

## **Noisy-Diobsud Wilderness Air Quality Report**

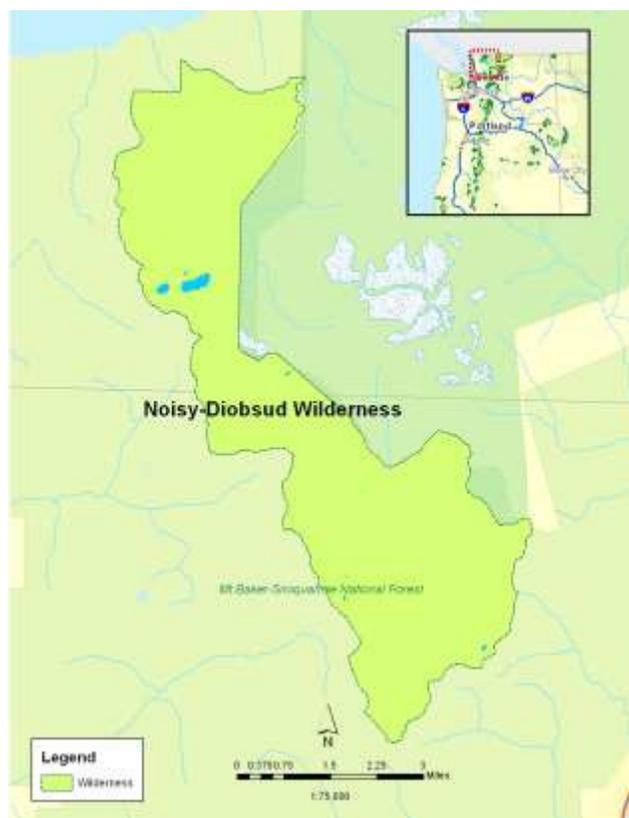
National Forest: Mount Baker National Forest

State: WA

Counties: Skagit, Whatcom

General Location: Northern Washington Cascade Range

Acres: 119,989



# Noisy-Diobsud Wilderness Air Quality Report

Wilderness ID: 237

Wilderness Name: Noisy-Diobsud 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>Noisy Creek flows north through this Wilderness and Diobsud Creek drifts south, both bolstering a foot-entangling understory of ferns, mosses, salal, elderberry, and salmonberry, mixed with nasty devil's club along the banks. Staggeringly steep ridges rise abruptly to the northeast and southwest of the creeks, topping out at 6,234 feet on Mount Watson, which anchors the center of the area. The Wilderness shares the border of the southwest corner of North Cascades National Park, just south of Baker Lake. Deep drainages carve its forested slopes, the lower portions of which consist of old-growth fir, cedar, and hemlock. Black-tailed deer, black bears, elk, and northern spotted owls all seek refuge in the dense, shadowy forest. Some alpine meadows open the ridge tops. Annual precipitation reaches 150 inches. National forestland--roadless, primitive, and undesignated--surrounds the Wilderness to the east, west, and south. The only trail access to this wilderness is by the Anderson/Watson Lakes Trail, a wonderful</p> <p>2.3 mile hike to high alpine lakes. Near the wilderness boundary, the Anderson Lakes Trail leads to a small cluster of lakes outside the wilderness. The Watson Lakes Trail continues on into wilderness and ends at Watson Lakes. Both groups of lakes offer spectacular views of local peaks and are notoriously buggy in summer.</p>
Lakebed Geology Sensitivity	High
Lakebed Geology Composition	gneiss quartzite schist granite (2%), andesite dacite diorite phyllite (92%), amphibolite hornfels paragneiss undifferentiated metamorphic roc (7%), GC 1+2 (93%), GC 1+2+3 (93%), GC 4+5+6 (7%)
Visitor Use	Not reported in the database.
Mean Annual Precipitation	Not reported in the database.
Elevation Range	375 - 1868 (meters)
Mean Max Aug Temp	Not reported in the database.
Mean Min Dec Temp	Not reported in the database.
Lake Acres	68
Pond Acres	10
Lake Count	2
Pond Count	6
TES Flora	Not reported in the database.
TES Wildlife	Not reported in the database.
TES Fish	Not reported in the database.
Ozone Sensitive Plants	Not reported in the database.
Air Quality Sensitive Lichens	Alectoria sarmentosa, Cavernularia hultenii, Hypogymnia apinnata, Nephroma helveticum subsp. sipeanum, Nodobryoria oregana, Parmelia pseudosulcata, Parmeliopsis hyperopta, Platismatia norvegica, Sticta fuliginosa
Cultural Resources	Not reported in the database.

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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.

## **AORV's**

### **Fauna**

Fauna Priority: Medium

Fauna Receptor: Fish

Fauna Indicator: Concentration of methyl mercury

Fauna Trends: Not reported in the database.

### ***Fauna Actions:***

Collect fish from most frequently fished lake and analyze for mercury. While on site, collect water sample from lake and analyze for anions, cations, and nutrients.

### **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:***

Repeat visit to lichen plot once every 10 years to monitor for trends.

### **Visibility**

Visibility Priority: Low

Visibility Receptor: Scenic Views

Visibility Indicator: Regional haze

Visibility Trends: Not reported in the database.

### ***Visibility Actions***

None.

### **Water**

Water Priority: Medium

Water Receptor: Water Chemistry

Water Indicator: ANC

Water Trends: Not reported in the database.

Water Priority 2: Medium

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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 Watson Lakes West. Analyze water for anions, cations, and nutrients. While on-site, consider collecting fish for mercury analysis.

## **Challenge Points**

***Fauna Challenge Points:*** Not *reported* in the database.

***Flora Challenge Points:*** 6

Total Plots: 3

Desired Plots: 1

Additional Plots Needed: -2

Data Type: Baseline

Round 1 Visits: 0

Round 2 Visits: 3

Baseline %: 409

Trends %: 0

***Visibility Challenge Points:*** Not *reported in the database.*

***Water Challenge Points:*** 7