

Susan Braley

NOV 16 2004

Nov. 13, 04

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Writer attended one of your Seminars in the past and attended the present one held in Lacey on 11-12-04.

We must compliment Susan Braley and Ken Koch on the tremendous amount of work to gather all this information and put into a proper format. Job well done, thank you. I consider them computer geniuses, but I being a novice per my computer knowledge.

This causes me to write this letter to try and notify and get involved as many personal and depts. Of government to express our high concern of Hicks Lake contamination.

In 1965 per CM2Hill- 1982 Study drainage was divereted to Hicks Lake also known as Garrett Lake without any thought of quality or quantity of drainage from 750 watershed acres. (See enclosed map of area).

7484
6340

Hicks Lake being only 4 plus acres in size without any natural outlet this untreated polluted drainage is pumped into an old government sewer line running parallel with Salmon Creek then dumped into Puget Sound.

Because of the under capacity pumps Hicks Lake floods several times a year.

As a volunteer for 5 years in King County's Lake Stewards ship program recorded. The Lake level rose 14 feet one year (have photos) the Lake stewardship water level charts all monitored lakes. Hicks Lake went off their charts for several years.

In all fairness \$300,000 dollars has been allotted to install new pumps that will double the capacity (work now in progress). We hope will control the lake level.

We recommended a drain be installed because Hicks Lake has no natural outlet and is the lowest point in the 750 acre watershed yet it is still 340 feet above sea level that would allow gravity to move the water drainage this drain would be costly to install but feel it would soon pay for itself by eliminating the high cost to purchase pumps high cost to maintain and high electrical usage that will continue and that will be costly for years to come.

Further deteriorating problem occurred in the early 1970's when the wetland that helped filter the drainage before entering Hicks Lake was filled in and parking lot was built on top of this wetland.

In March of 2005 a proposed very costly \$50,000 dollars Alum treatment. (Aluminum sulfate) to control the high amount of Algae. We get two different versions from County personal on the length of time the alum treatment is effective. One says short term the other states up to 3 years. Very confusing.

Washington State Dept. of Ecology 1998 listing had Hicks Lake on the endangered list with phosphorus and fecal coliform as the parameters (enclosed).

In the 2000 water summary by an independent Hydrologist report states phosphorous 2 ½ times over management goals Chlorophyll 6 times over management goals and Secchi disk transparency ½ meter, management goals 2 meters (enclosed)

Another \$40,000 dollars is being allotted for a bio swale, which we question the usefulness and longevity because the on rush of drainage will overcome the bio swale. The first large rainfall this season washed out a large section of the lake bank causing a three-foot waterfall at the creek entrance to the lake.

I belong to a group of citizens calling ourselves "Friends of Hicks Lake." Our purpose is to not only acquaint people and government of the unhealthy contamination of Hicks Lake, but to pursue resolutions to correct the problem.

As an example swimming in Hicks Lake has been banned by King County Health dept. since 1975 that is almost thirty years.(Fecal Coliform)

"Friends of Hicks Lake" meet once a month, the last Wednesday of the month. But because of the Holidays the next meeting will not be until Jan. 2005. We held a barbecue the past summer with over 125 neighbors attending they wrote over 50 letters to King County Executive asking for resolutions to clean up this polluted water body. Numerous personal have attended our meetings to provide on site information.

"Friends of Hicks " feel we have a better idea that is to control the contaminates as close as to the source as possible instead of allowing the sediments and nutrients to settle in Hicks Lake before being pumped into Puget Sound.

Suggest a series of detention ponds be built from and including White Center pond to Hicks Lake having adjustable Watergates. These detention ponds would greatly improve several factors. Control drainage flow; provide reservoir storage (400 acre feet would be a minimum requirement). These ponds would slow the water flow so contaminates could settle and with proper water plants would digest the contaminates. Stocking fish in the ponds would control any mosquito larva.

One other feature we feel would enhance the lake is by fountains that would aerate the water and provide a beautiful display to attract visitors to the park.

This letters purpose is to make the State Dept of Ecology aware of the many concerns and feel the more personal we can notify the closer we can come to solutions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dick Thurnau".

