

TMDL TALK

Presented to the Deschutes TMDL Advisory Group
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April 28, 2011

1. CLIPA, Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association, was formed because we thought CLAMP's decision to recommend removal of the 5th Avenue dam was a poor one.
2. As our name implies, our goal is to improve and protect the water quality of Capitol Lake by rehabilitating the watershed. We are all about water quality. We are all about balancing the community's values. Additionally, we provide for the most efficient and thus cost effective sediment control plan offered.
3. From the beginning, we wanted to become the "NPR" of this issue, using total objectivity in all that we do. That's why we invited Harry Branch of DERT to speak at our board meeting; that's why if you want to become a member of our Science and Policy Panel, it doesn't matter which side you're on. We made a pact at our first meeting that if we could not provide a viable plan which was at least as environmentally sensitive as the dam removal, we would disband.
4. So, what value does CLIPA bring to this issue and to the community?
 - a. We understand the importance of esthetics, but completely understand it is only one component of many.
 - b. We believe we provide substantial value in that we provide the community with a responsible plan that improves water quality, offers a better sediment management plan, reduces the costs, allows the community to keep its lake, and creates a more thoughtfully constructed and efficient coordination board which effectively addresses those watershed problems which have been neglected for decades.
 - c. We provide the community, especially our county government, with a well understood and well publicized reason to strengthen our Critical Areas Ordinance.
 - d. We believe our plan is simply smarter for our community and better for the environment.

5. So, what were the Specific Problems with CLAMP's decision? Here are four.
- a. The Public-at-Large was never surveyed as recommended by Clamp's consultant Cascade Economics, Inc.
 - b. The threat to our WWF and our struggling downtown were virtually ignored as demonstrated by the fact that The Port of Bellingham Report was totally ignored. This omission was cited by Cascade Economics, Inc.
 - c. An integrated watershed approach (one that would address the most serious threats to Puget Sound itself and our ESA threatened Puget Sound Orca) was ignored for the sake of a nearshore project which, according to the model, could modestly help the dissolved oxygen level in lower Budd inlet while still leaving it out of compliance.
 - d. CLAMP's actions did not offer a bona fide or good faith attempt at balancing the community's values of ENVIRONMENTAL, ESTHETIC, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, HISTORICAL, AND FISCAL PRUDENCE.
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Acronyms

CLAMP:	Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan
CLIPA:	Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association
DETR:	Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team
ESA:	Endangered Species Act
NPR:	National Public Radio
TMDL:	Total Maximum Daily Load
WWF:	Working waterfront