



Lakes and waterscapes

Large inland waterbodies such as lakes are valued for their breadth, their openness and characteristics that provide contrast to land. They have important environmental roles in water conservation and providing wildlife habitats. Water environments are visually and sensorily dynamic because they reflect the sky and weather. Waterbodies change their appearance dramatically in sun, rain or cloud, wind or calm. For all these reasons they are attractive places for recreation. Design provides

for diverse recreation on and around a waterbody, and for creating or protecting wildlife habitats. Visual and experiential considerations include, among others: waterbody form and topographic–water relationships, vistas, scale, diversity and complexity of edge and path relationship to water (see Water paths, p. 112), stopping places and thresholds (see Water thresholds, p. 186), refuge and prospect, and exposure and shelter, as well as functional requirements associated with water sports.