

# Blake Island

## Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Blake Island

Year Ending: December 31, 2024

Classification: Approved, Conditionally Approved, Prohibited

### Activities in the Growing Area in 2024

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria. Three sampling events occurred during the Open status in the Conditionally Approved areas around mooring buoys. During marine water sampling events, the Department recorded the number of boats observed on moorings around the island: three boats on 6/11/2024, two boats on 8/27/2024, one boat on 4/30/2024 and 10/24/2024, and no boats on 3/26/2024 and 12/19/2024. The Conditionally Approved areas were closed for 153 days from May 1 through September 30 in accordance with the Conditionally Approved Area Management Plan.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is developing a Master Plan for the future of Blake Island Marine State Park. The planning process is estimated to run from fall 2024 to summer 2026 and will consider alternatives for concessions and possible facilities, interpretive planning, trail rerouting to adapt to sea level rise, and transportation to the island for the public. Since Argosy Tours ended its concession agreement in 2021, there has been no commercial marine access or programming at the park's Tillicum Village concession. For more information, see [Blake Island Marine State Park Master Planning | Washington State Parks](#).

### 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

The boat pumpout station at Blake Island Marine State Park remained out of service in 2024. A project to repair or replace the pumpout has been approved by the DOH large onsite sewage system (LOSS) Program. Marina reconstruction and installing a new pumpout system were proposed as part of the Blake Island Marine State Park Facility Improvement Project, but the project was not funded in the 2023-25 biennium. State Parks staff does not expect the pumpout to be operational until a new marina is approved, funded, and constructed.

### Classification Status

- ☒ Well within the classification standards
- ☐ 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 standard for an Approved classification. The Department should track the Blake Island Marine State Park marina reconstruction project and potential impacts to the growing area.

## 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) for the Blake Island 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
398	Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 7.8	1.8	2.6	Y
399	Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 2.0	1.7	1.9	Y
401	Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 7.8	1.8	2.6	Y
397	Conditionally Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.8	2.3	Y
400	Conditionally Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.8	2.2	Y
402	Conditionally Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.8	2.3	Y
686	Conditionally Approved	2/10/2020 - 12/19/2024	1.7 - 2.0	1.7	1.9	Y

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.

**Blake Island**

Washington State Department of Health

Date Updated: 3/13/2020

0 0.5 1 Miles

BLAKE ISLAND STATE MARINE PARK

BLAKE ISLAND

BLAKE ISLAND STATE PARK

Sewage Ponds

Light

686

687

397

398

399

400

401

402

BANK

Classification

Approved

Conditional

Prohibited

Restricted

Unclassified

Sampling Stations

■

N

W

E

S

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