

Gregory Fink

Dear Washington State Department of Ecology -

I have lived my entire life in Vancouver, WA as has my family of several generations. Vancouver Lake has always played an integral part of our lives - serving many generations on so many recreational levels; from rowing competitions, to fishing, bird watching, kayaking, sailing, float planing & serving as one of the most beautiful areas in Vancouver, WA.

I have taken many clients from all over the world to Vancouver lake when visiting Vancouver & all have marveled at the beauty & wonder of it's majestic calming & the feeling you get - especially when out on a kayak reveling in it first hand. We always have loved the sail boating & float planes that frequent the lake & the increased recreational activities over the past few years, until the milfoil arrived in 2017.

The lake must be saved! The infestation of the milfoil that in a short 2 years has now taken over almost 20% of the lake is something that needs to be dealt with as a priority. As one of the most glorious outdoor recreational sites in Vancouver, I hope that the DOE takes this very seriously as the recreational, financial & climate issues that impact our overall livability as a community in southwest WA will be greatly impacted if immediate action is not taken... we will lose the lake in a short few years.

Please prioritize salvaging this cherished gem by appropriating funding, resources, technologies, applicants & whatever else to ensure the lakes sustainability. It would be awful & a waste of lots of money, time & effort from the late 1970's, early 1980's investment into creating Vancouver Lake Park & the flushing channel & dredging that took place.

I hope my general thoughts are taken seriously along with tens of thousands of people who frequent the lake.

Thank you so much in advance for your consideration,

Warm Regards,
Greg Fink
360.907.2332