

# Gardom Lake Management Plan

DRAFT

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## Acknowledgments

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A planning process takes funding, expertise, commitment, time, and much more. The following groups made the development of the Gardom Lake Management Plan possible:

- The Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- The Gardom Lake Planning Committee volunteers

## Purpose

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# Gardom Lake Planning Committee

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A Gardom Lake Planning Committee (GLPC) was formed and met for the first time in December 2014. The purpose of the Committee was to guide the Gardom Lake planning process.

The GLPC is composed of representatives from four orders of government (federal, provincial, local, first nations), organizations, recreation groups, and property owners. The Committee members agreed that there would be no Chairperson identified.

The following groups/organizations are represented on the Gardom Lake Planning Committee or receive ongoing communication throughout the planning process:

- Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD)
- Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO)
- Ministry of Environment (MOE)/BC Lakes Stewardship Society (BCLSS)
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI)
- Secwepemc - Splatshin
- Secwepemc - Neskonlith
- Secwepemc - Adams Lake Indian Band
- Secwepemc - Little Shuswap Indian Band
- Syilx - Okanagan Indian Band
- Gardom Lake Bible Camp
- North Okanagan Holding Society and Legion
- Friends of Gardom Lake (comm. with Shuswap Naturalists)
- Rancho Deep Creek Community Association
- Gardom Lake Community Park Society
- BC Fly Fishing Federation
- Salmon Arm Fish and Game Club/BC Wildlife Federation
- Agriculture sector

## 1.0 Gardom Lake & Surrounding Area

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### 1.1 Landscape & Lake

Gardom Lake is approximately 75 hectares (ha) in size and sits at 545 m in elevation. The deepest part of the lake is approximately 21 m and the shoreline is approximately 4 km long. The Gardom Lake watershed is approximately 417 ha and is comprised largely of forested land and some private residential land on and near the lakeshore. (BCLSS 2012)

Gardom Lake is in the Interior Cedar-Hemlock Biogeoclimatic Zone. Forested areas of the ICH are dominated by western red cedar and western hemlock trees along with a combination of white spruce, grand fir, subalpine fir, western larch, Douglas fir, lodgepole pine, and western white pine in the southern part of the range. The climate includes cool, wet winters and warm dry summers. (Selkirk College website 2014)

## 1.2 First Nations Rights

Secwepemc and Syilx people have lived in and around the Gardom Lake area for thousands of years, long before the arrival of European settlers. First Nations' title and rights are evolving through the courts and the treaty process, and exist throughout the planning area.

## 1.3 Legislation & Existing Plans

There are several pieces legislation and existing plans that pertain to the management of Gardom Lake and the development/management of the foreshore and surrounding watershed including the following:

- BC Land Act - Government of British Columbia
- BC Water Act (BC Water Sustainability Act) - Government of British Columbia
- Forest and Range Practices Act - Government of British Columbia
- Fisheries Act - Government of Canada
- [Ranchero/Deep Creek Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 750](#)

## 2.0 Vision for Gardom Lake

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Collaboratively preserve and protect the values and ecological integrity of Gardom Lake and manage impacts that affect it.

## 3.0 Goals, Objectives & Actions

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### 3.1 Water

Goal 1: Maintain or improve the water quality of Gardom Lake

**Objective 1A:** Determine the current water quality of Gardom Lake

**Action 1A-1:** Compare existing water quality data with national water quality standards to determine the need for testing additional parameters and to identify data gaps – **2015**

**Action 1A-2:** Conduct standard water quality tests on Mallory Creek – **2015/2016**

**Action 1A-3:** Conduct bio-monitoring on Mallory Creek – **2015/2016**

**Action 1A-4:** In cooperation with the Columbia Shuswap Regional District and the BC Ministry of Environment, develop a map that shows septic system type, soil type, and distance from Gardom Lake for all shoreline residences – **2015**

**Objective 1B:** Develop and implement a water quality monitoring plan for Gardom Lake

**Action 1B-1:** Work with BC Ministry of Environment and Interior Health Authority staff to identify water quality testing parameters, timing, location, and frequency of testing to address data gaps identified in action 1A-1 – **2015**

