirect economic benefits of a new marina. Quoting from the report, 'The proposed Marina (350-450 slips) is expected to generate approximately \$6.8 million in direct and \$10.5 in total output per year (in 2005 dollars) from permanent and transient use and port operations.' Using a mid-point of 400 slips, the direct economic value per slip was \$17,000 and the total economic value was \$26,250. Applying the BST estimated values per slip to the lower west Budd Inlet marinas (879 slips) indicates an annual economic value of \$14.943 million in direct benefits and \$23.074 million in total benefits to the local area. These amounts are in 2005 dollars. To calculate the present day value, it is necessary to apply the percentage change in the Implicit Price Deflator (the best index of the effect of time on the value of the dollar) since 2005. According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce, there has been a 22.1% percent change from 2005 to 2016. This results in current day estimates of over \$18 million in direct and \$28.2 million in total annual economic benefits from the recreational marine industry in lower Budd inlet. In addition, the local taxes generated by this activity are estimated to be nearly \$325,000. Recreational boating is one of the more significant economic engines in the City of Olympia and Thurston County. According to Port of Olympia estimates, removal of the Fifth Avenue dam would result in an average of six feet of silt in the lower inlet every 10 years.</p>	

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151	2-Nov	Denis Curry		<p>This would definitely adversely affect the existing marinas. It is not possible to know whether the City or County would pay to dredge the area or if those costs would be borne by the marinas. If the latter, the costs could result in them going out of business at a substantial economic loss. As with any industry, taxes on property value must be paid. In addition, use of the waters requires fees to be paid to the State Department of Natural Resources. A 2013 survey of the marinast indicates a total of approximately \$390,000 paid in taxes and lease fees. These taxes and fees would be lost due to added siltation. The Economic Impact of the Port of Olympia's Marine Terminal Operations The largest economic engine of the Olympia waterfront is the Port of Olympia's Marine Terminal. In January, 2011, Martin Associates of Lancaster, Pennsylvania completed an economic analysis of the Port of Olympia as of 2009. The complete report is available from the Port of Olympia. A similar analysis was completed in January, 2016. The results * Responses were received from three of the four marinas most directly affected (Martin Marina, Olympia Yacht Club and Fiddlehead Marina). West Bay Marina, affected to a lesser degree, also responded.</p> <p>One-Tree Marina's amount was estimated based on the average amount per slip of the responding marinas. of these analyses (dealing only with commercial marine operations of the port and excluding marina operations) can be summarized as follows: Maritime activity (cargo and vessel activity) at the Port of Olympia Marine Terminal created the following economic impacts: %u2022 177 direct jobs in 2009 and 249 jobs in 2014; Induced jobs supported by the purchases of directly employed individuals totaled 182 in 2009 and 253 in 2014; In 2016, 62 indirect jobs were generated as a result of \$6.8 million of local purchases by firms directly dependent upon seaport activity at the Port of Olympia marine cargo facilities for a total of 564 jobs related to Marine Terminal activity; The personal income associated with all Port Marine related jobs totaled \$52.6 million and direct employees had an average salary of \$62,249 per year which is significantly higher than the \$44,926 average Thurston County wage according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Businesses providing services to the cargo activity received \$33 million of business revenue; this is direct revenue from the provision of services and does not include the value of the cargo moved via the marine terminal. The value of the cargo is determined by the demand for the cargo, not the specific port used. A total of \$4.9 million of state and local taxes were generated by seaport activity; In addition a total of \$9.6 million of total Federal Taxes were collected in 2014. As the above summary indicates, the Marine Terminal operations of the Port of Olympia were responsible for over \$92.4 million in economic benefits in 2014. Adjusting these amounts to 2016 using data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis brings the total to nearly \$100 million plus approximately \$1.3 million in local taxes.</p>	

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151	2-Nov	Denis Curry		EFFECT OF AN INTERTIDAL MUD FLAT ALTERNATIVE As can be seen by the above analysis, the Capitol Lake/Lower Budd Inlet waterfront is a major contributor to the economic health of Thurston County. Removing the regulating dam (tide lock) would contribute nothing to the economy and would seriously degrade current economic benefits and the investments that have been made by the state, the city and the community. There would also be a loss of intangibles such as aesthetics and public pride as well as an adverse impact on flood control and habitat. Removal of the regulating dam would result in an average of six feet of silt in lower Budd Inlet every 10 years. Unless a regular program of dredging in Budd Inlet were initiated (at a much higher cost than in-lake dredging) all of the benefits outlined above would be seriously degraded or lost. Denis Curry, 4/2016	

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152	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>Bat Issue: For EIS Consideration Given the information below, I am requesting EIS Consultants to further study this problem and attempt to ascertain: 1. An estimate of the number of deaths to expect in our bat population. 2. The effect these deaths may have on the ecosystem. 3. Actions to mitigate these deaths if any exist. 4. How the destruction of bats (especially the Townsend's Big-Eared Bat, listed on the state and federal species of concern list) effect the re-creation of an estuary. The following information has been taken from the January 8, 2016 web page of - Bats About Our Town, a non-profit volunteer group in Thurston County. This group leads bat tours May- August at Capitol Lake, educates people about local bats, conducts bat research, and advocates for bat protection. Information may be verified at the following address: https://batsrulehelpsavewildlife.blogspot.com/2016/01/bats-about-our-town.html 'Our initial focus is on the more than 5,000 bats that congregate every summer night right in downtown Olympia, spending up to six hours feeding on insects in Capitol Lake. Many of these bats arrive as pregnant mothers, and then continue to eat at the lake every night while they nurse their pups. About 3,000 Yuma and Little Brown Bat mothers commute 16 to 20 miles round trip from a maternity colony in Woodard Bay in North Olympia..... The regular visitors to Capitol Lake include: - Yuma Bat (Yuma Myotis) Little Brown Bat (Little Brown Myotis) California Bat (California Myotis) Silver-haired Bat Big Brown Bat - Occasionally, these bats have been observed: - Hoary Bat Townsend's Big-eared Bat, which is on the state and federal Species of Concern lists and which is considered one of the rarest mammal species in the Northwest.' (emphasis added) 'Impact on Bats of Draining Capitol Lake The bats now feeding at Capitol Lake would be negatively impacted by draining the lake and creating a tidal mudflat. The insects that regularly hatch all summer from the lake have been a stable food source for thousands of female bats living in Thurston County and for their growing pups. Removing the food source will result in bat deaths - and no-one knows how many would die.....We can assume that many of the bats using Capitol Lake also have been visiting the same section of the lake year after year, and may have great difficulty in finding alternative feeding sites..... The bats should be part of the discussion about alternative futures for the Lake."</p>	No
153	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>Attached is a report on Chinook juveniles in Capitol Lake. The information has been taken from research and opinions derived from those whom I deem as qualified professionals. The report has been reviewed by Dr. Hal Beecher, noted fisheries biologist and WDFW researcher (retired). His CV is also attached. My scoping suggestions are as follows: Determine how the information in the attached report affects the disposition of removing or maintaining of Capitol Lake. Determine which of the recommendations below (taken from the attached report) should be adopted.</p>	Yes

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153	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>Recommendations: What can we do long term? Determining which rearing environment is best for Deschutes River Chinook salmon will require a serious commitment of time and money to reduce uncertainties to a desirable level. 'Studies to provide actual data to inform these uncertainties would require a series of years, as annual variation in most of the factors in the Capitol Lake-Budd Inlet area, not to mention the Pacific Ocean feeding and growing areas, can be considerable, with numerous factors interacting in complex ways.'[1]</p> <p>What can we do now? . Certainly, resumption of water quality sampling could and should be accomplished relatively quickly and inexpensively. Dredging the northern basin and strategically harvesting aquatic plants in the northern and middle basins could be performed to better assess the effects of those neglected improvements. Obtain neutral, third party reviews of the Coho Restoration Project and Percival Creek Extension Project. . Increase efforts to further restore the systemic health of the Deschutes River and Percival Creek. Thank You,</p>	No
154	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>The piece below was printed as an advertisement in The Olympian I think in 2016. The color picture of advice and caution signs were taken at Priest Point Park by Jack Havens of Olympia. The signs were posted by the Thurston County Health Department. If the Tide Lock were to be removed, the contaminated water from Budd Inlet would be pushed by tides southward into what is now Capitol Lake Basin, creating the same contamination described here in Ellis Cove at Priest Point Park. Tide lock removal would also create a mudflat, which is described by Thurston County Health Department as 'Dangerous at Low Tides'.</p> <p>My scoping questions are these: 1. Do the community, Health Departments (county and state) and Department of Enterprise Services desire a terminal urban mudflat which Thurston County Health Department describes as contaminated and " dangerous at low tides" to replace Capitol Lake? 2. Will the appropriate Departments of Health allow harvesting of shellfish in the new terminal urban mudflat area, (now Capitol Lake Basin)? We must consider LOTT effluent, also. 3. What would DES and Departments of Health plan to do in order to mitigate this extension of contamination? 4. What would DES and Departments of Health plan to do in order to mitigate the 'danger' associated with the newly created mudflat?</p>	No

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154	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>Unsung Benefits of Capitol Lake Friends and Community Members; our Capitol Lake is in jeopardy and most people don't know it. State agencies and others are intent upon draining it and replacing it with a tidal mud flat. The following reasons for keeping and restoring the Lake are presented to keep you informed of its great value to our community. 1. Our Lake looked like this in 1984. It was closed on account of high coliform counts in 1986, rigorously cleaned up, and is now ready for swimming, boating, fishing, and other recreation once again! 2. The Lake performs massive entrapment of nitrogen nutrients brought in by the Deschutes River. The plants you see every summer collect the nitrogen, hold it until after the growing season, then release it in late fall when it can't damage Puget Sound. The Lake could do this even better - and look better - if some of the plants were harvested and removed each summer. 3. A tidal mudflat replacing the Lake would give off foul odors at times, provide little or no recreation, and could be hazardous. Signs like those now at Priest Point would be needed. 4. The Lake traps sediment that would otherwise go into Puget Sound. There it would harm and probably destroy water-oriented businesses and the Port.</p> <p>If dredged from the Lake, it would be clean salable topsoil. If dredged from Budd Inlet, it would be expensive contaminated hazardous waste. 5. The New Zealand Mud Snail has not caused any ecological problems at 30-some other locations in Washington where it is established and is probably not as threatening as is claimed. If a tidal estuary is created, they will be able to live in it. THANKS for reading this! This information is provided by the Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA). For more information, check the document '15 Ways In Which The Lake Is Better Than The Estuary' at [CLIPA website]</p>	
155	24-Oct	Jack Havens		<p>1. What environmental, political or legal reason/s exist/s for not dredging the north and possibly middle basin/s of Capitol Lake. This improvement is approximately 27 years overdue. 2. What environmental, political or legal reason/s exist/s for not harvesting aquatic plants from these basins.</p> <p>3. The pictorial of the Estuary and Hybrid Management Plans as shown in the display room at the Scoping Meeting of October 10th show no widening of the opening of the railroad bridge separating the middle and northern basins of Capitol Lake. The current opening is approximately 200 feet which I have been told severely reduces the effects of an estuary.</p>	No
156	24-Oct	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>Deschutes Urban Watershed Plan - Waterfront Coalition - Small.pdf (~1.2 MB) - Deschutes Urban Watershed Plan - Waterfront Coalition.pdf (~8.2 MB) - Deschutes Urban Watershed Plan Base Map - Waterfront Coalition - Small.pdf (~1.2 MB) - Deschutes Urban Watershed Plan Base Map - Waterfront Coalition.pdf (~6.1 MB) To DES EIS Scoping Team Following are the maps that should be part of the CLIPA Community Plan alternative Lake Management Plan for Capitol Lake. They are referenced in the Plan.</p>	No

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157	22-Oct	Anonymous Anonymous		<p>Under WAC 197-11-440(6) (iv) Urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and the design of the built environment, the scope of the EIS needs to include the impacts to the Washington State Capitol Campus National Historic District since Capitol Lake is a significant part of the historic district by Wilder and White in 1911 and the Olmsted Brothers in 1928 The scope of the Environmental Impact Statement must take into account the nationally significant City Beautiful Movement design principles of the State Capitol Campus which is on the National Historic Register. In 1911, the architectural firm of Wilder and White created a master plan for the Washington State Capitol Campus as part of a nation-wide design competition. This plan captured the imagination of the competition judges with its unique approach, a group of symmetrically arranged buildings in a forest, atop a bluff overlooking a reflective lake, the City of Olympia, and Puget Sound. As stated by Wilder and White in their August 29, 1911 report to the State Capitol Commission, 'a tide lock at [5' Avenue) would form a lake and the whole effect would be visible from most points of the City as well as the Sound.' 'Washington's Audacious State Capitol and Its Builders,' Norman Johnston, p. 33, (1988). Wilder and White incorporated five design principles into their plan for the State Capitol Campus. These principles include: (1) the City Beautiful Movement, (2) the Capitol Group of buildings, an unprecedented design of separate legislative, executive, and judicial buildings to look like a singular Capitol building when viewed from Budd Inlet, downtown Olympia, and the Fourth Avenue Bridge, (3) the borrowed landscapes of the Olympic Mountains and Budd Inlet to frame the design (4) the northern orientation of the Capitol Group and Campus to Budd Inlet and the Olympics and (5) a lake to reflect the beautiful buildings on the bluff. 'It was at Olympia, Washington, that the American Renaissance in state capitol building reached its climax ... Such a collection of Classical buildings on a plateau surmounting a green hill 117 feet above sea level proved an irresistible vision. It would be a spectacular monument, with Mount Rainier in one direction, the Olympic Range in another ... all mirrored in the blue water below. The City Beautiful, a concept of perfection evolved for dense urban scenes, seemed destined to achieve its finest expression in the natural landscape of the Pacific Northwest. No architect or dreamer could have asked for a more splendid setting.' Temples of Democracy, The State Capitols of the USA, Professor Henry-Russell Hitchcock (1976), pp. 257-259.</p>	No

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157	22-Oct	Anonymous Anonymous		<p>The Olmsted Brothers 1928 plan for the landscape involved Capitol Lake to reflect the buildings. Maintenance of Capitol Lake as a reflective lake is necessary in order to preserve and protect the historic original vision for the Washington State Capitol Campus which is the best example of City Beautiful movement architectural design and urban planning outside of Washington, D.C. Capitol Lake stands in the design tradition of the Tidal Basin and the other reflective bodies of water along the national mall from the U.S. Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial. Failure to protect Capitol Lake would replace its mirroring and sparkling presence with the dismal mud flats of the past. 'To the south of the boulevard skirts the edge of a proposed fresh water lake secured by tide locks across the head of the Sound and will be a great addition to the city park system, The American Architect, Vol. CVIII, No. 2088, November 24, 1915, Wilder and White, p. 346 'The late 1940's were to include the beautification of the expanse at the base of the Capitol group site to its north and west. The (Wilder and White and Olmsted Brothers') plan saw this area as a grand water feature ... [to replace the] plane of mudflats ... The project also included the construction of a dam, the ensemble thereby creating a permanent body of water, Capitol Lake. Substantially completed in 1951, this new visual and recreational amenity became an appropriate setting for the acropolis of the Capitol group which it now so handsomely supported.' Washington's Audacious State Capitol and Its Builders, Professor Emeritus, Norman J. Johnston (1988).</p>	

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
157	22-Oct	Anonymous Anonymous		<p>Significant progress has been made toward the completion of the Wilder and White plan since 1911. After the Capitol Group of buildings on the West Capitol Campus bluff was completed and the Olmsted landscaping plan was instituted in the 1920's and 1930's, Capitol Lake was created by Legislature in 1950 with the construction of a dam and a tide gate along 5th Avenue. Since 1991, further progress has been made toward the completion of the North Capitol Campus along the shore of Capitol Lake with the Legislature and City spending twenty-five million dollars to complete land acquisition, the Arc of Statehood, the Western Washington Inlet, the Eastern Washington Butte, the North Campus Trail, the amphitheater, the City Fountain, the City seasonal ice rink, predesign, permitting, design, and several phases of the construction of Heritage Park and the Law Enforcement Memorial. Two million dollars in private funds have also been raised for construction of these City Beautiful elements of the North Capitol Campus. Maintaining the open water environment in the north and middle basins of Capitol Lake is the only action which is compatible with the historic 107 year plan for the State Capitol Campus. The scope of the EIS needs to consider the national significance of the historic design of the State Capitol Campus remaining intact by maintaining and improving Capitol Lake with regularly scheduled dredging every decade which occurred up until 1986. 16 U.S.C. 470f - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides, The head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking in any State and the head of any Federal department or any independent agency having authority to license any undertaking shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, as the case may be, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register.</p> <p>The head of any such Federal Agency shall afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation established under Title II of this Act a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking. Under RCW 79.24.720 Capitol Lake is designated as a historic facility of the State Capitol, RCW 79.24.720 - Department of enterprise services' responsibilities. The department of enterprise services is responsible for the stewardship, preservation, operation, and maintenance of the public and historic facilities of the state capitol, subject to the policy direction of the state capitol committee and the guidance of the capitol campus design advisory committee. In administering this responsibility, the department shall: (1) Apply the United States secretary of the interior's standards for the treatment of historic properties The EIS needs to analyze dredging and maintenance of Capitol Lake to the standards as applied to the National Mall in Washington D.C.</p>	

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
158	22-Oct	Anonymous Anonymous		Exhibit 1 1911-12 Wilder and White watercolor of State Capitol Campus Exhibit 2 Guide to Olmsted Legacy at the Washington State Capitol Campus Exhibit 3 Photo - Capitol Lake swimming and recreation Exhibit 4 National Register of Historic Places Inventory - State Capitol Campus Historic District Exhibit 5 Capitol Campus Heritage Park Development Association letter Exhibit 6 Photo Middle Basin reflection (day) Exhibit 7 Photo North Basin reflection (day) Exhibit 8 Photo Middle Basin reflection (night) Exhibit 9 Photo North Basin reflection (night) Exhibit 10 Photo Middle Basin mudflats Exhibit 11 Photo North Basin mudflats Exhibit 12 Photo North Basin mudflats Exhibit 13 Photo State Capitol Campus National Historic District	Yes
159	22-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>Relating to Technical Analysis The EIS should: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Ecosystem services should be studied for each alternative to determine the economic value of improving the environment and the economy now and into the future. What legacy are we leaving our kids, grandkids? What are the impacts to LOTT? Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. Job creation during construction.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: o The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource studies: o Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	No

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159	22-Oct	Sue Patnude	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team	<p>- Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include several scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18; https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin Island Tribe's juvenile salmon use of a restored Deschutes estuary graphics and in the context of Governor Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon</p> <p>The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p>	
160	22-Oct	Greg Falxa		<p>. My name is Greg Falxa Since 2001 I have been study bats throughout Washington and most western states. Two months ago I retired from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as a wildlife biologist. I live in this area and closely observe the behavior of bats utilizing Capitol Lake each alternatief This EIS process must seriously consider the impact on bats of this region. 6 thousand or more bats utilize Capitol Lake as their primary foraging area during their reproductive phase - May through August. These bats feed on fresh water insects and do not forage over salt water, kat are strongly associated with lakes and reservoirs, not streams, rivers or ponds. and Capitol Lake is designated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as a Priority habitat for Little Brown and Yuma Myotis bats, the 2 species of bats in Washington State that are suffering from White Nose Syndrome, a devastating disease that has killed millions of bats in the US over the past 10 years.</p>	No

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160	22-Oct	Greg Falxa		The largest known colony of bats in western Washington is located nearby at the Woodard Bay Natural Resource Area, seven miles Northeast of Capitol Lake a colony comprised solely of these 2 at-risk species. Every spring and summer night nearly all of these 3,000 pregnant and nursing females commute to Capitol Lake to forage low over the water, most feeding exclusively at Capitol Lake. lakes Several thousand additional bats of these same 2 species travel to Capitol Lake to forage, arriving from other regional nursery colonies. Radio tracking data show these bats commute considerably farther than their counterparts around the country. Traveling to a more distant lake is not a realistic expectation, as these bats already push the limits for their species. So, Capitol Lake as a fresh water body is the feeding area of at least 5 or 6 thousands bats of just the 2 species imperiled by White Nose Syndrome. Any modification that reduces the quantity of open area of fresh water will need to be mitigated. Significant reductions of the current amount of open fresh water habitat would almost certainly mean the collapse of these regional maternity colonies. Protecting these bats or mitigating the impacts on them is a must.	
161	22-Oct	Gary Franklin		1. ?illegible? of Reflecting Pool have survey of visitors to the lake - ?illegible? Business concerns 4. ?illegible? Odor	No
162	22-Oct	Mary Ann Thompson		The lake needs to be dredged right now. Why Keep to putting it off any path forward will require testing and dredging, Please don't let the lake continue to degrade further Two more years is much too long to wait for proper maintenance, Thank you for your response	No
163	22-Oct	John Newman		The dam needs to be removed. The estuary should be to its natural state	No
164	22-Oct	Linda Smithes		Managed Lake __ Restored Estuary Option. Hybrid Option ____ WA. State Enterprise Services should not conduct this 'EIS' WA State Dep of Nat. Resources or Dept of Ecology should be the lead Agency We need scientists managing this scoping this 'EIS.' Capitol Lake is not a 'lake' it is a wetland, it is a marsh. New Zealand Snail -- Capitol Lake is a cesspool - A wetland filled in with sludge from Deschutes River, because the tidal action of BUdd Inlet does not clean the cesspool. New Zealand Snail will infect the pristine lake of the Oly Nat Park of the the Oly Penn. Entire basin must be in the scoping study. Moxie in study, Deshutes River drainage, the Golf course in Tumwater drains into the lake.	No

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164	22-Oct	Linda Smithes		<p>I remember when Capitol Lake was dredged, 1984. The Oly Yatch club has been pivotal in keeping the Estuary from cleaning itself. The Olympia Yatch club is a club of good old boys the ones who can afford a yatch, a boat. Public Health issues regarding this cess-pool, in front of our state capitol, are not addressed. Clean water issues are not addressed. Infection from the New Zealand Snail is not addressed.</p> <p>Wildlife Issues are not addressed. I have seen ducks in this cesspool - this 'Capitol Lake' that are deformed. I believe the deformations are caused by the toxins in the water.</p> <p>The toxins are herbicides from Deschutes River-- the Tumwater Golf course. Where is the examination of the toxins in the water? Where are the numbers for the nitrogen in the water? Tumwater residents pour fertilizer on their lawns - this also results in high levels of nitrogen & herbicides.</p>	
165	22-Oct	John Rosenberg		<p>I'm happy that this process is proceeding although I must express my disappointment that it's taking so long. That said, here are some things I'd like to see included in the EIS:</p> <p>1. 1. Management of Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary should be transferred from Enterprise Services to the Department of Natural Resources. DNR manages all the lakes in Washington except for this lake which is managed by rprise Services. This makes no sense. Why not let an agency manage the lake/estuary that knows something about lakes and estuaries?</p> <p>3. 2. Focus the EIS on estuary restoration rather than more studies/science tell us what we already know. There is already more than adequate scientific evidence to show that a restored estuary makes the most sense from an environmental standpoint, efforts to dispute that notwithstanding. How can we manage increased sediment that taking out the dam will entail so that it benefits all parties through a restored estuary?</p> <p>4. 5. 3. Focus the EIS on the benefits of a restored estuary as a 'carbon sink' and a response to climate change using the principles of 'blue carbon' (http://bluecarbonportal.org/the-new-blue-carbon-homepage-2/about-2/what-is-blue-carbon/).</p> <p>7. 4. Explore the creation of an 'estuary district' where all the members of the district tax themselves in order to finance sediment management, infrastructure alterations, etc. that may be necessary when the dam comes out, as well as overall estuary restoration and management. The port, the yacht club, and the marinas have been essentially getting a free ride from the state since 1951 regarding sediment management. It's time for those who have benefitted for so long along with the rest of us who live in the watershed to chip in.</p>	No

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165	22-Oct	John Rosenberg		<p>9. 5. As you consider economic implications, include the economic benefits of the restoration itself (https://www.wri.org/our-work/project/new-restoration-economy) along with increased recreational benefits and the economic activity they will generate.</p> <p>10. 11. 6. In addition to these points, I am in full support of the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team's EIS Scoping Recommendations (http://www.deschutesestuary.org/get-involved/deschutes-estuary-restoration-teams-eis-scoping-recommendations/).</p>	
166	22-Oct	John Rosenberg		<p>I'm happy that this process is proceeding although I must express my disappointment that it's taking so long. That said, here are some things I'd like to see included in the EIS:</p> <p>Management of Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary should be transferred from Enterprise Services to the Department of Natural Resources. DNR manages all the lakes in Washington except for this lake which is managed by Enterprise Services. This makes no sense. Why not let an agency manage the lake/estuary that knows something about lakes and estuaries?</p> <p>Focus the EIS on estuary restoration rather than more studies/science tell us what we already know. There is already more than adequate scientific evidence to show that a restored estuary makes the most sense from an environmental standpoint, efforts to dispute that notwithstanding. How can we manage increased sediment that taking out the dam will entail so that it benefits all parties through a restored estuary?</p> <p>Focus the EIS on the benefits of a restored estuary as a 'carbon sink' and a response to climate change using the principles of 'blue carbon' (http://bluecarbonportal.org/the-new-blue-carbon-homepage-2/about-2/what-is-blue-carbon/).</p> <p>Explore the creation of an 'estuary district' where all the members of the district tax themselves in order to finance sediment management, infrastructure alterations, etc. that may be necessary when the dam comes out, as well as overall estuary restoration and management. The port, the yacht club, and the marinas have been essentially getting a free ride from the state since 1951 regarding sediment management. It's time for those who have benefitted for so long along with the rest of us who live in the watershed to chip in.</p> <p>As you consider economic implications, include the economic benefits of the restoration itself (https://www.wri.org/our-work/project/new-restoration-economy) along with increased recreational benefits and the economic activity they will generate.</p> <p>In addition to these points, I am in full support of the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team's EIS Scoping Recommendations (http://www.deschutesestuary.org/get-involved/deschutes-estuary-restoration-teams-eis-scoping-recommendations/).</p>	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
167	22-Oct	John Rosenberg		<p>I'm happy that this process is proceeding although I must express my disappointment that it's taking so long. That said, here are some things I'd like to see included in the EIS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management of Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary should be transferred from Enterprise Services to the Department of Natural Resources. DNR manages all the lakes in Washington except for Capitol Lake which is managed by Enterprise Services. This makes no sense. Why not let an agency manage the lake/estuary that knows something about lakes and estuaries? 2. Focus the EIS on estuary restoration rather than more studies that will tell us what we already know. There is already more than adequate scientific evidence to show that a restored estuary makes the most sense from an environmental standpoint, efforts to dispute that notwithstanding. Let's focus on, for example, how to manage the increased sediment that taking out the dam will entail so that it benefits all parties through a restored estuary. 3. Focus the EIS on the benefits of a restored estuary as a 'carbon sink' and a response to climate change using the principles of 'blue carbon' (http://bluecarbonportal.org/the-new-blue-carbon-homepage-2/about-2/what-is-blue-carbon/). 4. Explore the creation of an 'estuary district' where all the members of the district tax themselves in order to finance sediment management, infrastructure alterations, etc. that will be necessary when the dam comes out. The port, the yacht club, and the marinas have been getting a free ride from the state since 1951 regarding sediment management. It's time for those who have benefitted for so long along with the rest of us who live in the watershed to chip in a fair share toward estuary restoration. 5. As you consider economic implications, include the economic benefits of the restoration itself (https://www.wri.org/our-work/project/new-restoration-economy) along with increased recreational benefits and the economic activity they will generate. 6. In addition to these points, I am in full support of the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team's EIS Scoping Recommendations (http://www.deschutesestuary.org/get-involved/deschutes-estuary-restoration-teams-eis-scoping-recommendations/). 	No
168	3-Nov	Ellen Cholski	Ms.	The dam should be removed. I am a native of Olympia since 1942 and believe the dam should have never been built. The 'lake' is too polluted.	No
169	4-Nov	Carrie Ziegler	Earth Art	Hello. I think the scope should focus on water quality, climate change and sea level rise, returning native species to their original habitats, restoring salmon runs, supporting the Orca population, cultural needs and Treaty Rights, specifically of the Squaxin Island Tribe, and economic impact in the form of job creation during whatever action is taken.	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
170	6-Nov	Dan Smith	City of Tumwater	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to enter comments regarding the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) scoping process. We do have a couple points for your consideration. It is well documented that sediment management is a key issue that needs to be addressed when considering any of the options for the lower Deschutes watershed at its confluence with Budd Inlet. In addition to other environmental impacts, such as invasive species, water quality, sea level rise and climate change, the scope of the EIS should include best management practices (BMPs) to reduce sources of fine sediment in the Deschutes, ideally before the sediment is mobilized and impacts water quality. The Deschutes Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) work identifies fine sediment as a pollutant exceeding state standards for water quality. In addition, the Deschutes TMDL identifies several locations that significantly contribute to sediment loading in the watershed. Long term management of any option evaluated in the EIS must address sediment loading and BMPs to reduce these impacts and improve overall water quality in the watershed.</p> <p>Significant log jams periodically occur within the Deschutes River, each with the potential to create new sources of fine sediment as shorelines shift. While we recognize this is a natural and healthy process in a watershed, the potential for property loss and the release of sediment in urbanized areas can create substantial challenges for property owners and jurisdictions. Again, BMPs for the management of log jams, including accelerated stabilization and/or removal of existing log jams, should be included when evaluating the long term management needs of any alternative considered through the EIS process.</p> <p>Best management practices should also be considered that address the anthropogenic sources of sediment and logs in the river, particularly in the upper reaches of the Deschutes watershed where timber and agricultural practices may impact overall water quality. 'The Clean Water Act Assurances covering the Forest and Fish Agreement stipulate that forestry activities work toward the goal of eliminating enhanced contributions from human activities. Reduction of identified human fine sediment sources (5,700 yd³ /yr) would reduce approximately 21percent of the known fine sediment contributions in the Deschutes watershed. We acknowledge that some unknown portion of the unaccounted sources include human-caused fine sediment sources, but if the water quality improvement efforts are successful at eliminating the identified human sources that we can control, then we will meet the fine sediment load allocation.'¹ The overall success of the Forest and Fish Agreement will need to be understood to determine if the 'assured' sediment reductions are being realized.</p>	No

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170	6-Nov	Dan Smith	City of Tumwater	In addition, early sediment modeling showed areas where sediment may accumulate in lower Budd Inlet, should the dam be removed. Some of this accumulation would appear to occur within areas currently occupied by marinas and docks. The current permit/lease status and renewal schedule, if any, for these activities should be included in the EIS. Should subsequent modeling confirm these areas of sediment accumulation, one alternative to managing the sediment is possibly relocating these activities further into the inlet as a way to minimize the need for ongoing dredging expenses and enable habitat restoration within these areas.	
171	8-Nov	Dennis Wicks		Restore and maintain the lake as the recreational jewel it can and should be. Surely the lakes maintenance has been insufficient; has Enterprises Services failed to maintain adequate funding? When the lake was originally established it is inconceivable that ongoing dredging and maintenance wasn't accounted for. What were the original plans and what happened? Start an initiative to share the maintenance costs with Thurston County and the cities of Lacey Olympia and Tumwater.	No
172	8-Nov	Maxine Dunkelman		We should restore the Capitol Lake area to an estuary. Estuaries are the key to health of the critter in Puget Sound. They are enjoyable for people too, and do not smell. We should make as much as our world natural as we can. I have been to many coast lines with estuaries right next to were people live, it works!	No

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173	9-Nov	diane frank		<p>outsirts. We only once frequented an area that was at the base of courthouse hill where many overflow pipes from the apartment complexes emptied their contents. We were offended by the smell of that area and hoped some day our city would address this. Several years later when my kids turned into teens, we would tube the DesChutes together with their friends. We would put in at Henderson Soccer park area and float to the DesChutes park (at the brewery). But, our first two times floating (on separate days), we would all get squirmy when the beautiful, clear water we had been swimming/floating in, turned a murky, dark brown and produced high piles of foam everywhere...sticky foam. After those 2 experiences, we started getting out of the river just prior to this area which revealed to be the runoff from Capital City Golf course. Even the kids related it fertilizers on their own. After that, they would warn their friends to depart the waters before they entered this area. My son just floated that same river this summer with my granddaughter and said the foamy, brown area still existed. As well, when my daughter was 13 (20 years ago exactly) we were planning a 3 day hike into the Olympics. I purchased top-of-the-line water bottles which boasted the ability to clean water to 99% clarity. Since I was responsible for other teens on this campout, I decided I should test these bottles first. My daughter, having just entered a biology class, wished to participate in our collection. I headed to the nearest body of water, Capital Lake. We hung out on the dock and followed the directions, as stated on the bottle, to a T. We then drove up to the lab on county courthouse hill and paid our \$25 to the lab for the diagnosis. The county lab phoned me within 2 hours and asked me where I had collected my sample. I stated, 'Capital Lake'. They grilled me on my technique and whether I had followed the directions explicitly. Since my daughter was present, I had her as my alibi and witness. I was stunned at what I felt was an inquisition with all the pointed questions which leaned towards being accusatory. The next morning, I received calls from several officials who once again grilled me as to location and technique for collecting this sample. I finally decided enough was enough and questioned why they were making such a big deal about the water sample. The voice on the phone stated, 'because your sample is chocked full of giardia.' I was stunned. I returned the bottle for a full refund. That winter, the polar bear dip (which the local kids did annually) was called off. Then signs appeared disallowing swimming. I later learned from an employee that it was my sample which had set off a stream of responses disallowing contact with the waters of Capital Lake. Decades later, the primary polluter still hasn't been investigated or even challenged as to their use of chemicals on those nice, weed-free golf courses. I am an avid fisherwoman and have quit fishing Thurston County lakes due to toxic algae (which the St of</p>	No
174	9-Nov	Emily Bell	Timberline High School	Blank	No
175	9-Nov	Adan Reyes	CIA	From what I can see from the results of my water testing, Capitol Lake is obviously not doing well. What I suggest to take the correct approach to review and solve the problem of the pH level of 9.0.	No
176	11-Nov	Hannah Hollander		Thank you for reviewing my comments attached in a word document. For the health of our community I strongly recommend turning the lake into a estuary.	No

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176	11-Nov	Hannah Hollander		<p>After living in Olympia for over 16 years, I have been waiting for an opportunity to weigh in on the future of Capitol Lake. Currently, I live less than a mile from the Lake and spend many afternoons enjoying Marathon Park and Heritage Park. However, Capitol Lake is a disgusting mess, especially in the summer when it becomes a cesspool of toxic algal blooms. The glory days of having it be a 'reflection pool' are long gone and the entire time I have lived here the Lake has been severely unhealthy, contaminated with invasive snails and algae.</p> <p>One of the values of returning the lake to an estuary will be the return of native plant and animal species. Also, the tidal flats will serve as a natural filter for the polluted Deschutes river. Our watershed and the Puget Sound as a whole, need all the filtration and restoration we can offer. We should be applying the best scientific knowledge for improving the health of our communities watershed.</p> <p>Yes, an estuary will be different than a lake visually, but it will also be beautiful. The restoration of the Nisqually watershed demonstrates this. Our bird and salmon friends need the lake to become what it should have always been, an estuary.</p> <p>Personally, I am strongly in favor of changing the lake into an estuary. I think it will be beautiful, especially in the summer when the current lake is too hideous to enjoy looking at, and will ensure that we are taking the health of our watershed seriously.</p>	
177	11-Nov	Doug Buster		<p>Please emphasize the long-term health and sustainability of native animals, plants and habitat. Specifically include restoring a robust population of salmon in the Deschutes Watershed, including travel through what is now Capitol Lake to Puget Sound/Salish Sea.</p> <p>Although a "Hybrid Alternative" may sound like a happy (and politically tempting) compromise for all sides of this issue, I fear that it will in fact be devastating to our natural environment. The study would need to provide VERY compelling information to convince me otherwise. Please be sure to address this concern. Just destroying the natural fauna and flora for a pretty lake might be a better approach than a political one that fails to adequately address the environmental concerns of a "Hybrid Alternative". Thank you for the opportunity to weigh-in on the approach to the Capitol Lake-Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project EIS.</p>	No

