

Skagit Bay South

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Skagit Bay South

Year Ending: December 31, 2023

Classification: Approved, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2023

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) criteria. The entire growing area was closed from 10:00 PM on December 5 to 9:30 AM on December 7 on a precautionary emergency basis due to potential Skagit River flooding.

Snohomish County used National Estuary Program (NEP) grant funds for on-site sewage system (OSS) operation and maintenance incentives, workshops, and low-income OSS repair or replacement grants. Snohomish County Public Works and the Snohomish Conservation District continued pollution identification and control activities in the Skagit Flats. Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) received NEP funding for enhanced water compliance monitoring and referral and technical assistance for manure management on dairy operations.

Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 1 summarizes results of the 30 most recent samples collected from each of the sampling stations. All stations meet NSSP standards. Station 185 is Threatened with an estimated 90th percentile of 29.1 FC/100mL. Table 2 shows Station 185 individual data.

Change in Actual Pollution Sources that Impact the Growing Area

We currently have no information indicating the area has any new sources of pollution.

Classification Status

- Well within the classification standards
- Meets standards, but threatened with downgrade in classification
- Fails to meet current classification standards

Remarks and Recommendations

Table 1 shows that all stations meet NSSP water quality standards for an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.

TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Skagit Bay South Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	Est. 90 th Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
180	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	4.2	15.0	Y
183	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	3.6	13.0	Y
184	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	4.2	16.8	Y
185	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 130.0	5.3	29.1	Y
186	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 33.0	4.6	17.0	Y
187	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	3.2	11.9	Y
188	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 17.0	2.7	7.1	Y
189	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 79.0	2.8	9.1	Y
190	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 70.0	3.8	15.0	Y
191	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	3.1	9.1	Y
192	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 49.0	6.1	23.9	Y
269	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 79.0	3.7	15.1	Y
341	Approved	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 20.0	2.6	6.5	Y
179	Prohibited	12/18/2018 - 12/4/2023	1.7 - 79.0	4.5	20.4	Y

The standard for Approved shellfish growing waters is a fecal coliform geometric mean not greater than 14 organisms/ 100 mL with an estimated 90th percentile not greater than 43 organisms/ 100 mL. The above table shows bacteriological results in relation to program standards.

TABLE 2. Marine Water Data Summary for the Threatened Station in Skagit Bay South

Station: 185

Classification: Approved

Method: SRS

Total Samples: 30 Range (FC/100 mL): 1.7 - 130.0 GeoMean (FC/100 mL): 5.3				Date Range: 12/18/2018 - 12/04/2023 E90th (FC/100 mL): 29.1 Meets Standard: Y		
Sample Date	Event Type	Time	Tide	SWT	Salinity	Fecal Coliform
12/18/2018	Regulatory	13:00	Flood	9	24	4.5
01/29/2019	Regulatory	12:47	Ebb	5	5	1.7
05/01/2019	Regulatory	16:01	Flood	14	17	1.7
07/22/2019	Regulatory	08:56	Flood	18	18	1.7
08/27/2019	Regulatory	14:54	Flood	18	20	2.0
09/18/2019	Regulatory	08:29	Flood	14	18	17.0
11/05/2019	Regulatory	12:25	Flood	10	21	2.0
02/18/2020	Regulatory	12:38	Flood	6	0	1.7
06/30/2020	Regulatory	14:01	Flood	15	1	11.0
08/27/2020	Regulatory	13:35	Flood	18	16	2.0
10/12/2020	Regulatory	13:02	Flood	12	13	130.0
12/21/2020	Regulatory	11:34	Ebb	7	7	13.0
01/05/2021	Regulatory	11:23	Ebb	7	11	33.0
03/08/2021	Regulatory	12:28	Flood	7	2	2.0
05/18/2021	Regulatory	10:06	Ebb	11	0	33.0
07/06/2021	Regulatory	17:32	Flood	19	2	1.7
09/14/2021	Regulatory	12:41	Flood	15	9	23.0
11/30/2021	Regulatory	12:16	Flood	9	2	33.0
02/09/2022	Regulatory	11:47	Ebb	7	0	4.5
04/19/2022	Regulatory	08:21	Ebb	9	21	1.7
06/27/2022	Regulatory	18:21	Flood	17	6	1.7
08/03/2022	Regulatory	10:51	Ebb	17	2	17.0
10/18/2022	Regulatory	13:25	Flood	13	25	4.0
12/19/2022	Regulatory	13:50	Ebb	4	20	1.7
01/30/2023	Regulatory	12:02	Ebb	4	11	1.7
03/01/2023	Regulatory	12:37	Ebb	6	19	1.7
08/08/2023	Regulatory	11:55	Flood	19	23	1.7
09/07/2023	Regulatory	11:02	Flood	17	22	4.5
11/06/2023	Regulatory	12:06	Flood	11	9	70.0
12/04/2023	Regulatory	13:08	Ebb	8	21	7.8

MAP 1. Skagit Bay South Growing Area

