Birch Bay
Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review

Prepared By: Tim Jahraus
Area: Birch Bay
Year Ending: December 31, 2019
Classification: Approved, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2019
The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria. A routine shoreline survey of the growing area was completed and no Direct or Indirect Impacts were identified. An evaluation of the Birch Bay Water and Sewer District WWTP and the Birch Bay Village Marina was completed and no changes to the Prohibited areas were needed.

The Whatcom Clean Water Program, Whatcom County Public Works, and Whatcom Conservation District received National Estuary Program (NEP) funding for coordinating and implementing a pollution identification and control program in the watershed. Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) received NEP funding for enhanced water compliance monitoring and referral and technical assistance, with WSDA focusing on dairies and Ecology addressing nonpoint pollution stemming from nondairy agriculture.

Analytical Results of Water Samples
Table 1 summarizes the results of the last 30 samples collected from the area. This summary shows that all stations pass the NSSP water quality standard.

Change in Actual Pollution Sources that Impact the Growing Area
We currently have no information indicating that the area has new sources of pollution.

Classification Status
☑ Well within the classification standards
☐ Meets standards, but some concerns
☐ Meets standards, but threatened with downgrade in classification
☐ Fails to meet current classification standards

Remarks and Recommendations
Table 1 shows that all stations meet the NSSP water quality standards for an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.
TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) Birch Bay Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station Number</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Range (FC/100mL)</th>
<th>Geomean (FC/100mL)</th>
<th>Est. 90th Percentile (FC/100mL)</th>
<th>Meets Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>2/3/2015 - 12/11/2019</td>
<td>1.7 - 49.0</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
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<td>2/3/2015 - 12/11/2019</td>
<td>1.7 - 49.0</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
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<td>1.7 - 22.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>2/3/2015 - 12/11/2019</td>
<td>1.7 - 13.0</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
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<td>2/3/2015 - 12/11/2019</td>
<td>1.7 - 7.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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<td>365</td>
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<td>4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
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<td>20.8</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>4.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
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<td>2/3/2015 - 12/11/2019</td>
<td>1.7 - 4.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The standard for approved shellfish growing waters is 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.