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178	11-Nov	Hannah Hollander		I strongly vote for fully restoring the Deschutes River estuary. Capitol Lake as a reflecting pond was a great idea, long ago. Since then we have seen closure of the lake to swimming and boating, multiple sewage spills that raise the fecal coliform levels in its sedentary waters...the 'lake' has become visibly, sensorily and ecologically unhealthy. Meanwhile, just up I-5, restoring the Nisqually River estuary has been a huge success for water quality, wildlife abundance and tourism attraction. I propose, strongly, that we do the same for our city's river...let it flow free, let it filter itself, let the saltwater and freshwater mingle to create a dynamic new ecosystem attracting more wildlife, and a natural splendor that will draw visitors and make Olympia proud. Thank you for reading.	No
179	11-Nov	Cheri Keller	Self	I have lived in Olympia since I was a child, when you could Swim in Capitol lake. I moved back to Olympia as a married adult with two children 20 years ago. I believe we should breach the dam and turn the deschutes - budd bay back into the natural estuary it is. This will cause problems like dredging costs for the moorage for the OYC and others, I know. But it will create more waterfront (see historical photos before damn:lake built) and will create an opportunity to support salmon runs. I realize this will cost a lot of money and as a lifetime resident I am more than willing to be taxed to pay for this. It is an investment in the future that will happen.	No
180	11-Nov	Elizabeth Egan		t is beyond time to restore the improperly managed, polluted/ polluting fake lake as an estuary. No hybrid option, no maintained lake.	No
181	12-Nov	Dan Calvert		Please restore the Deschutes River estuary to functioning ecosystem. I strongly support breaching the dam. We need to do all we can to support chinook salmon and Orcas-a restored Deschutes River estuary would provide the critical nearshore habitat needed by salmonids. It's crazy that a state agency, DES, isn't taking action to remove the ecological blight that is Capital Lake.	No
182	12-Nov	Erik Heimann		I am a resident in favor of returning the lake to an estuary.	No
183	12-Nov	Shauna Bittle		Right now we have an overgrown lake that's useless for anything other than walking AROUND. Let's have our estuary back. Please?	No
184	29-Oct	David Milne		David H. Milne Academic Background (As of 2014.)	Yes

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				<p>CAPITOL LAKE: BEST ENVIRONMENTAL OPTION. Contribution to the EIS Process Identifying Lake Basin Alternatives. David H. Milne, PhD. Faculty (ret.) Environmental Studies, Evergreen State College October 13, 2018 The following gives reasons why preserving the Lake is better than converting its basin to an estuary. In researching this, I have not found a single example of a way in which the proposed estuary is a better environmental alternative than the Lake. 1. A lake has far more species diversity than does the head of an estuary. If we destroy Capitol Lake, we will trade an ecosystem with many more species for an ecosystem with many fewer species.' 2. Capitol Lake provides habitat for a state listed 'sensitive species' (the Olympic Mud Minnow). Destroying Capitol Lake would destroy a substantial share of this species total habitat in the Puget Sound basin.'</p> <p>Capitol Lake - The Healthiest Lake in Thurston County. David H. Milne, PhD. Faculty (Retired, Environmental Studies), TESC October 18, 2018 In 2015, I responded to the intensely negative portrayal of Capitol Lake imposed on the public by three agencies (WDNR, WDFW, WDOE) and the Olympian newspaper by writing the attached Report. Contrary to the persistent and evidently unalterable claims made by these entities, I found that the Lake is a healthy thriving freshwater ecosystem that also performs vital protection of Budd Inlet from the onslaught of nutrient nitrogen carried by the Deschutes River. The agencies' stance stems from a letter signed by their three directors in 2008 advocating removal of the Lake and replacing it with tidal saltwater. Much new knowledge has accumulated since then, all of it favoring retention of the Lake. Examples include the discovery of an imperiled species of freshwater mussel residing in the Lake, recognition that the Lake hosts Washington's also-imperiled endemic native fish (the Olympic Mudminnow), dawning awareness that the Lake's native crayfish, dabbling ducks and peamouth minnows eat and digest the much- feared New Zealand Mudsnaills, recognition that the Lake has met state swimming standards (for coliform bacteria and water clarity) since year 2000, the remarkable absence of anoxic bottom water year-round (in contrast with virtually all other county lakes), an equally remarkable absence of hazardous blue-green alga toxins (again in contrast with almost all other county lakes), and other facts. This Report presents most of these new favorable findings. I did not have time to update the Report.</p>	

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184	29-Oct	David Milne		<p>It reads almost exactly as I wrote it in 2015. (Exactly as three retired WDOE scientists recommended via their peer reviews of early drafts.) Were I to update it today, I would emphasize one major point. That is, the closure of the Lake to public use to prevent the spread of New Zealand Mudsnaills (first seen there in late 2009) is not warranted. The snails have now been in Washington for about 28 years; they presently inhabit at least 30 different water bodies here. During that time, they have caused none of the ecological disruptions that were so wildly speculated when they were first found in Capitol Lake. The reason is undoubtedly due to the fact that the snails are genetically incapable of adapting to the new predators and competitors they have encountered in Washington, whereas the predators are fully capable of adapting to using the snails as a new food source. (The picture shows an example of that from Lake Aniwhenua, New Zealand.) Also, the snails were probably present in the Lake up to six years before they were discovered there. During that time, public use -- boating and water contact sports -- did not spread them to any adjacent waters. Capitol Lake is the only body of water closed to the public on account of NZMS's. (The heavily-used boat launch on Blue Slough, also a site of NZMS's, is not closed.) Capitol Lake's closure appears to be an agency effort to maintain the Lake's negative reputation, not an ecological precaution.</p> <p>3. Capitol Lake has the best dissolved oxygen water quality of any monitored lake in Thurston County. Estuaries naturally have seasonal low-oxygen bottom water. Destroying the Lake would replace a high-oxygen water body with a low-oxygen water body.</p> <p>In addition to this 'Healthiest Lake' Report. I recommend another Report by me (Supplemental Modeling Scenarios: A Critical Review, 2018) which highlights the many mistaken claims and errors about Capitol Lake's supposed negative effects on Budd Inlet made by the Department of Ecology based on its Budd Inlet computer model. Both Reports are available on the CLIPA website: CLIPA<www.savecapitollake.org/contact/clipa.html></p>	No

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184	29-Oct	David Milne		<p>4. Capitol Lake's excellent dissolved oxygen properties enable it to sustain very large populations of emergent aquatic insects, which in turn sustain one of the largest colonies of Yuma myotis bats (~3000 animals) in the State of Washington. A tidal mudflat produces no emergent insects. Destroying the Lake might decimate the bat population and could cause abandonment of the colony.' This is widely known among estuarine ecologists and is documented in my peer-reviewed paper (p. 28 & ff), "Capitol Lake. Healthiest Lake in Thurston County.' Available at CLIPA website (www.savecapitollake.org/contact/clipa.hunt) (See that paper for references to all data cited in this statement.) The Mudminnow is a unique species of fish that is endemic to Washington state. Mudminnows live in Capitol Lake, Lake Ozette, and small watersheds on the slopes of the Olympics and around into the Puget Sound Basin. Capitol Lake (270 acres) probably exceeds the size of all of the rest of the east-side watershed habitats combined. Lake Ozette (7800 acres) is by far the largest unit of habitat for this fish, about 30 times the size of Capitol Lake. 5. Destruction of Capitol Lake could have a negative impact on two state listed 'candidate species,' the purple martin and Vaux's swift. These birds share the emergent flying insect food resource with the bats. A tidal mudflat couldn't support the bats or (probably) any other aerial feeders (swallows, swifts, martins) at present population levels</p> <p>6. Although Capitol Lake is on the EPA's 'Clean Water Act' 303(d) list, so are seven other Lakes in Thurston County. Many saltwater sites in Budd Inlet are also on the 303(d) list. Replacing the Lake with a tidal mudflat will not reduce the size of the EPA's list.</p> <p>7. An estuary would have at least as many introduced species in it as Capitol Lake and probably more. One of them would be the New Zealand Mud Snail. Destroying the Lake would not reduce (and would probably increase) the number of introduced species living in that basin.'</p> <p>8. Capitol Lake prevents about 20 tons of nitrogen nutrients from entering Puget Sound every summer. A tidal basin replacing the Lake would enable this nutrient tonnage to go directly into the Sound, lowering or eliminating dissolved oxygen at the bottom.</p> <p>9. A Lake can support swimming, fishing, kayaking, wading, water skiing, Lake Fair floats and sailing recreation 24 hours/day during summer. A brackish tidal basin cannot. (The Lake has met swimming coliform and clarity standards for the last 15 years.)</p> <p>10. Destroying the Lake will not remove the need for dredging. If the dam is removed, for starters nearly one- and a half million cubic yards of sediments now situated in the Lake will have to be dredged and removed. After that, sediments now trapped by the lake will simply move out into West Bay, mingle with contaminated sediments already there, and still require dredging and disposal.'</p>	

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184	29-Oct	David Milne		<p>11. Thirty-five thousand cubic yards of clean Capitol Lake sediment dredged every year might have a market value of about half a million dollars. Contaminated dredged sediment from an estuary would have annual dredge and disposal costs of about 4.5 million dollars.'</p> <p>12. Because of prevailing NW winds and low tides during daylight hours during summer, lide flat hydrogen sulfide odors are likely to be more prevalent throughoul Olympia and Tumwater during summers if a tidal basin replaces the Lake.</p> <p>13. The managed Lake can help protect the downlown area from flooding episodes during periods of high rainfall and runoff, low atmospheric pressure, and extreme high tides. A tidal basin cannot provide any such protection.'</p> <p>14. Most people in Olympia would rather have a Lake in front of the Capitol than a tidal mudflat.14</p> <p>In 2012, the Department of Ecology's computer model showed that the worst negative effect of Capitol Lake on Budd Inlet is so small that it's not measurable. Destroying the Lake won't help Budd Inlet.</p> <p>16. According to two studies, our juvenile Chinook salmon would receive no significant benefit from re-creating an intertidal mudflat</p>	
185	13-Nov	Scott Steltzner	Squaxin Island Tribe	<p>The Squaxin Island Tribe Natural Resources Department would like to thank the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services for this opportunity to comment on the scoping for the upcoming environmental review for the Deschutes Estuary environmental impact Statement (EIS). The Tribe looks forward to participating in the EIS process. The Department believes the following issues should be included in the scoping process:</p> <p>Conduct a complete analysis of sediment transport from the lower Deschutes watershed including Budd Inlet. This should include determining the fate of sediment leaving the estuary and entering Budd Inlet. - Provide alternatives for long term sediment management.</p> <p>The Natural Resources Department recognizes that the proposed estuary restoration option represents partial reestablishment of what has been lost due to development; however, restoration provides the opportunity to restore access to natural habitat for wide variety of species. oDetermine optimal width openings at key constriction points such as the 5th avenue dam, the railroad trestle between north and middle basins and the I5 bridge</p> <p>oCalculate the amount of habitat restored for each proposed scenario for salmon and other aquatic species such as shellfish.</p> <p>Provide an analysis of the impacts from sea level rise for all alternatives. - Calculate the amount of carbon (blue carbon) generated, stored or exchanged for each of the alternative scenarios. -</p>	No

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185	13-Nov	Scott Steltzner	Squaxin Island Tribe	Determine the effects from each of the proposed scenarios on Budd Inlet water quality, particularly effects to parameters in the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet TMDL.	
186	13-Nov	Mary Russell		I am in favor of the Restored Estuary Alternative, which would promote the long-term sustainability of habitats that support native plants and wildlife. I am particularly interested in this alternative because it would support native salmon populations. The lake alternative is no longer sustainable -- it can no longer be used for recreation and continues to lose it's aesthetic appeal. The hybrid alternative sounded appealing, but in the long-term it is really simply postpones the lake or estuary decision for another decade or two, driving up the costs of the mitigation efforts during that time. The better investment both in terms of dollars and the natural environment is to restore the estuary.	No
187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		<p>Please refer to comments attached. Key points: (1) historical/cultural considerations are not adequate in the alternatives presented, either in terms of impacts or in how they are implicitly framed. (2) there should be much more emphasis on the administrative elements of long term management, rather than just a presentation of different capital-project styled alternatives. In particular, management under administrative leadership other than the DES should be considered, especially given the demonstrable failure of that leadership historically.</p> <p>Historic/Cultural elements should be more prominent in the analysis The historic cultural use of the Basin should have received considerably more attention in the public presentation for the scoping phase of Phase 1. The cultural assumptions built into how the the 'managed lake' and 'dual basin' alternatives might be valued are unacceptably narrow both historically, and even in terms of the present-day values of the community as a whole. There has been a considerable amount of data compiled by different agencies, including the City of Olympia, from the CLAMP process onward but it has apparently not been incorporated into the current EIS process. As an historian who has done research on the area, I had the privilege to participate in a presentation, during Phase 1, on the historical aspects of the Deschutes Basin. My focus was the first half of the 20th century in the period before the Fifth Avenue Dam was installed, and my emphasis was the cultural importance of the ecologically productive watershed. It is important to emphasize that the estuary, as such, played a very important cultural role in the life of the metropolitan area.</p> <p>Members of the Squaxin Island Tribe were denied a co-management voice for approximately seventy years, but even during most of that period, the non-Indian population also utilized and valued the Basin in their own ways primarily as a natural cultural/recreational resource. In the present day, the historic and cultural importance of tribal use should be a paramount consideration.</p>	No

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187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		<p>Percival Creek was also an important part of that history and should receive specific consideration as both a natural and potential recreational resource in the current scoping. In my presentation I discussed as an example the impromptu but annual celebration of the annual Chum run up the Creek, as well as its importance to the recreational fishing community and to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The recreational Chinook and Steelhead fishery was of tremendous importance to the community, far outweighing the value of the visual aspects of the waterway during much of the period of statehood as well as prior to statehood. Even after the impoundment of the waterway with the construction of the Deschutes (Fifth Avenue) Dam, the Department of Fish and Wildlife played a significant management role in the Basin for many decades.</p> <p>In addition to the historic role of the fishery (including shellfish), it is important to consider the value of waterfowl habitat as a cultural/recreational as well as natural resource that has experienced significant decline in the watershed, both in the basin itself and in the waters, wetlands and riparian habitat immediately adjacent.</p> <p>In addition, it would be a grave mistake to assume that the decision to install the dam was a popular one even among those emphasizing the visual aspect of the Basin. Up until the actual construction of the dam, it was widely assumed among impoundment advocates that a weir approach was also very much on the table and indeed the likely approach; and there were also enthusiastic proponents of a canal system. Likewise, it would be a mistake, from an historical perspective, oto overemphasize the role of architectural planning for the Capitol as the most important quality even for those who supported some version of an impoundment concept, be it a tidal gate, canal, or weir. The idea that the basin would become a freshwater lake was, in fact, not broadly discussed nor considered necessary in order to enhance the recreational or sightseeing value. From an historical perspective, dredging/land formation and the construction of the Deschutes Parkway were signature elements of the Deschutes Basin Plan that actually led to the construction of the Dam, and were arguably of greater general interest and concern. In short, freshwater should not be considered a necessary element for continuity with many of the historic or cultural objectives of past modifications of the waterway.</p>	

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187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		<p>EIS Alternatives should consider administrative alternatives E after construction of the Dam, the Department of Fish and Wildlife played an important role in the direct management of the Basin for many decades. In addition, the current half-completed TMDL process illustrates a paramount federal as well as state interest in the environmental quality of the watershed of which the Basin is a part. It is therefore imperative that the Alternatives include at least one in which the Department of Enterprise Services is not the lead Long-term Manager of the Basin, and all alternatives should consider different administrative structures in which DES is not necessarily the lead agency.</p> <p>Furthermore, the goals of long-term management should be identified in a way that allow all proposed alternatives to be measured against them. As presented to the public, the management goals of different alternatives appear to be different in nature, with no reference provided to overarching goals regardless of alternative selected to put forward as a proposal. To illustrate: provided in the Request for Comments is a list of 'fundamental concepts' for each individual 'primary alternative.' A summary of the 'fundamental concepts' shows that these are really different to each other: Text not readable</p> <p>The overarching goals appear to be expressed elsewhere in different terms. The Draft Final Purpose and Need Statement states that " The purpose of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project is to identify and implement an environmentally and economically sustainable watershed approach that improves water quality, and manages existing sediment accumulation and future deposition. The project is also needed to improve the impaired ecological functions within the existing Capitol Lake basin and adjacent watershed. These efforts would also aim to restore and enhance community use of the resource.' It also states that 'Water quality must be improved to meet federal law and state water quality standards, and to restore aquatic life and recreational uses.' It states that 'the project will have a beneficial effect on the ecosystem service value, economic value and community value of the resource.' Extracting the elements provides this list of goals for the proposal. Improve water quality, including meeting federal and state laws and standards Manage sediment Improve impaired ecological functions for the Basin and the WRIA 13 watershed Enhance the value of ecosystem services - Restore and enhance community use - Enhance the economic value of the Basin ('resource") Be environmentally and economically Sustainable (undefined) The impeturs for the current process, according to the December 30, 2016 Letter of Transmittal of the Phase 1 Report, is that 'the community and coordinating agencies agree on the need to implement a long-term management plan.'</p>	

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187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		The DES has a proven track record of extreme failure as an environmental manager of the waterway, as well as failure at assuring cultural and recreational access. According to the Phase 1 Report, the historical record of the General Services Administration/DES has yielded the following results: 'active use of the waterbody has been restricted for more than 30 years due to the degraded water quality and ecological functions. An estimated 35,000 cubic yards of sediment accumulates annually within the lake basin, resulting in increasingly shallow conditions. Capitol Lake was closed to swimming in 1985 due to high bacteria levels. Water draw-down and back-flushing to control algal blooms and fresh water plant growth, due to excessive nutrient loads, continued annually until 1999 and caused temporary impacts to other recreational uses, such as boating and fishing. The presence of invasive species resulted in official closure to all public uses in 2009. Active use of the waterbody continues to be restricted today.'	
188	13-Nov	Brenda Barnett		<p>Anything will be a HUGE improvement. However, we live a state where we have grey concrete on the ground, the sky is mostly gray, then we go an paint everything WHAT more gray and beige. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE DONT paint everything beige or gray. We need some color to brighten up our gray days.</p> <p>Also I know we are a sanctuary city, and I think we all should help when we can. I volunteer and donate when I can. Having said that, I STRONGLY believe we can still help those in need, but not at the expense of our city and those who choose to make Olympia our home. 4th Ave is a nightmare. I heard cruise ships are coming, well I would say don't drop me off downtown. Not in its current state. We are not even close to being ready for tourist. The sidewalks are a danger and merchant store fronts are so sad, dark and dirty. We have to get them involved in cleaning up downtown. It's not rocket science and mostly soap & water, and some elbow grease. Get our local hardware stores involved to donate materials. Go to home depot and rent a pressure washer and have a block cleaning party. And lets not skimp on the holiday lights and decorations this year. Olympia SUCKS at this. Nothing cheerful or welcoming about downtown. Thanks for listening.</p>	No

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189	13-Nov	Lori Salzer	Thurston County resident	<p>Thank-you for the opportunity to provide comments. I would like to highlight the importance of Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes for waterfowl & bats. The lake is rich in waterfowl during fall and winter. Large concentrations of birds (possibly hundreds of thousands) use the lake for foraging & roosting. Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) has identified the basin as a Waterfowl Concentration Area and a Priority Area in Western Washington for nonbreeding concentrations of Barrow's Goldeneye, Common Goldeneye, and Bufflehead. Additional priority species that use the lake are: Common Loon, Western Grebe & Cormorant. Other species of waterfowl include but are not limited to: Canvasback, Northern Shoveler, Ring-necked duck, Widgeon, Pied Billed Grebe, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Great Blue Heron and more.</p> <p>Capitol Lake is a critical foraging site for our bats during spring, summer and fall. Thousands & thousands of breeding bats rely on the lake to provide high quality food during their reproductive season. Nursing female bats have been documented making a 28 mile roundtrip commute to the lake from their maternity colonies to forage each night, sometimes twice a night. Additionally, it is important to juvenile bats as well. Big Brown Bats, Little Brown Bats & Yuma Bats are a few of the species that rely on the lake for foraging. The lake is classified by WDFW as a Biodiversity Areas and Corridor and specifically includes myotis bats. White-nose Syndrome, a fungus that is decimating bat populations nationally has been found in Washington. It is crucial that we maintain a healthy environment for our bats to help them withstand the impacts of this deadly disease. WDFW Priority Habitats and Species list is available on the WDFW website. It is imperative that bats and wintering waterfowl be included at the onset of the scoping project. Please reach out to me if you need additional information. Thank-you, Lori Salzer</p>	No
190	13-Nov	Suna Todd		I support the Restored Estuary Alternative. I would like to see the mudflats which are natural and support healthy life. I could also support the the hybrid alternative. I do not support the managed lake alternative. I do not find the lake esthetically pleasing, knowing how unhealthy it is. It is not a natural lake and I don't think it should be maintained. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.	No
191	13-Nov	Nancy Partlow		Scoping elements of the environment to be studied for the Capitol Lake EIS. Capitol Lake is a freshwater wetland. It may not have been intended as such, but the damming of the Deschutes and subsequent lack of dredging have created Thurston County's largest, and perhaps most important freshwater wetland. Capitol Lake should be evaluated and rated as a wetland and, if a decision is made to remove the dam, the acreage of freshwater wetland lost should be mitigated by the purchase, protection or creation of wetlands in the upper Deschutes watershed.	No

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191	13-Nov	Nancy Partlow		<p>The lake is also like a great big constant air conditioner in the middle of town. A saltwater estuary does not replace a vibrant 260-acre freshwater wetland. If the dam is pulled out and the lake returned to an estuary, there should be mitigation for the loss of the freshwater wetland through purchase of properties in the upper Deschutes watershed. Thank you.</p> <p>Some elements of the environment that should be looked at for the EIS are trees, bats, freshwater mussels, ducks and the vast number of aquatic insects that breed in the lake which attract multiple bird and animal species that make this 260-acre wetland so dynamic and vibrant</p> <p>One aspect of previous studies of the lake that has not been addressed is the number of trees that would be lost if the dam was pulled out and marine tidal influences allowed to reestablish. Literally hundreds, if not thousands of trees have taken root in the river silt deposited in the lake's south basin, north of the Old Brewhouse. There is a freshwater forest wetland at Tumwater Historical Park. Many trees sink their roots into freshwater at the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center and at Heritage Park. Will they die and erode away when exposed to saltwater and tidal intrusion? These trees create a beautiful verdancy and amazing habitat for birds and beavers that would be greatly missed if they were to disappear.</p> <p>Another aspect of the lake that has not been addressed in previous studies is the abundance of native freshwater anodonta mussels that inhabit the lake. Many species of native freshwater mussels are endangered. What impact would returning the lake to an estuary have on them? Here is a video I took in February of 2014 showing freshwater mussel shells scattered across the floor of Capitol Lake: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VP3psqRpU4k</p> <p>In spring and summer, thousands of bats nightly use Capitol Lake as a feeding ground. The lake is probably the most important bat feeding ground in Thurston County. Here is a video I took this past summer of 2018, of bats streaming through a west Olympia neighborhood on their way to feed on night-flying insects hatched from Capitol Lake: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaPGNCdbVXI</p>	

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191	13-Nov	Nancy Partlow		<p>The importance of Capitol Lake as a fall and winter duck sanctuary and feeding ground cannot be downplayed. Large rafts of ducks, wigeons, scaups, ring-necked ducks, teals, pintails and migrate into the lake in much greater numbers than use the saltwater habitat north of the dam. They are attracted by the abundant food: freshwater vegetation (the much-maligned algae), mussels, and perhaps even invertebrates living on the shallow bottom of the lake. Here is a video I took of ringed-neck ducks and wigeons on Capitol Lake in 2013: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85Giww3oQLw Duck numbers are dropping precipitously in the south Puget Sound and elsewhere. What impact would the removal of this protected freshwater area have on them? Eagles and other predatory bird species avail themselves of Capitol Lake's larder of fresh avian food during the fall and winter months. I have taken many videos of ducks on Capitol Lake over the years. Here is a link to them: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=capitol+lake%2C++ducks%2C+winterwre</p> <p>Aquatic insects are a very important aspect of Capitol Lake wetland ecosystem. The lake in its current form is perfect for breeding insects and their prey. Dragonflies are born from Capitol Lake in very large numbers, and many odonata disperse to outlying areas from the lake after achieving aerial form. These may be the dragonflies we see in many of Olympia and Tumwater's neighborhoods. We don't know. This EIS should find out how important the lake in its current form is to dragonflies. Here is a blog I wrote about 11 dragonfly species I've seen at Capitol Lake: http://olypollinators.blogspot.com/2016/09/here-be-dragons_6.html The vast number of aerial insects that breed in the mud of the lake feed many bird species, including swallows and warblers. I wrote about the warblers in blog article tribute to my father, who spent many hours with me down at Capitol Lake: http://olypollinators.blogspot.com/2017/05/hope-is-thing-with-feathers.html In the spring, large flocks of mixed species of swallows (barn swallow, roughed wings, violet greens, tree swallows) fly low over the lake catching freshwater insects. Barn swallows nest under the bridge separating Percival Cove and the main body of the lake.</p> <p>Other animals that use the lake are river otters and beavers: River otters feast on salmon blog: http://olypollinators.blogspot.com/2014/09/river-otters-feast-on-salmon-at-capitol.html Beaver sign at Capitol Lake blog: http://olypollinators.blogspot.com/2016/11/beaver-sign-at-capitol-lake_27.html All of this is to show that Capitol Lake is an incredibly healthy and lively freshwater ecosystem that should not be eliminated without weighing the full costs to wildlife and to people. I love the mirrored and calming waters of the lake. Whenever the lake is drained, I have to avert my eyes because there is so much life and beauty that disappears. Will people still want to walk down there when the tide is out?</p>	

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192	13-Nov	Helen Wheatley		<p>I submitted comments (#187) but wish to add the following: 1) Physical Scope should incorporate Percival Creek and the entire watershed as it pertains to restoring the historic fishery.</p> <p>2) In providing a more substantive approach to the administrative dimension of proposing alternatives, consider issues of ownership and their administrative implications. For example, if leaseholds reach the end of their term, it should be considered whether those leases should be renewed or would better revert to DNR for better environmental management. The implications of dredging should be analyzed in terms of the administrative dimensions of achieving the majority of stated goals for addressing issues in the watershed (mostly environmental)</p> <p>3) The potential expense and timeframe of spinning out all potential impacts of each alternative is great, if the result is to be high quality. Look at how much time and cost has gone into the TMDL process; and consider how much has already been spent on the earlier EIS and subsequent processes after 2009. Consider limiting this EIS to what is required to make the best choice of an alternative, then do another high quality EIS on the chosen proposal.</p>	No
193	14-Nov	Bruce York		Capito Lake/Lower Deschutes system should be allowed to return to a natural estuary. This is the best way to allow our river to recover it's self and let the wildlife have a chance to prosper. Therefore I would request that the Restored Estuary Alternative be the choice selected.	No
194	14-Nov	Caroline Armon		I support reverting Capital Lake to its natural state as an estuary by opening the Fifth Avenue dam, restoring this ecosystem.	No
195	13-Nov	Beth Doglio	State Representative	<p>Thank you for providing an opportunity for the public to weigh in on the EIS for Capital Lake/Deschutes Estuary. Long-term planning for Capital Lake/Deschutes Estuary and the watershed as a whole is a complex issue, one that has been studied for decades. The dialogue and work must continue in a highly collaborative manner, but decisions need to be made as quickly as possible. As a State Representative with the Lake/Estuary in my district, I believe the following issues should be considered in the EIS.</p> <p>Sediment Management: Management of sediment is a key component to successfully moving forward on this issue. Ample attention should be given this issue in the EIS with solutions offered for each option.</p> <p>Funding and Governance: There is no question that whatever path chosen will be expensive. There are many demands on the state budget and the EIS should consider funding and governance options. Who will pay and who are the decision makers?</p>	No

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				<p>Flooding: It is vital that the EIS include a study on flooding. Current sea level rise predictions and data should be taken into consideration. Employing the Dutch expertise in water management, which starts with the concept of naturally managing water rather than building walls to keep the water out, could possibly help with flood issues in downtown Olympia. See www.dutchwaterauthorities.com to review 'Water overnance: The Dutch Water Authority Model and the New York Times article, 'The Dutch Have Solutions to Rising Seas. The World is Watching.'</p> <p>Sources of water pollution: Budd Inlet is currently in violation of federal water quality standards. Sources of the violation should be considered and alternatives chosen that will improve and maintain water quality while considering the impact on LOTT and other projects proposed in the watershed.</p> <p>Carbon sequestration: Blue carbon science should be considered in the EIS. Given the significance of the climate issue, understanding each option's ability to sequester carbon and offset methane release should be considered. Here is additional information on blue carbon strategies: www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon. Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. I appreciate the work that the Department of Enterprise Services and community stakeholders are doing on this important issue. Sincerely,</p>	
196	14-Nov	Greg Falxa	Cascadia Research	<p>One document with comments (Falxa_EIS_Scoping_written_testimony.pdf) and 2 informational posters are attached. Additional supporting documents at http://nwbats.com/EIS/</p> <p>I am a wildlife biologist who specializes in the study of bats in the western Unites States. I have worked on bat studies and surveys for Yellowstone National Park, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Defense, private forest landowners and various land trusts, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, Bat Conservation International, and others. Capitol Lake and a surrounding buffer is designated by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife as a Priority Habitat primarily because of the large number of reproductive female bats that forage at the lake during their maternity season. Four species of insectivorous bats can be found foraging either over the lake surface or in the surrounding woodlands, with others sometimes using the area. Two species, Little brown bats (<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>) and Yuma bats (<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>) form the vast majority of the bats (4,000 - 5,000 bats) which seasonally forage at Capitol Lake. This season begins in March when they first return from hibernation sites through May - July when they give birth to their pups and rear them, until they leave the area to head back to hibernation areas during late September and October.</p>	Yes

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196	14-Nov	Greg Falxa	Cascadia Research	<p>My observations of local bats and my knowledge of bats have led me to believe that the EIS should address these questions: 1) What impact would the various Lower Deschutes management options have on these bats? 2) Does the fact that western Washington bats now are now dying from the devastating white nose syndrome factor into the importance of conserving the south Puget Sound region's bats which utilizing Capitol Lake? 3) What mitigation could prevent the loss of thousands of bats that forage over the freshwater Capitol Lake but do not forage over salt water or brackish water?</p> <p>Counts performed over the past 15 years have led to estimates that 4,000 - 5,000 Little brown and Yuma bats commute to Capitol Lake nightly to forage on midge and other insects emerging from their aquatic phase. There is a rather high concentration of Little brown and Yuma bat nursery colonies within an 8-mile radius around Capitol Lake. Three major commute routes from colony sites to the lake have been identified, and it is from counts along the terminal points on these routes that the counts and estimate We know from radio-tracking efforts done primarily from 2003 - 2006 and in 2013 that during pupping period the largest known western Washington bat colony - of any species - relies on Capitol Lake, or more to the point, the freshwater insects produced at Capitol Lake. Sample size was not large enough to say that all forage at Capitol Lake but clearly most (and possibly all) of these bats forage primarily at this site during the most energetically demanding phase of their reproductive cycle. Some nights these nursing mothers make 2 round trips to Capitol Lake, for 30 miles of just the commuting distance.</p>	No

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196	14-Nov	Greg Falxa	Cascadia Research	<p>I have submitted 2 scientific posters presented at annual meetings National Symposium for Bat Research (NASBR) and other scientific meetings. These cover some aspects of these colonies and their commutes to Capitol Lake. Covered in these presentations are the 2 distinct large colonies and a third cluster of colonies centered around the Green Cove Creek area of Cooper Point that create the 3 commute routes. The largest (and largest known in western WA) is the Woodard Bay colony, with a adult female population of approximately 3,000. This colony is on Washington Department of Natural Resources land, at the Woodard Bay Natural Resource Conservation Area. This colony was first documented in the 1980s, and is a mixed species nursery colony with a majority of Yuma bats and approximately 10 - 20 % Little brown bats. The next largest nursery colony commuting to Capitol Lake (that we know of) is located at the Evergreen State College organic farm. This mixed species colony (also Little brown and Yuma bats) population there has been hard to enumerate, but is probably over 600 adult reproductive female bats by the time they are pupping, typically on early June. A student project in 2005 used infrared video cameras to document evening flyout behavior and using frame-by- frame analysis counted approximately 600 bats in May, prior to pupping. Since then additional sections of the building used as the colonial roost has been found to have bats, so the number may be higher than the 2005 enumeration. The third population of these same species of bats are scattered among a group of smaller colonies - 40 to approximately 200 bats in each - located mostly in the mid-Coper Point area, but some groups are across Eld Inlet up to 7 miles from Capitol Lake. Radio-tracking individual bats showed one bat from this Cooper Point group, prior to pupping, used roost sites with a 3.5-mile separation. Once the reproductive gives birth to its single pup they do not move between sites, returning to the site where the non-flying young will grow to adult size before it will leave the roost. Once the young can fly, many of the mother-pup pairs will relocate in the region, some of the Woodard Bay bats will shift to different lake systems like Long Lake or Pattison Lake in Late July or early August. The other 2 groups discussed above have not been studied in this post-pupping phase, but likely disperse to other south Puget Sound areas as well.</p>	

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196	14-Nov	Greg Falxa	Cascadia Research	<p>This background is presented to support the idea that Capitol Lake supports an unusually large population of myotis bats, and some of them will eventually disperse to other surrounding foraging locations, roosting nearby these other lakes. Notable is that they do not use these known alternate locations during the late gestation, pupping, and nursing phases (May through July), when they are very committed to foraging at Capitol Lake. The 2004 Herrera Capitol Lake invertebrate study commissioned for the CLAMP process documented 13 species of midges at Capitol Lake. It is my opinion that this is likely a main reason for the high fidelity to foraging solely at Capitol Lake - the diversity of species of aquatic emergent invertebrates is high, hatching at different times from different triggered likely produces a more even source of prey for the bats than at sites with less diversity prey. Prey studies by others (not at Capitol Lake) has shown Little brown and especially Yuma bats to favor midges and other small aquatic flies. These bats do not forage over salt water (at least not north of the Sacramento Delta) probably solely for lack of prey. The large colony at Woodard Bay NRCA roosts in an old pier that is over salt water, but all of the 3,00 or so bats leave the roost just after sunset and beeline to Capitol Lake, with no evidence of foraging behavior in the 300 - 400 meter crossing of Chapman Bay, then up the Woodard Bay estuary. These same bats cross over Budd inlet on their final leg of their commute to Capitol Lake. They fly 2.5 to 3 km as they leave Priest Point Park fly around the Port of Olympia property, and then travel due south over Budd Inlet (and under the bridges) as they enter the lake at the tide gates. Again, no evidence of foraging along this commute. This is 7-plus mile one-way commute from Woodard Bay to Capitol Lake is the longest distance that I have found document for either of these 2 species of bats. I presented the commute and foraging data collected from the first 4 years of radiotracking at the 2008 NASBR conference. None of the 120 or so colleagues attending the talk could come up with longer commutes, or even ones much farther than 2 or 3 miles</p>	

