This report defines specific locations where marine water quality is impacted and may require a change to the commercial growing area classification. We’re providing this information as a first step towards identifying and correcting pollution problems.

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program prescribes two methods to evaluate bacteria levels in shellfish harvesting areas: Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) and Adverse Pollution Conditions (APC). Both use a minimum of 30 samples. With the SRS method, the estimated 90th percentile cannot exceed 43 fc/100 ml. With the APC method, no more than 10% of the samples can exceed 43 fc/100 ml. If either of the predefined methods is exceeded, no shellfish can be directly harvested from the area around that marine water station.

Definitions

Failing – These marine water sampling stations do not meet the shellfish area water quality standards for safe harvesting. The classification of the shellfish harvesting area must be downgraded.

Threatened – These stations are currently meeting the standards; however, they are near “failing,” or existing shoreline pollution sources have been identified that may impact public health if not appropriately managed. “Threatened” status is assigned to water sampling stations with estimated 90th percentiles between 30 and 43 fc/100 ml or if more than 6% of the samples have exceeded 43 fc/100 ml.

Shellfish Growing Area Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROWING AREA NAME</th>
<th>MARINE WATER STATION</th>
<th>FAILING</th>
<th>THREATENED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Port Susan</td>
<td>291, 295</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Skagit Bay</td>
<td>192, 184</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shellfish Programs Contact

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David.kangiser@doh.wa.gov
(360) 236-3329

2018 Growing Area Annual Reports:
http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/
Shellfish/GrowingAreas/AnnualReports

Current Area Classifications & Water Quality
www.doh.wa.gov/commercialshellfishmap
Snohomish County Commercial Shellfish Growing Areas

Port Susan

South Skagit Bay

Possession Sound