

## **Lake Management Committee Work Plan Version 1 (2017-2021)**

**Vision:** *An ecologically healthy Lake Windermere with balanced management approaches that support recreation and traditional uses, high fish and wildlife values, and economic prosperity in the region.*

**Mission:** *Through collaboration of representatives of key community sectors, the Lake Windermere Ambassadors will serve as a resource for future projects benefiting the health of Lake Windermere.*

**Mandate:** *The primary role of the Lake Management Committee is to assist RDEK and DOI in implementing the recommendations in the Lake Windermere Management Plan.*

### **Goal: (To be reviewed and adjusted as determined by the Board of Directors)**

**Promote the establishment of a formal water governance board with delegated authority to implement the Lake Windermere Management Plan by 2015.**

### **Objectives:**

- Empower key stakeholders and decision makers with current, comprehensive, and reliable data on Lake Windermere ecological status.
- Strengthen a community ethic of water stewardship in the Lake Windermere watershed.
- Implement and enforce policies and guidelines related to management of the Lake Windermere watershed.

**Background:** The Lake Management Committee met with local government representatives on November 24<sup>th</sup> 2016, at Eagle Ranch Resort in Invermere, BC to set strategic priorities for the Lake Management Committee, in support of the continued non-regulatory implementation of the LWMP through water monitoring, public outreach and education. Participants of the Strategic Planning Workshop took stock of successes and lessons learned, identified challenges and shared goals moving forward. The following Work Plan represents highlights of this latter part of the discussion as it pertained to actionable strategic priorities for 2017-2021. The Work Plan has 5 areas of focus: Water-Based Recreation, Shorelines & Habitat, Water Quality and Quantity Monitoring, Organization Governance and Public Outreach and Education.

***This a Living Work Plan, and should be revised regularly as funding is achieved, and projects related to each area of focus evolve and develop momentum.***