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196	14-Nov	Greg Falxa	Cascadia Research	<p>It is highly unlikely that a tidal mudflat / estuary would support even a small population of myotis bats. This is information that was routinely presented to the CLAMP committee, first in December 2003 then throughout the process, but had been omitted from discussion or investigation. At this stage I argue that mitigation for a loss of this much habitat that supports such a large number of reproductive female bats in the region is absolutely necessary if the lake is transformed to an engineered tidal estuary, and that the evaluation of the estuary options account for the impact on these specific colonies of bats that will occur with the loss of the freshwater habitat. It would not be even remotely reasonable to believe that the bats from these specific large colonies and groups would forage on anything smaller than a water body the size of Capitol Lake, or would travel farther from nursery roost to foraging site on a nightly basis. Lastly, white nose syndrome is a deadly disease that has killed many millions of bats in eastern North America and was discovered in western Washington 2 years ago in these same 2 species - Little brown and Yuma bats. (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/08/04/they-have-a-body-and-a-killer-but-the-case-of-the-dead-brown-bat-makes-no-sense-to-scientists/). To date this disease has not been detected in the bats from the colonies discussed above. Since this is a disease ring hibernation, this may indicate these south Puget Sound myotis bats are hibernating in a geographically distinct area and not mingling with the populations associated with hibernation in the Cascade Range. If so, then the importance of these local populations to the conservation of these species is significant. Unfortunately, it is not yet known where these bats winter- over. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has begun efforts to deal with this wildlife crisis and would no doubt be able to field questions about the significance of the colonies discussed in this testimony. Consideration is being given to list Little brown bats as federally endangered, which would likely require changes to management methods for Little brown bat habitat. Thank you for the consideration of this material. Additional resources: Why We Should Care About Bats- Oversight Hearing US House of Reps, 2011: https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-112hrg67111/pdf/CHRG-112hrg67111.pdf https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/ http://nwbats.com/EIS/</p>	

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197	14-Nov	ROBERT RUDOLPH	Port of Olympia	As you know, the Port of Olympia ('Port') actively participated in the Phase 1 planning process for Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project. The Port looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with DES and other stakeholders in the Phase 2 EIS process. The Port offers the following brief scoping comments on the EIS. The EIS is required to include analysis of future sediment deposits in lower Budd Inlet as part of the authorizing budget proviso for the project (ESSB 6095). The Port supports that comprehensive analysis to include: - Impact of future sediment deposits to the federal Olympia Navigation Channel Impact of future sediment deposits to the Port's Marine Terminal berthing areas Relationship of management alternatives to ongoing Budd Inlet sediment investigation and cleanup - Economic analysis to include the Port of Olympia and surrounding properties The Port appreciates the opportunity to offer these comments for consideration in the EIS scoping process.	No
198	16-Nov	John MacLean		<p>Permitting Question: Is maintaining the Lake really an option? Maintaining the Lake requires dredging. My understanding is that DES has already conducted a permitting study to see if permits to dredge the Lake in the context of maintaining the Lake would be difficult to obtain because environmental benefit, meaning improved water quality in an impaired water body, could not be demonstrated as required under NEPA and SEPA. I want to inquire if this is correct, and if so, we should focus our resources on coming up with an acceptable plan for estuary restoration (including hybrid options) which I understand is the best and only way to improve water quality. Feasibility of obtaining permits for the Lake Maintenance option could therefore be a critical path threshold question to address in the EIS scoping process.</p> <p>LOTT Discharge Permit. We know that the status quo not sustainable; the Lake is filling with sediment and water quality in the lower estuary waters, the Lake and Lower Budd Inlet violate clean water standards on a number of metrics. Again, my understanding of the scientific conclusions so far is that estuary restoration is the only way to improve water quality. I want to note that the Lacey Olympia Tumwater Treatment (LOTT) waste water treatment plant recently received in April, 2018 a five year extension on its discharge permit. I question whether this discharge permit should have been renewed in the absence of an active plan to improve the meet federal Clean Water Act standards. I understand that we can not strand this critical infrastructure and that a discharge permit renewal is logical but isn't there an obligation to address the impaired water body and water quality matters in that context? Therefore, a possible EIS scoping topic and question could be to understand the impacts on LOTT in the future and future risks of public if water quality is not improved.</p>	No

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198	16-Nov	John MacLean		<p>3. Civic Dialogue on Solutions and Estuary Restoration Project Design. I recommend that we actively engage those who support maintaining the Lake to understand their concerns and explore how their concerns can be addressed as part of an estuary restoration project design. Facilitating dialogue is a next step that goes beyond soliciting public comment. The Lake/Estuary is a jewel and whatever solution is developed has the potential to be a true community building project. Here are i two main concerns of Lake maintenance supporters and dam removal opponents that I have heard.</p> <p>a. First, people (including myself) cnjoy the Lake for recreation and want to maintain and enhance the area's recreational values. In fact, I believe values (and attendant tourism and recreational economic development opportunities) can be enhanced with estuary restoration, enabling boating and perhaps even fishing and swimming.</p> <p>b. Second is the concern about sediment management impacts and costs, especially on the Port and the Yacht Club. It is not right to dump on your downstream neighbor, We should define the estuary restoration project boundary to include managing/mitigating these impacts in the most cost effective way. The project financing plan should include resources for these purposes. Perhaps the Yacht Club could relocate, e.g., to West Bay area? Of course, a program and steps to reduce erosion in the upper watershed can be useful to reduce future sediment flows.</p>	

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198	16-Nov	John MacLean		<p>I think these topics could benefit from facilitated public dialogue and creative problem solving. We have some excellent local resources in town that could be deployed for this purpose. The Dispute Resolution Center' is one such organization; the DRC has been involved in similar local issues, e.g., relocating homeless encampments, and is practiced in the arts of democracy, active listening and group problem solving. So, I recommend that the EIS process, at some point, include facilitated dialogue on the project design. I also think it is most valuable to deploy local facilitators who are based in Olympia and know the community in this process. Is there a possibility to add a local consultant to the Floyd Snider consulting team for this purpose? We have a wealth of local organizations including Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team and Olympia Coalition for Ecosystems Preservation and Olympia Urban Waters League all concerned with Puget Sound water quality and taking practical action in concert with local authorities, e.g., creating storm-water gardens, restoring heron rookery habitat on the Westside of Olympia. There is a depth of good will in Olympia for doing right by our ecosystems which this project can tap and promote. c. Similarly, estuary restoration offers an opportunity for healing, truth and reconciliation with our native peoples: Squaxin, Nisqually, and others. It is a chance to give honor back to the original inhabitants of this area who knew how to live sustainably in community and harmony with natural systems. It is essential to restore salmon habitat and enable more hatcheries in the Deschutes. I know the EIS process will engage the several tribes. Creating opportunities for tribes to speak to the moral and cultural issues involved with estuary restoration is important and could be incorporated into a community facilitated dialogue process.</p> <p>4. Design Competition Concept. The goal of the EIS process as I understand it is to determine a solution and map the way forward to implement the project. One way to engage the community, too, could be through a design competition or even a design charrette as a more multi-stakeholder process. I note that our Capitol Building design was the result of a design competition.</p> <p>5. Financing Plan. Will the EIS look at and assess ways that the project can be financed? This is a practical topic. Major federal dollars will be needed and our Congressman Denny Heck is well positioned for this purpose. I note that carbon sequestration values from estuary restoration should/will be studied. If 1-1631 passes, a portion of this project could be eligible for 1-1631 funding consistent with estimated carbon values. Established protocols for measuring and verifying 'blue carbon' sequestration exist; I can provide further references on request.</p>	

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199	16-Nov	Peter Epperson		<p>It is time to rethink past mistakes. It is time to correct people's language and perceptions. 'Capital Lake' is clearly NOT a reflection pond - nor has it ever been a lake. It is a reservoir that has been a catch basin for the worst kinds of man made products, dead critters, invasive species, and toxins. It has been a barrier to life and health - for those that live in water and above it. Please drop the use of 'Capital Lake Watershed' as it is NOT a watershed but a barrier and reservoir blocking the natural flow of a once life- giving river and natural watershed system. Those reflecting on the Capital reservoir quickly recognize it reflects the errors and failures of those historically responsible for its and our well being. Please don't endorse repeating past mistakes or speak of them as credible options. I have yet to see myself or anything else reflected in the water. The distorted reflections from the reservoir are consistently obscured by dead critters, invasive species, and plastics trapped for eternity. We know its intent and the reality it has become. Stop looking backwards - look forwards 200 years or more. Do you want to saddle future generations with spending more money on studies and ways to restrict nature? Do you want to condemn them to living around dead water that poisons those that come into contact with it? After the Deschutes watershed returned to a more natural state, allow the nature of nature to define its future course rather than humans. As our area evolves, it is essential that we worry less about the Port's financial well being and focus more on our collective well being, the preservation of tribal interests, and providing guests to our community with examples of ways we can all share and benefit from the natural systems that ensure our health. During your study, please recognize the social benefits and their financial impact as well as the short and long term economic benefits a natural system would bring. Please do all you can to drop the word 'lake'. It is a reservoir. It is a very unhealthy reservoir that needs to be removed so the river can returned to a more natural state. Please do your best to consider the interests of those yet to live and benefit from your conclusions. I look forward to the completion of your report.</p> <p>Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p>	No

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199	16-Nov	Peter Epperson		<p>Include a study on flooding. A restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resilience to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality. Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include the best in carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/ake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>The EIS needs to specifically address: Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, hiking, walking, exercise, bird watching. Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) Re-opening recreational access to the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake.</p> <p>Job creation during construction.</p> <p>Native treaty rights in Washington State: The impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS need to address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data.</p>	

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200	16-Nov	Mark Wallace		I basically feel we, as a society, have encountered the wave of mass extinction of species wrought from our practices of mismanagement. Consequently the prevailing system of things needs to be transformed in hopes of salvaging what we can of ecosystems and nature itself. It will be impossible to return to a former state of being environmentally but measures must be taken to deviate from our present course. The growing preponderance of evidence on environmental crisis and collapse in our rivers, estuaries and the Puget Sound indicate a clear need to take action. 1. Riparian zone improvement and enhancement for watershed restoration. 2. Dramatic reduction of pollutants and invasive species up stream from Capitol Lake. 3. A return to an estuarial paradigm to be implemented in phases. 4. Shifting of energy usage away from fossil fuels and petroleum based products. 5. Change stewardship emphasis toward biological diversity and eliminating dams wherever possible. Let the river flow.	No
201	16-Nov	Jason Holoch		My vote is for Capitol Lake to be restored to an estuary. Olympia is a beautiful town, and this would add to it, while bringing the area back to its natural habitat. The amazing birds and animals that frequent Olympia should be our priority.	No
202	16-Nov	Sam Merrill	Black Hills Audubon Society	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to make Scoping Recommendations concerning the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Capitol Lake Watershed. Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS), whose membership covers the counties of Thurston, Lewis, and Mason, would like to highlight the following recommendations: Include a study of projected impacts of climate change, localized to the study area. We recommend that this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sea level rise and the expected frequent inundation of downtown Olympia o Effects of rising water temperature and its effects on waterfowl and other aquatic birds and wildlife, as well as the differential between these effects in a lake versus estuary setting Impacts on bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) o Enhancement of native plants and discouragement of invasive plants <p>Blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment (blue carbon refers to the ability of tidal wetlands and seagrass habitats to capture and store carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the atmosphere). See: https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport, involving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o sediment management below Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet <p>Sustainability of alternatives, with attention to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Maintenance o Cost o Resiliency to climate change o Opportunities for mitigation 	No

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202	16-Nov	Sam Merrill	Black Hills Audubon Society	Effects on water quality, including attention to o Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards o Which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality. o Stepping back, the EIS should consider the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems for future generations.	
203	16-Nov	Jon Kime		An estuary is just a tide flat with a PR firm. Please take a look at Mud Bay just west of town, would anyone really choose to have that in the middle of town?	No
204	16-Nov	Joel Carlson		Currently Capitol Lake is a disaster that keeps getting worse. We must restore the Deschutes Estuary as intended by nature for salmon recovery, storage of carbon, a healthy ecosystem, recreation, tourism and community development. We must get this done now!	No
205	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Here is a reference for Dr. David Milne's work analyzing our state Department of Ecology's use of its TMDL modeling regarding the Capitol Lake issue. Please consider using this to better understand the value of Dr. Milne's work.</p> <p>I have carefully read David Milne's February, 2016 report titled Capitol Lake and Puget Sound. An Analysis of the Use and Misuse of the Budd Inlet Model.. I find this to be a thorough and elegant deconstruction and reconstruction of the Washington Department of Ecology Publication No. 15-03-002: Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet-Total Maximum Daily Load Study-Supplemental Modeling Scenarios. David seems, to me, to provide an even handed approach in terms of finding fault where he identifies errors in the report and pointing out where he and the report agree. The bottom line appears to be supporters of the report are using it to support the contention that Capitol Lake is creating poor water quality in the lake and in Budd Inlet. David disagrees and finds the opposite using his analysis of the report. Milne's persuades me the maintenance of Capitol Lake in its current general form with modifications, such as periodic dredging, is the best short and long term plan. Milne's use of ecological information like the discussions of the roles of macrophytes; his water aeration information like oxygen saturation of water going over Tumwater Falls; and water movement information like the motion of layers of fresh and salt water in Budd Inlet and Capitol Lake, and many more points are combined clearly and in a understandable way to lead one to the conclusion that Capitol Lake provides greater ecosystem services than the report in question suggests. In fact, Milne suggests the lake scenario provides greater ecosystem services than the estuary/mudflat scenario supported by others. I agree with David Milne. Oscar H. Soule, PhD Emeritus Member of the Faculty (Ecology) The Evergreen State College</p>	No
206	16-Nov	Jack Havens		Statement By All Former Governors of Washington State1.doc (~15 KB) Dear EIS Personnel, Here is a statement of support for retaining Capitol Lake. Please consider using this as you feel necessary for this issue.	No

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207	16-Nov	Jack Havens		I sent this information about 20 minutes ago and was unable to introduce it. This information was taken from the Thurston County website. This survey was sponsored by the Thurston County Commission in 2011 and 2012. I obtained it by googling 'Seven Wonders of Thurston County'. Perhaps it might be filed under 'Quality of Life', or 'Social Value' or "Aesthetics". I know of no other survey which conveys the value of Capitol Lake to our county.	No
208	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>The attached is an interview with Mr. Peter Swensson. Mr. Swensson served as planner for the City of Olympia and Thurston County over a 32 year span. He is highly respected. His perspectives are greatly valued. In October of 2013 I interviewed Mr. Swensson in my home, searching for his objective professional opinion regarding the relationships between Capitol Lake, Olympia's Downtown and the environment. Today (October 6, 2018) Mr. Swensson edited my notes of that interview and added comments. Please accept this information for scoping.</p> <p>Population growth in Olympia is a 'given'. The secret of Olympia is out and has been for decades. We will need spaces for people to live. Decreases in Budd Inlet business activity would definitely adversely affect the vitality of downtown, reducing its appeal. Olympia's three major amenities are: 1. Capitol Lake and the Waterfront 2. Historic Downtown 3. Capitol Campus Capitol Lake has been, is, and will continue to be a highly valuable urban amenity for Olympia. (I informed Pete that the view of Capitol Lake from the Law Enforcement Monument was recently voted the "Number One Wonder" of Thurston County by its residents) Amenity value is critical to any successful city Market rate housing requires valued amenities Sprawl will ensue in our community without higher amenities While densities in either urban or suburban neighborhoods vary widely, urban densities are much higher. Downtown Olympia development reaches upwards of 100 units per acre. Single-family neighborhoods in Olympia typically are 4-6 units per acre. Most of rural Thurston County is zoned one unit per 5 acres. If growth is not accommodated in the higher density areas, lower density sprawl is assured. The following are cause and effect Decreased urban amenities - reduced urban market rate housing - sprawl (direct or indirect) - increased pressure on watersheds - increased use of fossil fuels. While minimizing the impact on natural systems within the urban area is essential, trying to make urban areas completely natural is doomed to failure and thus can become wasteful of public funds. There will be - and should be - vigorous debate over where the line is between essential needs of natural systems, and unachievable goals.</p> <p>The great majority of commercial West Olympia stormwater runoff ends up in Capitol Lake via Percival Creek. A large share of the Lower Deschutes River basin is likewise developed or has low forest cover. To consider this system as 'natural' is unrealistic</p>	No

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208	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Realistic city planners concerned about environmental pressures and needs recognize the importance of targeting a lot of new growth into denser areas of Downtown. There has been a lot of success recently. Lack of or loss of attractive urban amenities will slow further progress.</p> <p>I would make another observation That which is not quantified is ignored Environmental scientists have a lot of quantifiable information on fish runs vs forest cover within creek and river basins. That is valid research and is essential to make use of, don't get me wrong Economists are unable to generate similar quantifiable data about the positive impact of urban amenities like Capitol Lake on the health of the Downtown and the health of the region Urban designers are similarly unable to generate quantifiable data about the specific economic impact of their efforts on the Downtown and the health of the region. Economic and urban design factors should not be given short shrift in this impact analysis and decision process.</p>	
209	20-Nov	Steven Hall	City of Olympia	<p>The City of Olympia appreciates the opportunity to comment on scoping for the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Environment Impact Statement (EIS). We understand that careful and thorough scoping of the EIS is essential to the process and its findings. As expressed during the recent Washington Department of Enterprise Services briefing with City Council, we have summarized the following general comments regarding scoping of the EIS: Incorporating appropriate project boundaries are important to the analysis. Some geographic boundaries may need to be larger than others. For example, the analysis of water quality implications of the alternatives should include an area that extends beyond the confines of the existing lake. We understand that the current lake has water quality implications to Budd Inlet.</p> <p>Sediment management will be a key factor in the analysis. Long-term management of sediment in the current lake and Budd Inlet will likely be a fundamental driver of EIS findings.</p> <p>The City of Olympia implements plans and regulations that intersect with the watershed. These City responsibilities and priorities need to be incorporated into the EIS process. Examples include sea level rise response, the shoreline master program, and transportation planning. Construction project permitting could also be a long-term consideration.</p> <p>The City supports the inclusion of the LOTT Clean Water Alliance in the planning process. LOTT should be considered for participation on the executive, technical, and potentially funding and governance work groups. We understand that LOTT plays an important water quality management role in Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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209	20-Nov	Steven Hall	City of Olympia	<p>Appropriate weighing of scientific, financial, and social elements of potential EIS alternatives will be important. We understand that parameters to evaluate these traits of the alternatives will be developed early on in the process. The City would like to understand the parameters as they are developed. In the EIS, we will need to understand the scientific grounding of each alternative. Financial viability will also be important.</p> <p>Involving private property owners with ties to the existing lake in the EIS process is necessary. Extra effort may be needed to bring adjacent property owners into the process. As the Department of Enterprise Services understands, an inclusive process is essential to success. We are committed to the EIS process at both the elected official and staff levels. We feel you and your consultant team are off to a good start. Let us know how we can help.</p>	
210	10-Oct	Steve Finney	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: Okay. So Steve Finney, I'm a member of the Olympia Yacht Club. I'm a property owner in Thurston County. I own a boathouse at the Olympia Yacht Club. I'm on the government affairs, Government Community Affairs Committee of Olympia Yacht Club. I also am the vice president of the Recreation Boaters Association of 15 Washington, vice president of Government Affairs. I have a 20-year history in Alaska commercial fishery. The Puget 17 Sound is of dire importance to me. And so, I'm coming 18 from a place out of love and caring for our waterways. in 19 20 I'm also on the Governor Inslee's Orca Task Force. I'm the Vessels Working Group underneath that task force; there's three task forces -- or three working groups, there's prey, a contaminants, and vessels. I'm on the vessels working group. My comment tonight is to make sure that the scope 25 of this EIS works in collaboration with that prey working group for the orcas. And I request that for the scope because the salmon run that runs through Capitol Lake w compromises of chinook salmon, which is the primary food source of the orcas. It's not their best favored, but it is a chinook salmon, that's one of the ones that the orcas 5 o o do rely on. So I just request that there's some collaboration between the two groups. o And the technology or the actual science can o determine if that's the right fish or not. But I think o there should be some collaboration between the two working groups. Thank you.</p>	No

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210	10-Oct	Dennis Burke	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: Hello, my name is Dennis Burke. I'm a professional engineer in the state of Washington. And I've been involved in water quality and wastewater all of my life. I was involved in my first development as the Delaware River Water Quality Model called Saginaw Bay for the EPA, as well as the Rompe Hill River (sic) for the United States Steel Corporation. I attended all of the meetings two years ago with regards to development in this. And I introduced through written comments then the concept of nutrient harvesting because nutrients is in Capitol Lake, it's responsible for the growth of algae, the algae go up into Budd Inlet and they die, create a dissolved oxygen deficit deception. Nutrients are responsible for botrytis that the mudsnail uses to live. So if you can control the nutrients and eliminate the nutrients, you eliminate all the problems, water quality problems associated with Capitol Lake. You only have two choices of getting rid of those nutrients. You can get rid of them in the drainage basin, usurp the drainage basin, or you can harvest the nutrients out of the lake or prior to them entering the lake. You're never going to get rid of the nutrients emanating from the Deschutes water basin. It's completely different than it was 100, 200, 500 years ago when this was all trees, when we didn't have, you know, the population density as one person per hundred acres, et cetera. And nutrients were not being generated in the watershed. They are being generated now. And all the other alternatives that you see of going back to an estuary, et cetera, is just simply pushing those nutrients out into the Puget Sound and back to relieving Puget Sound and off to the ocean. Whether it's used water quality involved, you're just passing them on downstream. What we have to do is get rid of them. And nutrient harvesting is a good, economical solution for it.</p>	No
210	10-Oct	Peggen Frank	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good evening, my name is Peggen Frank. I am the executive director of the Salmon Defense. We advocate and educate and litigate on behalf of the Pacific Northwest Salmon. We were created by the 20 Northwest Washington tribes. We -- Salmon Defense would like to see the estuary recovered. Along with that, the EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the Lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet 20 ecosystems, including using quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>The EIS should address the analysis of existing conditions and should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, make use of its geoecological, archeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state.</p>	No

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210	10-Oct	Peggen Frank	Public Hearing 1	<p>The meeting of treaty rights should be also a part of this EIS process. Acknowledging, honoring, and respecting the treaty rights of the Stillaguamish people or -- sorry of the Squaxin Island people and the Medicine Creek tribes. The EIS must consider the impacts that dam the settlement basin have tribal rights reserved by tribes 7 in Article 3 of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The bullet Part 2 decision mandates that the state does not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct. And therefore options considered by the EIS must address those outcomes through the lens of treaty, guaranteed fishing, and gathering rights past, present, and future.</p> <p>It's also important to restore the estuary, as our friend said, being part of the Orca Task Force, the Washington State Capitol should also be a grounds for setting the bar high and doing the right thing. The chinook and the coho are the two main listed species of food for the orcas. So if the orca doesn't have any salmon to eat, then we can't save an orca.</p>	No
210	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: May name is Sue Patnude. I'm with the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team. I'm going to talk a little about the technical analysis that will be conducted. The EIS should include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly high record flow events and king tides. It should include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport, include several scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river, include a study on flooding. DERT happens to believe that a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dam to sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions, taking into consideration water coming in and water come up through the filled bay areas.</p> <p>Examine the ability to reach outcome presented to sustain itself. So all the alternatives need to be looked at and in a minimal long-term maintenance and associated costs. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resilience to climate change. And there was a really good article not too long ago in the Olympian called Our History Comes At Perpetual Cost. And I know DES probably knows this because it had -- the beginning of the article was about cleaning the Capitol dome. But it also mentioned the lake and the estuary situation.</p> <p>Analyze the potential for an amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults. Consider sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p> <p>Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary and discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations.</p>	No

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210	10-Oct	Sue Patnude	Public Hearing 1	And figure out mitigation scenarios and also include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from being leaked.	
210	10-Oct	Zita	Public Hearing 1	<p>My name is Zita. I'm with the Port of Olympia. The port is concerned about sediment. There -- a deep water port has to have 25 to 30 feet that mean low, low water. And we've got less than 25 feet now. But our port of engineers will dredge for free, but because we have contaminated sediments around the port, due to past industrial activities, it costs millions of dollars for us to dispose of those sediments. So one of the things that port people worry about is will a restored estuary flow bring new sediment down and make life difficult for shipping? I understand there's a potential for additional resources for sediment management. And the port may be part of the sediment management team.</p> <p>Other concerns about sediment is because the sediment is contaminated and the water's contaminated around our beautiful Budd Inlet, it's not safe to swim there.</p> <p>The port has a mission to clean that up. It's going to cost about a hundred million dollars. According to our previous environmental director, we don't have that kind of money. So I have two questions that I hope that scientists from the technical committee will be able to address. Maybe it's already been addressed. I'm a physicist not a biologist. So I don't know. Do the contaminated sediments right now cause endocrine disruption like PCBs do in chinook -- and -- when they're in chinook? And then top predators with a lot of blubber like orcas eat them. We know this happens with PCB. Does that happen with the contaminants in our sediment now? And then the follow-up question to that is I've heard that the estuary flow would cap and clean the contaminated sediment; is that true?</p>	No
210	10-Oct	Ali Johnson	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good evening, everyone. And my name is Ali Johnson. And I am on the Board of Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team and also born and raised here in Olympia, Washington. I'd like to speak the American Nations really quick on the scope in terms of economics. And our Board of the Estuary Restoration Team created a document, which we'll be releasing to the public this week that -- and that can be accessed on our Facebook page and website. But I'd just like to read a little bit of that. The board recommending that EIS should address the ecosystem services for each alternative to determine the economic value of improving the environment and the economy now and into the future.</p>	No

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210	10-Oct	Ali Johnson	Public Hearing 1	<p>And really carefully considering what legacy that we're leaving for our future generations and looking closely at how much the Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County Water Treatment Plan would interact with the recommended outcomes; tourism attractions for Washington state and beyond, including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching, and more. A support of forms of recreation and aesthetics from the study area to Boston Harbor; reopening a recreational access to the lower river area, now called Capitol Lake; and as well as job creation during construction.</p> <p>And as a side note and perhaps close to my heart, I would like to echo comments that Peggen said earlier about carefully considering the role that Native Treaty Fishing Rights play in Washington state, recognizing that that is a supreme model and for all states in our country.</p> <p>And as well as hopefully putting the EIS into the context of climate impacts in our breeding environments including warming and acidifying waters.</p>	No
210	10-Oct	Greg Schundler	Public Hearing 1	<p>PUBLIC SPEAKER: Thank you. Hello. This is Greg Schundler, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Major from Pearson University, Master's Degree in GIS for Sustainability Management. So a few points, the orca study should really be Puget Sound. Why? We should consider the percent of the impervious surface in every watershed because there is a critical threshold that you reach. And you can basically kiss some of those watersheds goodbye as we experience, you know, double digit growth every year and in sprawl. I'm from New Jersey. Puget Sound is turning into New Jersey. I work for the Assessor of Thurston County So I know exactly how many plats we had a year. Number 2, we want to look at the LOTT wastewater. They also have to expand what they're dumping into the Sound from our flushing poop out there. And so, what can a restored estuary do to offset that? I want to know how many people -- or sorry -- estuary's worth, how much people's poop that would be worth, if it's in the thousands or hundreds, I'm not sure?</p> <p>Number 3, carbon value for offsets the blue carbon kind of thing. And I wanted to see a potential interface with the Initiative 1631. Should it pass or not is irrelevant. The idea is how could that interface with potential carbon policy that is likely inevitable?</p> <p>Then the fourth thing we can learn from the original design, they had a design contest, amazing. Back in those days it was, you know, let's build a vanity mirror to distract an economy that laid waste to old growth forest and make a white mirror to white greatness and dominance of a pristine ecosystem and native cultures. And yet DES employed Schneider our -- SUSAN: Ten seconds. PUBLIC SPEAKER: -- are not -- they're good at the progress but the process and the legal stuff, but they're not artists. So I would encourage the release of a design contest worldwide to architecture schools and everyone who's studying restoration. Bright young people who know what needs to happen in the future.</p>	No

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210	10-Oct	Mark Toy	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: Hi. My name is Mark Toy. And I really wasn't going to thinking speak. But I'd like to bring up one thing because the tribal person was speaking. And I was at -- I work for the State Department of Health in the Shellfish Program. And I have definite biases about water quality issues. But I won't go into that here. Just one thing is that I was at the Salish Sea Shared Waters Forum last week. And one topic came up that I didn't know anything about that I thought should be incorporated into the EIS, and that is the UN Declaration for Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which was adopted by the United States in 2010. In Canada, I found out that they've incorporated that into their constitution and all government actions have to take this human declaration into account when they're making decisions and particularly with environment and natural resources. So I just hope that the EIS also considers the UN Declaration for Rights of Indigenous peoples, which the United States has signed onto into account when they're doing their EIS.	No
210	10-Oct	Helen Wheatley	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: I'm Helen Wheatley. I, too, wasn't planning to speak. And it's more of a question that again was triggered by the comments of the person from Salmon Defense; and that is -- well, two things, one in terms of the sea level rise in climate change, the California Coastal Commission has some recommended guidelines for municipalities where they suggest that for any project you design from the end point of the project instead of the beginning of the project. And I would really like you to consider and incorporate the time into the alternatives. And that way that you consider the end point, the expected end point when you're doing your evaluation. And, also, I would really like to see a lot more information presented to the public in considering this about jurisdictions of the area. Who controls it? HOW long can DES be expected to manage this area? As I understand it, DES leases some of the land and tide lands and river area. I don't know exactly where the jurisdiction begins or ends. To me it seems absurd that DES is the lead agency on this. It seems like it should be Ecology or DNR or somebody like that that has a broader jurisdiction. So my request is that it be considered that DES not be the lead on this process.	No

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210	10-Oct	Greg Schundler	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: So that was a lot to cram in. Sorry. I wanted to be a little clearer about the Puget Sound study for the orcas. And so, it's not just about the one run of this lake or river. It's about a system-wide analysis. And what they've discovered is that Budd Inlet is really a place where small salmon, when they hatch, come from all different rivers, all over the Puget Sound. 80 percent of the young salmon that end up at Budd Inlet are from other watersheds. So when we're looking at options to restore the Puget Sound, there's some watersheds where we're really running out of options, and then there's others that are quite healthy and clean and rural. And we're somewhere in between. So this is critical. Critical. To get Budd Inlet that has enough oxygen to nourish these young salmon and have an ecosystem that's fed by sediment and is a functional ecosystem. And I mean -- so I just wanted to make that clear. And that's got to be part of the orca studies to really consider the whole system of salmon, not just this rung here.	No
210	10-Oct	Dennis Burke	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: Unfortunately, I didn't mention anything about sediment when I was up here talking. But as well as nutrients, sediments are truly valuable. You can sell topsoil for \$20 a yard. And the thousands of tons that come down from the Deschutes River Basin, they go into Capitol Lake. And they get basically trapped and they cook and release the nutrients they need for growing algae. Once you open up your outlet, say we get rid of the dam and put into Budd Inlet or into the port's property, you're just going to continue to accumulate sediments there. They're not going to go away. They're going to keep growing. And you're going to end up dredging them. The problem is that once you dredge, after they hit salt water, they're no longer topsoil. You can't sell it. It's going to kill all the plants. Not only that, you're going to have all those toxic materials, the 10 heavy metals, all the creosote organic compounds that are legacy in the -- but you're going to have those intermixed with the good sediments. So if you want to solve the sediment problem, you have to solve that upstream at the time of a lake or as the sediments intercepts. And we suggested in a paper that you can economically harvest that. That's nothing new. This goes on throughout the world. You can harvest those sediments out, turn around and sell them. You could probably do it for a profit.	No
210	10-Oct	No Name Given	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: Hello. I was interested in seeing in the EIS what the impacts of reintroducing oyster beds would be on dissolving nutrients that are currently there and ways of improving water quality and maybe even helping direct sediment flows; and whether or not the current sediment in the lake area that hasn't reached salt water could be used to help mitigate flooding downtown by repurposing it.	No
				I also was interested in water velocity and whether or not sediment would just sit outside or whether it would flow to other areas within the Sound; therefore, like not impacting the harbor as much.	

