

Level of Lake Washington began rising

SEATTLE--Lake Washington began slowly rising to its spring level of 21.85 feet above sea level Feb. 15, according to the Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Corps regulates the level of Lakes Washington and Union through its operation of spillway gates at the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Ballard. The Corps holds the lakes at a winter elevation of 20 feet to reduce potential shoreline damage from winter storms. The Corps begins raising the level each spring to benefit fish and for summer recreation.

The lake usually reaches 21.85 feet in early May and remains there until weather permits the lake to be raised to the early summer elevation of 22 feet.

For a real-time look at the level of Lake Washington, try the webpage:
<http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/nws/hh/basins/cgi-bin/lkwash.pl>