

2020 Whatcom County: Water Quality Early Warning System Report

Shellfish Programs | Office of Environmental Health and Safety | Washington State Department of Health

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) or Adverse Pollution Conditions (APC). The SRS method is used to evaluate these growing areas. With the SRS method, the estimated 90th percentile cannot exceed 43 fc/100 ml. If the estimated 90th percentile 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.

Shellfish Growing Area Status

GROWING AREA NAME	MARINE WATER STATION	
	FAILING	THREATENED
Drayton Harbor		379
Portage Bay		52, 57, 58

Shellfish Programs Contact



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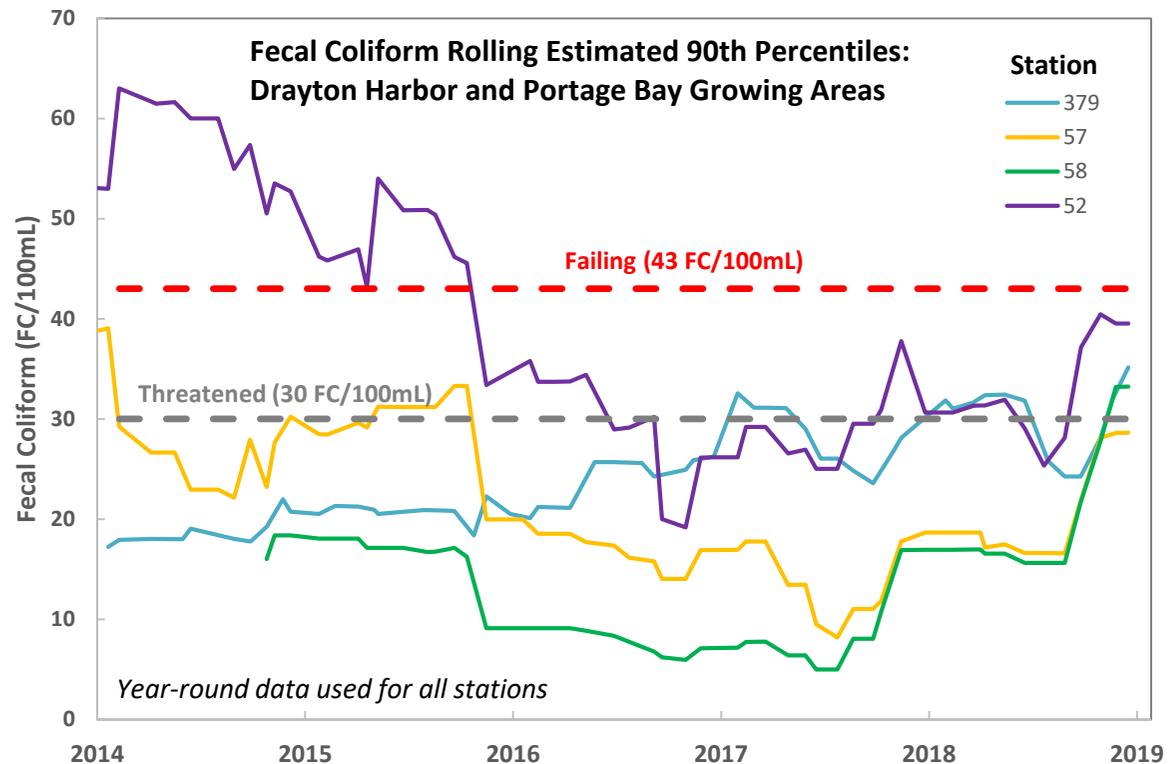
(360) 236-3349

2019 Growing Area Annual Reports:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Shellfish/GrowingAreas/AnnualReports>

Current Area Classifications & Water Quality

www.doh.wa.gov/commercialshellfishmap



Whatcom County Commercial Shellfish Growing Areas