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210	10-Oct	Helen Wheatley	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: I'm a historian. And I actually spend a little time at the archives at -- for the Army Corps. of Engineers up in Seattle. And the last comment triggered another thought that hadn't occurred to me until coming to this. The tidal force used to be pretty strong. And there was not as much of a sediment problem as one might think because of the strong tidal force. In fact somebody from the Chamber of Commerce back around 1910 said we should harvest that energy of the tidal force, which is something to think about. But anyway the point is that that would be another thing to consider in the studying the sediment flow is that you should really be sure to include the force of tidal flow. Because historically, and with that narrow opening, they found that dredging wasn't as much of a problem as one might expect once the channel was dredged. So that's just a comment, I guess. But consider the tidal force.	No
210	10-Oct	Katrina Keleher	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: It's okay. I don't have much to say. My name is Katrina Keleher. And I'm a student and also, kind of, worker for the state. And I just wanted to say that I support the restored estuary alternative. And that's it. Thanks for listening. SUSAN: Do you want to tell us why? PUBLIC SPEAKER: Well, I could tell you why. So I'm actually getting more involved with DERT, the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team, and I'm joining -- most likely joining their board in January. So I've been getting more involved in the scoping process just by reading all about the, like, water quality issues with the lake, the sediment issues. And for the sake of water quality and environmental quality, I support that alternative; and that's my main reason.	No
210	10-Oct	Greg Schundler	Public Hearing 1	PUBLIC SPEAKER: This one is more of an offering. So there's an organization called Democracy Lab out of Seattle. And they ran a civic half-a-thon this year. And this is a growing thing where IT professionals in their free time do analysis for public good stuff. So I know Floyd Snider does not have all the money that they can do to complete this. Nobody does. The state doesn't have it, the city doesn't. But this could potentially --you know, DES could maybe use that as a resource and lean on that group of people. There's some very high octane individuals there, like Amazon people. And this is like what they do for hobby. And so, they can punch data, that's public data. Maybe DES can spend their time validating it, checking it, so forth. So anyhow just an offering to consider.	No

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211	22-Oct	Lee Riner	Public Hearing 2	<p>MS. LEE RINER: Many of us in this room have been living of course here in Olympia for the last 30 years. Many of us have seen the deterioration of this body of water in front of the state capitol. Many of us have seen what has gone on in this town. This once was a Capitol Lake. Now it is a marshland. Now it is a wetland. It is certainly not a lake anymore, but it's certainly full of toxin, and many of us call it a cesspool. Many of us have homes here in the last 30 years, and we go by this cesspool every day, and we realize that our Washington State representatives have better things to do with Washington State money than clean up the cesspool in front of the state capitol. Yes, we understand our Washington State representatives are making this choice to drag their feet on this issue. I know that Tim Sheldon recently -- he calls himself a Democrat, but he caucuses with Republicans, and he recently allocated money to clean up the state capitol, the dirt on the building. Of course they would never consider to deal with the cesspool in front of the state capitol, but of course Tim Sheldon wanted his building, as he calls it, to look nice, so, many of us have to live with that.</p> <p>One of the issues that concerns me about this cesspool 25 is the New Zealand snail. Obviously, the snail is infectious. Obviously, the snail is going to affect the pristine lakes in our national parks that surround Olympia. It's going to affect the Olympic Peninsula parks. The lakes up there, the pristine lakes, the New Zealand snail will infect these lakes, and this will go on and on. Once these lakes are infected by the New Zealand snail, then all bets are off. And of course not only the lakes, pristine lakes on the Olympic Peninsula, but they're also going to infect the Cascade Range.</p> <p>Another issue that I want to bring up is, one of the reasons that we don't have this cesspool taken care of here in Olympia is because of the Olympia Yacht Club. Yes, the Olympia Yacht Club has a group of good ol' boys, and they have yachts, and they care about their yachts.</p> <p>So, many of us feel that the dam should be removed, the saltwater can come in and clean out the New Zealand snail. Some of us support the estuary option for these issues addressed. And I believe that we have the right, as Olympia residents and residents of the state, to tell what we see going on in our communities and why certain things have been stopped.</p> <p>Another issue is the herbicides and the nitrogen coming down the Deschutes River. As many of us know, Tumwater Golf Course, right up there, is constantly pouring on the nitrogen and having a beautiful golf course. These nitrogens come down into this cesspool and fill it up. I've seen ducks and birds that have been affected by the toxins in the lake. This is a public health issue. This is a public health issue because we have toxins in the lake. We're not allowed to swim anymore. This is affecting wildlife. We are not allowed to deal with it --The Washington State legislature will not address it.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Ruth Apter	Public Hearing 2	<p>MS. RUTH APTER: Hi. I'm a little nervous doing this. This is not something I normally do, but I felt called to talk about something that's not addressed in any of the information out in the hall. And we're talking about the scope. How we got here in the first place is a lack of scope historically over the last hundred years. We live in a finite ecosystem, and we rarely understand how everything is interconnected or we're looking out for short-term benefits and profits, and we don't look down the road a hundred years from now to see how we got here.</p> <p>What's missing from the scope is the Deschutes River. The watershed that drains down here is deeply polluted. The EPA in July rejected Department of Ecology's proposal for cleaning up the watershed as not being far reaching enough. This is a severely polluted watershed. So I see this whole project as being ass-backwards. If we don't clean up the entire watershed before it comes down here, what we are doing is opening up the pollution that we're not treating and letting it go out to Budd Inlet, further polluting a very polluted area.</p> <p>I'm in favor of restoring the estuary. Part one of restoring the estuary is restoring the entire watershed. Once that's been accomplished, then we can take down the dam. Anything else that just looks at this little basin at the bottom is inadequate in scope.</p> <p>All of the information about the problems of the Deschutes River include the pH, dissolved oxygen, fine sediment, fecal coliform. The next study the EPA is going to be putting out is about what the impact would be on Budd Inlet if the dam was removed, how would these pollutants flushing out into the inlet further impact and further pollute more areas and really putting the shellfish farms to the north at great risk. I'm not a scientist. I'm reading studies that are out there online. And I think everybody in this room can go to the EPA, can go to the Department of Ecology, and see this is a really big project and we need a lot of time --to explore and do this step by step in a logical way.</p>	No
211	22-Oct	John MacLean	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. JOHN MacLEAN: Thank you, Susan. Thank you, Bill. My first point I want to make is a question. Is maintaining the lake an option? My understanding is maintaining the lake requires dredging and that the DES has already conducted the permitting study and concluded that getting a permit to dredge to maintain the lake would be very difficult to obtain because you couldn't demonstrate environmental benefit, meaning improved water quality in an impaired water body. So I want to suggest that question as a threshold critical path question, to take a look at NEPA/SEPA compliance in that regard. And if this is correct, then I think it's best to focus our resources on coming up with an acceptable plan for estuary restoration that meets all of the public concerns.</p>	No

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				<p>And in that regard, I want to recommend that as part of the work that a dialog be facilitated, especially with those folks who support maintaining the lake, to understand their underlying concerns. And the concerns I heard first, we all enjoy the lake for recreation, we want to maintain and enhance the recreational values. And second is the sediment. It's just not right to dump on a downstream neighbor, so we have to define the project to include managing and mitigating the sediment impacts on the yacht club, on the port, and so on and so forth. So I think that's only right and fair. We have some excellent resources in town, the Dispute Resolution Center. It does facilitate a public dialog. I think that would be really useful, because I'm really keen to see the estuary restoration be a full-on community project that's a win for everybody, with enhanced recreational values. I also believe that the estuary restoration offers a great opportunity for healing, for truth and reconciliation with our native peoples, Squaxin, Nisqually, and others, and it's a chance for us to honor back the original habitants in the area who knew how to live sustainably, which is a good goal for us, and that restoring the estuary is really essential both to improve water quality and restore salmon and also enable more hatcheries. A couple other ideas: Study blue carbon values. Maybe 1631 financing, with its passage, could be applicable. Another idea is conduct design competition. Our beautiful state capitol building here was built as a result of a design competition, and that could be a way to incorporate public input.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Gary Franklin	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. GARY FRANKLIN: Thanks very much. My name is Gary Franklin. I participated in this about -- the last time this was done, maybe 10 years ago; I don't remember. But I worked representing the South Capitol Neighborhood Association. I'm here on my own tonight. We've lived in the same house on Capitol Lake for 30 years. I think one thing that needs to be captured and I haven't seen it captured anywhere is the history of the capitol campus, how it was designed by the Olmsted Brothers and how the reflecting pool was actually part and parcel of that original design. I think losing that historical perspective is important to look at. To me, it's kind of like, you know, wanting to get rid of the Potomac reflecting pool for the Washington Monument. It's the same kind of thing, to me.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Gary Franklin	Public Hearing 2	<p>In some of the documents, the historic estuary is referred to as what was happening a long time ago, but I think we also have to take account of the meaning of what has happened with the capitol campus. There are probably tens of thousands, if not more, visitors to the capitol campus from all over the place. And the last time this occurred I had recommended that there be some sort of really formal interview process, a survey of visitors to the lake who are walking around the lake, whether they're from here or Spokane or wherever, to try to get a better sense of the impact of whether we have a lake or whether we have an estuary or a hybrid, on the visitors to the lake and what the lake and the capitol campus means to them, and I don't think that recommendation was taken seriously at all. There were a lot of business concerns the last time. I don't have a business downtown. That's not what I do. But I think part of the assessment, the last time they did an economic analysis in regard to the impact on businesses downtown, I think it was flawed. I don't think it was a really good assessment. And that may not be in the scope here.</p> <p>I have public health concerns. Many people have mentioned their public health concerns. But moving back to an estuary-type situation, you're talking about a lot more mosquitos. And West Nile virus has been an issue in Washington State in the last decade or two. So I just -- as a public health person myself and a person that lives right next to the lake, I do have public health concerns about the opposite issue, which is an estuary is probably going to bring more mosquitos. And I would like that to be looked into as well and to have some input from public health authorities as to whether that is true.</p> <p>Finally, I moved to Chicago in 1969, and at that time Lake Michigan was in such terrible shape that you couldn't drive to any place around Lake Michigan without the dead algae and horrible odor. You couldn't even take your kids down to the lake because it was so bad. So, I don't know how that fits in here, but I would not want to see that happen to this lake. I'm for continuing a managed lake.</p>	

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211	22-Oct	Maurice Major	Public Hearing 2	MR. MAURICE MAJOR: Hi. I'm Maurice. I live in Olympia. I'm not used to talking in this kind of setting. I'm a historic preservationist as well, a student of ecological history and an archeologist who spends a lot of time in estuaries and mudflats and intertidal areas. So I want to comment about the cultural resources portion of the scope. I am hoping that it will be broader than the typical fill in the check boxes, look for what we know is there, avoid it, mitigate. I would like specifically for this process to look at the cultural values of tribes who have been here for 5,000 years, at least at this water level. Traditional ecological knowledge in the Salish Sea has a lot of means of managing estuaries and intertidal and marsh lands. Rarely is that knowledge brought into a process, and I see this as an excellent opportunity to do that. I hope that the consideration of cultural resources gets beyond the artifacts that I normally deal with and the historic preservation value of buildings that are the other part of standard practice and considers the cultural plants, the cultural species that live in an estuary, and the value that those have to tribes whose percentage of that was part of the treaty. I think that's all I have to say.	No
211	22-Oct	John Newman	Public Hearing 2	MR. JOHN NEWMAN: Good evening. My name is John Newman. I've lived in the area for 40 -- not 40, four decades. And I'm downtown almost every day. I've looked at what is called Capitol Lake every day. I've also looked at Mud Bay about every other day and Budd Inlet every day. There (sounds like) are mosquitos here. It's a freshwater problem. There used to be a swimming pool near the bathrooms. The tide would come in. The pool would fill up. Children would swim. The tide went out. They drained the pool, and then they'd refill it when the fresh -- when the tide came back in. It was a clean estuary. It was a healthy estuary. It is a cesspool right now. I was out there yesterday, and these tourists were standing there looking at the expensive black fence, trying to figure out why the ducks were out there, and they were there, and we explained to them that it filled up with sediment from the Deschutes Basin. A couple comments from people about scoping. It's important to consider the entire basin and the water that comes down through the estuary. Estuaries clean themselves. The grasslands, the grass around the edges of the estuary help clean the water. There is some sediment. But the yacht club was there before the dam. The water sediments move out into the inlet. Basically, it's become a political debate here in Olympia, and we need to focus on the science. This State's own studies indicate that the lowest-cost solution is just to clean up the sediments, dispose of the sediments and return the estuary. It will still be a reflecting pool probably 75, 80 percent of the day. When the tide is full, there's a reflecting pool. When the tide -- when the basin is half full, it's still a reflecting pool. Budd Inlet reflects the mountains 24 hours a day. It's a reflecting pool. We need to overcome the political influences and return the estuary for all of our own benefits.	No

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211	22-Oct	Dave Peeler	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. DAVE PEELER: All right. My name is Dave Peeler. I'm the president of the Des chutes Estuary Restoration Team. We have already submitted written comments I think a couple weeks ago on this, but I'd like to expand on just a few of them. One of them is that the EIS needs to include a study of projected climate impacts localized to this study area, including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia, particularly in high flow events and king tides. And of course, as most of you know, each succeeding IPCC report paints a worse and worse picture for sea level rise, as far as the magnitude and the timing, and so we need to be able to use the most recent information.</p> <p>As many people have said, we need to include scenarios for sediment management along the -- not just the lower stretch of the river from Tumwater Falls to Budd Inlet but also upstream erosional sites, which have been identified already in the work that Ecology, the tribe, and WDFW have already done.</p> <p>We need to analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults here. And we know that, for instance, this area is highly utilized for juvenile Chinook salmon, which, as you know, are now highly prized not only for recreational and tribal and commercial fisherman but for orcas, which are dying along our coast and in the Salish Sea.</p> <p>We need to consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of water quality standards, it's also listed on the EPA's list of waters not meeting water quality standards, and which alternatives will serve to improve and maintain water quality in the future for many years. And along with that, under the economics portion, would be the economics associated with that, including economic impact to LOTT, which is a half-billion-dollar infrastructure that we have in our city that may not be able to exist there in the future unless the dam is removed. Finally, I would say that we need to look at the impact on Budd Inlet, TMDL, and, as someone indicated earlier, kind of the pollution impacts from upstream and pollution impacts from the lake itself, which is quite damaging to Budd Inlet.</p> <p>And then recreation. Talk about tourism here, actually our economy here in Olympia, studies have shown, has a very, very low tourism dollar impact in our city, which is surprising. We do have visitors to the lake. They're not spending money, but they're down at the lake. We have very, very low tourism dollars. Studies have shown we can actually do better with an estuary. And I point to Vancouver, B.C., which is also an estuary and has a really high tourism impact.</p>	No
211	22-Oct	Brian Coyne	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. BRIAN COYNE: I'm Brian Coyne. I'm a resident of Olympia, Washington. Mr. Frare mentioned that there's four major alternatives, one of those is a managed lake, and I favor a managed lake. The scope of this project should include looking at reasonable alternatives for a managed lake. Mr. Burke has submitted written proposal for an engineered solution for managing Capital Lake, and I support that.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Brian Coyne	Public Hearing 2	<p>There's two major problems that the Lower Deschutes Watershed and Capitol Lake have, one is the sediment being brought down by the Deschutes River, and the other major problem is the excess nutrients, principally nitrogen and phosphorous, being brought in by the Deschutes River into Capitol Lake.</p> <p>The engineered proposal of Mr. Burke would intercept the sediment that's coming into upper Capitol Lake, would suck it out and process it into topsoil. Topsoil is commercially valuable. It can be sold. The revenue from the sale of the topsoil can offset the cost of the operation of managing the lake. It makes perfectly good sense. As for the excess nutrients, his proposal is to capture them by the growth of algae and other microorganisms firmly attached to rotating discs that are rotated by electric motor. The excess growth of the microorganisms that capture those excess nutrients is to be sucked out under vacuum and taken away by dump truck to a processing plant where it would be processed into a liquid fuel and/or fertilizer. Those are commercially valuable products. They can be sold. They can generate revenue to offset the cost of the operation. The net result is you stop the loss of this valuable resource, this topsoil that's coming into Capitol Lake, and you use this revenue for the cost of the operation.</p> <p>Now, the scope of this EIS, therefore, in looking at reasonable alternatives, would be to try to determine does the effectiveness of this proposed engineering solution, balanced with the costs, the net costs, taking into account the offset of this additional revenue it's generating, would that make it a reasonable alternative for which they would then need to go ahead and assess the environmental impacts. If it's not a reasonable alternative, they have no duty to even get into the issue of environmental impacts. I would urge them to decide that this is a reasonable alternative. If they need additional information as to the costs and the effectiveness of this approach, they should then contact Engineer Burke, and he can supply them with additional details.</p>	
211	22-Oct	John Rosenberg	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. JOHN ROSENBERG: John Rosenberg, retired, Tumwater. I'm happy that this process is proceeding. I'm disappointed that it's taking so long, but that's life. Here are some things I'd like to see included. With all due respect to the Department of Enterprise Services, I'd like to see the management of the lake transferred to DNR. Enterprise Services manages one lake and this is it, and I'd like to see the lake managed by somebody that knows something about lakes and estuaries.</p> <p>I'd like to focus on estuary restoration rather than more studies that will tell us what we already know. I think there's more than enough -- more than adequate scientific evidence that shows a restored estuary makes the most sense from an environmental standpoint. So let's focus on things like how to manage the sediment so that everybody can benefit.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	John Rosenberg	Public Hearing 2	<p>I'd like to see us focus on the benefits of a restored estuary as a carbon sink. Somebody's already referred to that. I think that's an important thing in an era of climate change.</p> <p>I'd like to see us explore the creation of an estuary district where all of the members of the district tax themselves in order to finance the sediment management, infrastructure, alterations, et cetera, that will be necessary when the dam comes up. The port, the yacht club, and the marinas have basically been getting a free ride since 1951, in terms of their sediment management, and it's time for them and everybody else to chip in. I think we should also include the economic benefits of the restoration itself, which will provide lots of jobs and increased recreational benefits and the economic activity that that will help generate.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Kelly Thompson	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. KELLY THOMPSON: Thank you. I'm Kelly Thompson, and I'd like to speak a little bit to the context of the process, and then also just rather than focusing on the best answers - if my understanding is correct, this is a scoping meeting - we may need to focus on the best questions to ask. And the context that I come from is that changes such as this, I think the scope has to be not how it affects me or how it affects my children even, but how it affects, my children's children. I think that's the scope we have to think about here.</p> <p>And secondly, I think we have to understand that the context of the decision is that we have the history of Olympia is in the soils. Nobody has mentioned, that I've heard tonight, the question of, while we understand and are trying to mitigate and be aware of the things coming downstream, what are the unknown toxins in the soils that will be coming massively upstream during high tides.</p> <p>The other impact that has to be considered in the scope, and the scoping of the impact is important, reading from the statement here, that the environmental impact statement must also consider the expanded area around Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet, including the Port of Olympia for economic analysis.</p> <p>I think it's hard to draw the circle too big in terms of the impact that this will have. I think that while there's the impact of the project itself, I don't know that my children's children will care very much about that, other than it be done properly. I do think that what we end up with has to be considered in the longest term and the largest geographic dimensions and considered multidimensionally on how the parts interact with each other. If we only scope for the immediate downtown effects versus the long term, the bigger circle and especially the economic analysis, I believe that we have an inferior process. I believe it will put us in a bad position. And if we can deflate this from the politics that are involved and look at our children's children's effects of this, I think we will satisfy our responsibilities to the environment.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Ali Johnson	Public Hearing 2	<p>MS. ALI JOHNSON: Good evening. My name is Ali Johnson. I am the youngest board member of the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team. And I made comments at the last scoping meeting, but I wanted to come back and make more comments. And I specifically wanted to point to a study that was done by the Department of Ecology in 2015. And that study identified the 5th Avenue dam as the largest contributor to the dissolved oxygen issue in Budd Inlet. And the dissolved oxygen issue along with other nitrogen inputs and poor circulation is part of the reasons that Budd Inlet is in federal violation of water quality standards. It's very important that we look at that.</p> <p>The other point that I wanted to make is, I really, really hope with all my heart that DES and those people that are managing the study bring in the tribes, Squaxin, sooner than later, like as soon as possible for a more fair and meaningful interaction and, hopefully, a solution as well.</p> <p>And my last point that I wanted to make was that I remember when the fence was put around the lake. I was really little. And I think I was like some of the last kids, I don't know why I was in the lake, but going out there, and what I remember is there were all of these dead fish floating around me. And my friends and I were like, 'Oh, weird.' We'd wrap them up in seaweed and, like, send them off. That is not how we should be interacting as children with our environment. You know, what does that say to us and how we care for where we live? So, with that being said, I hope that there would be some coordination or like a discussion with the folks and Nisqually tribe, who restored the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually estuary, and in that look at how educational benefits could be tied in with a restored estuary and how we can actually see -- the kids could see in their back yard like how systems function and have functioned for thousands of years.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Bob Jacobs	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. BOB JACOBS: Good evening. I'm Bob Jacobs. I've been living in Olympia for 44 years, and very active in the community, including the Heritage Park Association, the Friends of the Waterfront. And during the Capitol Lake adaptive management process about 20 to 10 years ago, I attended over a hundred meetings during that process. So I have been kind of following closely Capitol Lake. One thing -- and I do think of this lake basin as a treasure for our community. One thing I have not heard anyone talk about is the green slopes around the lake. It strikes me that if instead of fir trees we had buildings on those slopes, just imagine that, that basin would be so much less aesthetically pleasing to us. I think it is in fact the green slopes around the lake, not only the environmental impacts but particularly the aesthetic impacts are just tremendous. So... And I'm really not talking about which option of the lake or estuary I want, because that's not what we're here to talk about. We're here to talk about the scope. I'm asking that the scope include the wooded slopes around the lake. If we forget that and if those get developed, we've really lost a lot. This is supposedly protected by critical areas ordinances and that kind of thing, but I'm here to tell you that engineers can figure ways of building on these slopes, and if there's enough money, those other regulations will not hold anything back. We've got to protect the natural green slopes.</p>	No
211	22-Oct	Greg Falxa	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. GREG FALXA: I've got it. Thanks. I have to look out there and my notes. My name is Greg Falxa. Since 2001, I've been studying bats throughout the west and quite a bit in this region and in Washington State. Two months ago I retired from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife as a wildlife biologist. I've lived in this area about the same amount of time as Bob, and have closely observed bats utilizing Capitol Lake over the last -- since 2003. The EIA scoping process -- the EIA process must seriously consider each alternative's impacts on the bats of this region. Six thousand or more bats utilize Capitol Lake as their primary foraging area during their reproductive phase May through August every year. The bats feed on freshwater insects, do not forage over saltwater, and are strongly associated with lakes and reservoirs, not streams, ponds, rivers, the bats that utilize Capitol Lake. Capitol Lake was designated by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife as a priority habitat, a designator they have for different habitat areas, for little brown and Yuma bats. These are the two species in Washington State that are currently suffering from white-nose syndrome, a disease that has had devastating effects on little brown bats across the United States. Somewhere in the range of six to 10 million bats in the last 10 years, since the disease has been in the United States, have been killed -- or died, I should say.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Greg Falxa	Public Hearing 2	<p>The largest known colony of bats in Western Washington happens to be at the Woodard Bay Natural Resource Conservation Area, a beautiful DNR area about seven miles northeast of Olympia downtown. Every spring and summer night nearly all of the 3,000 pregnant or nursing female bats that occupy that colony commute all the way to Capitol Lake to feed as their primary foraging area, feeding low over the water, and most of them feed exclusively at Capitol Lake. Is that a two-minute timer? MS. SUSAN HAYMAN: That is about 20 seconds left. That's a three-minute timer. MR. GREG FALXA: Okay. Several thousand additional bats of these same two species travel to Capitol Lake to forage from other colonies around the area, and most of those -- those are all nursery colonies as well. We have radio tracking data that shows that these bats commute considerably further to Capitol Lake than the typical bats do throughout -- those species throughout the United States. I'll jump to the end. So, Capitol Lake, as a freshwater body, is the feeding area of five to 6,000 bats of just these two species, the two species imperiled by white-nose syndrome. Any modification that reduces the quantity of the open area of freshwater will need to be mitigated. Significant reductions of the current amount of open freshwater would almost certainly mean the collapse of most or all of these maternity colonies that rely on the lake. Our bats are already going further than almost any colony across the United States in coming to Capitol Lake. The next -- MS. SUSAN HAYMAN: Can you wrap your comments up. MR. GREG FALXA: The next closest freshwater body that would qualify are a number of miles further for these bats' commute. So, protecting these bats or mitigating the impacts is a must.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Bob Vados Jr.	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. BOB VADOS, JR.: It should be all right. All right. So, anyway, I would certainly hope with this process that it's not just a rehash of the (indiscernible). You know, we all already know that an estuary would be expensive. Hopefully, the various hybrid solutions that have been offered will be seriously studied, because there are several there that are very interesting and could provide a useful compromise for the lake versus estuary supporters.</p>	No
211	22-Oct	Bob Vados Jr.	Public Hearing 2	<p>A couple misconceptions. The lake sediments can't just be used as agriculture. They have toxins in them that need to be disposed of. That's going to cost money.</p> <p>Also, with the fish dying, most likely the sticklebacks that are like salmon and die after spawning, as one-time spawners. However, if the lake gets down low enough as it continues to fill in, we will probably start seeing regular fish start dying as the oxygen gets even lower and the water gets even warmer. Certainly we should be doing stuff upstream. We've got problems with riparian cutting and not enough restoration. We've got problems with low flows because of urban development, and those are all impacting the solution. And I would definitely iterate the comment about the slopes near Capitol Lake. It seems like every few years somebody, usually state-related, wants to put a heritage or some building in there, and that's just the last thing we need there.</p>	

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				<p>And as somebody who works on fish and wildlife issues, I would definitely say having -- one of the proposed hybrid solutions that I actually had talked about was coming up with having it as a brackish lake in the summer and an open estuary in the winter. It's kind of a temporal hybrid. And that, I believe, would provide the -- still provide the insects that provide for the bats.</p> <p>We don't have a mosquito problem. The bats are doing very well in taking care of that with their eating habits. Estuaries, like the Fraser River, have lots of those types of flying insects that -- so, having brackish conditions isn't necessarily going to be a problem for bats, I don't believe. The other thing I would like to say in all of this study is that we now know -- I mean, we have an orca problem, and we know that orcas eat lots of Chinook and they eat lots of chum salmon. Chum salmon could be brought back to this watershed with an estuary restoration or at least one of the hybrid solutions, and that's what we should be striving for.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Allen Miller	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. ALLEN MILLER: Good evening. Allen Miller. I'm an environmental law attorney, and I've been in town since 1982. I've been working on capitol campus issues and city issues since that time. And I'm here -- I've also been dealing with environmental impact statements and scoping rules under SEPA for many, many years. One of the things that we need to include in the scope is the fact that the state capitol campus is a national and historic district, and the Capitol Lake and the tide lock are part of that, and the 1911 and 1928 plans by Wilder, White and Olmsted are protected under federal and state law.</p> <p>It's interesting that the Corps of Engineers is already on record to say that they would not issue a permit to remove the tide lock but that they would grant permits for dredging the lake.</p> <p>The scope should also include that salmon did not -- there was no natural salmon run up the Des chutes to the Tumwater Falls, and it wasn't until we put in the tide lock and the salmon ladder in 1950 that salmon actually now go up the Deschutes.</p> <p>One of the hybrids that I would recommend the scope to look at is to reopen Percival Creek, it did have a natural wild salmon run, and to have a channel for Percival Creek that would go directly to Budd Inlet. That is something that should be included in the scope.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Allen Miller	Public Hearing 2	As far as water quality, The Evergreen State College Professors Milne, Soule and Ladd have all studied the lake for 40 years, back when Evergreen was founded, and the last 14 years they have shown that the water quality in Capitol Lake is good enough to swim and to recreate in. The New Zealand mud snail issue is really just a management issue. Capitol Lake is the only lake that's been actually closed due to the New Zealand mud snail. The New Zealand mud snail exists in Yellowstone Lake, in our national park, in Lake Washington, in the Columbia River, in the Chehalis River, and it's all -- all of those water bodies are open to swimming and recreation. It's just a way to manage so that the New Zealand mud snail is not spread. As far as water quality, I would also recommend that the scope of the environmental impact statement continue monthly water quality sampling protocol from Priest Point Park into the lower Budd Inlet, into the lake, and all of the way up the Des chutes to as far as Henderson, where we have the historical park in Tumwater.	
211	22-Oct	Allen Miller	Public Hearing 2	So my recommendation is that the scope should also look at having the south basin and the south part of the middle basin be allowed to become a wetland, and that there are grassy swells that do provide for water quality improvement to the north basin and the north half of the middle basin.	
211	22-Oct	Mason Rolph	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. MASON ROLPH: Thank you. I'm six foot six, if anyone is interested. So my name is Mason Rolph. I'd love to start by just recognizing that we are on unceded Medicine Creek treaty land, land of the Stehchass, and any conversation about historical and cultural preservation needs to extend far past colonization. We are a state that has constantly reaffirmed First Nation's treaty rights in Boldt 1, Boldt 2, and recently, this year, in the 'Culvert Case.' And so, for those reasons the EIS would be lacking if it did not consider treaty rights and fishing rights. And if it didn't consider those things, I think it could be contested as unlawful but also a threat to our way of life, since salmon are a keystone species here.</p> <p>We are tremendously lucky to have two wonderful case examples of how to deal with estuaries and the effects of restoring them. The first is Billy Frank Jr., just up the road. Letting the estuary recover can bring back natural plants and animals in a way that no intervention could. The second case study is the Elwah Dam and its removal. It has shown tremendous fish recovery and estuary recovery with the sediment coming back to rebuild the estuary.</p> <p>This impact statement should also consider efforts by the City to plan for sea level rise and climate change. And if we're going to talk about future impacts of climate change, I think it should start from the beginning of the watershed, the Nisqually Glacier, and the effects that changing weather patterns and snowfall will affect the amount of water coming through the river, and that's also the effect on the lake. Coming down from the glacier, the watershed itself should be included in the study - it's all interconnected - along with Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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211	22-Oct	Mason Rolph	Public Hearing 2	And I'll just finish with saying that if this lake was restored to an estuary, it could, rather than reflect the capitol, reflect the environmental values of the people of Washington.	
212	16-Nov	Robert Jensen		I am in support of estuary restoration. I posit the EIS must study the impact of Estuary restoration on increasing salmon habitat. This must include the impact of the project on the continued survival of the Orca Whale in the Salish Sea and the Straits of Juan de Fuca.	No
213	16-Nov	Annika Rausch		<p>I am interested in seeing the following considerations studied in the upcoming Environmental Impact Study.</p> <p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. Native treaty rights in Washington State: The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. Cultural resource studies: Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p> <p>Regarding environmental considerations, the EIS should: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p> <p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas.</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force)</p> <p>Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality.</p>	No

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213	16-Nov	Annika Rausch		Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.	
214	16-Nov	Lisa Riener		<p>The Washington State Department of Enterprise Services is now conducting the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will inform the final management decision for the Lower Deschutes Basin. The estuary/ lake supporters, each comment on what this study should include. The ecosystem benefits of an estuary should be studied.</p> <p>We need to include potential climate impacts to downtown Olympia, from the lake, or from an estuary.</p> <p>The cultural resources and treaty rights of the tribes should be included, how will these be impacted?</p> <p>We need a thorough economic analysis, what is the cost for each proposal. How long will each proposal take?</p> <p>Where will the dredging debris be put? How will Budd Inlet be effected from each proposal?</p> <p>What about the oxygen levels of Budd Inlet, how will each proposal effect Budd Inlet? How will each proposal effect the permitting of the LOTT plant? For how many decades? How will much will these changes cost the LOTT plant? How will the tributaries coming into Budd Inlet be effected? We need a thorough study on estuary benefits, and how they are valuable.</p>	No
215	16-Nov	Sandra Shoultz		I would like to see the the study include the benefit of removing the lake and restoring the estuary.	No
215	16-Nov	Sandra Shoultz		<p>Allowing the salmon access rather than having them pooled up by the dam and being eaten by sea lions.</p> <p>I would like to see it be a clean space again where families can recreate and children can play in the water. The natural fluctuations in water level might help push the silt out and deepen the channel. The state capital should not be reflected in a disgusting polluted body of water that is not safe for people or animals. Further natural flow might alleviate some of the toxicity issues in Budd Inlet.</p>	No
216	16-Nov	Dan Smith	City of Tumwater	DUPLICATE (see #170)	No

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217	16-Nov	Anna Trombley		We desperately need a more sustainable, healthy & just future. I believe restoring the estuary to its natural state will be better for the environment & more economical for tax payers.	No
218	16-Nov	Luca Day		<p>Hello, I am writing to ask that you please consider DERT's scope recommendations for the estuary. The recommendations are as follows: The EIS should: Relating to Environmental Analysis: - Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'. Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet).</p> <p>Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dammed sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration Water coming in and Water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) . Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality. Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p>	No
219	16-Nov	Earl and Barbara Hughes		<p>We are strongly in favor of the dredging of Capitol Lake and the keeping it as a lake. For the past 20 +/- years the state of Washington has been negligent in its responsibility to dredge the lake as needed. Now is has become a political boondoggle. The state is trying to get out of its duty.</p> <p>If the 5th Ave dam was removed it would create untold problems for a lot of businesses (i.e. tax payers). Questions that I feel that need to be answered by the EIS. 1. Is the 4th Ave Bridge designed to with stand the force of the Deschutes River in the winter during a heavy run off?</p>	No

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219	16-Nov	Earl and Barbara Hughes		<p>2. All of the water front businesses (marinas) do not have a business plan the includes having to dredge every few years. The sediment would fill in the water front because of the dam removal. 3. As a boater and member of the Olympia Wooden Boat Association I know that right now we have to know the depth of the boats attending our event so that they don't go aground at low tide at Percival Landing. 4. I keep my boat at the Olympia Yacht Club and have to be aware of the tides when taking my boat out so that I do not go aground in Budd Inlet now.</p> <p>5. About 60% of low tides between April and October occur between 10 am and 5 pm. So during the heat of the summer and peak tourist season without the 5th Ave dam we would have nothing but MUD FLATS in down town Olympia in place of a wonderful lake.</p> <p>To the State of Washington, Please fulfill your obligation. Dredge the lake and keep it dredged. Capitol Lake is a wonderful center point for the City of Olympia and our State Capitol.</p> <p>PS: We remember being able to swim in Capitol Lake, and would love to again.</p>	
220	16-Nov	Karen Kirsch		<p>This is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement: I am in support of estuary restoration, climate impacts to downtown, tribal treaty rights. All with a social, economic and inter-species lens. No decisions can be made without a full study which includes impacts on non human species as well as human.</p>	No
221	16-Nov	Lisa and Jon Ceazan		<p>This is what we would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement. We are in support of estuary restoration. As such, we are inserting here the recommendations provided by the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team. DERT says it better than we ever could, in all the dimensions that we would like the EIS to take into account: climate change, ecosystem restoration and health, pollution reduction, and respect for and observation of indigenous treaty and cultural rights. The benefits for orcas, salmon, the beautification of the City of Olympia and the enjoyment of its citizens and visitors will be immense and cost-effective.</p> <p>The EIS should: Relating to Environmental Analysis: Include a study of projected climate impacts localized to the study area; including sea level rise and the likely frequent inundation of downtown Olympia particularly in high river flow events and 'king tides'.</p>	No

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221	16-Nov	Lisa and Jon Ceazan		<p>Include a thorough technical analysis of sediment transport. - Include a number of scenarios for sediment management along the lower stretch of the river (from Tumwater falls to Budd Inlet). Include a study on flooding. DERT believes a restored estuary would hold more capacity for flood waters than the current dam med sediment reservoir. This idea needs to be modeled using available data and current sea level rise predictions taking into consideration water coming in and water coming up through filled areas. Examine the ability of each outcome presented to sustain itself; with minimal long-term maintenance and associated cost. Outcomes compared should be compared in terms of resiliency to climate change. See 'Our history comes at a perpetual cost' an editorial in the Olympian dated 9/7/18: https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/editorials/article218004115.html</p> <p>Analyze the potential for and amount of salmon habitat created for juvenile salmon and returning adults; (reference Squaxin's salmon tracking, and in the context of Inslee's Orca Task Force) - Consider the sources of Budd Inlet's current violation of federal water quality standards, and which alternatives will improve and maintain water quality - Address the best way to return native plants and wildlife to an estuary, as well as which natural conditions discourage invasive species. Determine potential impacts to bat populations (migrations between Woodard Bay and Capitol Lake) and develop mitigation scenarios for those impacts</p> <p>Include blue carbon science in mitigation projects to sequester carbon and offset methane release from existing sediment reservoir/lake. https://www.estuaries.org/bluecarbon - The EIS should consider the preservation of the integrity of the lower Deschutes Watershed and Budd Inlet ecosystems including the use and quality of these areas for future generations.</p> <p>Relating to Economics The EIS should address: - Tourism attractions for Washington State and beyond including access to the shoreline for kayaking, bird watching. - Supportive forms of recreation and aesthetics from study area to Boston Harbor (Doffelmeyer Point) - Re-opening of recreational access in the lower river area - now called Capitol Lake. - Job creation during construction.</p>	

