

**Interjurisdictional Coordinating Team Recommendations
2005-2009 Lake Whatcom Work Plan Tasks
Priority Tasks for 2005**

The Lake Whatcom Management Interjurisdictional Coordinating Team (ICT) recommends the following tasks for year 2005 of the 2005-2009 management plan. These recommendations are based on priorities established by the Joint Councils/Commissioners at their March 2004 meeting and on continuation of ongoing programs. Potential tasks for 2006-2009 are listed on the back page of this document.

PROGRAM AREA 1: LAND PRESERVATION-Pursue public ownership and protection of the watershed whenever possible through public/private partnerships, tax exemptions, transfer of development rights, land trusts, and other means.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
1.1	Develop educational materials describing land preservation options. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.3, 1.7, 1.14, 1.18	Land Preservation information will be made available to the public through the LWMP website as the educational component of the Land Preservation element for the 2005 Work Plan, and is also consistent with City and County land preservation goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land preservation options fact sheet. • Land preservation options webpage on LWMP website.
1.2	Enhance Whatcom County TDR Program to ensure coordination between County, City, Water District and other planning efforts. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.3, J.6, B.5, 2.1, 13.1.2	Creation of TDR Bank, in lieu payments, additional receiving areas, and new public outreach materials to increase the effectiveness of the current TDR program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDR Bank. • In lieu payments option for TDR Program. • Additional receiving areas. • TDR outreach program.
1.3	Implement existing land preservation options in priority watershed areas. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: B.5, 2.1, 2.6, 13.1.2	The City will implement management recommendations for properties acquired by the Lake Whatcom Watershed Property Acquisition Program. The County will continue to pursue land preservation options within the watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of land protected through purchases and easements in 2005. • Summary of management actions taken on publicly owned properties that are protective of water quality.
1.4	Reduce potential density within Sudden Valley in conjunction with Sudden Valley Community Association. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: B.5, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 13.5, 13.6	Continue with the Sudden Valley Restrictive Covenants, and participation in the tax foreclosure auction of watershed properties where feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of new restrictive covenants purchased through joint agreement. • Summary of other actions taken on parcels with covenants that are protective of water quality.

PROGRAM AREA 2: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT-Prevent water quality and quantity impacts due to stormwater runoff by implementation of best management standards and practices, pollutant source control, and construction, maintenance and retrofit of stormwater facilities.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
2.1	<p>Use pollutant loading information and models to identify priority areas in the watershed.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 11.8.1, 11.12</p>	<p>Establish priority areas within each jurisdiction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and ranking of priority drainages in the watershed.
2.2	<p>Evaluate stormwater system inventories and cost-effectiveness to identify and prioritize sites for potential stormwater retrofits within high priority areas.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 11.12</p>	<p>Develop a list of options, costs, and timelines for priority retrofit projects in watershed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of potential locations and options for stormwater retrofit projects.
2.3	<p>Create a highly visible educational component connecting street sweeping with water quality within the existing street sweeping programs in the watershed</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.18, 11.1</p>	<p>Place LWMP signs and/or bumper stickers on street sweepers, along with information on street sweeping on the LWMP website, as part of the educational component for the Stormwater Management element of the 2005 Work Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street sweeping information on LWMP website. • LWMP logos and water quality protection message on street sweepers.
2.4.1 City	<p>Coordinate and implement programs to address NPDES Phase II stormwater requirements in the watershed which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts • Public Involvement/ Participation • Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination • Construction Site Run-off Control • Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment • Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 11.1, 11.1.1-11.1.5, 11.2, 11.5, 11.26, 11.30, 11.32</p>	<p>Implement City NPDES permit conditions (upon approval and receipt).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of Phase II stormwater management activities completed in the city's portion of the watershed during 2005.

2.4.2 County	<p>Coordinate and implement programs to address NPDES Phase II stormwater requirements in the watershed which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts • Public Involvement/ Participation • Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination • Construction Site Run-off Control • Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment • Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 11.1, 11.1.1-11.1.5, 11.2, 11.5, 11.13, 11.14, 11.18</p>	Implement County NPDES permit conditions (upon approval and receipt).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of County Phase II stormwater management activities completed in the county's portion of the watershed during 2005.
2.5	<p>Develop strategy for pollutant source reduction that considers community outreach, regulations, and enforcement options.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.10, 11.1, 11.12, 11.14, 11.21</p>	Coordinate and convene appropriate departments regarding pollutant sources, and develop recommendations to implement the education, regulation, and enforcement options for pollutant source reduction in the watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the pollution source reduction strategy. • Summary of activities completed in the pollution source reduction strategy.

