



# REACH Deer Lake

Deer Lake

## LAKE AREA

80 Acres

## SHORELINE LENGTH:

1.88 Miles

## REACH AREA:

45 Acres

## PSNERP PROCESS UNITS:

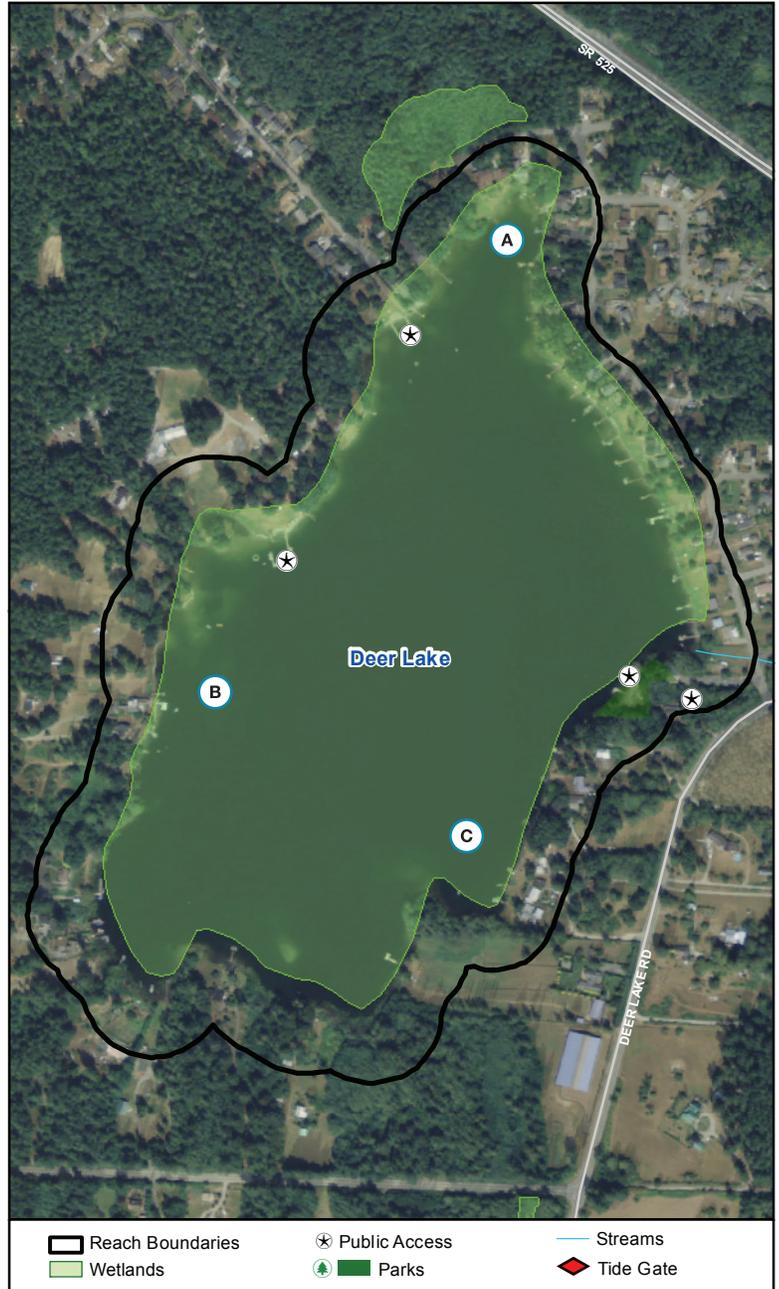
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### REACH SUMMARY

Deer Lake is located approximately 1.5 miles west of Clinton on the south end of Whidbey Island. Existing land use consists primarily of moderate density single family residential development. No streams are mapped flowing to the lake. The outflow is located along the eastern shoreline (adjacent to the public boat ramp) and flows generally east to the marine shoreline south of Clinton.

Deer Lake was classified as oligo-mesotrophic (trophic state) by Ecology during the late 1990s (Ecology, 1996) due to the presence of blue-green algae and oxygen depletion at the lower levels of the lake found during a summer sampling effort. WDFW maps the lake as a waterfowl concentration area.

Land use is generally shoreline residential development, with approximately two-thirds of the riparian area consisting of lawns and one third consisting of an alder, willow and rush riparian community (Ecology, 1996). The riparian area of the lake is intact in several sections. Largely cleared sections with residential bulkheads are also present intermittently in more densely developed shoreline areas. A private camp is located along the west shoreline with a larger dock and swim area. Short residential docks are common. A horse pasture extends near the shoreline at the southeast end of the lake.



Shoreline Oblique Photos (© Microsoft Bing Maps, 2010)

**PHYSICAL CHARACTERIZATION**

<b>Mean Lake Depth</b> 20 ft	<b>Maximum Lake Depth</b> 50 ft	<b>Lake Volume</b> 1,620 Acre-Feet
<b>Drainage Area</b> 768 ft	<b>Altitude Above Sea Level</b> 352 Ft	<b>Steep Slopes</b> None mapped

**HABITATS & SPECIES**

<b>Wetlands (Map 4)</b> 18%	<b>Wetlands Waterward of OHWM (Map 4)</b> 94%
<b>Shoreland Priority Habitats &amp; Species (Map 5)</b> Wetland; Waterfowl Concentration (almost entire extent)	<b>Salmonid Fish Use (Map 5)</b> None mapped

**LAND & SHORELINE USE**

**Shoreline Modifications (Map 13)**  
Clearing of riparian vegetation, fill and shoreline armoring common, especially adjacent to docks.

**Zoning (Map 11)**  
Rural Residential (69%); Rural (31%)

**Current Land Use (Map 12)**  
**Number of Parcels** 86    **Average Parcel Size** 1.67 Acres  
Moderate density single family residential development, with one area used as a private camp along the west shoreline. Very few undeveloped parcels; typical residential setback is varied (generally between 75 and 200 feet).

**Public Access (Map 16)**  
County boat ramp (Deer Lake Park) along the east shoreline; improvements include boat ramp, fishing dock, and swim area as well as vault toilets, limited parking and picnic areas.

**Overwater Structures (Map 14)**  
Approximately 55 docks; generally private residential docks, uniformly distributed around lake.

**Water Quality**  
No listed impairments

**KEY MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- Assessment and improvement / maintenance of water quality in the context of surface water runoff and nutrient inputs from the contributing basin.
- Managing intensity of additional residential development within the contributing basin, including shoreline areas, with focus on impacts associated with septic systems, removal of native vegetation and runoff from polluting generating sources (among other use implications).
- Conservation of intact riparian vegetation and restoration of degraded shoreline areas, including associated wetland areas fringing the lake.
- Preservation and enhancement of native aquatic vegetation in the nearshore environment, with focus on control and eradication of invasive aquatic species.

**RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

[Will be completed in next Draft.]