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221	16-Nov	Lisa and Jon Ceazan		<p>Relating to Historic and Cultural Preservation The EIS should address: wledge State:cts tha - The analysis of existing conditions should trace the environmental history from estuary to its current configuration, making use of geotechnical, archaeological, and historical data in conjunction with tribal knowledge because of its current altered state. - Native treaty rights in Washington State: - The EIS must consider the impacts that the dam and settlement basin have on rights reserved by tribes in Article III of the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The 'Boldt Part 2' decision mandates that the State not allow fish and other species to decline or become extinct, and therefore options considered by the EIS must address outcomes through the lens of treaty-guaranteed fishing and gathering rights past, present, and future. - Cultural resource studies: . Cultural resource discussion needs to address the ways in which tribes managed natural resources for cultural purposes. This is especially important because the project area includes and surrounds ancient settlements. Cultural resource investigations informing the EIS will need to improve on archaeological data; we know that some sites exist, but do not have a good handle on their exact locations or ages. The known and likely resources range from ancient habitation and resource use areas to early historic sites of Olympia.</p>	
222	16-Nov	Christina Meserve		<p>Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the future of Capitol Lake. It's been a disappointment to me how long a decision on the lake has taken. My office overlooks the lake; I'm in the Heritage Bank Building with a stunning view of the park, the lake and the capitol building. I've been working on the 3rd floor of this building for over 39 years. I believe the lake should be managed and maintained as a reflection of the capitol. I think the real issue has always been who is going to pay to dredge: the state, the city, the port, the yacht club, or someone else. It should be the state. My husband and I plan to reside downtown as soon as the Percival condominiums are constructed. We are strong supporters of a vibrant and healthy downtown core. The lake is a jewel for the city of Olympia and for the entire state of Washington. We should do whatever we can to preserve and protect it as a lake.</p>	No

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223	16-Nov	Mark Mercier		I would prefer a study that focuses first on the health of the ecosystem of the lower Deschutes. This part should be scientific in expected results regarding different treatments of the basin. The second part should estimate the costs (savings, gains) to various parties of any changes to the management of the basin. These should include estimates both short term and long term costs. My preference, absent an EIS, would be to return the basin to as natural a state as is possible, limited by safety and physical damage to property concerns. I would not be opposed to paying some temporarily increased taxes to partially indemnify businesses and individuals that suffer measurable economic loss as a result of the change. This would not include indemnification for short term issues such as access limitations that may be required to effect changes to the basin.	No
224	16-Nov	Joe Joy		<p>Please consider the following issues for the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on Capitol Lake alternatives. Water quality: Previous studies and water quality models have clearly demonstrated the negative impact of nutrients and oxygen demanding materials from watershed on the lake, and from the lake on Budd Inlet. Water quality in the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet do not meet fishable or swimmable standards required by the Clean Water Act. The DEIS needs to evaluate the impact of alternatives on Budd Inlet water quality. The water quality of Budd Inlet needs to be improved and meet State Water Quality Standards. In addition, the water quality of the Deschutes River, any pool or reflecting pond, lake or expanded estuary requires discussion, i.e. will the alternative improve water quality and meet State water quality criteria. If none of the alternatives will bring water quality compliance, what actions are necessary to do so? What additional costs will they incur on the project? The discussions should include the alternative's role in light of the Deschutes Watershed/Budd Inlet total maximum daily load findings.</p> <p>Recreation: Reconfiguration of the lake or removing the dam will require changes in common pathways and parks around the lake. These are nearly sacred to some locals for exercise, social occasions or entertainment of visitors. The DEIS should address how alternatives will change those features during construction and as the completed project. Any increased use or loss of boating, fishing, and swimming should also be addressed. Any construction and maintenance costs need to be estimated for the recreational features. The economic benefits of increased recreation should be addressed in light of losses if nothing is done with the lake or Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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224	16-Nov	Joe Joy		<p>Infrastructure construction and maintenance: Continuation current conditions or changes in the hydrological character of the lake or conversion to an estuary will have an impact on bridges, roads, drains, and dam structures. These should be addressed for each alternative. The DEIS should also address the long-term costs of maintenance of infrastructure around and in the project area. For example, if the dam is kept in place, it has an expected lifespan. What are the long-term costs of replacing and maintaining the dam in workable order?</p> <p>Will the bulkheads along the north basin of the lake be legal if the estuary alternative is chosen? The bulkheads will be detrimental to habitat and are banned in many parts of Puget Sound. Will additional bulkheads or shore hardening be required for roads and bridge structures?</p> <p>Crisis events: The DEIS should address how each alternative components will respond to storm/tidal surges, earthquakes, and sea-level rise. For example, Deschutes Parkway was impassable for months, and the 4th Avenue (Yoshiro) bridge required replacement after the Nisqually earthquake. What extent of damage and replacement costs can be expected for each alternative for such events?</p> <p>The DEIS should address how the alternatives should be managed and maintained. The ways costs for managing and maintaining the chosen alternative should be addressed. Thank you for considering these topics in the DEIS. I hope I'm still alive when a decision is made and acted</p>	
225	16-Nov	Faith Addicott		<p>I advocate for a restored estuary. With the impacts of sea level rise, the estuary has the greatest potential for affecting natural mitigation of changes, and re-establishing native species to strengthen our natural habitats.</p>	No
226	16-Nov	Dinea Dove		<p>I've watched this issue for some time now and want to give my 2 cents. Back before nisqually was a refuge I took many classes and such in environmental studies. In fact we studied some of why the nisqually needed to be a refuge. I am strongly opposed to making capital lake an estuary however for many reasons but the main one is we have built entire downtown and community to rely on the infrastructure of a community common space and lake. It as an estuary would smell and make it more of a bog. Honestly w all the property taxes we pay towards so much to be near the lake would be a shame to not be able to enjoy it.</p> <p>I feel environmentally we could do a hybrid however we also could get a lake style roomba to remove the algae and use mychorrhizal fungi to remediate the toxic soil and such. Local mycologists such as Paul stamets would be incredible resource for this viable option.</p>	No

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227	16-Nov	Dan Finnegan		<p>Capitol Lake and the mouth of the Deschutes River have been modified from it's original estuary form creating the problems we have today. There is no public use allowed, weed growth, invasive species, silt buildups, rising water temperatures, are all degrading this critical eco system. The salmon entering the lake to return to the fish ladder on the Deschutes River must travel through the lake experiencing stresses to their survival that would not be present in an estuary environment, like Kennedy Creek, Nisqually River etc. By restoring the estuary to the Deschutes River we can restore the entire ecosystem, get rid of weeds and invasive species that cannot live in that environment and provide a critical habitat for the endangered salmon that feed our Puget Sound killer whale population. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has Identified the Deschutes River as one of the target systems, with it's hatchery, to produce Chinook salmon smolt as a statewide effort to provide food sources for the killer whale population on the verge of extinction. We will not have these opportunities for long. We must act and take advantage of restoring an entire estuary and it's ecosystem. The watershed as it exists today stands as a monument to the negative environmental effects of human modification to an estuary environment, and we must allow nature to rebuild this unique and critical ecosystem. Look at the positive changes to the Nisqually delta and ask yourself if it was the right thing to do, then do the right thing for all the plant and animal life in the Deschutes and Capitol Lake watershed, including humans.</p>	No
228	16-Nov	Sande Howard		<p>*This is what I would like to see studied in the environmental impact statement (for the Lower Deschutes Basin). I am in support of estuary restoration.*</p> <p>I would like a study of the bluegreen algae cyanobacteria concentrations that now exist throughout the Deschutes Watershed. In Eastbay of Budd Inlet there are signs posted at the beach and play area of Priest Point of the risks of coming into contact with the water! The health hazards of larger spreading blooms of toxic algae to humans and wildlife should be studied as global warming progresses. While pollution is also a contributing factor being addressed; there is a time frame to address global warming not being met and the existing predictions even if reductions of carbon emissions are met are for a warmer climate. How would an estuary mitigate the occurrence and spread of toxic algae and at what levels will it likely still occur and finally what are the health consequences of that?</p>	No

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229	16-Nov	John DeMeyer		<p>Listed below are elements and parameters of particular importance that should also be addressed in the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed EIS. WATER QUALITY: (a) Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN); The Puget Sound Partnership has recognized that the steady increase of DIN is the biggest driver of declining water quality in Puget Sound. (Puget Sound Partnership, State of the Sound-- Marine Water Quality, Bi-annual Report 2013). Department of Ecology studies show that the Deschutes River currently has one of the highest concentrations of DIN of any major tributary flowing into Puget Sound. These studies also predict that by 2070 the Deschutes River as it flows over Tumwater Falls into the Capitol lake basin will have the highest DIN concentration of any of these tributaries. (Puget Sound and the Straits Dissolved Assessments-Impacts of Current & Future Human Nitrogen Sources and Climate Change Through 2070; DOE pub No 14-03-007, 2014). It should also be noted that the Department of Ecology, recognizing the adverse impacts of excess DIN, requires that during the summer months LOTT sewage must undergo an extra advanced secondary nitrogen(DIN) removal treatment before its' effluent is discharged into Lower Budd Inlet. It has been long recognized that in the summer months there are significant reductions of DIN in Capitol Lake's water as it exits the Lake through the tide lock as compared to the water entering via Tumwater Falls. These reductions are due primarily to the DIN nutrient uptake by algae and macrophyte plants growing in the Lake. It has been estimated that this reduction in DIN due to plant uptake may be as high as 70% during the critical summer months, with the amount of nitrogen plant uptake exceeding that removed by the LOTT advanced secondary treatment process. (Capitol Lake Protector of Water Quality in Budd Inlet, Dr David Milne, March 2014). Each alternative should be analyzed and compared on how it will impact the amount of DIN in the Deschutes River water that flows through the Capitol Lake Basin and into lower Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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229	16-Nov	John DeMeyer		<p>(b) The Department of Ecology, while recognizing the above, maintain that based on their computer modeling any of the above benefits are offset when the algae and floating aquatic plants flow out of the Lake and into lower Budd Inlet where they immediately settle and are decomposed by bottom dwelling, dissolved oxygen(DO) consuming bacteria. This in turn results in lower Budd Inlet being listed as an impaired water body for DO. Ecology bases this conclusion on a computer model designed in the late 1990's for LOTT to address DIN discharges into Budd Inlet from its' Olympia waste treatment plant. This initial modeling did not include Capitol Lake, Ecology modified the model in the early 2000's to include Capitol Lake for the Department of Enterprise Service's CLAMP study and again more recently as part of the Lower Budd Inlet TMDL process to conclude that Capitol Lake was the cause of the Inlet's DO violations. While the original 1998 LOTT modeling was extensively peer reviewed by 15 different national authorities it is unclear and to what extent the latter two modeling efforts were peer reviewed by qualified experts. Dr. David Milne, with a background in oceanography, computer modeling and over 30 years teaching marine studies at the university level has extensively reviewed and critiqued the latter two Ecology modeling efforts. Dr Milne questioned and took exception to several conclusions of this modeling.</p> <p>While agreeing to review Dr. Milne's work Ecology has refused to accept any of Dr Milne's conclusions. The legislation(2EHB 1115) that funded the recent Phase 1 of this EIS effort stated that the appropriation was provided to make tangible progress on reaching agreement on a long term plan for Capitol Lake "... building on the recommendations of the 2014 situation for Capitol Lake management prepared by the Ruckelshaus Center...". One of the three recommendations from the Ruckelshaus assessment was to resolve the modeling dispute through an outside independent scientific review of the Ecology's modeling by national level experts. To my knowledge this has not occurred. (Situation Assessment of Capitol Lake, W.D. Ruckelshaus Center, 2014).</p> <p>The Phase 2 EIS deliberations should include a review of Ecology's Capitol Lake water quality modeling by national-level experts.</p>	

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229	16-Nov	John DeMeyer		<p>(c)Water quality sampling. Capitol Lake was listed by the Department of Ecology as “impaired” for fecal coliform bacteria violations in 1993. Beginning in 2000 and continuing through 2014 Thurston County sampled Capitol Lake’s North and Middle basins annually for fecal coliform bacteria during the six months of May – October. The results over this 15 year period show that Capitol Lake met the water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria every year. (Thurston County Water Quality Monitoring, Budd Deschutes Watershed—Capitol Lake, Annual Report, 2014) Members from CLIPA met with Ecology water quality staff in 2015 to see if, based on the positive fifteen year sampling results the “impaired water” designation could be lifted. Ecology staff pointed out that the Thurston County sampling program covered only six months of the calendar year and stated it would take the results from a full year’s, 12 month, sampling program for them to consider lifting the “impaired waters” designation. The Capitol Lake water quality sampling was terminated in 2015. Water sampling covering the full calendar year should be reinstated immediately in Capitol Lake.</p> <p>(d) Aquatic plant matter growing in the Lake consists of algae and macrophyte plants. The Department of Ecology based on the results of their most recent computer modeling maintain that this vegetative matter flowing out of the Lake, and then decaying on the bottom of Budd Inlet, is a primary cause of the low summertime, DO problem in lower Budd inlet. Macrophytes are many times more productive and remove greater amounts of DIN from the water column during the summer months than algae. During the critical summer months growing season they are attached by their root system to the Lake bottom and die back latter in the fall months by which time low DO in lower Budd Inlet is not a problem. The water exiting the Lake at the tide lock should be sampled during the summer months for algae and macrophyte plant biomass to confirm the assumptions used in Ecology’s computer modeling.</p>	

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229	16-Nov	John DeMeyer		<p>SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Past estimates of sediment transport and deposition have been based on computer modeling conducted by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) (USGS-- Hydrodynamic & Sediment Transport Modeling, 2006) with subsequent modification by Moffattt and Nichol (Capitol Lake Alternatives Analysis Hydraulic Modeling2008). The USGS used historical physical data, i.e. erosion/deposition rates, bathometry, river flow, and flood events that was current up to the 2004/2005 time period. Over the past 14 years the physical landscape has changed. Sediment accumulation in Capitol Lake has increased; the intertidal area immediately below the dam in lower Budd Inlet has expanded and migrated eastward with the channel hooking more towards the marina and Percival Landing area. The adverse effects of climate change have also come into sharper focus.</p> <p>The USGS report concluded that based on historic monitoring of weather events and Deschutes River flows 80% to 85% of river sediment is transported by flood events that occur only 8% of the time. A warming climate is quite likely to change the snow/rain pattern of the Deschutes watershed, resulting in the increase of flooding events and sediment movement. The computer modeling should be updated to reflect climate changes and each alternative evaluated on its' ability to address these changes.</p> <p>FLOYD / SNIDER PHASE 1 REPORT; (a)Information from the Floyd/Snider, Phase 1 report will undoubtedly be referenced to in the Phase 2 deliberations. Figure 2B in the Phase 1 report has a pie chart and bar graphs purportedly showing 'community' preference for long term lake management goals taken from data in the 2008 CLAMP Alternatives Analysis. The data is a summary of 451 letters, e-mails and testimony. The pie chart shows that 62% of the community prefers the estuary option as compared to 32% for the managed lake. On the other hand the CLAMP report shows that of the 451 responses, 155 were identical email letters signed by 147 people from outside the local area or Washington state. The authors of the CLAMP data noted that the e-mail responses were probably the result of an organized campaign. This discrepancy should be noted if this information is used in the Phase 2 process. Ideally, the Phase 2 EIS would include a scientific poll designed specifically to address the community's preferences.</p>	

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229	16-Nov	John DeMeyer		b) Section 5.3, Existing statutory Requirements and Framework, notes that models for future governance must consider legal parameters of existing authority and jurisdiction. The five marinas, Percival landing and the Port shipping berths are situated in a constitutional Harbor Area. Article XV, Harbors and Tide Waters, in the Washington State Constitution states that these areas are" reserved forever for landings, wharves, streets and other conveniences of navigation and commerce. This constitutional constraint should also be considered one of the legal parameters considered in evaluating each alternative.	
230	16-Nov	Harry Branch	Olympia Urban Waters League	<p>The Restored Estuary option should be divided into two options: Dam Removal and Estuary Restoration. A true restoration would return the estuary to its historical state. This may not be entirely feasible but it is the proper definition. More realistically, restoration establishes a self-sustaining habitat that resembles natural structure and function. The Restored Estuary option as described is neither. 1. Many important parameters are left out. Any decision will ideally be science based. This analysis will hopefully include the science of oceanography, specifically how chemical parameters (nitrates, dissolved oxygen) are impacted by biological parameters (plankton) and how these are impacted by physical parameters (structure, depth and patterns of flow). The analysis should be comprehensive and not selective, which so far appears to not be the case. The draft states: 'Full tidal hydrology would be restored throughout the entire basin. An opening in the current Fifth Avenue Dam would be constructed sufficient in size to allow tidal exchange'. Restoring tidal flow would likely improve other parameters but it's a partial fix.</p> <p>Historically salmon didn't spawn in the Deschutes River because of the falls. There were however significant stocks of chinook and coho salmon and cutthroat trout in Schneider, Percival, Moxlie and Ellis Creeks, which were all part of the historic estuary. The Deschutes River salmon are all hatchery fish and we can't restore hatchery runs that didn't exist prior to human intervention.</p> <p>2. Many important areas are left out. Two thirds of the historic estuary lies north of and outside the dam. A restoration would include the Port Peninsula and East Bay. Some rivers have a companion stream that helps shape the estuary, Medicine Creek for the Nisqually, Hylebos for the Puyallup and so on. Moxlie Creek is the Deschutes River's companion stream. East Bay, the estuary of Moxlie Creek occupies fully a third of the estuarine area. The investigation specifically addresses the 'Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed'. How can we address the lower watershed without including the majority of the estuary? The Westman Mill development, an enormous building containing commercial space and 85 market rate housing units, is planned for the exact center of the Moxlie Creek estuary. We're not only not considering restoration, we're guaranteeing it will never happen.</p>	No

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230	16-Nov	Harry Branch	Olympia Urban Waters League	<p>The Water Quality Improvement Report (WQIR) published by the Department of Ecology is 239 pages of data and graphics with no clearly stated hypothesis and conclusions scattered throughout, not well supported and not clearly stated to be such. One conclusion is that bacteria and nutrient loading coming from the Deschutes River and Capitol Lake exceed sources coming from streams and we'd get more bang for our buck going after the river and (by implication) forgetting the streams and their estuaries, including East Bay. As one reads on though one learns that the greatest source of nutrient loading is actually upwelling coming from north, outside of Budd Inlet and the entire argument falls apart. Scientific Methodology would have begun with observation and a clearly stated hypothesis. A hypothesis for the above study might have been: 'We can give up on East Bay because it's too far gone and doesn't matter anyway'. The ESA doesn't say we can give up on the most endangered species. The CWA doesn't say we can give up in the most degraded waters. Budd inlet and Schneider, Ellis, Moxlie and Indian Creeks are all Federally impaired water bodies and have been for some time. On June 28 2018, the EPA issued a Clean Water Act review of these water bodies in which they all failed on multiple parameters, particularly in that current planning and activities are not protective of downstream waters.</p> <p>The EIS scoping phase mentions water, earth, air, plants, animals, land, energy, aesthetics, transportation, historic preservation, invasive species, economics and sea level rise. The goal is at best preservation, current conditions being the baseline. Actual restoration would target an earlier baseline. Perhaps removing streams from intertidal culverts would improve water quality and benefit native salmon and do so affordably. We won't know one way or the other if we eliminate the option from any analysis. Definitions are important. The Restored Estuary option as presented is not a restored estuary and should be labelled Dam Removal. By improperly labelling it restoration, restoration ceases to exist.</p>	
231	16-Nov	Thurston County	Thurston County	<p>The Thurston County Board of Commissioners would like to submit comments regarding the scope of Work for the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed project. We believe it is crucial to include an analysis of the upper Deschutes Watershed in the EIS for this project. It appears the current study area includes water quality research only in the Lower Deschutes Watershed and Capitol Lake. An assessment of commercial and residential activities on the Upper Deschutes watershed is also necessary, as it contributes to water quality in the lower basin and in the lake. It is important to gather data of land activities of the Upper Deschutes as part of the EIS process, leading to making informed decisions as to the future of Capitol Lake.</p>	No

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232	16-Nov	Lisa Dennis-Perez	LOTT Clean Water Alliance	<p>Water quality needs to be a major consideration in the environmental review. The Department of Ecology's Total Maximum Daily Load study (TMDL) has identified four main sources of nutrient loading to Budd Inlet: Capitol Lake as the largest contributor, external sources (like wastewater treatment plants that discharge to Puget Sound north of Budd Inlet), non-point pollution sources, and wastewater treatment plants that discharge to Budd Inlet (LOTT and several small plants). Ecology plans to issue waste load allocations to each of the four main sources to reduce nutrient loading and improve water quality in Budd Inlet. The evaluation of lake management alternatives must place high priority on full implementation of the forthcoming TMDL waste load allocation for the lake.</p> <p>The economic analysis associated with the EIS must consider the costs to 'downstream' parties if no action, or inadequate action, is taken to address the waste load allocation assigned to Capitol Lake as part of the TMDL. Ecology has indicated that LOTT may be required to do even more to reduce nutrient loading to Budd Inlet, beyond the initial LOTT allocation, if the nutrient inputs from Capitol Lake are not reduced per the lake allocation. The cost of these additional nutrient reductions would potentially be hundreds of millions of dollars and would be borne by LOTT ratepayers. If the Capitol Lake allocation is not met, wastewater treatment plants to the north of Budd Inlet may also be required to do more, impacting their ratepayers throughout the Puget Sound basin.</p> <p>The LOTT Clean Water Alliance and its ratepayers have a significant stake in the outcome of the EIS, as explained above. For those reasons, LOTT needs to be at the table and actively involved in the EIS process. Participation at the Executive Work Group and Technical Committee levels are requested. LOTT can offer value to the process with a wealth of technical knowledge related to water quality, economic considerations, sea level rise, and more.</p> <p>Sea level rise needs to be considered as part of the EIS. Capitol Lake is one of the first areas of downtown Olympia subject to flooding, even under current conditions. Sea level rise will increase the frequency and severity of flooding. Overland flooding from Capitol Lake can enter storm drains that convey flood waters through the combined storm/sewer system in downtown to the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant. Sea level rise and flooding into the combined system has the potential to overwhelm the hydraulic capacity of the treatment plant and result in discharge of untreated wastewater into Budd Inlet.</p> <p>LOTT produces Class A Reclaimed Water, high quality water that is suitable for many purposes, including water features, wetland augmentation, irrigation, and other non-potable uses. It is possible that this resource could play a role in various alternatives for future lake management.</p>	No

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232	16-Nov	Lisa Dennis-Perez	LOTT Clean Water Alliance	Life-cycle cost (long term operational and maintenance costs) should be weighed heavily when evaluating alternatives. This must include designating responsibility for managing the asset and setting a guaranteed budget to adequately and regularly perform maintenance associated with the selected alternative.	
233	16-Nov	Pat Rasmussen	World Temperate Rainforest Network	See attachment	Yes
234	16-Nov	Thurston County	Thurston County	DUPLICATE (see #231)	No
235	16-Nov	Bob Wubbena	CLIPA	Facts Contradict Ecology's Public Claim of Dam.Causing WQ problem. A Picture is Worth a 10000 Words---- The attached picture confirms the hydraulics of the Capitol Lake Discharge Flows with the Tidal Actions of Budd Inlet. It also contradicts several major Department of Ecology TMDL modeling conclusions on the Dam's impact on water quality. Simple hydraulics, a full scale naturally occurring 'DYE TEST' on February 10, 2017 at about 9:00 am, along with routine State flow and water quality records from the E Street sampling point documents the following: At about mid tidal action, the Deschutes River Watershed experienced a heavy rain with muddy runoff into the Deschutes River. The 'muddy water/dye ' arrived at the 5th Avenue Dam/Lake outlet just as the tide changed to an outgoing tide. (not the low tide of the year but mid level). At about 9:00 am, the attached picture was taken at 2201 Bayside PI NE, just south of Priest Point Park. NOTE the dramatic light brown (Deschutes Mud) color along the west shore of Budd Inlet. About noon, the tide changed to an incoming tide, and the entire southern body of Budd Inlet filled up with diluted muddy water, with the tide returning with the Northern Budd Inlet waters mixed and diluting the mud flow.. What this shows is as follows: 1) DEMONSTRATION OF ACTUAL FLOWS VS ECOLOGY MATHEMATICAL MODEL. The Deschutes River during outgoing tides (twice per day) flows along the west shore until it collides with the incoming tide from the North ---not interfering with the East Bay outflow as claimed by Ecology, and their TMDL model	Yes

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235	16-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>2) NORTHERN PUGET SOUND FLOW AND WATER QUALITY DWARFS FLOW FROM LAKE. The comparative flows of the Deschutes River is about 1200 cfs during low River flows and up to 4,000 cfs during high flows. The incoming tidal flows from Northern Budd Inlet is from 30 to 50,000 cfs, dwarfing the volume flowing out of the Lake from the upper watershed. This re mixing of flows from the North occurs twice per day on each tide exchange. 3) ECOLOGY'S CRITICAL MODEL CELL NORTH OF SWAN TOWN MARINA SKEWS THEIR MODEL RESULTS & IS CONTRADICTED BY THIS PICTURE AND FLOW. The critical cell in the Ecology Model refers to one low DO level prediction north of the Swan Town Marina (disputed by Dr Dave Milne's 140 page critique of the Ecology Model -the cell is in the area where it is a mud flat much of the time). This single prediction of a model cell by Ecology is mathematically expanded by the Model to then be used by Ecology claiming that the Dam is the 'largest single source of human impacts on Budd Bay water quality'. They do not mention that the claim against the dam is a measure of the accumulated total of the upper Deschutes River, with the Dam being only the near by site of of cause created by the Deschutes River not the Dam. They further claim that the flow releases from the Dam interferes with the flow from Moxlie Creek and East Bay, causing this single model cell to predict a low DO sample in that area--not by actual measure but by prediction. This picture and the hydraulics of the River and Tidal interaction twice per day contradict Ecology's conclusions and public statements.</p>	No

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235	16-Nov	Bob Wubben	CLIPA	<p>4) ECOLOGY KEEPS REVISING THE MODEL THAT WAS PEER REVIEWED SEVERAL YEARS AGO TO ATTEMPT TO MATCH FIELD CONDITIONS. FIELD VALIDATION OF MODEL NEVER PROVIDED/DOCUMENTED Until recently (last two years) Ecology's modelling results ignored the contribution of the Northern Budd Inlet and Puget Sounds contribution to the South Puget Sound/Budd Inlet water quality problems. This twice daily flows from the north of 30,000 to 50,000 cfs has a dramatic impact on both the hydraulics and the volume of water diluting the flows from the upper Deschutes Watershed and the relatively small quantity of water coming from the Lake. 4) ECOLOGY DATA SUPPORTS A DIFFERENT CONCLUSION AND SUPPORTS RETENTION OF DAM. Another significant omission by the Ecology Modeling program is the fact that their own data shows that the Lake reduces the Nitrogen flowing from the upper watershed to the discharge of Capitol Lake by about 70%. A simple and low cost annual plant harvesting program of the plants in Capitol Lake has not even been discussed by Ecology in their previous public reports. The pounds of nutrients that a harvesting program would remove 'meet or exceed' the pounds of nitrogen that the \$50 million LOTT treatment plant process removes. Removing Capitol Lake Dam would eliminate this added Lake mitigation program now helping improve Budd Bay water quality every day at very little cost to the community. am frohe lackFuture e used and om pione of a Fieldfederal 5) EIS TEAM NEEDS TO INITIATE OBJECTIVE AND IMPORTANT FIELD SAMPLING PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ABOVE ISSUES. The CLIPA Board has been recommending for the last five years that Ecology, LOTT, the County Health Department and others initiate a monthly field sampling program from Pioneer Park to Priest Point Park to establish a current record on the many disputed issues surrounding the lack of a field verification of the Ecology TMDL Model. The future recommendations from the EIS and the future Federal regulatory TMDL program requires an objective and well defined water quality baseline that can be used to answer the above questions and the future management program for the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and marine waters.</p>	

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236	16-Nov	Ishi Agrawal		<p>Hello. My name is Ishi Agrawal and my AP Environmental Science class from Timberline High School made a trip to Capitol Lake on October 16th to do some water quality monitoring. After running the following tests: Dissolved Oxygen, DO Saturation, B.O.D., Fecal Coliform, pH, nitrates, turbidity, and total phosphates, the quality of Capital Lake is concerning. This year the WQI was 72.18 compared to a slightly lower WQI value of 67. 38 last year. The majority of the problems this year were with the total phosphate level at 1 ppm, the Biochemical Oxygen Demand at 7.3, turbidity at 10, and pH at 9.0. Not only this, but one of the first observations taken was a dead fish that was decomposing near the edge of the water. I think the water quality tests may show some reasons for this. Because the total phosphate level is so high, there could have been a sudden population growth of algae that ave not allowed enough oxygen available for the animal life at Capital Lake, which may have been one of the causes of death for the fish. We see the BOD is not very low at 7.3, but the optimal value is lower than 6, meaning there isn't enough oxygen at Capital Lake as there should be and that is critical for the life at Capital Lake to survive. Furthermore, it shows there is more bacteria that is using up the oxygen. When the fish dies, it decomposes and that actually lowers the oxygen levels even further and that paired with a high BOD means that there are too many creatures depending on oxygen but not enough of a supply. Also, the pH was abnormally high at 9.0 when compared to a result of 7.5 last year. Considering the fact that Capitol Lake is a recreational area where people tend to walk their animals around, eat, and spend time, there is a higher possibility for pollution, which d increase the pH and the turbidity (as the water would become more cloudy as it is polluted and contaminated). That would also explain the decreased oxygen as the dissolved oxygen tends to decrease with an increase in trash and pollution. Based on these results, I think that the pH levels, B.O.D. levels, turbidity, and the total phosphate levels should be closely monitored because there is not enough oxygen for the animals in Capitol Lake and this is some continue to happen and kill more and more animals. If we can find a way to reduce the pollution at Capitol Lake and help supply more oxygen, then perhaps we can increase the water quality of Capitol Lake to a much healthier level.</p>	

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237	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Advice From an Expert (Excerpts from speeches given by William Ruckleshaus and their relevance to the Capitol Lake issue) A majority of people in the Olympia-Thurston County community favor keeping Capitol Lake as a lake and addressing the water quality problems which are sourced elsewhere in the watershed upstream from the Lake. (See '7 Wonders of Thurston County' via Google, a survey sponsored by Thurston County Commissioners.) Residents reject the 2009 recommendation of CLAMP to re- create an intertidal mudflat. Many believe that the continued attempts by a politically well positioned small minority to force the elimination of the Lake are fostering public contempt for government and Environmentalism. (The reader should know that CLAMP is an acronym for Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan, a state government created interagency group tasked with studying sediment management in Capitol Lake and recommending alternative management plans.CL/DRA2016 refers to the Capitol Lake Deschutes River analysis of 2016 sponsored by the Department of Enterprise Services.) Mr. William Ruckleshaus is the first and fifth Administrator of the Environmental Protective Agency. He is an advocate and visionary strategist for successful environmental policy in the United States. Importantly, he recognizes the critical need to have public buy-in with proposed restoration projects. According to Mr. Ruckleshaus, lack of public buy-in tends to diminish the chances of success of effective long term environmental strategies and policies. The following excerpts are from two speeches made by Mr. Ruckleshaus and are presented in bold type. The first speech was made at the inaugural Capitol Land Trust Breakfast , February, 2004. The second speech was made to the Puget Sound Regional Council, April 8, 2008. The purpose of this paper is to show the relevance of Mr. Ruckleshaus' statements as they pertain to the Capitol Lake issue.</p> <p>Speech to the first Capitol Land Trust Breakfast, February, 2004 Ruckleshaus: 'We all too often forget the necessity of having the public behind us on these projects. When we force projects down their throats against their will, we may win the battle, but we'll drastically increase chances of losing the war.' Relevance: Our community is opposed to removing the 5th Avenue dam and which would revert the lake area to an intertidal mudflat. This finding was established by interviews with five public office candidates who campaigned in 2010 and 2013 and collectively contacted over 10,000 households throughout Thurston County. Their findings, reached independently, indicated to board of directors of the Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA-a citizens group), that a large majority in our community support maintaining Capitol Lake. This has become the best available science because CLAMP rejected the idea of surveying the public-at-large. Had they done so, many feel this project would never have been proposed. Again, refer to The 7 Wonders of Thurston County, a survey sponsored by Thurston County Commissioners.</p>	No

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237	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Reasons justifying the overwhelming opposition to dam removal include: 1. Environmental - The most credible and recent review of water quality studies demonstrates that the Lake prevents eutrophication of Budd Inlet (Puget Sound) and adds dissolved oxygen to that Inlet. (See below - Dr. David Milne, professor Emeritus, Evergreen State college and author of Marine Life and the Sea, Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1995.)</p> <p>Additionally, the Lake, as the community's most popular urban amenity, attracts residents toward our local businesses in the downtown core, thus reducing sprawl and pressure on our undeveloped watersheds. (CLAMP reports to the public failed to mention either of these environmental qualities of the Lake.)</p> <p>2. Economic - Removing the 5th Avenue dam places shoreline businesses (and the port) in great jeopardy as the critical necessity of timely dredging is not only lost, but left vulnerable to the whims any group that chooses to block the obtaining of dredging permits by those shoreline private enterprises and managing public agencies (which has happened multiple times), Loss of these businesses would likely result in the loss of many scores of millions of dollars per year to the local economy, especially downtown Olympia, (Clamp reports to the public failed to mention the probabilities of such severe economic losses.)</p> <p>3. Aesthetic- The state capitol dome reflection in the Lake is unparalleled in any state capitol in the United States. The view of Capitol Lake from the Law Enforcement Monument looking north to the Olympics was voted the ' #1 Wonder in Thurston County' by its citizens in 2011,</p> <p>4. Social Cohesion - This is the community's major gathering place, its 'Central Park'. Many tens if not hundreds of thousands use this space annually, David Batker of Earth Economics describes amenities like Capitol Lake as valuable sources for social cohesion within the community, contributing to reduced sprawl, community health, and GNH (Gross National Happiness).</p> <p>5. Fiscal - Dredging costs for a reasonable Lake management plan were severely exaggerated by the Capitol Lake Alternatives Analysis - Public Review Draft. (One CLAMP member admitted to that at a meeting with Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association meeting.) Seasoned engineers and past G.A. Capitol Lake Manager have shown that dredging cost estimates associated with an intertidal mudflat were grossly under-estimated. Public infrastructure investments totaling about \$84 million which have increased the Lake's social, aesthetic, and historical uses would be substantially wasted by dam removal. Our community is frustrated and mistrusting of its leadership for publishing such misleading information. (See 'trust', #4 below.)</p>	No

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237	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Speech to the Puget Sound Regional Council April, 2008 (All excerpts of Mr. Ruckelshaus' speech were delivered within the context of what it will take to get Puget Sound cleaned up using The Regional Council's Vision 2040 Plan in collaboration with The Puget Sound Partnership's Action Plan.) Ruckelshaus: " People must develop trust in an atmosphere where trust has been eroded." 'We have to face the fact that lots of people just don't trust the government." Relevance: Trust has never been established between the community and the governmental group (CLAMP) that recommended removing the 5th avenue dam to create the intertidal mudflat. A multitude of causes include: 1. Regardless of being given a substantial budget, CLAMP ignored community opinion by neglecting to survey the public-at-large. This mistake, apparently borne of CLAMP's mistrust of the public-at-large to reach CLAMP's preferred decision, has resulted in a reciprocal mistrust of CLAMP by the public. 2. Worse, CLAMP repeatedly suggested formally that (based on " our findings') the public had no preference over the four management options offered by CLAMP. 'Our findings' were derived from a survey of 18 persons who had attended Public Information Meetings.... presented by CLAMP. More contempt, more distrust.</p> <p>3. As mentioned, a meaningful discussion of the likely severe economic consequences of dam removal to the downtown core was totally omitted. This omission is especially egregious as our downtown blight, business evacuation, and drug use burgeons. The omission has been strongly criticized by the reviewing economic consultant, Cascade Economics, Inc. (See supporting documents for Capitol Lake Alternatives Analysis - for Public Review.)</p> <p>4, CLAMP's bias for an intertidal mudflat has become obvious as the community has become better informed. The bias is manifested by unrealistic cost analyses of lake versus mudflat (as mentioned), limited scopes which excluded relevant but apparently unwanted information, and making assumptions and assertions which the public now knows are easily disproven. The public was deprived of objectivity,</p> <p>5. Environmental benefits of the Lake such as protection of Chinook juveniles from predators, photosynthetic production of oxygen, and nitrogen extraction were never mentioned to the public. (See above and below.)</p>	