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Water-Based Recreation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re-inventory mooring buoys on the lake, with support from DOI and RDEK</li> <li>2. Increase public education about mooring buoys and regulations</li> <li>3. Support DOI and RDEK in new boat-launch planning and public outreach &amp; information gathering through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Surveys</li> <li>b. Experts/ Consultants</li> <li>c. Ongoing lobbying</li> <li>d. Articles</li> <li>e. Development of Boat Launch Best Practices</li> <li>f. Facilitation of public comment</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Prepare signage for motorized lake users indicating no-wake and slow zones, general features and hazards; begin brochure design.</li> <li>5. Revise and plan a re-print of the Green Boating Guide with relevance to entire Basin (possible partnership with Columbia Lake Stewardship Society and Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners).</li> <li>6. Work with East Kootenay Invasive Species Council, Invasive Mussel Defense crews and local marinas to promote “Clean Drain Dry” message.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitor levels and trends of motorized and non-motorized recreational use on Lake Windermere by means of volunteer-based boat counts, and compare with historical data</li> <li>2. Continue public education regarding mooring buoys &amp; regulations.</li> <li>3. Support DOI and RDEK in new boat-launch planning and public outreach &amp; information gathering through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Surveys</li> <li>b. Experts/ Consultants</li> <li>c. Ongoing lobbying</li> <li>d. Articles</li> <li>e. Development of Boat Launch Best Practices</li> <li>f. Facilitation of public comment</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Maintain representatives of both motorized and non-motorized boating community on the Board of Directors</li> <li>5. Install map signage and print map brochures for motorized boaters.</li> <li>6. Print and distribute new Green Boating Guides</li> <li>7. Work with East Kootenay Invasive Species Council, Invasive Mussel Defense crews and local marinas to promote “Clean Drain Dry” message.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitor levels and trends of motorized and non-motorized recreational use on Lake Windermere by means of volunteer based boat counts, and compare with historical data; work on establishing recommendations for maintaining ecological health &amp; sustainability of the lake, given the results of Lake use surveys/counts above</li> <li>2. Support DOI and RDEK in new boat-launch planning and public outreach &amp; information gathering through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Surveys</li> <li>b. Experts/ Consultants</li> <li>c. Ongoing lobbying</li> <li>d. Articles</li> <li>e. Development of Boat Launch Best Practices</li> <li>f. Facilitation of public comment</li> <li>g. Maintain representatives of both motorized and non-motorized boating community on the Board of Directors</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Work with East Kootenay Invasive Species Council, Invasive Mussel Defense crews and local marinas to promote “Clean Drain Dry” message.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Shorelines and Habitat</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host Lake Windermere Shoreline Cleanups in Spring and Fall and register/record them with Great Canadian Shoreline Clean up.</li> <li>2. Co-host community consultations and workshops with Green Shores for Homes to gain insights into opportunities and barriers for the program on Lake Windermere, and develop technical expertise.</li> <li>3. Work with Green Shores for Homes to structure the GSH program to align with SHIM – red and orange vulnerability zones.</li> <li>4. Begin building partnership with real-estate agencies to present new shoreline home owners with the information necessary to promote healthy shoreline practices.</li> <li>5. Develop a plan to revitalize the Kinsmen Beach Shoreline Restoration Project with added native vegetation, protective low-barriers or fencing, and a watering schedule.</li> <li>6. Promote public access to the lake (via MoE access points?) through an article in local newspaper</li> <li>7. Support work being done to identify public access areas with potential for restoration and clean-up (e.g. Athalmer boat launch)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host Lake Windermere Shoreline Cleanups in Spring and Fall and register/record them with Great Canadian Shoreline Clean up.</li> <li>2. Co-host a Level 1 Green Shores for Homes workshop; continue with Year 2 of Green Shores for Homes.</li> <li>3. Register a Winter Lake Cleanup in partnership with Toby Creek Nordic Ski Club/White way</li> <li>4. Conduct follow up SHIM / fish and wildlife habitat assessments with EKILMP on Lake Windermere; assess feasibility of including archaeology/cultural values in partnership with Akisqnuq and Shuswap Band.</li> <li>5. Formally transfer the long-term maintenance of the Kinsmen Beach Restoration Project to DOI.</li> <li>6. Work with RDEK, MOTI and others to incorporate interpretive / ecological signage at public access points.</li> <li>7. Seek funding and partnership for Stormwater run-off project in collaboration with DOI (e.g. Imagine Invermere or CBT)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host Lake Windermere Shoreline Cleanups in spring and fall and register/record them with Great Canadian Shoreline Clean up.</li> <li>2. Host a Level 2 Green Shores for Homes workshop</li> <li>3. Support conclusion of Green Shores for Homes Program, or move into final phase/Year 3 – Establish method of promoting continuity through local policies and procedures.</li> <li>4. Register a Winter Lake Cleanup in partnership with Toby Creek Nordic Ski Club/Whiteway</li> <li>5. Creatively inform public of updated SHIM report and areas of ecological-archaeological-cultural value on Lake Windermere Shoreline. (e.g. interpretive signage, brochures, articles, public presentations)</li> <li>6. Begin Stormwater run-off Project</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Water Quality and Quantity Monitoring</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct water quality attainment monitoring as recommended in the 2010 Water Quality Assessment and Objectives for Lake Windermere</li> <li>2. Continue to work with the Columbia Basin Water Monitoring Project to conduct water chemistry, flow and velocity measurements for Windermere Creek on a monthly basis.</li> <li>3. Plan expansion of program (e.g. to monitor critical flows &amp; quantity with support/partnership from Columbia Lake Stewardship Society) with the goal to eventually have enough information for a State of the Lake Report (in 2020 or 2021), and then a State of the Watershed Report.</li> <li>4. Maintain database for tracking changes in WQ results.</li> <li>5. Build capacity of Lake Windermere Scientific Monitoring group to actively monitor, protect &amp; enhance lake water quality by seeking expert audits and external review of hands-on water sampling training.</li> <li>6. Continue to encourage public accessibility to data/reports. Work with local decision-makers to determine how data can be used to inform lake management. Ensure reports are available to MoE in BC EcoCat database.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct water quality attainment monitoring as recommended in the 2010 Water Quality Assessment and Objectives for Lake Windermere</li> <li>2. Initiate a basic water budget for Lake Windermere to assist in responsible future resource and community planning in the Lake Windermere watershed</li> <li>4. Expand program (e.g. monitor quantity, critical flows, sample for contaminants of concern in stormwater during spring runoff and in summer rain events, study for hydrocarbons, conduct fluorometry study to update location of septic leachate hot spots, or pesticide sampling at Windermere Creek)</li> <li>5. Maintain database for tracking changes in WQ results and continue to work with expert limnologists to identify patterns and possibilities for interventions.</li> <li>6. Continue to encourage public accessibility to data/reports. Work with local decision-makers to determine how data can be used to inform lake management. Ensure reports are available to MoE in BC EcoCat database</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct water quality attainment monitoring as recommended in the 2010 Water Quality Assessment and Objectives for Lake Windermere</li> <li>2. Use expanded program and water budget to look at start planning the State of the Lake Report for 2020/2021 with support from Councils.</li> <li>3. Maintain database for tracking changes in WQ results and continue to work with expert limnologists to identify patterns and possibilities for interventions.</li> <li>4. Make data more publically accessible on website. Track how decision-makers use data to inform lake management.</li> <li>5. Track public engagement successes and Citizen Scientists trained.</li> <li>6. Add wildlife and fisheries elements to WQ reporting, moving toward a more holistic State of the Lake and watershed ethic.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State of the Lake Report</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State of the Lake Report  End of 2<sup>nd</sup> LMC Term.</li> </ol>