OTHER ONGOING STORMWATER PROJECTS

<p>City Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$300-500K is budgeted annually for stormwater retrofits in the watershed. • Dry weather flow monitoring program continuing as part of illicit discharge detection requirements of the NPDES Phase II permit. <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 11.1.5, 11.22, 11.26</p>
<p>County Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope options, costs, timelines, and funding sources for a high priority stormwater retrofit project at Cable Street using current water quality data and information. • Evaluate watershed street sweeping to determine appropriate frequencies and high priority areas to enhance the effectiveness of the program. • Implement water quality improvements in conjunction with the culvert replacement in Silver Beach (at Brownsville and Hillsdale). <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 11.4</p>

District Projects:

- Coordinate and assist with county pet waste program
- Continue working with Sudden Valley Community Association on stormwater issues (ex. grading)

[From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 11.1, 11.1.1, 11.1.4, 11.2](#)

PROGRAM AREA 3: URBANIZATION/LAND DEVELOPMENT- Prevent water quality degradation associated with urban development through zoning changes, development standards and density limits.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
3.1	<p>Develop and implement a system for tracking building and development activities in the watershed and make data accessible among the City, County, and District.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 13.30</p>	<p>An up-to-date database for watershed development to be utilized by the City, County and District for accurate tracking and analysis of watershed development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed development tracking database. • Description of the information that is included in the database and coordination between the three entities.
3.2	<p>Enhance the established joint development review process, where applicable, to achieve water quality protection goals.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 13.1</p>	<p>Approvals on development within watershed consistent with City and County water quality protection goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint reviews of development in UGA. • Summary of development projects that have been jointly reviewed.
3.3	<p>Complete City and County Shoreline Management Plans for consistency with new State requirements, and consider additional improvements for implementing Best Management Practices and related standards for such things as setbacks and vegetative buffers.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: C.2, 13.21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COB Shoreline Update completion in 2005. • County Shoreline Update completion in December 2005. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated City and County Shoreline Management Plans.
3.4	<p>Review UGA Boundaries and 5-year review areas in watershed. Additionally, evaluate other watershed protection strategies for the UGAs.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 13.1.1, 13.1.3</p>	<p>Watershed UGAs and 5-year review areas will be evaluated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UGA Boundary maps and regulations will be adjusted, as needed.

PROGRAM AREA 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH- Provide educational programs and materials to watershed residents, the general public and decision makers on topics related to water quality, source control, and land use and development regulations.

<i>TASK</i>		<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
General Outreach			
4.1	Develop an integrated community outreach strategy that targets specific audiences with key messages about lake protection. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7	Maintain an upgraded LWMP website, an annual survey of watershed residents to establish baseline information on citizens' knowledge and attitudes on watershed-friendly gardening (Centennial grant), quarterly newsletter, and fact sheets to deliver watershed messages to a greater audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LWMP website. • Quarterly newsletter on Lake Whatcom watershed issues. • Fact sheets on Lake Whatcom watershed issues. • Summary of survey results and description of target audiences and messages for community outreach.
4.2	Include watershed stewardship messages on utility bills. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.18	Utilization of utility bills to educate City and County residents on watershed stewardship opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed stewardship message inserts included in utility bills.
Transportation Outreach			
4.3	Create educational materials that illustrate the impacts of motorized vehicle use on water quality. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.1.1, 12.11	Completion of educational component for Transportation element of the 2005 Work Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets/brochures and webpage describing lake-friendly transportation options.
Nutrients, Bacteria, & Stormwater Outreach			
4.4	Expand Lake-Friendly Gardening program to reach additional audiences. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.7, 1.16, 1.19	Additional monitoring of Lake Whatcom tributaries, additional stormwater and water conservation materials for the Watershed-friendly gardening kit, and a watershed-friendly video.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Whatcom tributary data. • Watershed-friendly gardening kits. • Watershed-friendly gardening video.
4.5	Construct a demonstration garden. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.11, 1.14, 1.19	Develop a demonstration garden at Bloedel Donovan Park showcasing landscaping approaches that are watershed friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration garden.
4.6	Expand community outreach related to the impact of pet waste on water quality, and continue implementation of existing pet waste programs in watershed	Mutt Mitt stations will continue to be maintained in the watershed, and the Hounds for Healthy Watersheds program will continue the public outreach and volunteer components, while providing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pet waste education on LWMP website. • Updated brochures describing impacts of pet waste on water quality. • Mutt mitt stations in watershed.

