

# Rocky Bay

## Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Rocky Bay

Year Ending: December 31, 2019

Classification: Approved, Conditionally Approved, Restricted, Prohibited

### Activities in the Growing Area in 2019

The growing area was sampled a minimum of six times in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria. Stations 21, 22, 25 and 780 were sampled 11 times. All samples at Station 25 were collected during Open status. The Conditionally Approved areas was closed one time for eight days due to rainfall ( $\geq 1$ -inch in 24-hours). All of the growing area was closed once for seven days due to 3.64 inches of rainfall recorded in 24 hours at the Rocky Creek rain gauge. A routine shoreline survey of the growing area was completed and no Direct or Indirect Impacts were identified. There is an approved relay from the Restricted portion to the Approved portion for manila clams.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Pierce County Surface Water Management, and Pierce Conservation District continued pollution identification and correction work in the watershed. The Rocky Bay Shellfish Protection District continues to meet quarterly.

### Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 1 summarizes the most recent 30 samples collected from each of the sampling stations. All stations in the Approved and Conditionally Approved areas meet the NSSP standard for an Approved classification. However, there are only two samples in the dataset collected during rainfall closures in the Conditionally Approved area. Table 2 summarizes the most recent 30 samples collected from the Conditionally Approved station during Open status ( $< 1.0$  inch rainfall recorded in 24 hours within five days of the sampling event). Station 812 has 20 samples.

### 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 some concerns
- Meets standards, but threatened with downgrade in classification
- Fails to meet current classification standards

### Remarks and Recommendations

Because of limited rainfall-related sampling data collected from 2017 to 2019, special studies that include rainfall event sampling (exceeding 1-inch in 24 hours) should be completed prior to a classification change.

The Department should continue to collaborate with Pierce County to identify and correct sources of pollution in the Rocky Bay watershed.

## Management Plan Evaluation

1. Have all parties involved complied with the conditions of the management plan ..... Yes
2. Has reporting been adequate to manage the conditional area..... Yes
3. Does the area consistently meet approved area criteria when it is open for harvest ..... Yes
4. Has a field inspection of critical pollution sources been conducted ..... Yes

**TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) Rocky Bay 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 <sup>th</sup> Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
19	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 33.0	2.4	5.5	Y
21	Approved	3/22/2017 - 12/3/2019	1.7 - 33.0	2.8	8.0	Y
23	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 17.0	2.5	5.9	Y
24	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 23.0	3.7	11.0	Y
26	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 94.0	2.4	6.8	Y
29	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 33.0	2.5	6.9	Y
34	Approved	2/17/2015 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 13.0	2.3	4.8	Y
25	Conditionally Approved	3/22/2017 - 12/3/2019	1.7 - 130.0	3.8	14.4	Y
780	Prohibited	12/15/2016 - 12/3/2019	1.7 - 170.0	7.6	46.0	N
22	Restricted	3/22/2017 - 12/3/2019	1.7 - 70.0	5.1	22.2	Y
812	Unclassified	6/23/2016 - 11/5/2019	1.7 - 23.0	2.3	5.3	*N/A

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.

\* N/A – SRS criteria require a minimum of 30 samples from each station. \*

**TABLE 2. Summary of Conditionally Approved Marine Water Data (SRS) in Open Status Rocky Bay Growing Area**

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Includes data for rainfall amounts: 00-0.99" on days 0 – 4 previous to the sampling event.

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	Est. 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
25	Conditionally Approved	11/28/2016 - 12/3/2019	1.7 - 130.0	3.7	13.6	Y

