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TO: Laura Harper  
Shellfish and Water Protection  
Washington State Department of Health

FROM: Corinne Story, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Skagit County Health Department

DATE: April 30, 2008

RE: First Quarter 2008 Report for Skagit County  
Wastewater Program Management Program & Database Development

This is to report on the deliverables for the Wastewater Program Management and Database Enhancement contract for Skagit County.

Task 1: OSS Database Development

We have continued the contract with the computer programmer hired with last biennium's dollars to upgrade Septic Manager, our data management program. According to the statement of work, the upgrades in this phase include:

- Integrating a query tool into Septic Manager, so that every item for a query is linked with a parcel number.
- Enabling the notice on title document to appear like an as built in the database.
- The ability to move components (tabs) to reflect as built.
- Allowing the user to view the OSS evaluation other than in the "edit" form.
- Tracking individual O&M providers, as well as the companies.

These items are in the process of being added and upgraded in Septic Manager. A new release of the program is slated to be installed and de-bugged this month. The next quarterly report will contain more detail as to how implementation is proceeding.

Included in this element is GIS mapping. Maps showing the status of the proposed marine recovery areas are constantly changing. Attached are the latest maps for the proposed MRA's. Currently, these maps are painstakingly produced using several different software programs, including "Make Data" and Excel spreadsheets. One spreadsheet takes several hours, if not days to complete by checking line-by-line for accuracy. The expected upgrade to Septic Manager will enable staff to do this task in minutes instead of hours.

Task 2: Raise public awareness of MRA's to accomplish designation of MRA's by Skagit County Board of Health

Several MRA open houses have been included as part of the Septics 101 training programs. Eight of these open houses are scheduled through June; five have been completed at the time of this report. The open houses and classes have been well-attended, with a high of over 70 people, and on the whole

averaging about 40 – 50 people. The open houses have also included other water quality partners, including State Department of Health, Shellfish; Washington State Department of Ecology Water Cleanup Program; Skagit County Public Works surface water & recycling; Skagit Conservation District Stream Team; Skagit Conservation & Education Alliance; and Skagit County Planning & Development Services. This team effort has helped to support the message that each citizen is responsible for water quality. Included with this packet is copy of an MRA notebook, containing sign-in sheets and other materials offered at the MRA open houses.

We are on track for a public hearing to officially designate the MRA's in July, with possible local Board of Health adoption by September 2008.

Enclosed with this report are copies of advertisements, meeting agendas, sign-up sheets, etc.

### Task 3: Notification to property owners in MRA's and sensitive areas.

Much of this has been taking place through Task 2, notification of the MRA open houses. Letters have been going to individual property owners inviting them to the MRA open houses.

The goal of this task is to get to the point where we send out postcards to property owners as to when their O&M inspections are due. We have purchased a printer capable of printing labels on envelopes and will begin this task in earnest following completion of the MRA open houses and designation of MRA's by the local Board of Health.