



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

PLANS TO ERADICATE INVASIVE FROG

Today the Washington State Department of Environmental Conservation announced full details of their upcoming campaign to eradicate the **South American Paril Lofos**, an invasive frog that has recently begun to devastate the ecosystems of the Western United States.

The plan involves chemicals, hunting and most controversial of all, entirely draining and refilling Burien, Fenwick and Angle Lakes beginning July 5th 2023.

The plan to drain the lakes comes after in-depth studies from the world's leading marine biologists and herpetologists have all come to the same conclusion - that without immediate action the Paril Lofos could wipe out 80% of the freshwater fish and marine mammals in the Western U.S. within 6 months. And with fish populations decimated, ecosystems will quickly change, resulting in lakes and rivers becoming clogged with weeds and algae - decimating both commerce and tourism.

A Dangerous Pest

Native to a single high-altitude lake in Bolivia, the Paril Lofos was first discovered in Lake Burien in September of 2021, but has recently been spotted in other surrounding lakes including Angle Lake.

Known by Bolivians as "El Apetito de Muerte" (Appetite of Death) the Paril Lofos is an aggressive frog that reproduces every 3 days and can eat 37 times its weight in fish and small mammals per day.



PHOTO: © JON STEWART / SCIENCE SOURCE



Mohammed Hussein Ali Al-Amoudi, Senior Marine Biologist for King County suspects the animals originally arrived after a pregnant female hitched a ride “in a shipment of Bolivian marching powder to some rich Normandy Park kid”. He expresses regret about the entire situation, but one piece in particular bothers him “What is most unfortunate about the entire situation is that these frogs are by nature docile – but when they are fed after midnight they grow teeth and become aggressive. “They have lived thousands of years in Bolivia without trouble, but then they are released into the Des Moines Marina and some damn beach going hippies decided it just wasn’t fair to not let them eat after midnight, so a few gluten free tofu sandwiches later and here we are today. It really is too bad.”

Angle Lake the First to be Drained.

Angle will be the first lake to be drained, and with nearly one billion gallons of water the project will take several days. The 3 part drainage plan was devised jointly by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Tyee High School Science Club.

It includes:

- Redirection of Angle Lake waters through a lead pipe suspended over I-5 and draining into the Green River below.
- Pumping of water from Lake Burien into a fleet of 2300 solar powered tanker trucks to be shipped to Mexico where it will be bottled and sold under the brand name “MaDita AguaFina”
- A mandatory 72-hour “Open Faucet / Frequent Flush” (O.F.F.F.) period for residents and business owners in the Fenwick Lake Watershed. This O.F.F.F. period requires all faucets to remain open 24x7 and all toilets to be flushed at least 6 times per hour. Flush rates will be monitored by regional F.R.O.G.’s (Flush Rate Observation Groups) who will be appointed directly by Governor Inslee.

As the water drains from the lakes, the majority of fish and wildlife will be gather up into a large holding pen and eventually transferred to the Des Moines Marina for holding. The Paril Lofos however will remain to be buried 2 inches in the mud, waiting to emerge at the first full moon of July. State officials had originally planned to cover the lakebed with an organic chemical treatment, but when protests from environmental groups grew too great they shifted their plans and will now install loudspeakers and politely ask all frogs to emerge and to turn themselves over to the Department of Ecology Officials who will be standing by.

NASCAR Takes Interest / Refilling the Lake

Tourism officials plan to make lemons out of lemonade with the situation – and on Saturday July 9th NASCAR will hold the Constantine 500, a 166 lap, 500 mile race around the dried lakebed of Angle Lake. Officials are offering free gate admission to any attendees who bring at least 32 ounces of water to help refill the lake.

Refilling the lake will officially begin after the NASCAR race, and area residents with garden hoses are being encouraged to point them toward the lake with water on full power. The resident who hoses the most water into the lake will be given the “SeaTac Hoser” award, and will receive an expense paid trip to the Canadian Province of their choice. Officials are optimistic the lake will be refilled by Memorial Day 2024.

The draining schedule for other South King County Lakes is expected to be released shortly, immediately after Governor Inslee makes his decision on fracking.

Have Feedback about the Plan?

Please email State Representative Mia Gregerson’s Legislative Assistant: Tyra.Zeigler@leg.wa.gov

The Angle Lake Shore Club will continue to follow this story closely and will post updates as they occur.