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237	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>Ruckleshaus: 'Governor Gregoire and the legislature have made Puget Sound a non-partisan priority. Our congressional delegation puts Puget Sound at the top of their agenda. It is not now and must not become a partisan issue!' Relevance: It should be obvious to many observers of the political landscape that re-creating an intertidal mudflat in our capitol city is of potential political importance as a wedge issue. The issue embodies large governmental expenditures, perceived governmental interference, results which are shown to be of little or negative value, and strong local public opposition, Unfortunately, this type of issue is the bedrock of talk radio whose frequent mission is to polarize the people, Such polarization could harm legislative support for the Puget Sound Partnership</p> <p>Ruckleshaus: 'People are showing up in the region as predicted but they aren't living where we hoped.' '....we can't develop the way we have in the past and meet our housing, transportation, electrical, water, and environmental goals.' Relevance: This statement represents one of our region's most serious environmental dilemmas - sprawl. Yet no analysis was made of the likely increase in sprawl which is predicted by independent city planners should the lake be converted to a mudflat (See scoping document 'Interview with Mr. Peter Swensson', having 30 years of experience as Olympia City Planner and Thurston County Planner). The public sees an irony here as more pressure on our undeveloped non-urban watersheds will ensue should people choose to live outside the city core. It is becoming increasingly obvious that Capitol Lake is a strong positive influence on environmental health as it tends to congregate people to the downtown core and tends to suppress sprawl,</p> <p>Ruckleshaus: 'Government needs to be a participant in these processes, but it is often better to operate under the auspices of a non-governmental, neutral organization.' 'Let the citizens decide how to get there.' 'Every important stakeholder or group with a vital interest must be at the table early.' 'Ordinary citizens have an amazing ability to filter through scientific information and come up with reasonable findings.' Relevance: The CLAMP Steering Committee (those recommending to remove the dam and re-construct the intertidal mudflat) was made up of 9 entities as was the CL/DRA 2016, Each one was a government entity and all are listed as follows: Department of Ecology Thurston County GA (NOW DES) WDFW City of Olympia DNR City of Tumwater Squaxin Island Tribe Port of Olympia Note: There was no citizen's group or 'greater business area' group authorized to cast a vote, yet both are criticalifa balance of public values are considered. The first 4 members were driven by their missions to remove the dam {for perceived environmental reasons) without consideration for any other benefits the Lake holds for the community. All that was needed was to convince a majority of leaders in one of the remaining 5 governmental groups to go along. The public-at- large was ignored - again, (The margin to recommend dam removal was one vote.)</p>	

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237	43420	Jack Havens		<p>Ruckleshaus: 'You have to confront economics in some detail.' 'We need to pull together....integrating and working toward the common goal of creating an economically and environmentally sustainable region.' Relevance: We know that removing the dam will virtually guarantee severe hardships and a high potential for failure for existing inlet businesses, including the Port of Olympia, which collectively generate over \$250,000,000 per year in local revenue from marine operations (Port of Olympia records), According to Cascade Economics, Inc, in its bold type remarks criticizing CLAMP's analysis, 'removing the dam could have negative economic consequences.' For a professional economic consultant group, this is strong, warning language, These findings are further verified by the Port of Bellingham's Marina Benefits Analysis of 2006. This critically important report, available online starting in 2007, was ignored by CLAMP,</p> <p>Ruckleshaus: 'Finally, such a process must have as its goal a deep and meaningful solution.' Relevance: To be compatible with the above statement, removing the dam should be virtually certain to improve water quality in Budd Inlet. However, a recent review of claims that the Lake has a negative impact on Puget Sound strongly suggests that Capitol Lake has a significant positive effect on the ecological health of and dissolved oxygen levels of Budd Inlet during the 'critical months' of July, August, and September, Dr. David Milne PhD, environmental science teacher and Faculty Emeritus at the Evergreen State College has studied estuary dynamics and water quality in Budd and Eld Inlets for over two decades. Prior to his arrival at Evergreen, he acquired a thorough understanding of computerized simulation techniques that enabled him to analyze the simulations said to show problems traceable to Capitol Lake. He has written an interim report which is a peer review of previous state sponsored reports (Department of Ecology TMDL modeling simulations) regarding the effects of water quality of Budd Inlet caused by Capitol Lake. His intent is to be informative as a well versed researcher, not adversarial. In short, Dr. Milne dispels the long held notions than Capitol Lake reduces dissolved oxygen concentrations in Budd Inlet during the critical months (July- September). In fact, Dr. Milne convincingly shows why there is a far greater probability that Capitol Lake improves benthic dissolved oxygen levels in Budd Inlet during these critical months via photosynthesis and nitrogen uptake by Lake flora. According to his study, removing the dam will likely reduce water quality in Budd Inlet. To conclude, this outcome is inconsistent with a 'deep and meaningful solution' which Mr. Ruckleshaus indicates is a major necessity for public acceptance.</p> <p>A recent report by Jack Havens regarding Capitol Lake's effect on Chinook Juvenile salmon suggests that neither Capitol Lake or an estuary provides a measurable benefit to this important food resource for Orcas, (See scoping report Capitol Lake or Estuary Strengths Appear to be Equal for Our Chinook Run) Clearly, removing the 5th avenue tide-gate offers no improvement to the biological problems of South Puget Sound.</p>	

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237	16-Nov	Jack Havens		Conclusion Documentable reports from Thurston County citizenry exist which explain why an intertidal mudflat provides little or no benefit to water quality or the health of our Chinook salmon run. This information was not used by the governmental and tribal entities who have been given complete control of the decision-making process. William Ruckleshaus is an enlightened, experienced environmental strategist. His expertise should be considered as helpful guidance for environmentalists. Through his speeches he has clearly revealed his views regarding the critical importance of public backing for environmental projects. He has implied in no uncertain terms that environmental projects which fail to incorporate strong public engagement and support (having little or no 'public by-in') will likely be met with considerable opposition with serious consequences which well may contribute to the weakening of Environmentalism as a movement.	
238	16-Nov	Allen Miller		<p>Under RCW 43.210.020, RCW 43.210.030, and WAC 197-11-440, the Capitol Lake EIS must include the following studies, analyses, alternatives, and mitigation measures: 1. Water Quality The studies completed by Professors Milne, Soule, and Ladd at The Evergreen State College show that Capitol Lake water quality is swimmable and that the Department of Ecology model showing a water quality violation is not accurate. Water quality measurements should be taken as part of the EIS at various points in the urban watershed from Henderson Boulevard to Priest Point Park to confirm that the water quality of the Lake is good. Any disputes over science should be submitted to an independent third party as recommended by the Ruckelshaus Center.</p> <p>2. Sediment Control and Disposal The EIS must analyze the cleanliness of the dredged sediment in the North Basin and northern half of the Middle Basins and its suitability as a marketable product or its suitability for in water disposal as compared with the costs of disposal of the sediment that would need to be dredged in Budd Inlet should the tide lock be removed. The EIS must recognize that the US Army Corps of Engineers is on record as stating that it would not grant a permit to remove the tide lock because of the increased dredging in Budd Inlet that would require. Because of the Corps' involvement the EIS should be subject to both SEPA and NEPA analysis. 3. The South and Middle Basins use for Water Quality and Sediment Control The South and southern part of the Middle Basins can continue to be allowed to become wetlands which would cleanse and decrease the sediment in the North Basin and north part of the Middle Basin which provide the City Beautiful Movement reflecting pools for the Capitol Group.</p>	No

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238	16-Nov	Allen Miller		<p>4. State Capitol Campus National Historic District preservation The EIS must recognize that the Wilder and White and Olmsted Brothers City Beautiful Movement design of the State Capitol Campus is preserved as a National Historic District which includes Capitol Lake. The reflecting mirror for the Capitol Group on the bluff in the North Basin and the north half of the Middle Basin is protected under federal and state law. Because the State Capitol Campus is protected under federal and state law the EIS should be subject to both SEPA and NEPA analysis.</p> <p>5. Salmon The EIS must recognize that there was no natural wild salmon run up the Deschutes River because of Tumwater Falls. The only reason salmon are able to swim up the Deschutes is because of the salmon ladders built in the 1950's at the tide lock and at the Falls. The EIS should study the prospect of reestablishing the natural wild salmon run up Percival Creek by constructing a new channel for Percival Creek along the Deschutes Parkway and abandoned rail road line which would enter Budd Inlet directly.</p> <p>6. New Zealand Mud snail : The EIS must recognize that the Mud snail is no reason to close Capitol Lake to swimming and recreation. The Mud snail exists in many lakes and watersheds throughout the West including Yellowstone Lake, Lake Washington, the Columbia River, and the Chehalis River. The mud snail is a management issue. The EIS should include an analysis of whether in water disposal or dewatering the alluvial soil for use as top soil will manage the snails.</p> <p>7. Flood Control The EIS must recognize that the tide lock has been used over the last several decades to prevent flooding in the North Campus and downtown Olympia. With sea-level rise, the retention of the tide lock for flood control will become even more important to continue the prevention of flooding in the North Campus and downtown.</p> <p>8. Economics In addition to an analysis of the ability to sell the dredge spoils as fill or top soil for a profit, the EIS needs to study the cost of removing the tide lock and having to build a new bridge at 5th Avenue, fortify the Olympia- Yashiro Friendship Bridge and the Deschutes Parkway from tidal action and the cost of dredging in the Lake as opposed to dredging in Budd Inlet. The economic analysis also needs to include the revenue generated by the Port and other water front water dependent businesses in downtown Olympia.</p>	
239	13-Nov	Doug Mah	Thurston County Chamber of Commerce	Please find Thurston Chamber comments on Capitol Lake/ Lower Deschutes Watershed. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.	No

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
239	13-Nov	Doug Mah	Thurston County Chamber of Commerce	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Capitol Lake/ Lower Deschutes Watershed. Created in 1874, the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce is a member-based organization operating in Thurston County. The Chamber works with an array of community partnerships, ranging from private businesses, non-profits, and government, to address the challenges and opportunities before our community. Thurston Chamber of Commerce is pleased to offer the following questions, comments, and concerns for consideration as part of the EIS Scoping Process: Comments and Questions: Typically, an EIS is for a specific project or proposal and includes the proposal's objectives, specifying the purpose and need to which the proposal is responding, the major conclusions, significant areas of controversy and uncertainty. However, DES was instructed by the Legislature to consider four alternatives and not a single proposal. How can the adequacy of the final EIS be determined with no single proposal or project? Would any alternative contained as part of the EIS be subject to legal challenges or appeals following adoption of the final EIS?</p> <p>How will the urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and the design of the built environment, including the reuse and conservation potential of various alternatives and mitigation measures, be taken into account in each alternative?</p> <p>How will the urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and the design of the built environment, including the reuse and conservation potential of various alternatives and mitigation measures, be taken into account in each alternative? The department shall develop an EIS to consider alternatives for Capitol Lake. The alternatives considered must include, at a minimum, a lake option, an estuary option, and a hybrid option Will the baseline data be updated to account for changes in environmental practices upstream from the lake? Shall the EIS document and consider other alternatives beyond the Managed Lake, Restored Estuary, Hybrid, and No Action alternatives? What is the process for submitting and accepting other alternatives from the community? Are the published definition and dimensions of the 'Hybrid alternative' commonly accepted? Shall the public and community be allowed to determine and define the 'Hybrid Alternative'?</p>	

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239	13-Nov	Doug Mah	Thurston County Chamber of Commerce	<p>An EIS provides an impartial discussion of significant environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance environmental quality. However, the Legislature requires that the EIS also consider an expanded area around Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet including the Port of Olympia for the economic analysis.' How will the EIS ensure balance between the environmental and economic impacts of each alternative? What standards will be used to determine the adequacy of the economic analysis? What shall be the determinants and definition of "expanded" area? How will the EIS provide sufficient and detailed economic analysis for each alternative to permit a comparative evaluation of the alternatives?</p> <p>Shall the EIS present a comparison of the economic impacts of the alternatives, including the no action alternative? How shall the geographical scope of the economic analysis be determined compared to the scope of the environmental analysis? How shall the EIS describe the existing economy that will be affected by the proposal, analyze significant impacts of alternatives, and discuss reasonable mitigation measures that would significantly mitigate economic impacts? Will the EIS include the intended economic benefits of the mitigation measures and discuss their technical feasibility and practicability? How will financial cost associated with changing existing community plans (for example: land use and shoreline plans) and zoning regulations be incorporated into the EIS? How will the cost of and effects on public and private services and infrastructure, such as utilities, communications, and roads be addressed in the EIS?</p> <p>The environmental impact statement will also consider sediment transport and locations within lower Budd Inlet. As the EIS considers sediment transport, how will the financial impact to private and public property holders be considered and included? What baseline measures will be used to assess sediment transport and locations? Will the sediment data and baseline measures be updated from previous studies?</p> <p>The legislature requires that the department work with affected stakeholders to develop mitigation plans. How will the 'effected stakeholders' be defined? Shall all stakeholders be considered equally impacted? How will the adequacy of the mitigation plans be determined on a case by case basis? What will the mitigations plans include for each effected party? What shall be the scope of the mitigation plans and how will this be determined?</p>	

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239	13-Nov	Doug Mah	Thurston County Chamber of Commerce	In 2016, stakeholders, in collaboration with DES, identified common goals that that should be satisfied by any long-term management alternative. Shall the EIS consider using a statistically valid and reliable public opinion survey to validate the common goals? Would the EIS process allow for third party public opinion polls and surveys to be submitted as part of the comments for the draft EIS? Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIS for Capitol Lake/ Lower Deschutes Watershed. The Thurston Chamber of Commerce appreciates the efforts by the Department of Enterprise Services to ensure the EIS process is open and transparent and informed by the community. Please feel free to contact me by calling or emailing if you have questions regarding our comments.	
240	16-Nov	Steve Shanewise		<p>SCOPING COMMENTS FOR CAPITOL LAKE EIS Introduction The comments below regard issues that should be investigated in the Capitol Lake EIS relative to the Dual Estuary/Lake Idea (DELI). These suggestions have been gleaned from the DELI document produced in January 2017 that garnered wide spread support from the public (see attachment). These suggestions are likely not fully inclusive; qualified engineers should be able to find more. In addition, I have started off with new information on the wildlife benefits of DELI. Value of Freshwater Habitat The reflective pool of freshwater proposed for the east portion of the north basin with DELI will not just be a visually aesthetic stimulus or a swimming beach. The west portion of the new lake, outside the swim areas, will be high value wildlife habitat. Waterfowl will rest here when tides are low where they can drink and bathe. Bats will be afforded a source of insect feed hopefully similar, though reduced, from what they do now. With roost logs, shorebirds will hang out during high tides to the delight of anyone walking around the new lake. Adding a freshwater component to the Estuary restoration of Capitol Lake would have profound benefits for wildlife use and human enjoyment. THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR EIS Rubble-mound Dike -use same construction techniques used to build the railroad embankment between the north and middle basins or the dike at the SW end of the middle basin that created the two sediment basins. -source rock from Black Lake Quarry; investigate hauling material via rail. - investigate sealing inside wall of rubble-mound dike with an impervious barrier to simultaneously prevent salt water intrusion or drainage of freshwater from the new lake basin at low tides. -investigate building a pedestrian walkway atop the new dike. New Freshwater Lake -investigate groundwater availability to supply the lake; primarily locate test well(s) near base of the Capitol Hill bluff along south shore of north basin.</p>	No

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240	16-Nov	Steve Shanewise		<p>-investigate potential for using LOTT reclaimed water as a supplemental water source. -investigate construction of a variable primary outfall to the new lake with an adjustable invert from O' to lake OHWM +2'. -investigate potential to use new lake basin for stormwater detention during winter flooding events. -investigate using artesian flows supplying new lake as emergency fresh water drinking source in the event of a disaster (major earthquake). Swim Beach -investigate using liner to place sand atop for a clean beach. -investigate hydraulic effects of the east side input water flowing toward the secondary OHWM outlets along the west side of new lake dike for purposes of maintaining water quality. -investigate building docks for the swim beach and installing log booms to separate swimming areas. Sediment Management -investigate sediment transport scenarios with the Marathon Park opening left intact and removal of the 5th Avenue dam gateway (leave existing dam orifice at same width, just remove all of the water control structures). The idea would be to compare sediment transport effects from a small opening vs. a large one (500') at both sites. -investigate leaving existing sediments in the middle and south basins to provide substrate for establishment of salt marsh vegetation. -investigate installing a permanent, electric dredge pumping system at the SW portion of the middle basin that annually deposits dredged material into at least one old sediment basin so it can dewater and be hauled away as dry material. Tidal Generation -investigate installing tidal generators at various locations where water speeds will accelerate (5th Avenue Dam; Marathon Park; Percival Cove; under the 1-5 bridge; west wall of new lake dike).</p>	
241	16-Nov	Sally Toteff	Department of Ecology	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) scoping phase of the Capitol Lake Lower Deschutes Watershed Environmental Impact Study (EIS). The Department of Ecology (Ecology) appreciates the tremendous community engagement that DES has facilitated leading up to the decision to conduct this environmental review. Ecology understands the environmental review will evaluate at least four alternatives for long term management of Capitol Lake and consider how these alternatives impact the natural and built environments. We look forward to being a resource and providing technical expertise in water quality, shoreline management, wetlands, and environmental permitting that may be helpful to the process.</p>	No

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241	16-Nov	Sally Toteff	Department of Ecology	<p>In recognition of Governor Inslee's Executive Order in support of the Southern Resident Killer Whale recovery, (Executive Order 18-02), we recommend the EIS evaluate how alternatives could support orca recovery and sustainability. Southern Residents are classified as endangered in Washington under the federal Endangered Species Act. Their population is declining. If Southern Residents were to become extinct, we would suffer an unacceptable loss to our environment, lose an essential component of our marine ecosystem, and lose an indicator of the health of our waters. The health of the lower Deschutes watershed and Puget Sound are intertwined. Puget Sound's health is degrading due to increasing levels of nutrients that are adversely affecting water quality, The imbalance is causing measurable impacts, including affects to salmon and forage fish sensitive to low oxygen. There are many natural and human sources of nutrients. The EIS should evaluate how project alternatives would impact nutrients in both the Deschutes watershed and Puget Sound. A new sound-wide water quality assessment called the Puget Sound Nutrient Source Reduction Project is available as a tool to assist in such an analysis.</p> <p>Water Quality The Deschutes watershed is a dynamic place, rich in natural resources. Unfortunately, the watershed also suffers from water pollution problems which will be exacerbated as the region continues to grow and develop. Working with local partners and community members, Ecology is currently developing a water cleanup plan (also called a Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL) for the marine waters of Budd Inlet. Water cleanup plans are required by the federal Clean Water Act for all waterbodies that are identified as polluted and do not meet state water quality standards. Water cleanup plans create numeric allocations for all sources that contribute to the waterbody's pollution. These allocations represent the highest allowable contribution (or load) that each source may discharge to the waterbody. Additionally, a water cleanup plan for the Deschutes watershed upstream from Capitol Lake has been developed. As your team evaluates alternatives for the Lower Deschutes Watershed EIS and the Ecology team continues work on water cleanup plans, we look forward to close coordination. Please consider Ecology as a resource regarding how different EIS alternatives conform to the Budd Inlet water cleanup plan. In order to do this, we recommend the EIS analyze water quality in Budd Inlet as well as Capitol Lake. As computer modeling is a common tool used in EISs to evaluate water quality impacts, we recommend the EIS use the existing GEMMS model (Generalized Environmental Modeling System for Surfacewaters) already created for evaluating Budd Inlet. This dynamic, three dimensional model is able to simulate continuous changes in hydrodynamics and water quality. The model is calibrated and verified with field data and multiple peer reviews have been completed. For efficient assessment of how the EIS alternatives fit into the water cleanup plan allocations, the same baseline runs and critical time periods could be employed.</p>	

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241	16-Nov	Sally Toteff	Department of Ecology	<p>The geographic extent of the analysis includes freshwater inputs into Budd Inlet and Capitol Lake, as well as marine water quality exerting influence at Budd Inlet's boundary. In order to establish these boundary conditions, we rely on a larger modeling system that includes the entire Puget Sound. Data files and necessary information are available for the EIS process. Through the water cleanup plan processes, pollution problems have been identified in the lake and the inlet, however different management options may have varied affects. In addition to considering how the EIS alternatives will impact dissolved oxygen in Budd Inlet, we recommend comprehensive consideration of impacts to all aspects of water quality in Capitol Lake and surrounding tributaries and watersheds. This includes consideration of how the alternatives impact stormwater, sediment, temperature, riparian buffers, as well as other watershed discharges. Please contact Leanne Weiss at Leanne.Weiss@ecy.wa.gov or Rich Doenges at Rich.Doenges@ecy.wa.gov for questions about water quality or water cleanup plans.</p> <p>Shoreline Management The Deschutes watershed is set apart by its abundant fresh water and marine shorelines. Ecology is available as a resource regarding the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) and associated permitting. As the EIS project boundaries cross multiple Shoreline Master Program (SMP) jurisdictions, the shoreline master plans from Tumwater, Olympia, and Thurston County must each be considered. It is important to note that different aspects of the proposal may trigger different shoreline program requirements. For example, the proposal will likely need to examine multiple sections of each shoreline program including dredging, fill, shoreline restoration, shoreline stabilization, and other areas. Both local government and Ecology will be involved in shoreline permitting. Specific permits and permit requirements should be identified in the EIS.</p> <p>For in-water work associated with the project, federal Clean Water Act permitting considerations may include United States Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permitting, and Section 401 Water Quality certification from Ecology. This would include potential wetland impacts that result from the project. Dredging and disposal of sediments will be subject to state and federal requirements. Alternatives that may impact the Federal Navigation Channel in Budd Inlet will need to consider and comply with Army Corps of Engineers Section 408 requirements of the federal Rivers and Harbors Act. Disposal of dredged materials will require evaluation, especially for materials and sediments that may require chemical or biological control. For instance, evaluating management options for sediments with purple loosestrife seeds and New Zealand mud snails will be important for understanding dredge disposal options,</p>	

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242	16-Nov	Bob Barnes		<p>I am writing in support of the Restored Estuary Alternative. Capitol Lake - Deschutes Watershed EIS Process The Deschutes Watershed must be viewed as a connected habitat that supports fisheries, wildlife, and water quantity and quality from mountains and tributaries to the river's mouth. I support a Restored Estuary which is the most respectful of the Earth, and foundational to natural processes.</p> <p>In 2015, the Department of Ecology published a TMDL Report (December 2015 Publication No. 15-10-012) that indicated that portions pf the Deschutes River, Percival Creek, and Budd Inlet Tributaries do not meet water quality standards for one or more of the following parameters: Fecal coliform bacteria, temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH or fine sediment.</p> <p>Native Americans lived here for thousands of years (Steh-Chass People, Squaxin, Nisqually, Puyallup and Muckleshoot Tribes) without wreaking havoc with this watershed. They signed a Treaty with the United States giving up possession of the South Sound in exchange for perpetual rights to share the fish, shellfish, and game in the usual and accustomed places</p> <p>Impacts caused by urbanization, logging and agriculture have degraded riparian buffers and wetlands so important to maintaining water quality and quantity. Repairing damage inflicted by heavy human use and abuse of wetland systems requires removing the cause of degradation at the watershed level to permit natural recovery and implementing to improve hydrologic functioning and facilitate reestablishment of native vegetation.</p> <p>Much of the historic habitat in the Deschutes Watershed has been altered. An inadequate application of existing regulations has the potential to threaten Deschutes fish resources as well as other Tribal Treaty Rights. Capitol Lake (formerly part of Budd's Inlet (see 1873 Map), the middle Deschutes and Upper Deschutes are all connected. They affect one another. They should all be addressed during this process.</p>	Yes

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242	16-Nov	Bob Barnes		<p>At the least, the EIS should consider the following: 1- Acquire sensitive and significant properties in the upper watershed by establishing a community forest that expands riparian buffers to a 250' minimum standard, decommission logging roads, use bioengineering to stabilize erosion prone areas, and use compost, native plants and mulch to accelerate developing and maintaining a stable forest plant community. 2- Acquire properties that protect cold water inputs (springs and upland forests). 3- Add wood (large woody debris) to the entire watershed including tributaries. This wood was removed as part of the harvesting practices prior to the 1970's. Wood helps with gravel sorting (essential for spawning), creating hiding places for young fish, and acts as a shock absorber during high water events. No stream protection buffers were required prior to the 1970's, and streams were generally harvested or farmed to the water's edge (this is about the time the EPA and Department of Ecology were established). The buffer widths in the mid 1990's increased to about 75 feet, and since 2001 the width of buffers on fish streams increased to 100 feet. 4- R-establish a healthy and competitive riparian buffer to the new standard (250' plus channel migration zone). This buffer should consider using methodologies that promote and accelerate the evolutionary process of reforestation. This should consider the use of compost and mulch blankets (3' thickness of each) to improve establishment and increase survival rate. Utilize primarily native plants that are appropriate and adaptable to the riparian zone. 5- Rewild the floodplain - don't build or intrude into the 100 year floodplain and remove or mitigate any development that remains. Re-establish historic channels, wetlands and side channels as closely as possible. Remove the fill caused by the Olympia Brewery Bottling Plant and Golf Course within the historic wetlands or channel migration zone (attached).</p> <p>6- Establish a watershed center for education and outreach that has detailed information and activities to explain, interpret and improve the watershed. 7- Construct a new fish hatchery facility in an environmentally appropriate area (not in the 100 year floodplain). This will improve and enhance the existing Hatchery Facility at Tumwater Falls. 8- Restore the estuary (remove 5th Ave Dam and reconfigure 5th Ave Bridge and Deschutes Parkway connection). 9- Mitigate impacts to freshwater wetlands around Capitol Lake by replacing in Middle Watershed Area. 10- Provide stormwater treatment for all runoff to State, Thurston County or City Roads. Utilize best management practices and rain garden - low impact development concepts to filter and absorb stormwater runoff. 11- Remove all barriers (adjust or remove culverts, dams, or replace with bridges, etc) to fish migration and provide enhancement. All of these steps will help with water quality and quantity in the watershed, improve fisheries, habitat and serve all of our communities. I hope we can all work together to get off the planning treadmill and on to action to improve the watershed. Our children and grandchildren are planning on it. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.</p>	No

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243	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p><i>NOTE: this comment is from John DeMeyer (same as comment #229); however, Jack Havens also submitted a copy of John DeMeyer's comment letter.</i></p> <p>Listed below are elements and parameters of particular importance that should also be addressed in the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed EIS. WATER QUALITY: (a) Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN); The Puget Sound Partnership has recognized that the steady increase of DIN is the biggest driver of declining water quality in Puget Sound. (Puget Sound Partnership, State of the Sound-- Marine Water Quality, Bi-annual Report 2013). Department of Ecology studies show that the Deschutes River currently has one of the highest concentrations of DIN of any major tributary flowing into Puget Sound. These studies also predict that by 2070 the Deschutes River as it flows over Tumwater Falls into the Capitol lake basin will have the highest DIN concentration of any of these tributaries. (Puget Sound and the Straits Dissolved Assessments-Impacts of Current & Future Human Nitrogen Sources and Climate Change Through 2070; DOE pub No 14-03-007, 2014). It should also be noted that the Department of Ecology, recognizing the adverse impacts of excess DIN, requires that during the summer months LOTT sewage must undergo an extra advanced secondary nitrogen(DIN) removal treatment before its' effluent is discharged into Lower Budd Inlet. It has been long recognized that in the summer months there are significant reductions of DIN in Capitol Lake's water as it exits the Lake through the tide lock as compared to the water entering via Tumwater Falls. These reductions are due primarily to the DIN nutrient uptake by algae and macrophyte plants growing in the Lake. It has been estimated that this reduction in DIN due to plant uptake may be as high as 70% during the critical summer months, with the amount of nitrogen plant uptake exceeding that removed by the LOTT advanced secondary treatment process. (Capitol Lake Protector of Water Quality in Budd Inlet, Dr David Milne, March 2014). Each alternative should be analyzed and compared on how it will impact the amount of DIN in the Deschutes River water that flows through the Capitol Lake Basin and into lower Budd Inlet.</p>	No

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243	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>(b) The Department of Ecology, while recognizing the above, maintain that based on their computer modeling any of the above benefits are offset when the algae and floating aquatic plants flow out of the Lake and into lower Budd Inlet where they immediately settle and are decomposed by bottom dwelling, dissolved oxygen(DO) consuming bacteria. This in turn results in lower Budd Inlet being listed as an impaired water body for DO. Ecology bases this conclusion on a computer model designed in the late 1990's for LOTT to address DIN discharges into Budd Inlet from its' Olympia waste treatment plant. This initial modeling did not include Capitol Lake. Ecology modified the model in the early 2000's to include Capitol Lake for the Department of Enterprise Service's CLAMP study and again more recently as part of the Lower Bud Inlet TMDL process to conclude that Capitol Lake was the cause of the Inlet's DO violations. While the original 1998 LOTT modeling was extensively peer reviewed by 15 different national authorities it is unclear and to what extent the latter two modeling efforts were peer reviewed by qualified experts. Dr. David Milne, with a background in oceanography, computer modeling and over 30 years teaching marine studies at the university level has extensively reviewed and critiqued the latter two Ecology modeling efforts. Dr Milne questioned and took exception to several conclusions of this modeling. While agreeing to review Dr. Milne's work Ecology has refused to accept any of Dr Milne's conclusions. The legislation (2EHB 1115) that funded the recent Phase 1 of this EIS effort stated that the appropriation was provided to make tangible progress on reaching agreement on a long term plan for Capitol Lake '... building on the recommendations of the 2014 situation for Capitol Lake management prepared by the Ruckleshaus Center...' . One of the three recommendations from the Ruckelshaus assessment was to resolve the modeling dispute through an outside independent scientific review of the Ecology's modeling by national level experts. To my knowledge this has not occurred. (Situation Assessment of Capitol Lake, W.D. Ruckelshaus Center, 2014). The Phase 2 EIS deliberations should include a review of Ecology's Capitol Lake water quality modeling by national-level experts.</p>	

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				<p>(c) Water quality sampling. Capitol Lake was listed by the Department of Ecology as 'impaired' for fecal coliform bacteria violations in 1993. Beginning in 2000 and continuing through 2014 Thurston County sampled Capitol Lake's North and Middle basins annually for fecal coliform bacteria during the six months of May - October. The results over this 15 year period show that Capitol Lake met the water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria every year. (Thurston County Water Quality Monitoring, Budd Deschutes Watershed-Capitol Lake, Annual Report, 2014) Members from CLIPA met with Ecology water quality staff in 2015 to see if, based on the positive fifteen year sampling results the 'impaired water' designation could be lifted. Ecology staff pointed out that the Thurston County sampling program covered only six months of the calendar year and stated it would take the results from a full year's, 12 month, sampling program for them to consider lifting the 'impaired waters' designation. The Capitol Lake water quality sampling was terminated in 2015. Water sampling covering the full calendar year should be reinstated immediately in Capitol Lake.</p> <p>(d) Aquatic plant matter growing in the Lake consists of algae and macrophyte plants. The Department of Ecology based on the results of their most recent computer modeling maintain that this vegetative matter flowing out of the Lake, and then decaying on the bottom of Budd Inlet, is a primary cause of the low summertime, DO problem in lower Budd inlet. Macrophytes are many times more productive and remove greater amounts of DIN from the water column during the summer months than algae. During the critical summer months growing season they are attached by their root system to the Lake bottom and die back latter in the fall months by which time low Do in lower Budd Inlet is not a problem. The water exiting the Lake at the tide lock should be sampled during the summer months for algae and macrophyte plant biomass to confirm the assumptions used in Ecology's computer modeling.</p>	

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	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
243	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT: Past estimates of sediment transport and deposition have been based on computer modeling conducted by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) (USGS-- Hydrodynamic & Sediment Transport Modeling, 2006) with subsequent modification by Moffatt and Nichol (Capitol Lake Alternatives Analysis Hydraulic Modeling2008). The USGS used historical physical data, i.e. erosion/deposition rates, bathymetry, river flow, and flood events that was current up to the 2004/2005 time period. Over the past 14 years the physical landscape has changed. Sediment accumulation in Capitol Lake has increased; the intertidal area immediately below the dam in lower Budd Inlet has expanded and migrated eastward with the channel hooking more towards the marina and Percival Landing area. The adverse effects of climate change have also come into sharper focus. The USGS report concluded that based on historic monitoring of weather events and Deschutes River flows 80% to 85% of river sediment is transported by flood events that occur only 8% of the time. A warming climate is quite likely to change the snow/rain pattern of the Deschutes watershed, resulting in the increase of flooding events and sediment movement. The computer modeling should be updated to reflect climate changes and each alternative evaluated on its' ability to address these changes.</p> <p>FLOYD /SNIDER PHASE 1 REPORT; (a)Information from the Floyd/Snider, Phase 1 report will undoubtedly be referenced to in the Phase 2 deliberations. Figure 2B in the Phase 1 report has a pie chart and bar graphs purportedly showing 'community' preference for long term lake management goals taken from data in the 2008 CLAMP Alternatives Analysis. The data is a summary of 451 letters, e-mails and testimony. The pie chart shows that 62% of the community prefers the estuary option as compared to 32% for the managed lake. On the other hand the CLAMP report shows that of the 451 responses, 155 were identical email letters signed by 147 people from outside the local area or Washington state. The authors of the CLAMP data noted that the e-mail responses were probably the result of an organized campaign. This discrepancy should be noted if this information is used in the Phase 2 process. Ideally, the Phase 2 EIS would include a scientific poll designed specifically to address the community's preferences.</p> <p>b) Section 5.3, Existing statutory Requirements and Framework, notes that models for future governance must consider legal parameters of existing authority and jurisdiction. The five marinas, Percival landing and the Port shipping berths are situated in a constitutional Harbor Area. Article XV, Harbors and Tide Waters, in the Washington State Constitution states that these areas are reserved forever for landings, wharves, streets and other conveniences of navigation and commerce. This constitutional constraint should also be considered one of the legal parameters considered in evaluating each alternative. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this EIS scoping process.</p>	

