
Washington State Department of Health 2012 Early Warning System Summary for Shellfish Growing Areas in Pierce County



The Department of Health (DOH) places shellfish growing areas in a “Threatened” or “Concerned” status based on our assessment of threats to the growing area’s classification. This assessment is currently based on the identification of pollution sources that may impact public health, and/or how close a water sampling station’s bacteria levels are to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program’s (NSSP) standards. The latter has been the most common and is described below.

The NSSP prescribes two methods to evaluate fecal coliform levels at water sampling stations to classify growing areas: Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) and Adverse Pollution Conditions (APC). Both use a minimum of the last 30 samples. With the SRS method, the 90th percentile cannot exceed 43 fc/100mL. With the APC method, no more than 10% of the samples can exceed 43 fc/100mL. If any of these standards are exceeded, no shellfish can be directly harvested from the area of that station.

A Threatened status is assigned in SRS growing areas when a water sampling station’s 90th percentile is between 30 and 43 fc/100mL. In APC growing areas, a Threatened status is assigned if more than 6.0% of the samples have exceeded 43 fc/100mL.

A Concerned status is assigned where a water sampling station’s 90th percentile is greater than 20, but less than 30. The DOH is providing this information to county governments so that corrective actions can take place before water quality at the listed stations fails the shellfish standards.

BURLEY LAGOON GROWING AREA

Station Number 331	Threatened due to water quality
Station Number 334	Concerns due to water quality
Station Number 337	Concerns due to water quality
Station Number 338	Concerns due to water quality
Station Number 340	Concerns due to water quality
Station Number 342	Concerns due to water quality
Station Number 343	Concerns due to water quality

FILUCY BAY GROWING AREA

Station Number 764	Threatened due to water quality
Station Number 275	Threatened due to water quality
Station Number 278	Threatened due to water quality
Station Number 279	Threatened due to water quality

ROCY BAY GROWING AREA

Station Number 22	Concerns due to water quality
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VAUGHN BAY GROWING AREA

Station Number 611	Concerns due to water quality
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