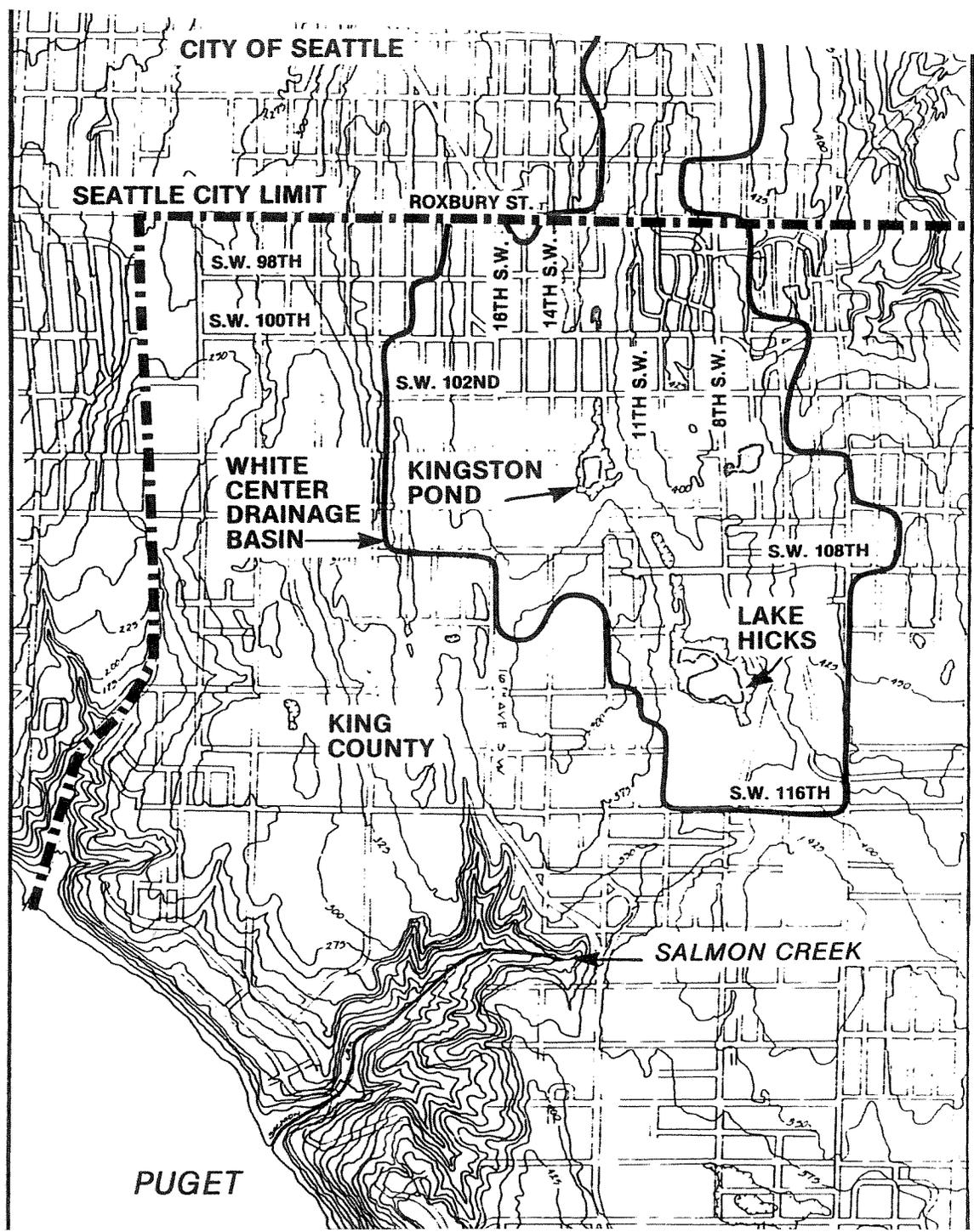
Dick Thurnau

Dick Thurnau

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White Center Pond is located South of Roxbury street between 11th Ave SW
And 12th Ave. SW (not shown on map)