	From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, D.2, 1.1.2, 1.3, 1.7, 7.1	educational materials on pet waste through brochures and the LWMP website.	
Drinking Water/Waste Water Treatment Outreach			
4.7	Target water quality education through the existing 5 th grade <i>Sharing Our Watershed</i> program for public and private schools of Bellingham. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 1.1.2, 1.18	Completion of the 14th year of the <i>Sharing Our Watershed</i> program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water and wastewater treatment tours and education for 5th grade classes.
Land Preservation Outreach: See Land Preservation Tasks 1.1 & 1.2			
Stormwater Outreach: See Stormwater Management Tasks 2.3, 2.4.1, 2.4.2			
Utilities and Waste Management Outreach: See Utilities and Waste Management Task 10.3			
Recreation Outreach: See Recreation Task 9.2			

PROGRAM AREA 5: DATA MANAGEMENT and INFORMATION - Maintain and enhance databases sufficient for detection of water quality and quantity trends, assessment of problems, evaluation and selection of management actions, and monitoring of action effectiveness.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
5.1	Review all monitoring studies and reports to determine policy implications. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1	Create report identifying high priority areas and issues of concern with possible policy recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of water quality issues with policy recommendations.
5.2.1	Conduct tributary monitoring for pollutant loading data. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1, 3.2, 19.1.1	Utilize tributary monitoring data for watershed model development, calibration, and identification of priority areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report with tributary water quality and quantity data.
5.2.2	Special Projects for tributary monitoring within watershed: 2005- Austin/Beaver Creek drainage to evaluate pollutant loading. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1	Utilize tributary monitoring data to assist in identifying source of fecal coliform in response to 303(d) listing of Austin Creek for fecal coliform, and its relevance to Sudden Valley.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report with water quality and quantity data for the Austin/Beaver Creek system.
5.3	Annual update of bibliography, abstracts, and library collections of Lake Whatcom reports. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1	Updated library of all reports pertaining to Lake Whatcom to be used as a government and public resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Lake Whatcom Data Catalog. Lake Whatcom reports in libraries.

PROGRAM AREA 6: SPILL RESPONSE & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Prevent water quality degradation due to hazardous materials spills through spill prevention and response programs, and continual improvement of communication network to handle spill response.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
6.1	Evaluate multi-jurisdictional spill response capability. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 10.1, 10.1.1	Implement changes identified by response capability evaluation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spill response and hazardous materials plan.

PROGRAM AREA 7: FORESTRY/FISH/WILDLIFE- Develop and maintain a comprehensive watershed forest management plan that minimizes impacts to water quality, and promotes actions and programs that protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
7.1	Placeholder for possible recommendations that may come from the Forestry Forum, Citizen Advisory Committee, or DNR Committee (SB 5536). From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 4.1, 21.1	TBD	TBD

PROGRAM AREA 8: TRANSPORTATION- Design and develop transportation systems that: include alternatives to automobiles, locate “through” routes away from the lakeshore, ensure treatment of runoff before entering the lake and otherwise protects water quality.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
8.1	Coordinate with City, County, and Sudden Valley transportation planning to develop options and criteria for managing transportation projects in the watershed in a manner consistent with water quality protection goals. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 12.1, 12.1.3, 12.4, 12.5	Amend the comprehensive plans to guide transportation projects to minimize water quality impacts in the watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1992 Joint Resolution goals and policies for Lake Whatcom included in transportation element of comprehensive plans.

PROGRAM AREA 9: RECREATION- Promote recreational opportunities that do not degrade water quality, and improve on ways to reduce impacts of existing activities.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
9.1	<p>Coordinate with City and County parks departments to develop and manage parks and open space in the watershed in a manner consistent with water quality protection goals</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 8.1</p>	<p>Develop recommendations for the Park and Open Space Master Plans with specific management options for parks to minimize water quality impacts in the watershed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for Park and Open Space Master Plans.
9.2	<p>Update the Lake Whatcom boating handbook (<i>Boatnotes 2001</i>), and continue providing boating information on the Lake Whatcom Management Program website.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.6, 8.1</p>	<p>Boating handbook and related information will be updated with current regulations and made available to public through hardcopy and website versions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Boating Handbook. • Boating information webpage on LWMP website.
9.3	<p>Coordinate with Sudden Valley Community Association to establish best management practices consistent with source water protection goals for Sudden Valley golf course, beaches and other public areas.</p> <p>From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.2, J.3</p>	<p>Develop a summary of potential best management options (BMPs) for Sudden Valley recreational areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of BMPs for Sudden Valley recreational areas.

