

Mount Baker Wilderness Air Quality Report

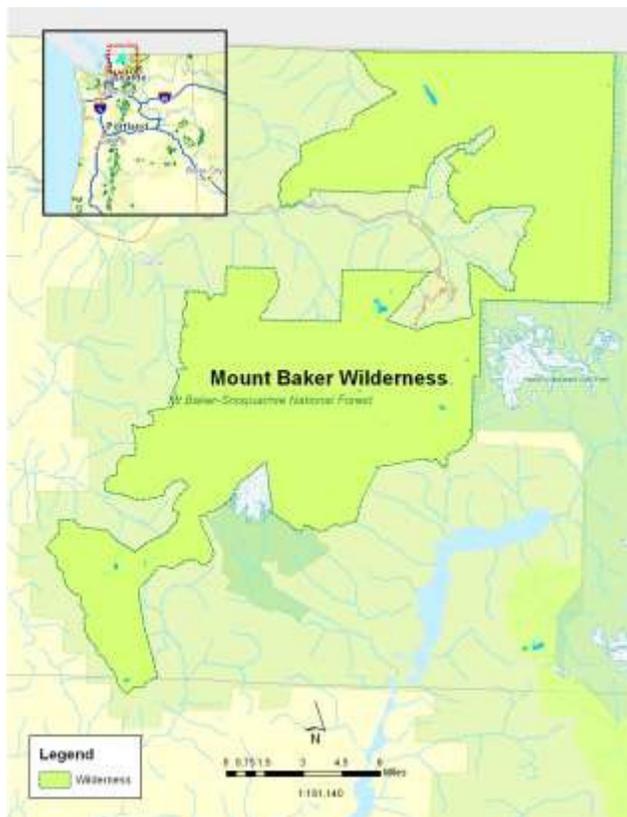
National Forest: Mount Baker National Forest

State: WA

Counties: Whatcom

General Location: Northern Washington Cascade Range

Acres: 119,989



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Wilderness ID: 235

Wilderness Name: Mount Baker Wilderness

Wilderness Categories	Information Specific to this Wilderness
Year Established	1984
Establishment Notes	Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984
Designation	Clean Air Act Class 2
Administrative	Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Unique Landscape Features	<p>Mount Baker has shown steamy signs of life as recently as 1975. The volcanic mountain stands at 10,778 feet, making it the fourth highest summit in the state and the dominant feature in the southern portion of this Wilderness. Fourteen glaciers blanket the immediate region of the mountain. Add to that the frozen sheets on nearby peaks and the total perpetual ice in the area surpasses 10,000 acres. Precipitation on the heights of Mount Baker sometimes reaches 150 inches per year, with up to 18 feet of snow accumulating. Many of the ridges stand above fir- and cedar-forested drainages, dividing the sky and opening often into large heather-filled meadows that showcase riots of summer alpine wildflowers, huckleberries, and blueberries. Devil's club, salmonberry, skunk cabbage, and ferns brighten the banks of creeks and rivers. Black bears and black-tailed deer share the area, while mountain goats clamber about in the rocky high country. Just south of Mount Baker, outside the Wilderness, elk congregate in numbers rarely seen in this part of the state. The Wilderness shares its eastern border with North Cascades National Park, and lovely Mount Shuksan looms just over the boundary inside the park.</p>
Lakebed Geology Sensitivity	Medium
Lakebed Geology Composition	gneiss quartzite schist granite (23%), andesite dacite diorite phyllite (34%), basalt gabbro wacke argillite undifferentiated volcanic rocks (10%), amphibolite hornfels paragneiss undifferentiated metamorphic roc (30%), Unknown buffering capacity (2%), GC 1+2 (57%), GC 1+2+3 (67%), GC 4+5+6 (33%)
Visitor Use	Not reported in the database.
Mean Annual Precipitation	Not reported in the database.
Elevation Range	363 - 3282 (meters)
Mean Max Aug Temp	Not reported in the database.
Mean Min Dec Temp	Not reported in the database.
Lake Acres	243
Pond Acres	32
Lake Count	12
Pond Count	17
TES Flora	Botrychium ascendens, Botrychium minganense, Botrychium montanum, Calicium glaucellum, Carex scirpoidea ssp. scirpoidea, Carex stylosa, Cladonia norvegica, Cortinarius barlowensis, Craterellus tubaeformis, Eurybia sibirica, Galerina atkinsoniana, Galium kamtschaticum, Gentiana glauca, Hypogymnia duplicata, Lobaria linita, Platanthera orbiculata, Ptilidium californicum, Saxifraga rivularis, Schistostega pennata, Tholurna dissimilis
TES Wildlife	Gray Wolf
TES Fish	steelhead
Ozone Sensitive Plants	Not reported in the database.

