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Cleaning up, preserving, and maintaining Vancouver Lake should be a high priority for the region. It is a priceless resource that creates millions of dollars every year in revenue for the local economy, both private and public. It is the best and most popular venue in the region for rowing regattas and competitions for other water sports, hosting many local and regional championships. As a rower and a coach, I have attended many dozens of regattas there in the past 15 years. The USRowing youth regionals and masters regionals, each 3 days each, attract over a thousand competitors and their families to Vancouver. The economic value to the city, area, and states (both Washington and nearby Oregon) should on its own warrant a major public investment in this resource, but the value to the community of this popular lake and park is also something that should not be lost. I hope that the cleanup and preservation of this invaluable public and community resource be made the highest possible priority.