PROGRAM AREA 10: UTILITIES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT- Promote conservation of water resources and provision of city sewer to areas with on-site treatment.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
10.1	Investigate and review inflow and infiltration sources in District for elimination, including coordination with SVCA for inflow problems associated with stormwater runoff. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 7.7, 14.1	Implement management options for inflow and infiltration sources. (e.g. reseal man hole rims and chimneys, seal man hole covers, smoke test sewer lines, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of inflow and infiltration elimination projects completed in the District in 2005.
10.2	Install radio read meters in appropriate areas and conduct meter rebuilds in District. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 17.1	Ensure water meters are maintained for accurate reading.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of water meter installation and maintenance activities completed by the District in 2005.
10.3	Continue implementation of on-site septic system surveys, water quality monitoring, and education through County Health Department. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 16.1.3, 16.1.4	Conduct survey inspections in the watershed, maintain an updated database of septic systems in watershed, respond to failing septic systems, and continue educational component for homeowners with septic systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report summarizing the results of on-site septic system surveys, water quality monitoring and follow-up actions.
10.4	Adopt new State on-site septic system code (by reference) requiring more stringent maintenance and inspections of on-site septic systems. (WAC 246-272A) From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 16.1, 16.1.4, 16.4	Enforce new on-site septic code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of new on-site septic system requirements and implementation of new requirements in the watershed in 2005.
10.5	Consider options for requiring on-site septic system (OSS) inspections during all real estate transactions. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 16.1.4, 16.4	Increase frequency of OSS maintenance and inspections during real estate transactions to achieve more compliance and fewer failing septic systems in the watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of changes to OSS inspections in the watershed in 2005.

PROGRAM AREA 11: ADMINISTRATION: ICT activities to support Management Plan implementation.

	<i>TASK</i>	<i>ACTION</i>	<i>PRODUCTS</i>
11.1	Seek additional funding sources for implementation of the program elements.	Apply for grants that fit the needs identified through the LWMP and work plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of grants or other funds acquired to assist with LWMP.
11.2	Maintain coordination between the Inter-jurisdictional Coordinating Team (ICT-City, County, and District staff) in developing and accomplishing Lake Whatcom Program goals and tasks for each program element. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.2, 3.6	Actively participate in inter-jurisdictional staff meetings to discuss, implement, and summarize the progress of the LWMP work plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 regularly scheduled ICT meetings a month, or more as needed. • Semi-annual progress reports for LWMP work plan.
11.3	ICT will facilitate and maintain coordination between appropriate City, County, and District staff to develop and accomplish tasks for each program element. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.2, 3.6	Integration of inter-jurisdictional and inter-departmental efforts in planning and implementation of program areas and work plan tasks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of efforts coordinated between City, County, and District departments.
11.4	Establish regular communication and coordination between the ICT and the Lake Whatcom Management Committee. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: B.2, C.2	Organize monthly meetings between LWMC and ICT to discuss progress of work plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Lake Whatcom Management Committee meetings.
11.5	Organize and facilitate Joint Councils/Commissioners meetings for Lake Whatcom Management Program updates. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.5	Organize joint meetings, send notifications to mailing lists, provide copies of meeting materials, and videotape meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-annual meetings of the Joint Councils/Commissioners. • Postcard and e-mail meeting notifications. • Videotape of meeting in library and broadcast on local government channel.
11.6	Integrate the Lake Whatcom Management Program goals and tasks with City, County, and District comprehensive planning. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: B.2, C.1	Develop recommendations for amendments to the City, County, and District Comprehensive Plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendments to City, County, & District comprehensive plans to include LWMP Goals from 1992 Joint Resolution.

11.7	Coordinate and maintain contact with agencies for updates on studies pertaining to Lake Whatcom. From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: 3.1	Updates and studies will be part of the annual review of Lake Whatcom monitoring through the Data and Information Management element of the Work Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Task 5.1.
11.8	Research options for creation of a Lake Management District From Goals and Policies, Appendix B: J.2, J.3, B.3, C.2	Compile and evaluate feasibility of options for application in the Lake Whatcom watershed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present report of findings and preferred course of action to Joint Councils.

Potential 2006-2009 Tasks (details to be determined each year)

PROGRAM AREA 1: LAND PRESERVATION

- Evaluate components of TDR program that the City may capably function.

PROGRAM AREA 2: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- Explore options for purchasing properties for stormwater retrofits where feasible.
- Placeholder for 2006-2009 Stormwater projects.

PROGRAM AREA 3: URBANIZATION/ LAND DEVELOPMENT

- Evaluate options for consistent development regulations and standards between City and County.
- Explore enforcement and education options to improve compliance with development and erosion control standards.

PROGRAM AREA 4: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Develop a “Watershed-friendly” certification program for landscapers, retailers, and realtors through training workshops. (Whatcom County’s 2005 Centennial Grant)
- Explore options for expanding stewardship programs to include City-owned watershed properties.
- Develop and implement a mini-grant program that places priority on reducing impacts in the developed portions of the watershed.
- Explore options for waterwise garden tours.

PROGRAM AREA 5: DATA & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Placeholder to respond to agencies’ and contracted reports as needed.

PROGRAM AREA 6: SPILL RESPONSE & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

PROGRAM AREA 7: FORESTRY/FISH/WILDLIFE

- Explore geese management options due to coliform bacteria found in water and sediment at Bloedel Donovan swimming area.
- Placeholder to respond to fish and wildlife problems, and work with appropriate agencies as needed.

PROGRAM AREA 10: UTILITIES & WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Placeholder to explore Lake Louise interceptor hook-up issues.