

## Alex Hewitt

Vancouver Lake in Vancouver Washington is the home of many water sport teams including the rowing club I was a part of for four years. Vancouver Lake is the home base for athletic teams who are performing at all levels, including the highest as it is also the course for the Northwest regionals for junior rowing. The water's condition of pollution and blue-green algae blooms poses a serious health risk to the athletes who perform in that water. Efforts to clean the water and prevent said blooms could prevent illness of young and old athletes. This can be paired with benefits to the waters ecosystems its contribution to the area for a compelling case for efforts to improve the water's condition.