

*Draft EPA Grant Application text - Provided by John Konovsky, Squaxin Island Tribe, to the Deschutes TMDL Advisory Group on April 15, 2010.*

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“The Squaxin Island Tribe reviewed the draft Deschutes TMDL technical report and has developed a list of early actions to ~~begin~~ consider while the implementation committee develops its comprehensive plan. Priorities include:

1. Adopt a moratorium on new exempt wells throughout watershed to protect instream flow.
2. Set instream flows for the summer months; WAC 173-513 set flows only for December 15 to April 15.
3. Recharge reclaimed water to benefit streamflows in middle watershed.
4. Concentrate early actions in the upper watershed along a sensitive, losing reach from Huckleberry Creek to Lake Lawrence – plant riparian vegetation, improve channel morphology and conserve prime habitat via acquisition/easement. The actions will benefit temperature, dissolved oxygen, channel width/depth ratios, pool/riffle structure, flow velocity variability, sediment storage & sorting, and salmonid food, shelter, and spawning.
5. Secondarily prioritize the reaches near Silver Springs and Turner Springs in the middle watershed to protect the thermal refugia provided by the input of groundwater at those locations.
6. Conserve/acquire the Huckleberry Creek basin; before a 1990 storm and massive landslide, it provided spawning grounds for nearly 20% of the coho in the system.
7. Further reduce the 50% of fine sediment entering the upper watershed from anthropogenic sources.
8. Investigate hydraulic modifications to decrease Lake Lawrence outfall temperatures.
9. Improve lower tributary (Ayer/Elwanger & Sprugeon) aquatic habitat conditions and decrease their nutrient contributions to improve DO conditions in Budd Inlet.”