

Hammersley Inlet

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



Prepared By: Merita Trohimovich

Area: Hammersley Inlet

Year Ending: December 31, 2024

Classification: Approved, Conditionally Approved, Restricted

Activities in the Growing Area in 2024

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria. An annual growing area CAAMP evaluation of the Shelton WWTP was completed. No changes to the classification or the CAAMP were needed. A comprehensive evaluation report is in the central growing area file.

There are five relay permits for the Restricted area of Hammersley Inlet. The following table outlines the relay permit parameters.

TABLE 1. Summary of Relay Permits

Harvest Site Information	Relay Site Information	Permitted Species for Harvest	Relay Time Frame
Hammersley Inlet	Hammersley Inlet	Manila Clams	Cold
Hammersley Inlet	Eld Inlet	Manila Clams	Cold
Hammersley Inlet	Hammersley Inlet	Pacific Oysters	Cold
Hammersley Inlet	Eld Inlet	Pacific Oysters	Cold
Hammersley Inlet	Hammersley Inlet	Manila Clams	Warm

There were three Hammersley Inlet closures in 2024 for a total of 16 days, some of the closures overlapped spatially and temporality. The Conditionally Approved area was closed for 14 days in 2024 (21 days total) due to an undisinfected discharge from the Shelton Wastewater Treatment Plant. This closure continued into 2025. All of Hammersley Inlet was closed for five days due to excessive rainfall (2.99 inches of rain at the Taylor United FLUPSY gauge). A portion of Hammersley Inlet was closed for 11 days in 2024 due to reports of oyster-associated norovirus-like illnesses. This closure continued in 2025.

Mason Conservation District received NEP funds through the Washington State Conservation Commission to provide technical assistance and education and outreach to landowners to promote the implementation of livestock best management practices.

Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 2 summarizes the results of the last 30 samples collected from the area. This summary shows that all stations pass the NSSP water quality standard for the Approved classification except Station 100 in the Restricted area. Station 100 passes the NSSP water quality standard for the Restricted classification.

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 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 their current classification and the area is correctly classified.

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 2. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Hammersley Inlet 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 th Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
96	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.9	2.6	Y
97	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 7.8	2.0	3.1	Y
98	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 11.0	2.0	3.4	Y
99	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 17.0	2.4	5.0	Y
101	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 17.0	2.1	4.1	Y
102	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 7.8	2.2	3.9	Y
103	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 7.8	2.0	3.1	Y
104	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.9	2.6	Y
111	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 7.8	2.1	3.5	Y
112	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.9	2.8	Y
113	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 6.8	2.1	3.7	Y
662	Approved	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 6.8	2.0	3.0	Y
105	Conditionally Approved	6/24/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 11.0	2.5	5.0	Y
663	Conditionally Approved	6/24/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 23.0	3.2	10.1	Y
668	Conditionally Approved	6/24/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 23.0	2.9	7.4	Y
695	Conditionally Approved	6/24/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 110.0	2.8	8.4	Y
766	Conditionally Approved	6/24/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 11.0	2.8	6.4	Y
100	Restricted	5/26/2020 - 12/5/2024	1.7 - 170.0	12.1	49.4	N

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 Approved program standards.

MAP 1. Hammersley Inlet Growing Area

