

Public Input

Public involvement is an important part of the CLAMP process.

- Over the next year the public will have opportunities to comment on the Alternatives Analysis and its findings. The process is designed to release a draft report for public review in November of 2008. That will be the best opportunity to review the compiled information and offer advice to the decision makers.
- General Administration and the CLAMP Steering Committee welcome public input at any time regarding Capitol Lake and the current study initiative.
- Regular monthly meetings of the CLAMP Steering Committee allow time for public comments and these meetings are often covered by local press.
- Each year CLAMP has an annual meeting that is largely devoted to presentations and feedback from the community.
- During the estuary study evening workshops were held when each technical report was completed.
- Community input was also collected from a cross section of stakeholders in a focus group process.



CLAMP Annual Meeting, 2005

CAPITOL LAKE

Adaptive Management Plan

Alternatives Analysis



Winter 2008

From Study to Recommendation

Capitol Lake is part of the Washington State Capitol Campus and is located in Olympia and Tumwater, Washington. Lake managers are conducting a study to help inform decisions regarding the future management of the lake. The Washington Department of General Administration is directing the study. Research into the feasibility of recreating an estuary at the mouth of the Deschutes River has been completed and the larger study of how best to manage the lake will build upon those findings.

This fact sheet provides information about the how the study will progress and how a decision will be achieved. It should be viewed as a status report and a guide to the process that is underway. Earlier fact sheets are available to provide more background on the lake and research which has been completed.



Planting Day at the Interpretive Site, 2004.

All CLAMP Fact Sheets and reports are available on the GA website www.ga.wa.gov/clamp/index.html

What are the Next Steps?

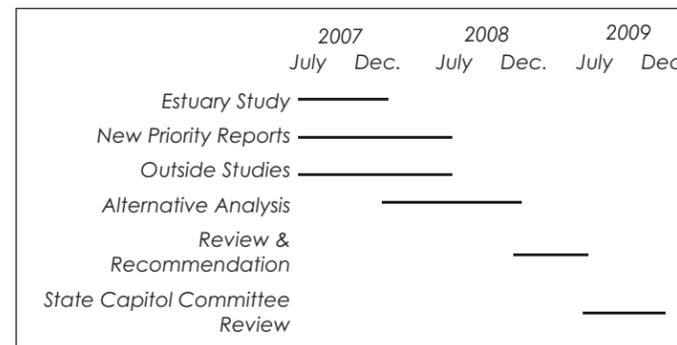
The Capitol Lake Management Study is designed to consider alternative futures for Capitol Lake through rigorous scientific and technical studies and a comparative analysis of those alternatives. Several reports regarding how the lake would respond to different management strategies have been conducted and some are underway now. All of this information will be presented to the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) Steering Committee for their review and the development of a recommendation

Before the Steering Committee can make a recommendation, all the technical information needs to be collected and compared in one document. This document is the **CLAMP Alternatives Analysis Report**. The goal of the analysis is to provide a valid comparison between the various alternatives. The committee is scheduled to recommend one alternative to the Department of General Administration by July 2009. The major parts of the Alternative Analysis report are described in the following sections.

From Recommendation to Action

The timeline for completion of the Alternatives Analysis report and a recommendation from the Steering Committee is shown in the graphic to the right. The Department of General Administration is responsible for making the recommendation to the State Capitol Committee (SCC). The SCC which is composed of the governor, lieutenant governor, the secretary of state, and the state lands commissioner, is authorized under state law to approve changes to the Capitol Campus. Ultimately, the governor and the Legislature will determine the long-term future of Capitol Lake.

Alternative Analysis Timeline



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Alternatives Analysis

Alternatives

The CLAMP Alternatives Analysis report is more than a debate about "lake versus estuary." Possible alternatives were refined by staff and adopted by the CLAMP Steering Committee. A short definition of each of the four alternatives can be found on the following page.