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Air Quality Sensitive Lichens	Alectoria imshaugii, Alectoria sarmentosa, Bryoria capillaris, Bryoria fremontii, Bryoria fuscescens, Bryoria glabra, Cavernularia hultenii, Cavernularia lophyrea, Cladonia bellidiflora, Cladonia chlorophaea, Cladonia coniocraea, Cladonia fimbriata, Cladonia ochrochlora, Hypogymnia apinnata, Hypogymnia occidentalis, Kaernefeltia merrillii, Lobaria linita, Nephroma helveticum subsp. sipeanum, Nodobryoria oregana, Parmelia pseudosulcata, Parmeliopsis ambigua, Parmeliopsis hyperopta, Platismatia norvegica
Cultural Resources	Not reported in the database.
Status/Trends: Acid Deposition:	Not reported in the database.
Status/Trends: Nutrient Enrichment:	Not reported in the database.
Status/Trends: Ozone Impacts:	Not reported in the database.

AQRV's

Fauna

Fauna Priority: Medium

Fauna Receptor: Fish

Fauna Indicator: Concentration of methyl mercury

Fauna Trends: Not reported in the database.

Fauna Actions:

Sample resident fish for mercury from high use lakes.

Flora

Flora Priority: High

Flora Receptor: Lichens

Flora Indicator: Changes in community composition

Flora Trends: Not reported in the database.

Flora Priority 2: High

Flora Receptor 2: Lichens

Flora Indicator 2: Concentrations of N, S, P, Cd, Cr, Pb, Hg, Ni, Ti, V and Zn

Flora Trends 2: Not reported in the database.

Flora Priority 3: Low

Flora Receptor 3: Ozone

Flora Indicator 3: Visible injury on ozone-sensitive plants

Flora Trends 3: Not reported in the database.

Flora Actions:

Conduct repeat visits to lichen plots, once every 10 years.

Visibility

Visibility Priority: High

Visibility Receptor: Scenic Views

Visibility Indicator: Regional haze

Visibility Trends: Not reported in the database.

Visibility Actions

Thursday, May 17, 2012

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Nearest, most representative visibility monitoring site is located at North Cascades National Park (NOCA1). Refer to the Washington Regional Haze Plan and the IMPROVE monitoring plans for more details.

Water

Water Priority: High

Water Receptor: Water Chemistry

Water Indicator: ANC

Water Trends: Not reported in the database.

Water Priority 2: High

Water Receptor 2: Water Chemistry

Water Indicator 2: DIN: TP

Water Trends 2: Not reported in the database.

Water Priority 3: Medium

Water Receptor 3: Diatoms

Water Indicator 3: Community Composition

Water Trends 3: Not reported in the database

Water Actions:

Repeat visit to Hayes Lake for ANC and nutrient ratios.

Challenge Points

Fauna Challenge Points: Not reported in the database.

Flora Challenge Points: 6

Total Plots: 6

Desired Plots: 6

Additional Plots Needed: 0

Data Type: Baseline

Round 1 Visits: 0

Round 2 Visits: 6

Baseline %: 100

Trends %: 0

Visibility Challenge Points: Not reported in the database.

Water Challenge Points: 8