Kingston pond identified on the map
Outlet is a 30 plus inch diameter pipe laying underground that runs to the North
property line of Lakewood Park, then becomes a creek or open stream that flows
into a small detention area then another open stream into Hicks Lake

Water Name HICKS (GARRETT) LAKE

Parameter Fecal Coliform Medium Water

Place on 1998 List? Yes Listed in 1998 No Action Needed TMDL

New Segment ID# 322NQY Old Segment ID# WA-09-9120

Stream Route# Water Resource Inventory Area 9

Township 23N Waterbody Grid#

Range 04E Grid Latitude

Section 06 Grid Longitude

Basis for Consideration of Listing Completed Phase I Federal Clean Lakes Restoration Project in 1982- Problems Encountered: Blue-green algae, high turbidity, low dissolved oxygen, sediment phosphorus recycling, storm water, low transparency, fecal coliform bacteria.

Remarks Completed Phase II Federal Clean Lakes Project in 1987: Gendron and Pedersen. 1987. Control measures implemented based on the phase I Study - phosphorus precipitation/inactivation, dilution/flushing, structural storm water controls, public education. Per EPA guidance, this lake cannot be excluded from the list under federal regulation 40 CFR 130.7(b)(1)(iii) since there is no known monitoring occurring to assure the effectiveness of the controls.

Water Name HICKS (GARRETT) LAKE

Parameter Total Phosphorus Medium Water

Place on 1998 List? Yes Listed in 1998 Yes Action Needed TMDL

New Segment ID# 322NQY Old Segment ID# WA-09-9120

Stream Route# Water Resource Inventory Area 9

Township 23N Waterbody Grid#

Range 04E Grid Latitude

Section 06 Grid Longitude

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Hicks Lake location is within King County Lakewood 32 acre Park main entrance on 10th Ave SW nearest cross street SW 112th, Zip 98146.
Township 23N Range 04E Section 6



WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

The water quality of Lake Hicks is dependent on both the quality and quantity of influent water. The hydrologic regime of the watershed also plays a role in the dynamics of the lakes ecosystem and relative aesthetic condition. In short, Lake Hicks receives the stormwater runoff from the drainage basin. This input is mainly in the late fall, winter and spring of the year, with very little surface water inflow in the summer. The inflow carries nutrients and sediments into the lake. Only portions of these constituents leave the lake through the outflow. The result is an accumulation of sediment and nutrients in the lake. The water quality of the lake is degraded over time by the input of nutrients over and above the loss of nutrient from the outlet.

In Table 1, water quality data and water quality management goals of Lake Hicks are summarized. Three parameters are used to demonstrate where the lake is relative to direct observation made in July 1998 and the management goals. The primary water quality management goals are related to aesthetic values like water clarity and are not necessarily tied to a specific water quality standard. The water quality parameters are total phosphorus concentration (nutrient that limits algal growth in the lake), chlorophyll a (green pigment of plants that is related to the density of algae in the lake), and secchi disk transparency (relative measure of water clarity).

Table 1. Status of environmental indicators for Lake Hicks.

Environmental Indicator	Management Goal	Observed value in July 1998
Total Phosphorus, micrograms per liter	25	61
Chlorophyll a, micrograms per liter	8.5	51
Secchi Disk Transparency, meters	2.0	0.5

The observed total phosphorus concentration in the lake was 61 micrograms per liter. This level of nutrient in the water promotes excessive production of algae resulting in algal blooms that inhibit the beneficial uses of the lake. Chlorophyll a concentration 51 micrograms per liter reflect the over productive character of the lake. In turn, the clarity of the lake was only 0.5 meters. These conditions can be improved by the application of management activities. The most beneficial management alternatives for immediate improvement in water quality and maintenance of beneficial uses are aeration, aluminum sulfate treatment, and dilution. These alternatives applied individually or in combination would result in environmental improvements at the lake. The long-term improvement of the water quality in the lake is dependent on the control of nonpoint sources of nutrients in the watershed as applied through basin planning programs and public education.

Hicks Lake



Algae

Summer of 2004

HICKS LAKE 9-6-04



OIL SLICK