

James Hale

I am writing to urge priority for Vancouver Lake (WA).

There are many reasons that Vancouver Lake should be addressed promptly:

The pollution problem is severe - Category 5 in temperature, turbidity, toxins.

Loss of use for local citizens and missed opportunity for water sports venue for the area.

Risk to threatened and endangered species.

Growing Milfoil infestation.

Renewed local interest in, and ongoing development for, hiking with a trail system and nature uses and water athletic events.

Our personal interest is a usable Lake for water sports (kayaking, swimming) and nature experiences (hiking, bird watching), but we are well aware that the Lake is local and accessible to those on the bus or with limited resources. We think wise stewardship of this asset will yield good economic benefits to the area.

Please help us help the Lake by addressing these issues sooner, rather than later!