	<p>7. Provide area residents with materials and educational opportunities on protecting water quality, conserving water quantity, and responsible boating by attending community events and meetings.</p> <p>8. Continue to train Citizen Scientists – Publicize the success of the 100<sup>th</sup> trained volunteer with Community-based Monitoring program!</p> <p>9. Develop and adopt strategy to engage the public more strategically and effectively in Community-Based Monitoring.</p> <p>10. Develop partnerships with wildlife and fisheries groups to add to WQ understanding (e.g Columbia Waterbird Survey).</p>	<p>7. Provide area residents with materials and educational opportunities on protecting water quality, conserving water quantity, and responsible boating by attending community events and meetings</p> <p>8. Celebrate and feature Citizen Scientists trained with Community-based Monitoring program!</p> <p>9. Implement strategy to engage the public more strategically and effectively in Community-Based Monitoring</p> <p>10. Work with East Kootenay Invasive Species Council, Invasive Mussel Defence crews and local marinas to promote “Clean Drain Dry” message.</p> <p>11. Develop partnerships with wildlife and fisheries groups to add to WQ understanding (e.g Columbia Waterbird Survey or fish inventories with Rod &amp; Gun Club)</p>			
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<b>Organization Governance</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Start conversation to develop overarching goal for this Work Plan.</li> <li>2. Create and distribute a Report Card of the Lake Windermere Management Plan as an update, evaluative tool and public feedback mechanism for LMC priorities.</li> <li>3. Develop plan for incorporating public feedback (through Report Card questionnaires) into LMC Work Plan.</li> <li>4. Plan and host public dialogues around themes in the Lake Windermere Management Plan and Report Card</li> <li>5. Provide regular status reports to Councils and ask for updates to lake-relevant policy and regulations.</li> <li>6. Seek Board representation of all sectors identified in LMC Terms of Reference. In particular, work on developing relationships with commercial boating operations community.</li> <li>7. Work with Shuswap Band Council and Akisqnuq First Nations to determine appropriate representation and partnership opportunities.</li> <li>8. Evaluate protocols and expert contact list ?</li> <li>9. Maintain access to research institutions like POLIS and Water Policy &amp; Governance Group out of Waterloo.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check in with Work Plan and overarching goal at Board Meetings – make adaptive changes as necessary.</li> <li>2. Seek Board representation of all sectors identified in LMC Terms of Reference.</li> <li>3. Follow up on and incorporate public feedback from LWMP Report Card into evolving LMC priorities.</li> <li>4. Continue to host a series of public dialogues related to LWMP, Water Sustainability Act and lake-based issues.</li> <li>5. Provide regular status reports to Councils and ask for updates to lake-relevant policy and regulations.</li> <li>6. Evaluate protocols and expert contact list ?</li> <li>7. Maintain access to research institutions like POLIS and Water Policy and Governance Group out of Waterloo.</li> <li>8. Identify and partake in water governance learning opportunities (such as conferences, workshops, webinars, etc.)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check in and adjust Work Plan.</li> <li>2. Provide regular status reports to Councils and ask for updates to lake-relevant policy and regulations.</li> <li>3. Seek Board representation of all sectors identified in LMC Terms of Reference.</li> <li>4. Maintain access to research institutions like POLIS and Water Policy and Governance Group out of Waterloo.</li> <li>5. Maintain active participation in capacity-building workshops, conferences, webinars, and forums through membership with Columbia Basin Watershed Network, Kootenay Conservation Program, Canadian Freshwater Alliance, and Living Lakes Canada.</li> <li>6. Communicate adaptive learning, new goals and objectives to funders: CBT, REFBC, ROI, RDEK, CVLCF, etc.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>

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<b>Public Outreach and Education</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop Social Media Strategy for Public Outreach *Ask Youth Committee for counsel.</li> <li>2. Build on Lake and Watershed Tours Program by continuing partnership with Wings Over the Rockies (I Love My Lake Tours with Pete’s Marina) and developing a new partnership with Columbia River Paddle.</li> <li>3. Host annual Summer Splash, which will assist in building community stewardship ethic and appreciation for Lake Windermere</li> <li>4. Start to envision a Lake Summit-style event with speakers, artists and films (akin to Kootenay Lake Summit)</li> <li>5. Design &amp; install Ambassadors promo signage at public beaches (Who are the Ambassadors?)</li> <li>6. Launch LWA Engagement Video to the public and continue to look for tactics and venues to widen the audience.</li> <li>7. Work with local schools to get students involved in the stewardship and management of Lake Windermere</li> <li>8. Continue presence at public events with outreach booths and educational materials</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement new Social Media Strategy for Public Outreach</li> <li>2. Continue to strengthen Lake and Watershed Tours Program in partnership with Wings over the Rockies, Columbia River Paddle and other community groups or associations and seek funding to build sustainability and professionalism of this program.</li> <li>3. Host annual Summer Splash, which will assist in building community stewardship ethic and appreciation for Lake Windermere</li> <li>4. Host first Lake Windermere Summit Event</li> <li>5. Promote LWA Engagement Video at regional conferences and maintain access to wider audiences – Track views!</li> <li>6. Work with local schools to get students involved in the stewardship and management of Lake Windermere</li> <li>7. Continue presence at public events with outreach booths and educational materials</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attain independent, multi-year funding and capacity for Lake and Watershed Tours Program.</li> <li>2. Host annual Summer Splash, which will assist in building community stewardship ethic and appreciation for Lake Windermere</li> <li>3. Host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lake Windermere Summit Event – New theme?</li> <li>4. Work with local schools to get students involved in the stewardship and management of Lake Windermere</li> <li>5. Continue presence at public events with outreach booths and educational materials</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> </ol>