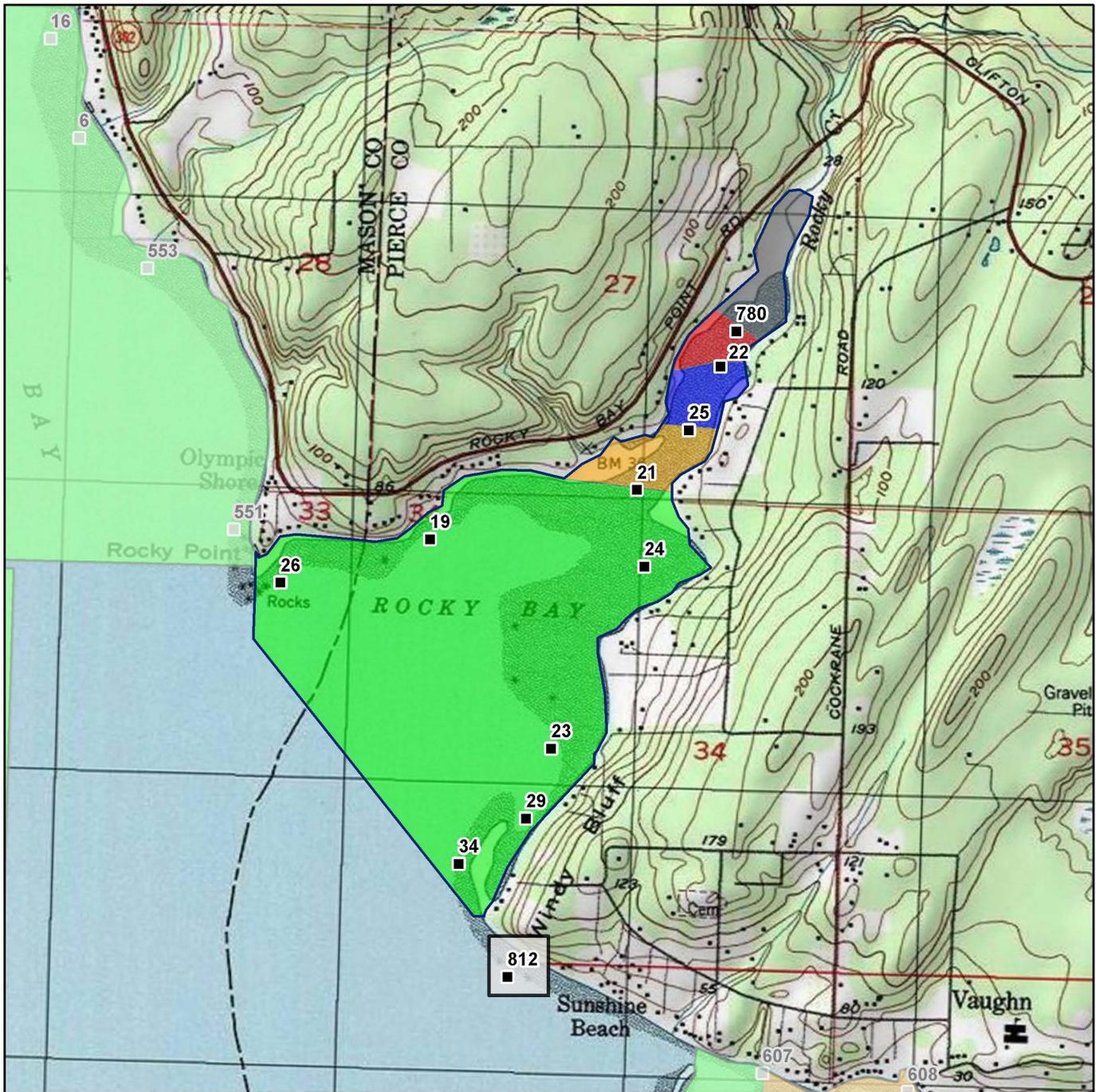
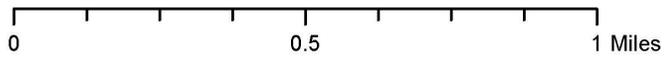
The above table shows bacteriological results in relation to NSSP criteria. NSSP standards for approved shellfish growing waters are a fecal coliform geometric mean not greater than 14 organisms/100 mL and an estimated 90th percentile not greater than 43 organisms/100mL.

MAP 1. Rocky Bay Growing Area

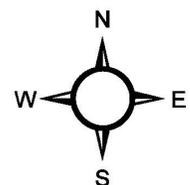
 Rocky Bay

Washington State Department of Health

Date Updated: 7/11/2018



Classification	Sampling Stations
 Approved	
 Conditional	
 Prohibited	
 Restricted	
 Unclassified	



\* Some sampling stations are highlighted with grey box for ease of reading.