

LWMP Implementation

Lake Windermere Management Plan

LAKE WINDERMERE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Lake Windermere Management Plan (LWMP) was adopted by the RDEK and DOI in February 2011. The LWMP was prepared in recognition of the need for a common strategy for the two local governments with jurisdiction on Lake Windermere in order to guide regulatory and management decisions under their direct authority or influence. The LWMP contains information on the biophysical and social characteristics of Lake Windermere and makes recommendations on the future use and management of the lake.

GOALS

- Goal 1:** Protect and enhance the environmental health and integrity of the lake.
- Goal 2:** Ensure the continuation of diverse and safe recreational opportunities.
- Goal 3:** Encourage and support the development of a community that will work together to respect and balance the various interests on the lake.
- Goal 4:** Clarify and strengthen responsibilities for management and enforcement.

VISION

Lake Windermere has high water quality, providing drinking water and supporting healthy and diverse habitats for fish and wildlife. The lake, in its spectacular setting, supports a wide range of recreational pursuits which are accessible to everyone. The surrounding communities offer a high and enjoyable quality of life for all residents and visitors; everyone works together to ensure that human activities and behaviour respect the environment and human safety. The authority for management of the lake is simplified and coordinated, including enforcement of regulations and guidelines. Lake Windermere is a key economic asset for the Columbia Valley, helping to attract and retain residents, businesses, and tourists.

AVAILABILITY

The full text of the LWMP and all map schedules are available on the RDEK website at www.rdek.bc.ca and the DOI website at www.invermere.net.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Plan outlines a series of recommendations of policies and actions that could be undertaken to assist the RDEK and DOI to achieve the goals identified within the Plan. Recommendations are grouped around key issues identified during the plan process including:

- Lake Boating and Use
- Winter Use
- Water Structures and Public Access
- Foreshore Management
- Upland Use and Management
- Environmental Quality

IMPLEMENTATION

Now that the LWMP has been adopted by both local governments, the implementation of the LWMP will be the responsibility of the RDEK and DOI. The recommended priorities for the RDEK and the DOI are:

- the development of surface water zoning regulations and the creation of a Foreshore and Aquatic Development Permit Area; and
- the establishment of a Lake Management Committee to assist with public education, water quality monitoring and other non-regulatory lake management measures.

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