

WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS-STORMWATER

LAKE SAMISH COMPREHENSIVE STORMWATER PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING NO. 3 – SUMMARY

Meeting Date: November 4, 2010; (7:00 to 9:00 PM)
Camp Lutherwood Facilities, 1185 Roy Road, Bellingham, WA

- I. Introductions - Kraig Olason, Whatcom County Public Works-Stormwater
 - II. Project Overview - Liz Sterling, Wilson Engineering
 - a. Work Completed Since Last Public Meeting
 - b. Purpose of this Public Meeting
 - c. Schedule
 - III. Project Review – (PowerPoint Presentation) - Elizabeth Sterling, Wilson Engineering
 - a. Water Quality Monitoring
 1. Overview of Monitoring in Basin
 2. Summary of Results
 3. Recommendations
 - b. Hydrologic & Water Quality Modeling Effort
 1. Overview of Model Construction
 2. Summary of Results
 3. Recommendations
 - c. Code & Regulations Review
 1. Review of Current Codes, Plans, Programs, and Regulations
 2. Western Washington Phase II Permit – Review & Gap Analysis
 3. Recommendations
 - IV. Public Questions and Comments
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Kraig started the meeting with introductions at 7 p.m. He summarized where we were in the process and invited folks to get the four different handouts provided by Wilson Engineering and provide their contact information for updates and mailings.

Liz launched into a slide presentation where she provided a project overview of work that has been completed since our last public meeting, the purpose the current evening meeting, and a schedule timeline for the process and where we were to date.

Topics Liz reviewed included water quality monitoring review, hydrologic and water quality modeling, code and regulation review.

- **Water quality monitoring review of Lake Samish:** Different sources were referenced including weather monitoring data (1978 to present), water quality monitoring data, toxics monitoring, external nutrient loading, tributary water quality data, and recommendations as provided at the end of each of the memo handouts.

- **Hydrologic and water quality modeling:** Construction and calibration (inputs and outputs), modeling scenarios (existing conditions for calibration, future buildout conditions, and timber harvest in Mud and Roy East sub-basins), modeling results, and recommendations.

Discussion followed on this topic regarding the GIS-based model (buildup, worst-case scenario, run model at different levels and time periods, a cost-effective ways to do this, proactive planning, degradation of water quality around the lake due to the level of development, statistics including Levels of increased phosphorus, data for algae blooms

- **Code and regulation review:** Liz summarized and referenced plans including pertinent and applicable codes and regulations in Whatcom County. Also referenced were plan reviews by Skagit County, manuals from Washington State, compliance with EPA National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Permit requirements (DOE), review and gap analysis. Concerns were raised about maintenance of stormwater facilities by WSDOT near the freeway.

The following is a list of public questions and comments brought up at the meeting:

- There are two general areas of Lake Samish. The deep end has few homes and the rest have a road all the way around. Two different plans are needed—one for the west arm and one for the east arm—to address the different issues in the different parts.
- What's LID?
- Lake Whatcom has had pitfalls; are those issues addressed in the Lake Samish plan?
- Issues regarding public spaces vs. stormwater management strategies.
- Concerns about catchment basins that won't be able to hold water coming down a particular hill off Roy Road. Are we all going to have to do it?
- Calmer Cove has a culvert that runs under mobile homes and pads. Location and drainage causes trouble for people downstream.
- Another concern that during storm events when systems overflowed, most designs will fail.
- Some voice appreciation and support for the process.

Liz wrapped up her presentation by summarizing where we are in the process is. We're covering the subject areas that are important in the plan and are looking for people to review and respond. Another meeting is planned for early next year to look over the next steps toward the plan which will be sent to Council after it's produced.

Kraig provided contact information if there were further questions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.