

Seeking Advisory Group Participants

Are you interested in the water quality and health of the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet? If you are, then Ecology has an opportunity for you!



Q: What is the purpose of the advisory group?

A: The purpose of the advisory group is to assist the Department of Ecology (Ecology) in developing a water quality summary implementation strategy (SIS) as part of a water quality improvement project (also known as a Total Maximum Daily Load study, or TMDL) underway for the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet. The SIS is a clear and concise plan about how to meet water quality standards by reducing pollution. A successful SIS identifies the entities needed (**who**) to accomplish tasks and activities (**what**) to clean-up the Deschutes watershed. Development of the SIS requires direct input from interested and affected parties in the watershed.

Q: Who should participate?

A: Ecology seeks interested and affected parties in this watershed to give input on the strategy. This includes city, county, and state agencies, businesses, environmental groups, and private citizens. If your organization or entity is concerned about the water quality of the Deschutes watershed, we especially need you. Your organization or entity may have key responsibility for implementing some of the ideas that are part of the final strategy.

Q: Why should you help?

A: Your input can make a difference and help us achieve the goal of meeting the water quality standards for a healthier Deschutes watershed. By joining this advisory group, you can help identify, plan, or oversee cleanup activities. This process helps ensure those involved will own and implement the recommendations.

MORE INFORMATION

Advisory Group Meeting

February 13, 2009
9 a.m. – noon
Lacey Community Center
6729 Pacific Ave. S.E.
Lacey

If you plan to attend, please contact us by January 30.

Contact information:

Lydia C. Wagner
360-407-6329
LBLA461@ecy.wa.gov

Draft Technical Report

You can read the entire report, *Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet Temperature, Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Dissolved Oxygen, pH, and Fine Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load Water Quality Findings*, online at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/deschutes/technical.html>.

Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-0243. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Q: How long will it take?

A: We estimate it will take 18 months to complete this task. The introductory meeting for the advisory group is on February 13, 2009. At that meeting, the group will decide how to continue with the Deschutes water quality cleanup plan. Decisions made at this meeting include how often to meet, how many representatives each organization can have, and meeting locations.

Q: Why is Ecology doing this?

A: The federal Clean Water Act requires states to clean up water bodies that don't meet water quality standards. In Washington, Ecology has that responsibility and has already begun a TMDL process for the Deschutes watershed. This plan includes an assessment of the water quality problems, a technical analysis to determine how to reduce pollution to meet water quality standards, the selection and implementation of appropriate control measures, and follow-up monitoring to determine the success of the project.

As part of this effort, Ecology conducted a technical study and prepared a report, *Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet Temperature, Fecal Coliform, Bacteria, Dissolved Oxygen, pH, and Fine Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load Water Quality Findings*, which included water quality monitoring, in the Deschutes watershed. This study looked at the Deschutes River and all its tributaries, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet to identify main sources or areas of pollution. The study showed temperature, fecal coliform bacteria, dissolved oxygen, pH, and fine sediments did not meet the state water quality standards in one or more of these water bodies. The draft technical study is available online at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/deschutes/technical.html>.

Q: What's next?

A: Ecology forms the Deschutes TMDL Advisory Group to begin work on the summary implementation strategy. The initial meeting will provide an overview of the process and expectations and discuss the commitments needed by the participants. This initial meeting is on:

February 13, 2009
9 a.m. – noon
Lacey Community Center
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Lacey

Q: Who do I contact for more information?

A: Lydia C. Wagner, TMDL Coordinator
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