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
244	16-Nov	Jack Havens		<p>CLIPA previously forwarded to the Scoping Committee their new Alternative for a Managed Lake and a list of existing or potential mitigation factors that need to be considered in the EIS. In that document reference is made to the importance of providing clear and consistent definitions of the Alternatives so that in the EIS, the Definition Baselines are correctly compared. One of the major impacts both on the project hydraulics of tidal flow and Lake discharges is the potential opening of the Tidal/Dam Breach anticipated in the Estuary option. Associated with this is the cost, aesthetics and environmental impacts associated with the changes required to the 5th Avenue and 4th Avenue transportation systems so as to not negatively impact the access to West Olympia and Deschutes Parkway. Attached is an independent review of the CLAMP Consultant Report by Moffatt & Nicholl consulting firms report by Charles Gloyd PE, retired State Chief Bridge Engineer in August 2011. His Report is attached and available in the CLIPA Library for review. Following are some key Mitigation related issues that must be considered in the EIS. 1) The Gloyd Report was done in 2011. All cost information needs to be updated to the date of the assumed EIS construction period. 2) The Gloyd Report increases the CLAMP estimate from \$49,282,350 to \$58,605,779. for an equivalent transportation design, adjusted by Gloyd for stated reasons. However the CLAMP/Gloyd analysis is based on a 500 foot opening, and Ecology is using a 660 foot opening for all of their TMDL modeling studies. Also the CLAMP/Gloyd study assumes that the cross Lake railroad bridge will only have a 200 foot opening which does not accommodate the Ecology Estuary modelling assumptions. 3) Depending on the final Alternative Design selected by the Scoping Team, the Ecology Model or the CLAMP and Gloyd analysis will need to be updated. Key to this question is how much larger the embankment and removal of the Isthmus land must be cut back to accommodate the selected opening. If the Ecology model of 660 feet is selected, the required abutments may impact Bayview Market and other structures requiring a major new economic and community impact consideration. 4) Other infrastructures such as water, sewer, electrical, storm water and other City systems may or may not be fully considered in these analysis. This is a major new impact that will need to be mitigated under the estuary and the one hybrid option that the DES information is referring to. 5) The CLIPA Alternative, will require a very minimum of infrastructure changes and therefore is a major mitigation value by design.</p>	Yes

Appendix C

Additional information provided by the following commenters not able to be captured in the table above can be found at:

<https://capitollakewatershedeis.org/library>

Comment Number	Name
49	Tom Fell
50	Jim Rush
69	Ben Dennis
72	Bob Wubbena
119	Jim Lazar
139	Allen Miller
142	Bob Wubbena
144	Bob Wubbena
148	Pat Rasmussen
153	Jack Havens
158	Anonymous Anonymous
184	David Milne
196	Greg Falxa
233	Pat Rasmussen
235	Bob Wubbena
242	Bob Barnes
244	Jack Havens

Appendix D Scoping Comments — New Concepts Proposed

Appendix - D

Appendix D includes letters submitted during the scoping period that introduced new concepts. The following comments are included:

Comment Number	Name
75	Chris Snyder
76	Jay Manning
211 (public meeting)	Bob Vados Jr.
211 (public meeting)	Allen Miller
187	Helen Wheatley
192	Helen Wheatley
50	Jim Rush
52	Ed Zabel
53	Orion Albro
64	Dick Wadley
72	Bob Wubbena
240	Steve Shanewise
242	Bob Barnes

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
75	24-Oct	Chris Snyder		The 'Hybrid' alternative should also include an option for a remnant freshwater lake portion behind the retaining wall. Having saltwater behind the retaining wall (without constant exchange) would be an extremely big mistake as it would quickly turn fetid. There are in fact several artesian well sources that are located in the current east side lake bed of the northern basin area that could easily be developed to supply/maintain plentiful clean freshwater water to the area behind the retaining wall. As my memory serves, one artesian well source was a 12' brass pipe that used to stand vertical in the lake 50 ft or so off the shore. IMHO, a freshwater hybrid alternative would be by far the best one and everyone would have something to be happy about.	No
76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am happy to see the Legislature and DES moving the ball forward on this intractable challenge. I have lived in Olympia since 1983. I was one of the last people to swim in the lake before it was closed due to bacterial contamination. I have watched with concern as the lake quality has decreased to the current completely unacceptable condition. As a community, we should be ashamed of what we have allowed to happen. Capital Lake was supposed to be a centerpiece of Olympia and it has turned into a cess pool. It is time to break the 30 year stalemate and identify and implement a solution that works for the community. I propose a hybrid alternative here that is different than the one described in the DEIS. I think it has a better chance of success and will achieve a higher level of acceptance by the community and key governments/agencies and the legislature.	No

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	<p>There are unanswered technical questions about my proposal that would have to be answered before this option could be chosen, but I think it has great potential. The reason we have had such a long running stalemate on the lake is that a strong majority of people in the local communities of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater like the lake and would like to retain it. But, keeping the lake is opposed by a number of strong voices and keeping the lake only works -- if it works at all -- with a tremendous upfront investment and then high O&M costs into the future. It is highly unlikely, in my opinion, that the lake can be restored in a manner that consistently meets water quality standards, eliminates invasive species and provides high quality salmon habitat. But, the estuary restoration option means losing the lake and again, a strong majority of the local community wants to retain the lake. For any option to be successful, it will have to be supported by the local communities and the estuary option has not gained that support primarily because people want to retain the lake. That brings me to my proposed alternative. I suggest that the lake be restored to an estuary, with all the benefits that come with that option -- improved water quality, improved habitat, many invasive species eliminated, improved sediment transport, etc. But, I would add a twist. I would build a new retractable dam at the current dam site that is calibrated to the tides and the flows in the Deschutes River and Percival Creek. The dam would be automated to close each day at a time that would result in an estuary full of water during daylight hours. It would be brackish water -- it would be an estuary -- it would just be full of water during the day. The dam would be opened during night hours and would empty at low tide. It seems to me that this option gives all of us the best of both worlds.</p>	

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
76	24-Oct	Jay Manning	Cascadia Law Group	<p>A healthy estuary that is good for people, fish and other critters and a beautiful, clean body of water that looks just like Capital Lake when it was healthy that the community would love and use by the thousands. This alternative could break the stalemate in a way that none of the current EIS alternatives will. I mentioned above some unanswered technical questions with my hybrid option. It would be important to evaluate whether any critical estuarine habitat functions would be adversely impacted by keeping it full of water during the day. Water quality impacts in the estuary and in Budd Inlet would also have to be evaluated. An engineering evaluation and perhaps the development of operating principles would have to be developed for the retractable dam. I also suggest that this alternative must be accompanied by a local, state and federal funding scheme that brings appropriate investments from all levels of gov't. LOTT would be an ideal agency to manage the lake and funds collected locally for capital and operational investments. Part of the solution must be dredging West Bay to maintain access to the Yacht Club, the marinas and to the Port of Olympia. The failure of previous options to deal with these interests is one reason why political stalemate has occurred. I would also consider funding a salmon hatchery upstream from the current hatchery -- one that helps deliver on treaty obligations to the Squaxin and Nisqually tribes. I acknowledge that these final points are beyond the scope of the EIS. I provide them with confidence that in the absence of a political solution that involves the local communities, addresses dredging needs and potential economic impacts to the Port and other maritime interests and boosts local salmon recovery projects, it is unlikely that a real solution will be available. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. These comments are submitted on my own behalf and not on behalf of any client or agency.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Bob Vados Jr.	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. BOB VADOS, JR.: It should be all right. All right. So, anyway, I would certainly hope with this process that it's not just a rehash of the (indiscernible). You know, we all already know that an estuary would be expensive. Hopefully, the various hybrid solutions that have been offered will be seriously studied, because there are several there that are very interesting and could provide a useful compromise for the lake versus estuary supporters. A couple misconceptions. The lake sediments can't just be used as agriculture. They have toxins in them that need to be disposed of. That's going to cost money.</p>	No

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
211	22-Oct	Bob Vados Jr.	Public Hearing 2	<p>Also, with the fish dying, most likely the sticklebacks that are like salmon and die after spawning, as one-time spawners. However, if the lake gets down low enough as it continues to fill in, we will probably start seeing regular fish start dying as the oxygen gets even lower and the water gets even warmer. Certainly we should be doing stuff upstream. We've got problems with riparian cutting and not enough restoration. We've got problems with low flows because of urban development, and those are all impacting the solution. And I would definitely iterate the comment about the slopes near Capitol Lake. It seems like every few years somebody, usually state-related, wants to put a heritage or some building in there, and that's just the last thing we need there.</p> <p>And as somebody who works on fish and wildlife issues, I would definitely say having -- one of the proposed hybrid solutions that I actually had talked about was coming up with having it as a brackish lake in the summer and an open estuary in the winter. It's kind of a temporal hybrid. And that, I believe, would provide the -- still provide the insects that provide for the bats.</p> <p>We don't have a mosquito problem. The bats are doing very well in taking care of that with their eating habits. Estuaries, like the Fraser River, have lots of those types of flying insects that -- so, having brackish conditions isn't necessarily going to be a problem for bats, I don't believe. The other thing I would like to say in all of this study is that we now know -- I mean, we have an orca problem, and we know that orcas eat lots of Chinook and they eat lots of chum salmon. Chum salmon could be brought back to this watershed with an estuary restoration or at least one of the hybrid solutions, and that's what we should be striving for.</p>	
211	22-Oct	Allen Miller	Public Hearing 2	<p>MR. ALLEN MILLER: Good evening. Allen Miller. I'm an environmental law attorney, and I've been in town since 1982. I've been working on capitol campus issues and city issues since that time. And I'm here -- I've also been dealing with environmental impact statements and scoping rules under SEPA for many, many years. One of the things that we need to include in the scope is the fact that the state capitol campus is a national and historic district, and the Capitol Lake and the tide lock are part of that, and the 1911 and 1928 plans by Wilder, White and Olmsted are protected under federal and state law.</p> <p>It's interesting that the Corps of Engineers is already on record to say that they would not issue a permit to remove the tide lock but that they would grant permits for dredging the lake.</p> <p>The scope should also include that salmon did not -- there was no natural salmon run up the Des chutes to the Tumwater Falls, and it wasn't until we put in the tide lock and the salmon ladder in 1950 that salmon actually now go up the Deschutes.</p>	No

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
211	22-Oct	Allen Miller	Public Hearing 2	<p>One of the hybrids that I would recommend the scope to look at is to reopen Percival Creek, it did have a natural wild salmon run, and to have a channel for Percival Creek that would go directly to Budd Inlet. That is something that should be included in the scope.</p> <p>As far as water quality, The Evergreen State College Professors Milne, Soule and Ladd have all studied the lake for 40 years, back when Evergreen was founded, and the last 14 years they have shown that the water quality in Capitol Lake is good enough to swim and to recreate in. The New Zealand mud snail issue is really just a management issue. Capitol Lake is the only lake that's been actually closed due to the New Zealand mud snail. The New Zealand mud snail exists in Yellowstone Lake, in our national park, in Lake Washington, in the Columbia River, in the Chehalis River, and it's all -- all of those water bodies are open to swimming and recreation. It's just a way to manage so that the New Zealand mud snail is not spread. As far as water quality, I would also recommend that the scope of the environmental impact statement continue monthly water quality sampling protocol from Priest Point Park into the lower Budd Inlet, into the lake, and all of the way up the Des chutes to as far as Henderson, where we have the historical park in Tumwater.</p> <p>So my recommendation is that the scope should also look at having the south basin and the south part of the middle basin be allowed to become a wetland, and that there are grassy swells that do provide for water quality improvement to the north basin and the north half of the middle basin.</p>	
187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		Please refer to comments attached. Key points: (1) historical/cultural considerations are not adequate in the alternatives presented, either in terms of impacts or in how they are implicitly framed. (2) there should be much more emphasis on the administrative elements of long term management, rather than just a presentation of different capital-project styled alternatives. In particular, management under administrative leadership other than the DES should be considered, especially given the demonstrable failure of that leadership historically.	No

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		<p>Historic/Cultural elements should be more prominent in the analysis The historic cultural use of the Basin should have received considerably more attention in the public presentation for the scoping phase of Phase 1. The cultural assumptions built into how the the 'managed lake' and 'dual basin' alternatives might be valued are unacceptably narrow both historically, and even in terms of the present-day values of the community as a whole. There has been a considerable amount of data compiled by different agencies, including the City of Olympia, from the CLAMP process onward but it has apparently not been incorporated into the current EIS process. As an historian who has done research on the area, I had the privilege to participate in a presentation, during Phase 1, on the historical aspects of the Deschutes Basin. My focus was the first half of the 20th century in the period before the Fifth Avenue Dam was installed, and my emphasis was the cultural importance of the ecologically productive watershed. It is important to emphasize that the estuary, as such, played a very important cultural role in the life of the metropolitan area.</p> <p>Members of the Squaxin Island Tribe were denied a co-management voice for approximately seventy years, but even during most of that period, the non-Indian population also utilized and valued the Basin in their own ways primarily as a natural cultural/recreational resource. In the present day, the historic and cultural importance of tribal use should be a paramount consideration.</p> <p>Percival Creek was also an important part of that history and should receive specific consideration as both a natural and potential recreational resource in the current scoping. In my presentation I discussed as an example the impromptu but annual celebration of the annual Chum run up the Creek, as well as its importance to the recreational fishing community and to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The recreational Chinook and Steelhead fishery was of tremendous importance to the community, far outweighing the value of the visual aspects of the waterway during much of the period of statehood as well as prior to statehood. Even after the impoundment of the waterway with the construction of the Deschutes (Fifth Avenue) Dam, the Department of Fish and Wildlife played a significant management role in the Basin for many decades.</p> <p>In addition to the historic role of the fishery (including shellfish), it is important to consider the value of waterfowl habitat as a cultural/recreational as well as natural resource that has experienced significant decline in the watershed, both in the basin itself and in the waters, wetlands and riparian habitat immediately adjacent.</p>	No

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
187	13-Nov	Helen Wheatlehy		<p>In addition, it would be a grave mistake to assume that the decision to install the dam was a popular one even among those emphasizing the visual aspect of the Basin. Up until the actual construction of the dam, it was widely assumed among impoundment advocates that a weir approach was also very much on the table and indeed the likely approach; and there were also enthusiastic proponents of a canal system. Likewise, it would be a mistake, from an historical perspective, to overemphasize the role of architectural planning for the Capitol as the most important quality even for those who supported some version of an impoundment concept, be it a tidal gate, canal, or weir. The idea that the basin would become a freshwater lake was, in fact, not broadly discussed nor considered necessary in order to enhance the recreational or sightseeing value. From an historical perspective, dredging/land formation and the construction of the Deschutes Parkway were signature elements of the Deschutes Basin Plan that actually led to the construction of the Dam, and were arguably of greater general interest and concern. In short, freshwater should not be considered a necessary element for continuity with many of the historic or cultural objectives of past modifications of the waterway.</p> <p>EIS Alternatives should consider administrative alternatives E after construction of the Dam, the Department of Fish and Wildlife played an important role in the direct management of the Basin for many decades. In addition, the current half-completed TMDL process illustrates a paramount federal as well as state interest in the environmental quality of the watershed of which the Basin is a part. It is therefore imperative that the Alternatives include at least one in which the Department of Enterprise Services is not the lead Long-term Manager of the Basin, and all alternatives should consider different administrative structures in which DES is not necessarily the lead agency.</p> <p>Furthermore, the goals of long-term management should be identified in a way that allow all proposed alternatives to be measured against them. As presented to the public, the management goals of different alternatives appear to be different in nature, with no reference provided to overarching goals regardless of alternative selected to put forward as a proposal. To illustrate: provided in the Request for Comments is a list of 'fundamental concepts' for each individual 'primary alternative.' A summary of the 'fundamental concepts' shows that these are really different to each other: Text not readable</p>	

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attachment
192	13-Nov	Helen Wheatley		<p>The overarching goals appear to be expressed elsewhere in different terms. The Draft Final Purpose and Need Statement states that " The purpose of the Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project is to identify and implement an environmentally and economically sustainable watershed approach that improves water quality, and manages existing sediment accumulation and future deposition. The project is also needed to improve the impaired ecological functions within the existing Capitol Lake basin and adjacent watershed. These efforts would also aim to restore and enhance community use of the resource.' It also states that 'Water quality must be improved to meet federal law and state water quality standards, and to restore aquatic life and recreational uses.' It states that 'the project will have a beneficial effect on the ecosystem service value, economic value and community value of the resource.' Extracting the elements provides this list of goals for the proposal. Improve water quality, including meeting federal and state laws and standards Manage sediment Improve impaired ecological functions for the Basin and the WRIA 13 watershed Enhance the value of ecosystem services - Restore and enhance community use - Enhance the economic value of the Basin ('resource") Be environmentally and economically Sustainable (undefined) The impeturs for the current process, according to the December 30, 2016 Letter of Transmittal of the Phase 1 Report, is that 'the community and coordinating agencies agree on the need to implement a long-term management plan.'</p> <p>The DES has a proven track record of extreme failure as an environmental manager of the waterway, as well as failure at assuring cultural and recreational access. According to the Phase 1 Report, the historical record of the General Services Administration/DES has yielded the following results: 'active use of the waterbody has been restricted for more than 30 years due to the degraded water quality and ecological functions. An estimated 35,000 cubic yards of sediment accumulates annually within the lake basin, resulting in increasingly shallow conditions. Capitol Lake was closed to swimming in 1985 due to high bacteria levels. Water draw-down and back-flushing to control algal blooms and fresh water plant growth, due to excessive nutrient loads, continued annually until 1999 and caused temporary impacts to other recreational uses, such as boating and fishing. The presence of invasive species resulted in official closure to all public uses in 2009. Active use of the waterbody continues to be restricted today.'</p> <p>I submitted comments (#187) but wish to add the following: 1) Physical Scope should incorporate Percival Creek and the entire watershed as it pertains to restoring the historic fishery.</p>	

**Capitol Lake/Lower Deschutes Watershed Long-Term Management Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments - New Concepts**

	Date	Submitter	Organization	Comment	Attach- ment
192	13-Nov	Helen Wheatley		<p>2) In providing a more substantive approach to the administrative dimension of proposing alternatives, consider issues of ownership and their administrative implications. For example, if leaseholds reach the end of their term, it should be considered whether those leases should be renewed or would better revert to DNR for better environmental management. The implications of dredging should be analyzed in terms of the administrative dimensions of achieving the majority of stated goals for addressing issues in the watershed (mostly environmental)</p> <p>3) The potential expense and timeframe of spinning out all potential impacts of each alternative is great, if the result is to be high quality. Look at how much time and cost has gone into the TMDL process; and consider how much has already been spent on the earlier EIS and subsequent processes after 2009. Consider limiting this EIS to what is required to make the best choice of an alternative, then do another high quality EIS on the chosen proposal.</p>	No

Subject **Capital Lake**
From jim rush [REDACTED]
To comment@capitolakewatershedeis.org
<comment@capitolakewatershedeis.org>
Date 2018-09-29 18:32



-
- Capital Lake.pdf (331 KB)

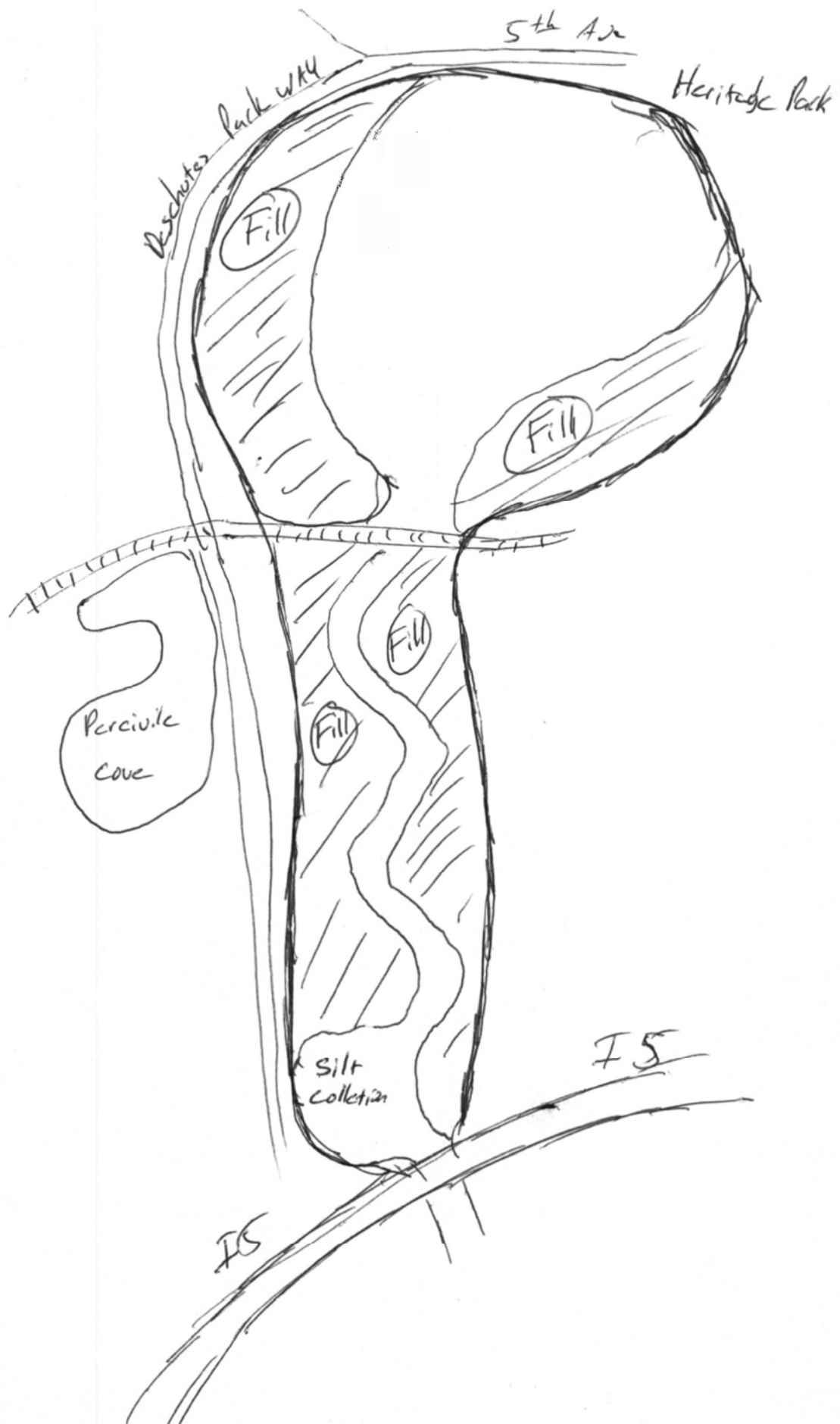
I have told others about this idea and they all think it is a good plan.

First make the reflecting lake smaller, by filling in with dredged silt and other fill.

Second create a meandering Deschutes river by dredging and filling in the lake South of the railroad while creating a silt traps that would collect silt that could be used a fill.

This would take years to accomplish but would give us a huge park area for all kinds of activities and provide healthy habitat for all kinds of animals.

The reflection lake size would be determined by the GPM of the Deschutes and Percival rivers that would allow for a clean water lake that maybe just maybe kids could even wade in.



Subject **FW: Capital Lake**
From Ray Outlaw [REDACTED]
To comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org
<comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org>
Date 2018-10-01 10:11



From: ed zabe [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 30, 2018 10:13 AM
To: comments@capitollakewatershedeis.org
Subject: Capital Lake

Around the late 70's, a berm was built from Deschutes Parkway across the lake to the I-5 bridge, creating a reservoir pond on the south end of the main lake, now called the Interpretive park. That reservoir pond was supposed to be an area where dredged material from the lake could be deposited. That never happened and now that area is now called a park. So, after 40 years of innumerable studies, an EIS study is still needed? The lake needs to be dredged. Why not build a retaining wall parallel to Deschutes Parkway from the 5th street dam to the railroad bridge, dredge the lake, and deposit the dredgings behind the wall. Eventually those dredgings could fill the area, and a park could be created to keep Park supporters happy.

Subject **alternate hybrid concept**
From Orion Albro [REDACTED]
To comment@capitollakewatershedeis.org
<comment@capitollakewatershedeis.org>
Date 2018-10-01 20:18
Priority Normal



Providing a comprise plan that will include an estuary that many want, and retaining the reflective pool and the public lake/park for everyone seems to be the best compromise solution. Money of course to construct and maintain will always be an issue. Rather than the concrete wall, has anyone looked at the concept of dividing the north and south basin at the railroad opening with a fixed dam to hold sediment in the south basin. Dredging from the north basin could be used to construct islands in the south basin. The islands could be planted with native vegetation friendly to wildlife. Nesting boxes could be installed for water fowl on the islands. About 20 years ago the City of Centralis went through a relicensing process for their Yelm Hydroelectric project. Their canal was widened out and islands constructed and planted. Today the islands contain numerous species of wildlife along with two bald eagle nesting pair. The south basin is ideally suited for such a wildlife preserve and natural estuary.

Orion L. Albro

[REDACTED]

Subject **Capitol Lake Comments**
From [REDACTED]
To <comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org>
Date 2018-10-08 17:38
Priority Normal



I am fundamentally opposed to removing Capitol Lake. But, perhaps, some accommodations can be made with a different dam design. While I don't have access to all the science, but it occurs to me that a possible general approach may be to replace the dam with a new dam which would change lake levels based upon tidal levels. And at times, open the dam to flush sediment layers out of the basin.

Thanks for the opportunity to voice an opinion.

Dick Wadley

Subject **Fwd: Draft summittal of CLIPA Alternative to EIS Scoping Team**

From Robert Wubben [REDACTED]

To DES Scoping <info@capitolakewatershedeis.org>, Carrie R. Martin [REDACTED], Debra Delzell [REDACTED]
Allen Miller [REDACTED], Bob Holman [REDACTED], Bob VanSchoor [REDACTED], Dan Cheney [REDACTED], Dave Milne [REDACTED], Denis Curry [REDACTED], Dominick Reale [REDACTED], Don Melnick [REDACTED], Gary Larson [REDACTED], Jack Havens [REDACTED], 11 more...

Cc

Date 2018-10-17 13:58



To DES Capitol Lake Watershed EIS Scoping Team
From: Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA)
RE: Scoping Comments—new Alternative & Mitigation Options.

October 17, 2018

As you requested, CLIPA is providing a "New or Modified Lake Management Alternative" for inclusion in the EIS process. This alternative could be considered a Lake Management Alternative or a Split Lake Hybrid, and is similar to one of the five alternatives that were identified in the State EIS in the May 1999 Final EIS. We have expanded the benefits and increased the identified "mitigation values" for many of the optional designs provided in the 2017 DES Report to the legislature.

As noted in your instructions for Scoping Comments, we have provided as our alternative the "Community Waterfront Management Plan--A Balanced Community & Environmental Management Program as a Hybrid/Split Lake With Restored Estuary and Waterfront Plan". We also list a series of potential "mitigation actions the CLIPA Community Plan Provides" and highlight some specific studies that we believe the EIS Team must undertake to confirm the facts and field findings for critical EIS responses to existing and identified "Community and Environmental Impacts" that the other options listed will have on the Community and the Environment. CLIPA has a web (www.savecapitollake.org) that has an extensive library of studies that support the Community Plan Alternative Design. We will provide many of these studies to support our anticipated comments related to the drafting of the EIS after the scoping process is completed.

Following is the list of potential "mitigation needs or mitigation potential strategies" that we believe will be a part of the List of Alternatives in the DES Public Documents and that are also reflected in the CLIPA Managed Lake alternative. The CLIPA Alternative is presented after the list.

CAPITOL LAKE & LOWER DESCHUTES WATERSHED --MITIGATION NEEDS AND POTENTIAL:

1) The CLIPA Alternative is designed as an environmental enhancement program that efficiently manages sediment, protects the listed species of concern (potentially endangered)

that are found in Capitol Lake, provides for community use of the Lake for family water recreation(north basin) and family environmental & naturalist access on water & around the Lake (mid and south basins).

2) The CLIPA Alternative provides for tribal use of the Lake consistent with historical pathways and shoreline usage via a portage.

3) The CLIPA Alternative serves as a major natural treatment system for contaminants flowing into the Lake from the entire watershed.

4) The CLIPA Alternative provides for recycling of sediments for landscaping to reduce the need for landfill or deep water disposal.

5) CLIPA contracted with an independent national expert on the NZMS to identify the current inconsistency in the Lake control program, identifies a possible disposal of dredge material disposal that will reduce cost and outlines a Lake management strategy for the NZMS that would be lost with the estuary Alternative

6) The CLIPA Alternative design minimizes new disruptive infrastructure requirements and can be built in "adaptive management phases" to accommodate new information and changes in water front use.

7) The CLIPA Alternative identifies two near by marine mud flat areas that currently sit ignored but immediate opportunity (mitigation) to test the "estuary restoration" concept in a similar setting in the tidal mudflat zone of lower Budd Inlet.

8) The CLIPA Alternative would provide for an immediate field sampling program from Henderson Boulevard to Priest Point Park in 2019 to 2022 to collect real data that will validate or not, the findings of the Ecology TMDL model. The results may significantly impact the regulatory findings and the ultimate TMDL recommended program by EPA. This will impact the final management plans being evaluated in the EIS and so it is a significant mitigation opportunity.

9) Each Alternative being evaluated by the EIS and considered in the TMDL recommendations must be addressed under a common set of project design assumptions, water quality impacts and achievable environmental improvements that the entire community will consider. This means that the "stated Scoping and EIS project definitions" must include critical features that are "not inconsistent" with the Ecology TMDL water quality studies, or the Ecology data must be invalidated in the EIS process if it is linked to hydraulics (. See Dr Milnes' 140 page critique). Also the "estuary dam breach/opening of 200 meters (220 yards=660 feet) must be consistent. These mitigation needs and potential strategies need to be based on current field sampling results. They should not be based on a mathematical model (the Ecology TMDL Model) that is not field verified and using in-consistent design parameters related to hydraulics and twice daily tidal influences..

COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN A BALANCED COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PROVIDING A HYBRID/SPLIT LAKE WITH RESTORED ESTUARY AND WATERFRONT PLAN ,August 1, 2018

BRIEF BACKGROUND: The Deschutes River Urban Watershed, extending from the Pioneer Park area near Henderson Boulevard to Priest Point Park in lower Budd Inlet, is the premier active community area for almost 300,000 residents of Thurston County. The population of Thurston County is projected to grow to almost 500,000 people over the next 25 years. The community and state government plan for this "front yard" area will impact the quality of life, the economic future of its citizens and importantly, the urban environment. A properly managed shared use of this vital area is imperative.

In May 1999 the then "Final EIS", for the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan was prepared by the State DES/General Administration and the Thurston County Regional Planning Council. Five Alternatives were

evaluated, plus a sixth "no action alternative". The focus, benefits and costs were limited primarily to the perspective of the State of Washington, and limited to only the Capitol Lake. Little attention was given to the impacts of the Capitol Lake Management on the larger Thurston County community. Particularly significant omissions included how to manage the sediments, the economy of the Downtown Olympia area, and how local/state governments will fund the plan's implementation.

Early in 2000, a new group, the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) team contracted with the State's Department of General Administration (now DES) for about \$3.0 million in State funded new studies to evaluate three of the 1999 Alternatives, inexplicably leaving behind two of the hybrid Lake Management alternatives.

WHY A BALANCED "COMMUNITY PLAN" IS NEEDED: In 2016 the DES' Capitol Lake Long-Term Planning Group, consisting of the Cities of Olympia & Tumwater, Thurston County, the Port of Olympia & the Squaxin Tribe, reformatted the work of CLAMP, continuing to ignore most of the alternatives and work included in the 1999 EIS. Important considerations regarding impacts to the entire community were often only partially included or simply excluded.

With meaningful input from informed community members being severely limited, this government group recommended that another EIS costing \$5 million be funded by the State Legislature. The 2018 Legislature partially funded that request. Therefore, it is imperative that the State Legislature and agency leaders understand what the community desires. As it now stands, information provided to the Legislature from the 2016 DES/local process does not adequately include community needs or priorities as specifically defined by community stakeholders. Hence, a more balanced community plan is required. Note: Readers requiring confirmation that community needs are being disregarded are directed to the DES Long Term Planning Executive Work Group's "Purpose and Need" document.

NOTE ON THE ECOLOGY DESCHUTES RIVER/BUDD INLET TMDL: Concurrently with the State Capitol Lake review, the Department of Ecology has continued to work on the federally (EPA) mandated Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis, which links all impacts in the Deschutes Urban Watershed into one ecosystem and related water quality management plan. Obviously, the upper rural sub-watershed of the Deschutes River impacts the downstream Urban Watershed. Thus County and city land use and utility service regulations that continue to provide for discharges into the water ways, impact the entire system downstream to Puget Sound. The primary focus of Ecology are the water quality issues identified in Puget Sound and to suggest to DES in general terms how to improve the watershed water quality today and in the future. Of special note, in June 2018, EPA notified Ecology that it has rejected/not approved the Ecology recommended TMDL plan for the upper watershed, due primarily to Ecology's failure to adequately involve the public in the review of the proposed plans that will impact all citizens of Thurston County.

A PROPOSED WETLAND, ESTUARY, LAKE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY WATERFRONT

This proposed Wetland, Estuary & Lake Plan (COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN) is a hybrid of all of the best elements of the previous studies and builds on one of the two 1999 DES/GA EIS Alternatives. It incorporates the findings of the STATE/CLAMP/COE (Corps of Engineers) Consultant Studies related to sediment management and infrastructure requirements. It adds the potential to restore the only natural salmon spawning stream (Percival Creek) in the Deschutes River watershed and protects species that are under consideration for protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act. This plan is by far the most consistent with the Ruckleshaus Commission's recommendations.

The infrastructure, restoration, and larger urban watershed program can be adaptively built in phases to accommodate funding and future local government sea water rise protection strategies. It also provides for several tribal and other cultural centers of development to reflect all of the rich history of the Urban Waterfront and State Capitol Campus.

See the ATTACHED MAP of the "PROPOSED--COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN" super-imposed on an actual photo of the Urban Watershed. The Map shows both the existing sources of contamination impacting the Budd Inlet area of Puget Sound, and the key new community projects that will make this COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN an implementable program for the entire

community in the near future. The following further describes the key elements of the COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN.

DESIGNATE THE MIDDLE AND SOUTHERN BASINS OF CAPITOL LAKE AS WETLAND -- Convert the Middle and Southern Basin (approximately 2/3 of the Capitol Lake basin) to a managed and enhanced wetland natural treatment system with a middle basin sediment trap (optional) designed to protect the Yuma Myotis Bat Population, provide wetland waterways to historical tribal village sites, and for wildlife observation and community outreach. The North basin (north of the Lake railroad trestle) would serve as the primary sediment trap and natural water quality treatment (similar to the LOTT's multi-million dollar nitrogen removal system--but with virtually no public cost). Additionally, this system helps to accommodate waste products from the existing and proposed fisheries enhancement projects while providing the most popular urban family recreation objectives of the community, swimming and boating in the North Basin of the Lake.

THE SEDIMENT TRAP/MANAGEMENT SYSTEM--- As documented by CLAMP, over 400,000 cubic yards of existing sediment build up will be required to be removed from the Lake and marine water area to start any project except "No Action". A permanent (mostly hidden) hydraulic dredge system would be installed to periodically remove (uncontaminated) River sediment (35,000 cu yards are transported by the River annually) via a hidden dredge to the State owned staging area west of the City of Olympia Pump Station along the Deschutes Parkway for de-watering and reuse for public landscaping. Dredging and expensive upland deposition from the legacy contaminated marine waters in Budd Inlet will only be required rarely for deep water shipping.