**Action 1B-2:** Work with BC Ministry of Environment, Columbia Shuswap Regional District and local stewardship groups to determine the best way to collaboratively collect water quality data and make those data available to everyone – **2015**

## Goal 2: Establish baseline water quantity data for Gardom Lake

**Objective 2A:** Determine the water quantity trends in Gardom Lake

**Action 2A-1:** Determine a location and establish an official staff gauge at Gardom Lake and record lake levels on an ongoing basis – **2015**

**Action 2A-2:** Working with the Ministry of Environment, determine the inflow and outflow of Gardom Lake and calculate the volume and water balance – **2015**

## Goal 3: Educate Gardom Lake residents and visitors about water quality

**Objective 3A:** Provide educational opportunities to Gardom Lake residents regarding water quality and beneficial practices

**Action 3A-1:** Advertise educational opportunities for residents including but not limited to septic systems, yard maintenance, riparian health, household chemicals, and pets around water, on the CSRD, Friends of Gardom Lake, and Rancho Deep Creek Community Association websites – **2015/ongoing**

**Action 3A-2:** Develop and deliver water quality educational workshops for the residents of Gardom Lake on topics including but not limited to those listed in action 3A-1 – **2015/ongoing**

**Action 3A-3:** Provide educational materials including print materials, advertising, and signage for visitors to Gardom Lake on issues related to water quality as part of an overall interpretive plan in goal 6 – **2015/ongoing**

## 3.2 Environment

### Goal 4: Maintain or improve the riparian zone of Gardom Lake

**Objective 4A:** Assess the riparian zone across all lakefront properties

**Action 4A-1:** Work with the CSRD and the BC Ministry of Environment to map and evaluate the riparian zone – **2015**

**Objective 4B:** Educate Gardom Lake area residents, property owners/managers, and visitors about the importance, function, and health of riparian ecosystems – **2015/ongoing**

**Action 4B-1:** Develop and deliver two riparian ecosystem workshops with expertise from Thompson Rivers University and the BC Ministry of Environment – **2015**

**Action 4B-2:** Develop and implement an interpretive plan for Gardom Lake – **2016/2017**

**Action 4B-3:** Provide a list of native plants suitable for the riparian zone at Gardom Lake and a list of invasive species to avoid planting on the CSRD, Friends of Gardom Lake and Ranchoero Deep Creek Community Association websites – **2015**

**Action 4B-4:** Provide a list of stewardship resources for Gardom Lake residents on the CSRD, Friends of Gardom Lake and Ranchoero Deep Creek Community Association websites – **2015**

## Goal 5: Maintain or improve the upland areas of Gardom Lake

**Objective 5A:** Educate upland owners about the relationship between upland areas and lake health, water quality, and related beneficial practices

**Action 5A-1:** Advertise existing educational opportunities/materials for residents regarding healthy upland and lake health/water quality and related beneficial practices on the CSRD, Friends of Gardom Lake, and Ranchoero Deep Creek Community Association websites – **2015/ongoing**

**Action 5A-2:** Develop and deliver water quality educational materials for residents regarding the relationship between upland areas and lake health/water quality, and beneficial practices – **2015/ongoing**

## 3.3 People

### Goal 6:

**Objective 6A:**

**Action 6A-1:**

### Goal 7:

## 4.0 Funding & Management

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## 4.1 Funding

Funding for the development of the Gardom Lake Management Plan was provided by the Columbia Shuswap Regional District.

## 4.2 Budget

The Gardom Lake planning process does not have an ongoing budget. If funding beyond the initial planning fund is obtained, those funds will be allocated as per the requirements of the fund and with guidance from the Gardom Lake Planning Committee and the Columbia Shuswap Regional District.

## 5.0 Governance

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## 6.0 Appendices

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I. Gardom Lake Planning Committee - Terms of Reference

II. Gardom Lake Planning Committee - Meeting Summaries

III. Public Meeting Summaries