

**Goals and Priorities for the Lake Sammamish Kokanee Conservation Strategy
Discussion Draft for the Lake Sammamish Kokanee Work Group
September 17, 2009**

Goal

Prevent the extinction and improve the health of the native kokanee population such that it is viable and self-sustaining, and then supports fishery opportunities.

This goal will be achieved through investments in actions guided by the following initial priorities. These priorities are tiered to convey relative importance: achievement of all elements of the goal is unlikely if any of the Tier 1 priorities is unaddressed in the immediate future. The order is not intended to imply that Tier 2 priorities should not, in every instance, be implemented until Tier 1 priorities are addressed fully. Rather if Tier 2 priorities can be implemented without compromising our ability to implement Tier 1 priorities they should be advanced. These priorities will be revised as needed as conditions change.

Initial Priorities

Tier 1

1. Employ aggressive artificial propagation methods to ensure the population does not go extinct and that its existing diversity is maintained
2. Correct discrete habitat conditions that are directly causing mortality or limiting access to high quality habitat
3. Protect existing intact habitat areas at risk of damage or conversion

Tier 2

4. Improve our certainty that we are implementing the highest priority and effective restoration, protection, or conservation actions, accounting for population growth, changes in the environment caused by climate change, and other drivers
5. Protect or improve ecological processes that form or sustain habitat currently used by the late run at any life stage
6. Protect or improve ecological processes that form or sustain habitat that currently is not used by kokanee at any life stage but could be necessary to sustain a viable population
7. Build and maintain public awareness of kokanee conservation needs
8. Build and maintain public support for implementation of high priority actions