RESTORATION OF ESTUARIES---The COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN would remove the west shore Budd Inlet railroad bridge and berm connecting West Bay Park with the 4th Ave area and complete restoration of that area into a mud flat estuary similar to that recommended by the pro estuary plans. Additionally, the Plan would install a boardwalk extension along the toe of the west side bluff between the 4th Ave area and the Park and restore another mud flat estuary at the south end of East Bay (south of Swantown Marina).

FOSTER AND PROTECT SALMON HABITAT--The Plan allows the Middle & South Lake Basins to serve as highly productive wetland ecosystems which provide habitat for aquatic insects (critically important for our Yuma Myotis Bats, juvenile salmon and other aquatic species). The basin will continue as a transition area for salmon returning to the proposed Deschutes hatchery (the new multi-million dollar fish hatchery at Pioneer Park to enhance the man made Deschutes River Salmon fishery). The Plan will allow the continuation of minimal compression points (water body narrowing) thus reducing severe marine mammal predation of salmon which would occur with removal of the tide locks. Removing the 5th Avenue dam would quadruple the number of marine predator compression points.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES & TREATMENT—Department of Ecology and EPA 303d listings for the upper Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet are out of date. Recent comments on water quality violations are generally based on field sampling programs completed 20 years ago by State consultants. Almost all of the contaminants found in Capitol Lake come from the upper watersheds. New contaminants will be added to the Deschutes River from the proposed Pioneer Park Fish Hatchery and expansion to the Tumwater Falls Park Holding Ponds.

Therefore the contaminant load attributed to Capitol Lake which is measured at the outlet of the Lake at the 5th Ave tide locks, originate from the 80 or more local and State storm water discharge pipes, WDFW fish holding & rearing ponds, golf course run-off, livestock, failing septic tanks in the Olympia, Tumwater & County residential areas, road run-off from I-5, State and local government roadways and upper watershed farm and forestry land. Capitol Lake is currently serving as a "natural nitrogen (and Carbon) and phosphorous treatment sump for the upper watershed" attaching to the sediments in the Lake and reducing the contaminant load prior to flowing into Budd Inlet.

PLANT HARVESTING TO REDUCE CARBON LOADING IN BUDD INLET This plan would include plant harvesting at an interval necessary to significantly reduce the Ecology focused Carbon contaminant load from the upper watershed and urban storm water run offs into Budd Inlet. Additionally, harvesting will significantly improve summertime Capitol Lake aesthetics.

SAFETY HAZARDS OF A RE-CREATED MUDFLAT -- If the tide gate is removed, the Lake Basin will become a twice daily mud flat with high velocity discharge into Budd Inlet. Carcinogenic contaminants, currently affecting Budd Inlet sediments will spread throughout the entirety of the Capitol Lake Basin. Additionally, as noted by the Thurston County Health Department, mudflat sediments may entrap humans and animals. The Community Plan would preclude this new community problem in the heart of our downtown.

Coho Restoration Project-- With the exception of modest spawning in Percival Creek, there has never been significant sustainable spawning of native or wild salmon in the entire Deschutes River watershed, including the Capitol Lake basin. This is primarily due to the existence of Tumwater Falls as an upstream migration barrier. (Other than the rare stock of chum, salmon do not spawn in saltwater.) Although Percival Creek's spawning habitat has been seriously harmed by human development in its upper reaches, CLIPA's proposed "Coho Habitat Restoration Project" in lower Percival Creek could help to provide a modest sustainable fishery for wild coho, and possibly steelhead and chum in this watershed. The plan is simple: provide ample woody debris and engineered log jams strategically in Percival Creek. WDFW should decide if adequate spawning habitat still exists in Percival Creek to support the cost of this project.

Percival Creek Extension Plan--Percival Creek currently empties into Capitol Lake. Some have speculated that a direct access from Percival Creek to Budd Inlet could possibly benefit easier passage of juveniles and adults into and out of this waterway. A sinuous meandering channel just west of the current north basin of Capitol Lake and emptying into the southwest corner of Budd Inlet could accomplish this.

Tidal flows for improved ingress of stray juvenile salmon (from watersheds other than the Deschutes) for rearing might possibly be increased by this re-channeling. As for the Coho Restoration Plan, WDFW should evaluate the wisdom of this strategy.

TRIBAL CULTURAL CENTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS---The Plan would set aside the south end of West Bay Park (next to Rotary Point Park) or a portion of the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park, area for the Squaxin Tribe to construct a Cultural Center/Museum/activity area. It would provide for a traditional canoe "portage route" under the 4th Ave Bridge/crossing the new Percival Creek waterway to access the Lake and wetlands in the Middle and South Basins. A similar portage could be built around Tumwater Falls. The Plan could provide for a Tribal Communications/Site near Percival Cove, near the Mitigation Area at the South end of the Middle Basin and a Steh-chass village at the bottom of the Tumwater Falls. All Tribal Communication Areas & sites could be a continuation of the Squaxin and Nisqually tribal programs in Budd Inlet.

PHASED CONSTRUCTION, COSTS AND MANAGEMENT—This Community Management Plan is a Hybrid/Split Lake/Restored Estuary/Community Waterfront Plan that will be adaptive and constructed in phases (in contrast the Estuary Plan/Removal of the 5th Ave Tide gate alternative would require a 90% Completion to function). This Community Waterfront Plan of Projects when completed would cost about 10% of any alternative that removed the 5th Ave Tide Gate or about \$40 million versus \$400 million over 20 years. This cost savings could be applied to projects far more productive in terms of salmon habitat rehabilitation and water quality improvement in other Puget Sound areas. Annual operating costs for this Community Plan would also be about 5% of the Estuary/Tide Gate removal alternative. Cost sharing and management will be a Local/State/Tribal/Federal Cost. If cost sharing is to include property owners, the Plan will require some form of a Special District where the local, State, Tribal and private business stakeholders share in the costs and have representation on the Management Board.

SEA WATER RISE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT--- Sea Water rise strategies for the Downtown Olympia area are still under discussion. Sea Water rise problems are a phased response requirement, but the design is required soon to ensure that the Downtown Redevelopment follows a program based on long term policies and investments. The sea water rise is a "scheduled tidal rise issue" that is approximated by the current "Deschutes Flood Stage and King Tide Events" that are somewhat predictable and can be managed, if proper plans are in place. Continuation and enhancement of the Downtown Flood Protection Program currently

provided by the DES management of Capitol Lake Tide Gate Operations is the least cost "first line of protection". Protecting the Downtown area north of the Lake will involve modification of the core area, most likely a combination of a seawall and an elevated roadway/berm in selected areas. The cost of the Sea Water Rise Protection District or by the City should be a cost and design consideration in the future plans of the Tide gate/Capitol Lake EIS.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT—The New Zealand Mud Snail are found in over 30 locations in Western Washington, including the Lake Washington Watershed. Other than Capitol Lake, none of these aquatic areas have been closed to human use. The most recent review of the Capitol Lake Mud Snail population suggests that they are now being controlled by natural predators. The snails survive in brackish and freshwater, suggesting that their future control management will be required under all alternatives for the Lake.

ENDANGERED SPECIES MANAGEMENT—Species residing in Capitol Lake (such as the Olympic mudminnow) are under consideration for protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Removal of the Lake will require a compensated response for restoration of these species.

The endangered Orca whales require plentiful numbers of Chinook salmon for their survival. Our Southern Puget Sound pod is in serious difficulty largely due to low numbers of Chinook. Under the current Capitol Lake and ladder system, millions of Chinook have been reared to provide sustenance to this endangered species. As noted above, removing the dam would quadruple the number of marine predator compression points, likely reducing those Chinook numbers.

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS AND ADVANTAGES OF THE COMMUNITY WATERFRONT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The proposed Community Waterfront Plan provides specific benefits and advantages to the Community and Environment when compared to other alternatives being considered. Again, no other Lake management plan fits as well with the spirit of the Ruckelshaus Center recommendations of 2014. Through compromise and creativity, it provides a remarkable system which balances the values and needs of our environment and the vast majority in our community. Some specifics follow:

- 1) The Plan is a hybrid of the best attributes of all alternatives being considered. These best attributes include scientifically based juvenile salmon rearing enhancement, estuary acreage restoration, massive wetland creation, and water quality improvement in Budd Inlet.
- 2) Preservation of the enormously valuable aesthetic and social cohesion benefits held by the community. These benefits add to the community's quality of life without causing environmental damage.
- 3) The Plan can be built in phases to ensure that design decisions with the intent of improving Budd Inlet water quality can be confirmed before proceeding to the next phase. It is a cost effective and adaptive management plan.
- 4) The Plan provides excellent family recreation in the North Basin, wildlife observation and outreach in the Middle and South Basins, and natural protections of all species of concern.
- 5) The Plan's cost is only about 10 % of what it would cost to remove the 5th Ave Dam and 5% of the on-going maintenance cost associated with retention of the Olympia Waterfront as a family and business oriented boating waterfront.
- 6) Savings in the hundreds of millions of dollars could be used for more productive purposes such as rehabilitation of salmon spawning and rearing habitat (particularly 2,000 culvert restoration needs) and prevention/reduction of storm water and toxic run-off into Puget Sound.
- 7) The Plan has been endorsed by all individuals that understand the pros and cons of the primary alternatives as a "workable, doable, and affordable Plan" for all citizens of Thurston County.
- 8) This Plan respects the Tribal and Historical uses of the Urban Waterfront and will allow **all** citizens of Thurston County to join together to develop historical sites that respect and embrace our collective history of our community.

9) This Plan avoids the public health and safety problems associated with dam removal.

10) Lastly, this plan would allow Budd Inlet shoreline businesses to continue. This attribute is of utmost importance to a healthy downtown.

Bob Wubben



Subject **EIS Scoping Comments**
From Steve Shanewise [REDACTED]
To comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org
<comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org>
Date 2018-11-13 09:30



- DUAL Estuary Lake Design-16 No Signature.pdf (494 KB)
- DELIscopingCOMMENTSnov2018.docx (17 KB)

Attached are my scoping comments for the Capitol Lake EIS plus the DELI document from which they were derived.

Steve Shanewise

[REDACTED]

SCOPING COMMENTS FOR CAPITOL LAKE EIS

Introduction

The comments below regard issues that should be investigated in the Capitol Lake EIS relative to the Dual Estuary/Lake Idea (DELI). These suggestions have been gleaned from the DELI document produced in January 2017 that garnered wide spread support from the public (see attachment). These suggestions are likely not fully inclusive; qualified engineers should be able to find more. In addition, I have started off with new information on the wildlife benefits of DELI.

Value of Freshwater Habitat

The reflective pool of freshwater proposed for the east portion of the north basin with DELI will not just be a visually aesthetic stimulus or a swimming beach. The west portion of the new lake, outside the swim areas, will be high value wildlife habitat. Waterfowl will rest here when tides are low where they can drink and bathe. Bats will be afforded a source of insect feed hopefully similar, though reduced, from what they do now. With roost logs, shorebirds will hang out during high tides to the delight of anyone walking around the new lake. Adding a freshwater component to the Estuary restoration of Capitol Lake would have profound benefits for wildlife use and human enjoyment.

THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR EIS

Rubble-mound Dike

- use same construction techniques used to build the railroad embankment between the north and middle basins or the dike at the SW end of the middle basin that created the two sediment basins.
- source rock from Black Lake Quarry; investigate hauling material via rail.
- investigate sealing inside wall of rubble-mound dike with an impervious barrier to simultaneously prevent salt water intrusion or drainage of freshwater from the new lake basin at low tides.
- investigate building a pedestrian walkway atop the new dike.

New Freshwater Lake

- investigate groundwater availability to supply the lake; primarily locate test well(s) near base of the Capitol Hill bluff along south shore of north basin.
- investigate potential for using LOTT reclaimed water as a supplemental water source.
- investigate construction of a variable primary outfall to the new lake with an adjustable invert from 0' to lake OHWM +2'.
- investigate potential to use new lake basin for stormwater detention during winter flooding events.
- investigate using artesian flows supplying new lake as emergency fresh water drinking source in the event of a disaster (major earthquake).

Swim Beach

- investigate using liner to place sand atop for a clean beach.
- investigate hydraulic effects of the east side input water flowing toward the secondary OHWM outlets along the west side of new lake dike for purposes of maintaining water quality.
- investigate building docks for the swim beach and installing log booms to separate swimming areas.

Sediment Management

- investigate sediment transport scenarios with the Marathon Park opening left intact and removal of the 5th Avenue dam gateway (leave existing dam orifice at same width, just remove all of the water control structures). The idea would be to compare sediment transport effects from a small opening vs. a large one (500') at both sites.
- investigate leaving existing sediments in the middle and south basins to provide substrate for establishment of salt marsh vegetation.
- investigate installing a permanent, electric dredge pumping system at the SW portion of the middle basin that annually deposits dredged material into at least one old sediment basin so it can dewater and be hauled away as dry material.

Tidal Generation

- investigate installing tidal generators at various locations where water speeds will accelerate (5th Avenue Dam; Marathon Park; Percival Cove; under the I-5 bridge; west wall of new lake dike).

Steve Shanewise

13 Nov 2018

DELI

DUAL ESTUARY/LAKE IDEA

A PLAN TO FIX CAPITOL LAKE

January 2017

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Introduction

This document is for people interested in fixing the Capitol Lake situation. It presents an idea for having a dual system of both an estuary and a freshwater lake, something that has been reviewed and rejected in the past. However, I believe the review was biased and the rejection unfounded. In short, they exaggerated the volume and cost of materials needed to build a wall to contain a new lake, and simply summarily dismissed the ability to construct a rubble mound dike to enclose a lake on the soft mud even though the railroad crossing at Marathon Park already occurs on one.

DELI stands for **D**ual **E**stuary/**L**ake **I**dea, and should be considered a third alternative to CLIPA (Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association) which proposes an all lake option and DERT (Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team) which proposes an all estuary option. It should also be considered an option that will give everyone almost all of what they want rather than making half the community angry at the outcome. Restoring an estuary will not be cheap mostly because of roadway needs, but including the cost of a lake containment wall would give massive added taxpayer value to the dollars spent because then almost everyone would be happy with the built condition.

Please read this document with an open mind and a careful eye because I know DELI can be made better. My presentation always improves each time I do a bout of editing. Developing ideas should be like whittling arrowheads where each little chip makes the outcome better and better until you finally have something you can mount on a shaft. DELI needs to get there.

Basic Concept

Remove the existing 5th Avenue dam and elevate the roadway to create an opening beneath for restoring tidal flows. Build a new lake impoundment by completing the circle of the existing Heritage Park wall to create an isolated, freshwater lake in the east part of the North Basin with hydrology supplied by groundwater flows. Then restore everything west and south of the new lake wall to estuary from the new 5th Avenue bridge up to Tumwater Falls and including Percival Cove.



Figure 1: Dual Estuary/Lake Idea (DELI)

New Lake Impoundment Wall

Complete Heritage Park Bulkhead Circle

Build a barrier wall to contain a new Capitol Lake by completing the circle of the existing Heritage Park bulkhead. This would create a smooth edge on the lake side that should be visually pleasing within the developed urban environment of downtown Olympia. Everything inside the circle would be freshwater lake, while everything outside it to the west would be tidal estuary.

Build Rock Containment Wall

Driving sheet-piles to bedrock in tidal mudflats is what you need to do to build buildings, not water control structures. The latter can be built with piled boulders in a rubble mound dike, just like they used for building the existing railroad beds across the lake and along the west shoreline of Budd Inlet. These railroad beds have survived over a half century of use and several major earthquakes without any significant damage. Building a rock wall to impound a new lake is completely doable.

Use Black Lake Quarry Basalt

Material for the new containment wall could be sourced from Black Lake Quarry and brought to the site by rail (Percival Creek spur). This would eliminate damage to city streets from heavy trucks as well as a lot of traffic disruptions. Rock from here could be delivered and installed for about \$21/cubic yard which is considerably less than the \$74/cubic yard (minimum) cost estimate used in the CLAMP report.

Create Pedestrian Walkway

Top off the new lake barrier wall with decreasingly smaller rock so that you end up with a gravel pedestrian walkway on top similar to the one along the existing Heritage Park wall. This would allow people to walk all the way around the new lake on a trail just like the one they walk on now around the east side of the lake. And if settling occurs on the wall, just fill in the surface cavity with more gravel.

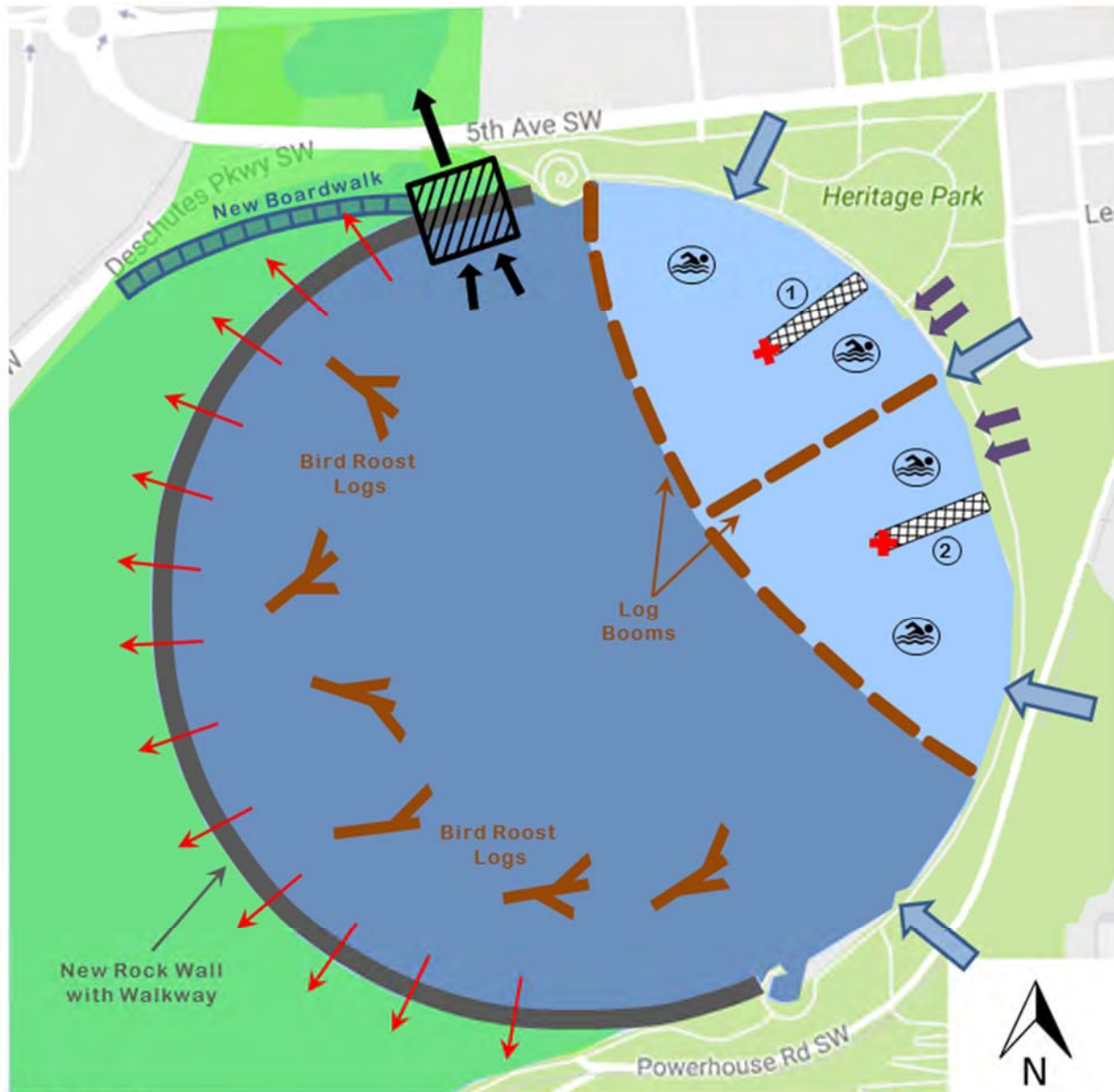
Build New Pedestrian Footbridge

Because the new 5th Avenue bridge would be elevated like the 4th Avenue Bridge, the existing trail that connects from Heritage Park to the Deschutes Parkway would not fit well here. A new footbridge could instead be built from the toe of the 5th Avenue Bridge across the estuary mouth to the Deschutes Parkway to provide a connection that would allow people to walk a level path around to Marathon Park and then back to Heritage Park just like they do now. This pedestrian bridge would also help keep joggers off the walkway around the new lake impoundment wall.

Use New Wall to Protect Downtown from Floods

The outside (west) edge of the new lake impoundment wall should be designed to protect downtown Olympia from high waters. This would include both flood flows from the Deschutes River to the south and high tides and rising sea levels from the north. To this end, designing the wall to be built higher in the future with relative ease would seem prudent given the potential for continuing sea level rise.

New Freshwater Lake



LEGEND

HABITAT

- Estuary
- Freshwater Lake with Silt Bottom
- Swim Area with Sand/Gravel Bottom atop Liner
- Urban Uplands

WATER REGIME

- ← Groundwater Inputs
- ← LOTT Inputs
- ← OHWM Outlets
- ⬆ Primary, Variable Outfall (0' to OHWM +2')

DOCKS

- ⌘ Dock with water barrier beneath
- ① Dock for General Public
- ② Dock for Kids/Families Only
- + Lifeguard Stations

Figure 2: Proposed New Freshwater Lake and Governance (*New*)

Groundwater Inputs

The new Capitol Lake basin could be supplied with freshwater via groundwater flows tapped into the local aquifer. This water source is clean and abundant, but testing would be needed to determine if the volumes required to maintain a clean lake could be removed without too much drawdown around the wells. Passive flows may need to be enhanced with pumps in order to supply enough water to the lake. Putting valves on these pipes would allow for complete control of the flow for management purposes.

LOTT Inputs

LOTT has a Purple Pipe with reclaimed water that passes through Heritage Park. It's current capacity of 3 million gallons a day of flow will be doubled in the near future. This is also a potential water source for a new Capitol Lake that could supplement groundwater flows. Furthermore, because the LOTT reclaimed water can be considerably warmer in summer than groundwater flows, it could create a more enjoyable swimming area if funneled through a confined space. Using swim docks with hydrologic barriers would easily do this (see Figure 2).

Install Impervious Liner

To keep the freshwater in the new lake isolated from the saltwater on the other side of the rock impoundment wall, an impervious liner could be installed. The easiest approach might be to just sandwich a layer of fabric between two layers of dredged silt placed along the lake side of the wall. Putting this barrier along the inside edge would cause it to be held in place by the water pressure of the lake.

New Swimming Beach

A swimming area could be created by laying down a few acres of impervious fabric over the existing mud and then covering it with a layer of sand and gravel to make a beach. Locating this swim beach at the northeast shoreline of the new lake would give the best sun exposure. The lake inputs of freshwater could be flushed from the swim beach shoreline towards multiple outlets along the west side of the new containment wall to create circulation that keeps the water fresh and clean. A log-boom barrier to intercept floatables from the rest of the lake could circumscribe the swim area to prevent the downwind accumulation of debris here. Adding a dog-leg that separates the General Public from Kids/Families swim areas would also be useful.

Fish/Wildlife Habitat

The lake portion outside of the swim beach could be managed for fish and wildlife habitat. Submersed aquatic vegetation should be encouraged to grow here to provide a healthy, productive environment. Roost logs could be anchored along the west lake edge to accommodate shorebirds and waterfowl. Water birds using the estuary should also use the freshwater lake for drinking, bathing and roosting.

Capitol Dome Reflective Pool

The new lake basin would act as a beautiful reflective pool for the capitol dome from the north side of Heritage Park. The circular aspect of the new containment wall would create a built landscape that focuses highlights towards the dome without straight-line directness.

Keep Lake Level Low for Stormwater Detention

Because inflows and outfalls to the new lake would be completely controlled, the ability to create a large volume of stormwater detention capacity is significant. The lake could be partially drained on low tides while the inputs are stopped with valves, leaving a basin with many acre feet of storage potential. The basin could become a large temporary detention pond for downtown stormwater, especially as sea level rise continues.

Potable Water for Disaster Relief

When the big earthquake hits Olympia, it is very likely that most water mains will break. Supplying potable water to the public will be an immediate, dire need. The artesian groundwater flows used to maintain a new Capitol lake could easily meet this need. Artesian flows work by gravity, so even if all our power infrastructure fails in a disaster, potable water could still be there for us to drink with a DELI built condition.

New Estuary

DELI Promotes an Estuary Same as DERT

The DELI proposed estuary is basically the same as DERT's, just a little smaller because of the new freshwater lake basin added on. The existing area of Capitol Lake that would be restored to tidal flow with DELI would be around 80% of the landscape. All costs and considerations for Estuary restoration should be the same with DELI or DERT.

Keep Marathon Park

Even though Marathon Park is fill, it is also an iconic part of downtown Olympia. Keeping this landscape feature will not significantly harm estuary restoration, and having tidal flows pulse through the constriction formed between the middle and north basins might even benefit water circulation.

Emphasize Natural Volunteer Regrowth

Estuary restoration should strongly emphasize natural, volunteer establishment of tidal plant and animal communities to reduce costs and make sure we get it right in the long run. Let the estuary figure out itself where everything should go rather than trying to achieve a predicted design made by people. This will ultimately give us the best habitat available at the lowest cost. Primary human intervention with plant and animal establishment should focus on controlling any unwanted species.

Roadway Considerations

New Elevated Roadway

The existing 5th Avenue roadway atop the dam should be replaced with an elevated ramp extending west to connect with the Deschutes Parkway and the roundabout with 4th avenue as previously proposed for estuary restoration. The opening beneath would become the estuary outfall.

Reinforce Deschutes Parkway

The Deschutes Parkway roadbed will be degraded by the leaching action of tidal waters fluctuating against it. Measures to address this issue must be taken if an estuary abuts the roadway. Armoring the flank as previously proposed for estuary restoration should still make the most sense.

Dredging

Resurrect Old Dredging Idea

Dredging of sediments deposited by the Deschutes River will be necessary at some point in the future if boats in Budd Inlet are to keep drafting into their existing berths. The idea to dredge lake sediments by pumping slurry into the holding ponds built in the southwest corner of the middle basin was a good one. This allows the dredged slurry to dewater and then be hauled away as dry material with a significant reduction in weight (and thus cost). The idea should be resurrected, but with a modified technique.

Dredge Annually

Instead of mobilizing massive dredging equipment every decade or so, install a permanent pumping station on the shoreline where the holding ponds are and make it electric so it's quiet. Then dredge every year from the adjacent mudflats within the required fish windows to remove the approximate 35,000 cubic yards of sediment deposited annually by the Deschutes River. If the dredging area is kept as a depression, sediments will naturally tend to fill in the hole. A deflecting wall could also be built on the north side of the I-5 overpass that would send the current borne sediment directly to the hole.

Longshoremen Labor

Manual labor to operate the dredge machinery could be obtained from Port of Olympia Longshoremen. These people are skilled at using heavy machinery, are conditioned to working outdoors, and are available on an on call basis. Just give them adequate training/guidance and this local work force will help keep costs down while doing a good job.

Potential Tidal Power Generation

Tidal Generation

Tidal flows can produce electricity with submersed turbines. Because the DELI design would have several constriction points that accelerate tidal flows, there is potential for producing valuable, clean energy. Turbines could be placed beneath the I-5 Bridge, the two openings at Percival Cove and Marathon Park, and finally at the new estuary outlet area beneath the 4th and 5th Avenue bridges.

Use Vertical Turbines

Tidal generators should be the kind that spin on a vertical axis, not a sideways, horizontal one like wind turbines do. This would prevent harming fish or other wildlife because things within the water column would just get passed on, not chopped up. The turbines could also be geared to spin at a low speed to further protect from harm (its water, not wind, so you can crank down the gears and still get good generation).

Governance

Give New Freshwater Lake to Olympia Parks Department

The Department of Enterprise Services should not be tasked with operating a public park with a swim beach. This is something that the Olympia Parks Department should do because that is exactly what they are designed for. Any new freshwater lake with a swim beach created through DELI should be given over to the Olympia Parks Department for Operation and Maintenance.

Give Restored Estuary to Squaxin Island Tribe

The Department of Enterprise Services should also not be tasked with managing a restored estuary; this is what natural resource agencies are for. Because DNR already owns some of the old tidelands smothered beneath Capitol Lake, they would seem a logical choice for future governance of the restored estuary. However, the Squaxin Island Tribe has similar natural resource expertise as well as an engrained, local desire to make things work well. Giving them governance over the restored estuary should ensure the best environmental stewardship.

Epilogue

The lake vs. estuary battle regarding Capitol Lake has been going on for a couple decades now with no end in sight. It's time for both sides to step back from their extreme, opposite view points and accept a compromise solution like DELI that will give everybody most of what they want.

DELI offers an outcome that will give us a clean, swimmable lake and a beautiful reflective pool for the Capitol Dome while also restoring a natural estuary to 80% of the existing, impounded landscape. DELI is also something that can actually get done because it's politically friendly.

Elected officials are loathe to get involved with divisive, community issues where each side has half the electorate in support. I believe that's the main reason the existing stalemate has lasted so long because no elected official wants to stand up and promote either side for fear of having the other side vote against them. Holding out for either an all estuary (DERT) or all lake (CLIPA) alternative will continue to prevent the allocation of funds sufficient to make something happen here. Choosing the compromise of DELI could get the funds flowing.

Steve Shanewise, PWS

January 2017

Subject **Comments to Capitol Lake EIS proposal**
From holly BARNES [REDACTED]
To <comment@CapitolLakeWatershedEIS.org>
Date 2018-11-13 18:46
Priority Normal



- Deschutes Valley historical (675x504).jpg (~125 KB)
- IMG_7230 (1280x1018) (2).jpg (~830 KB)
- P40-96.jpg (~951 KB)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Restored Estuary Alternative.

Capitol Lake - Deschutes Watershed EIS Process

The Deschutes Watershed must be viewed as a connected habitat that supports fisheries, wildlife, and water quantity and quality from mountains and tributaries to the river's mouth. I support a Restored Estuary which is the most respectful of the Earth, and foundational to natural processes.

In 2015, the Department of Ecology published a TMDL Report (December 2015 Publication No. 15-10-012) that indicated that portions of the Deschutes River, Percival Creek, and Budd Inlet Tributaries do not meet water quality standards for one or more of the following parameters: Fecal coliform bacteria, temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH or fine sediment.

Native Americans lived here for thousands of years (Steh-Chass People, Squaxin, Nisqually, Puyallup and Muckleshoot Tribes) without wreaking havoc with this watershed. They signed a Treaty with the United States giving up possession of the South Sound in exchange for perpetual rights to share the fish, shellfish, and game in the usual and accustomed places. Impacts caused by urbanization, logging and agriculture have degraded riparian buffers and wetlands so important to maintaining water quality and quantity. Repairing damage inflicted by heavy human use and abuse of wetland systems requires removing the cause of degradation at the watershed level to permit natural recovery and implementing management practices to improve hydrologic functioning and facilitate reestablishment of native vegetation.

Much of the historic habitat in the Deschutes Watershed has been altered. An inadequate application of existing regulations has the potential to threaten Deschutes fish resources as well as other Tribal Treaty Rights. Capitol Lake (formerly part of Budd's Inlet (see 1873 Map), the middle Deschutes and Upper Deschutes are all connected. They affect one another. They should all be addressed during this process.

At the least, the EIS should consider the following:

- 1- Acquire sensitive and significant properties in the upper watershed by establishing a community forest that expands riparian buffers to a 250' minimum standard, decommission logging roads, use bioengineering to stabilize erosion prone areas, and use compost, native plants and mulch to accelerate developing and maintaining a stable forest plant community.
- 2- Acquire properties that protect cold water inputs (springs and upland forests).
- 3- Add wood (large woody debris) to the entire watershed including tributaries. This wood was removed as part of the harvesting practices prior to the 1970's. Wood helps with gravel sorting (essential for spawning), creating hiding places for young fish, and acts as a shock absorber during high water events. No stream protection buffers were required prior to the

1970's, and streams were generally harvested or farmed to the water's edge (this is about the time the EPA and Department of Ecology were established). The buffer widths in the mid 1990's increased to about 75 feet, and since 2001 the width of buffers on fish streams increased to 100 feet.

4- R-establish a healthy and competitive riparian buffer to the new standard (250' plus channel migration zone). This buffer should consider using methodologies that promote and accelerate the evolutionary process of reforestation. This should consider the use of compost and mulch blankets (3" thickness of each) to improve establishment and increase survival rate. Utilize primarily native plants that are appropriate and adaptable to the riparian zone.

5- Rewild the floodplain – don't build or intrude into the 100 year floodplain and remove or mitigate any development that remains. Re-establish historic channels, wetlands and side channels as closely as possible. Remove the fill caused by the Olympia Brewery Bottling Plant and Golf Course within the historic wetlands or channel migration zone (attached).

6- Establish a watershed center for education and outreach that has detailed information and activities to explain, interpret and improve the watershed.

7- Construct a new fish hatchery facility in an environmentally appropriate area (not in the 100 year floodplain). This will improve and enhance the existing Hatchery Facility at Tumwater Falls.

8- Restore the estuary (remove 5th Ave Dam and reconfigure 5th Ave Bridge and Deschutes Parkway connection).

9- Mitigate impacts to freshwater wetlands around Capitol Lake by replacing in Middle Watershed Area.

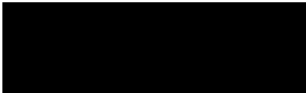
10- Provide stormwater treatment for all runoff to State, Thurston County or City Roads. Utilize best management practices and rain garden – low impact development concepts to filter and absorb stormwater runoff.

11- Remove all barriers (adjust or remove culverts, dams, or replace with bridges, etc) to fish migration and provide enhancement.

All of these steps will help with water quality and quantity in the watershed, improve fisheries, habitat and serve all of our communities. I hope we can all work together to get off the planning treadmill and on to action to improve the watershed. Our children and grandchildren are planning on it. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Bob Barnes



Here, an unknown photographer stood on the roof of the modern Olympia brewery and took a picture of the valley to the southwest. In 1963, the brewery was preparing to expand into this area—the first steps were clearing the site and filling in the marsh to provide solid footing for the larger buildings to come.

Deschutes Valley historical (675x504).jpg
~125 KB



IMG_7230 (1280x1018) (2).jpg
~830 KB

In 1965, the Olympia Brewing Company developed part of its land along the Duwamish River into a public park. The long, narrow, and generally flat site was home to some 100 trees and brush, some cleared from the site, the remaining was a natural wetland. The site was not built on to create the modern-day brewery in central town. The Olympia Valley Club's main building was built in 1966, and the Olympia Brewing Company's main building was built in 1966.



P40-96.jpg
~951 KB



Here, an unknown photographer stood on the roof of the modern Olympia brewery and took a picture of the valley to the southeast. In 1953, the brewery was preparing to expand into this area—the first steps were clearing the site and filling in the marsh to provide solid footing for the large buildings to come.



In 1968, the Olympia Brewing Company developed part of its land along the Deschutes River into a public golf course. Building fairways and greens in a floodplain took some doing. Trees and brush were cleared from the site, the river channel was embanked with volcanic rock, and enough sand was hauled in to raise the entire site 5 feet above its original level. The Tumwater Valley Golf Course was purchased by the City of Tumwater in 1996. (Courtesy of Olympia Tumwater Foundation.)