New Priority Reports

It is difficult to provide equivalent estuary and lake data for a comparative analysis. Mangers weighed the benefits and costs of collecting additional information to support the comparison.

With a limited budget, the CLAMP Steering Committee chose to do only those studies that it felt were essential for making an informed recommendation. Some of the additional data to be used in Alternatives Analysis report is being collected at no cost to the committee. The Department of Ecology is currently conducting a water quality study of the Deschutes River basin and, separately, of dioxins in Budd Inlet sediments. Information from these studies will be included in Alternatives Analysis report.

Analysis Categories

To do an analysis of the alternatives, the committee needs a method for comparing the information. The Steering Committee selected a group of analysis categories for this purpose. The categories were drawn from a variety of sources, including: the CLAMP 10-Year Plan; the Capitol Campus Master Plan; estuary

study technical reports; and comments from the public. Fifteen analysis categories were selected for use in the report. These categories are listed in the green box below.

Alternatives Analysis Report

The CLAMP Steering Committee and the public need a report which easily compares the four alternatives. The format used in the Alternatives Analysis report will be similar to that used for an environmental impact statement. The difference is that this comparison will use adopted analysis categories described above.

Budget for the Alternative Analysis	Estimated Cost
Estuary Study	
Final Estuary Feasibility Report	\$30,000
New Priority Reports	
Dam Structural & Reservoir Report	\$75,000
Erodability Assessment	\$50,000
Sea Level Rise Impacts	\$35,000
Sediment Modeling	\$50,000
Comparative Dredge Design and Cost Estimate	\$70,000
Comparative Flood Report	\$10,000
Comparative Fish & Wildlife Report	\$30,000
Comparative Economic Impact Report	\$20,000
Public Review – Alternatives Analysis Report	
Alternative Analysis Draft Report	\$90,000
Alternative Analysis Final	\$40,000
Total	\$500,000

Analysis Categories

What effect would this alternative have on...

- Long-term capital and operating costs?
- Sediment?
- Water access to the Port of Olympia?
- Boat moorage along Percival Landing?
- Flooding downtown Olympia?
- State water quality standards for dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, and phosphorus?
- Fish and wildlife habitat?
- Year-round fish passage?
- Invasive species?
- Ecosystem health?
- Public recreation?
- Public roadways and transportation connections?
- Utility infrastructure?
- Cultural and spiritual values?
- Regional economy?

Alternatives

Managed Lake

Capitol Lake has been a managed waterbody since the 5th Avenue dam was constructed in 1951. The lake is now part of the State Capitol Campus and a backdrop for downtown Olympia. This alternative would see the lake depth increased by dredging, and then maintained through regular maintenance dredging.



Managed Lake

Estuary

The scenario chosen for this alternative includes a 500-foot opening in place of the current Fifth Avenue dam and the construction of a bridge which mirrors the Fourth Avenue bridge. A channel would be dredged through the lake before the dam is removed to reduce the impact of a large sediment release into Budd Inlet. Although mud flats will appear during low tide, the north basin will have enough water to reflect the capitol buildings most of the time.



Estuary

Dual Basin Estuary

This option includes the changes described in the Estuary Alternative (defined directly above) but calls for the construction of a barrier that divides the north basin into two parts. One section of the basin on the east side, would be a saltwater reflecting pool for the Capitol buildings. The other side of the basin, would become an estuary, influenced by tidal actions. Inlets in the barrier would allow saltwater to move through the reflecting pool at high tide, assuring that the pool is refreshed regularly.



Dual Basin Estuary

Status Quo Lake

This alternative includes no dredging in the lake. Sediment would accumulate in the middle and north basins. Over time these parts of the lake would change to emergent wetlands and then to riparian woodlands, similar to the area south of Interstate 5. This change would occur over several decades. Eventually, the Deschutes River would discharge directly into Budd Inlet at the Capitol Lake Dam. This scenario is included to establish a baseline from which to analyze other options. The status quo alternative is not viable and will not be considered as a management option.



Status Quo Lake