

April 29, 2008

Ken Koch  
Washington Department of Ecology  
Water Quality Program  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT 2008 WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Dear Mr. Koch:

Thank you for considering the data submitted in 2006 by Snohomish County for the proposed listings of lakes in the Draft 2008 Water Quality Assessment. We have carefully reviewed this assessment and found that it is a thorough and useful compilation of the existing information on the water quality of lakes in Snohomish County. We do have a few comments to offer on the draft listings:

1. Listing 22560 for "Devils Lake" is incorrectly described as being in King County at 23N-04-E-12. In fact, Devils Lake (known locally for many years as "Lost Lake" (see local street names)) is located in Snohomish County at 27N-06E-28. The 2008 Basis statement is correct, and we agree with the listing of Category 2 for Total Phosphorus. This lake is perhaps confused with another "Lost Lake" in Snohomish County located in 28N-07E-01 (listing 52874), which is northeast of the City of Monroe and for which no recent water quality data are available.
2. Listing 4666 for Lake Stevens for Invasive Exotic Species was changed to Category 2 in the 2004 Assessment because Eurasian watermilfoil had not been found in the lake since the early 1990s. Unfortunately, diving surveys in 2006 and 2007 have identified up to 15 acres of moderately dense milfoil, and scattered smaller patches, that pose a threat to the entire lake littoral area. We recommend that Lake Stevens be listed as Category 4C for Invasive Exotic Species because of the serious nature of this infestation.

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3. Listing 4663 for Nina Lake for Invasive Exotic Species was changed to Category 2 in the 2004 Assessment because Parrotfeather milfoil (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) had not been found in the lake for several years. However, in 2006 and 2007, Parrotfeather milfoil has returned in several large patches around the lake shore. The homeowners have been working to control it, but the infestation is still significant. Therefore, we recommend that Nina Lake be listed as Category 4C for Invasive Exotic Species.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed 2008 Water Quality Assessment. If you have any questions about these comments or Snohomish County lake data, please feel free to contact me at (425) 388-3464 x4563 or by email at [gene.williams@snoco.org](mailto:gene.williams@snoco.org).

Sincerely,

Gene N. Williams  
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Surface Water Management Division  
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