



OVERWATER COVER



Segment	Overwater Coverage		Relative Ranking of Segment
	Overwater Cover/ Lineal Foot of Shoreline	# of Overwater Structures/Mile	
B Juanita Bay and Yarrow Bay Park/Wetlands	1.55 ft ²	2.5	High/Good
C Residential	8.93 ft ²	51.9	Low/Poor
D Urban	24.13 ft ²	27.2	Low/Poor
TOTAL	12.3 ft ²	26.2	

How do overwater structures such as piers affect the shoreline habitat?

- Impact the nearshore aquatic habitat, blocking sunlight and creating large areas of overhead cover.
- Shade the lake bottom and inhibit the growth of aquatic vegetation.
- Benefit non-native predators (like largemouth and smallmouth bass).
- Reduce the amount of complex aquatic habitat formerly available to salmonids rearing and migrating through Lake Washington. This can impact juvenile salmonids, in particular, due to their affinity to nearshore, shallow-water habitats.

Techniques to minimize impacts of overwater structures:

- Shared use of piers.
- Reducing or eliminating the number of boathouses and solid moorage covers (e.g. use of clear, translucent materials proven to allow light transmission for new canopies).
- Minimizing the size and widths of piers and floats.
- Increasing light transmission through any over-water structures (e.g. use of grated decking).
- Maximizing the height of piers above the water surface.
- Reducing the overall number and size of pier piles.
- Improving the quality of stormwater runoff.

