

Grays Harbor

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Grays Harbor

Year Ending: December 31, 2023

Classification: Approved, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2023

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria. There were two emergency closure events in December that closed portions of Grays Harbor for a total of nine days. The Elk River portion of the growing area was closed once due to excessive rainfall (>3 inches/24 hours) measured at the Hoquiam Airport. The central and south bay portions of the growing area were closed once due to Chehalis River flooding.

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. Station 13 in the unclassified area is Threatened with an estimated 90th percentile of 30.6 FC/100mL. Table 2 shows Station 13 individual data.

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 an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified. The Department should evaluate the area around Station 13. A failure here could require a change in classification to a large portion of the growing area.

TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Grays Harbor Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100 mL)	GeoMean (FC/100 mL)	E90th (FC/100 mL)	Meets Standard
16	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 110.0	2.3	6.7	Y
18	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 13.0	2.4	5.9	Y
19	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 27.0	2.0	4.1	Y
22	Approved	4/16/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 110.0	2.4	6.9	Y
23	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 22.0	2.2	4.8	Y
24	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 17.0	2.7	6.4	Y
25	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 33.0	3.1	9.4	Y
26	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 11.0	2.7	6.2	Y
27	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 22.0	3.4	9.9	Y
28	Approved	4/16/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 33.0	2.6	7.4	Y
29	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 79.0	2.6	8.8	Y
30	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 79.0	2.3	6.1	Y
31	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 7.8	2.0	3.3	Y
32	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 13.0	2.1	3.9	Y
33	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 33.0	2.7	7.7	Y
34	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 23.0	4.4	16.4	Y
35	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 49.0	4.0	14.7	Y
38	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 23.0	2.8	8.0	Y
188	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 79.0	2.1	5.6	Y
191	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 23.0	2.2	5.0	Y
192	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 13.0	2.4	5.8	Y
193	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 23.0	2.5	7.0	Y
194	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 49.0	2.5	7.3	Y
199	Approved	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 33.0	2.7	7.9	Y
202	Approved	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 17.0	1.9	3.2	Y
13	Unclassified	2/19/2019 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 79.0	6.0	30.6	Y
36	Unclassified	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 79.0	6.5	33.4	Y
37	Unclassified	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 33.0	5.3	21.7	Y
209	Unclassified	11/7/2018 - 12/27/2023	1.7 - 23.0	2.4	5.9	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.

TABLE 2. Marine Water Data Summary for the Threatened Station in Grays Harbor.

Station: 13

Classification: Unclassified

Method: SRS

Total Samples: 30 Range (FC/100 mL): 1.7 - 79.0 GeoMean (FC/100 mL): 6.0				Date Range: 02/19/2019 - 12/27/2023 E90th (FC/100 mL): 30.6 Meets Standard: Y		
Sample Date	Event Type	Time	Tide	SWT	Salinity	Fecal Coliform
02/19/2019	Regulatory	11:13	Flood	7	24	9.2
04/16/2019	Regulatory	10:27	Flood	10	21	11.0
06/17/2019	Regulatory	12:17	Flood	13	30	2.0
08/28/2019	Regulatory	10:52	Flood	17	31	7.8
10/29/2019	Regulatory	10:57	Flood	11	29	6.8
12/11/2019	Regulatory	09:12	Flood	9	30	1.8
02/11/2020	Regulatory	11:31	Flood	9	20	2.0
03/09/2020	Regulatory	11:19	Flood	8	22	2.0
05/20/2020	Regulatory	11:03	Flood	14	28	46.0
07/21/2020	Regulatory	13:02	Flood	14	31	2.0
09/02/2020	Regulatory	12:34	Flood	13	32	4.5
11/12/2020	Regulatory	09:28	Flood	10	28	1.7
03/16/2021	Regulatory	13:27	Flood	10	21	1.7
04/27/2021	Regulatory	11:28	Flood	13	24	1.7
06/28/2021	Regulatory	17:34	Flood	15	30	4.5
08/12/2021	Regulatory	17:08	Flood	13	33	46.0
10/07/2021	Regulatory	15:12	Ebb	14	29	2.0
12/02/2021	Regulatory	09:44	Flood	11	16	9.3
01/05/2022	Regulatory	11:15	Flood	7	22	13.0
03/31/2022	Regulatory	10:52	Flood	10	23	2.0
05/02/2022	Regulatory	12:21	Flood	12	22	1.7
07/18/2022	Regulatory	19:05	Ebb	14	30	33.0
08/31/2022	Regulatory	14:39	Flood	13	32	33.0
11/07/2022	Regulatory	10:35	Flood	10	21	79.0
03/07/2023	Regulatory	11:02	Flood	7	22	7.8
04/19/2023	Regulatory	11:42	Flood	9	20	4.5
05/08/2023	Regulatory	18:18	Ebb	14	23	1.7
08/30/2023	Regulatory	14:25	Ebb	17	32	46.0
10/26/2023	Regulatory	12:39	Ebb	14	28	23.0
12/27/2023	Regulatory	10:24	Flood	10	26	1.7

