

Quilcene Bay

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Quilcene Bay

Year Ending: December 31, 2023

Classification: Approved, Conditionally 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. The Conditionally Approved area was closed to harvest from May 1 through September 30 due to seasonal boat usage. A routine three-year shoreline evaluation was completed, and Jefferson County Public Health conducted follow up sampling at one drainage. Bacteria levels were low and no new or changes in pollution sources were identified.

Jefferson County Environmental Health received EPA National Estuary Program funds for on-site sewage system repair, replacement, and decommissioning/abatement in areas with potential to affect the growing area. Jefferson County also continues continued their pollution identification and correction work and their sewage system operations and maintenance program (O&M) in the region.

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 in the approved area pass the NSSP water quality standard. Station 120 in the unclassified portion has an estimated 90th percentile of 30.8 FC/100 ml; however, failure at this station will not impact the current 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 an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.

Management Plan Evaluation

1. Have all parties involved complied with the conditions of the management planYes
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 Quilcene Bay 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
114	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 1600.0	4.1	26.4	Y
115	Approved	3/28/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 49.0	3.0	10.1	Y
116	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 1600.0	3.5	21.4	Y
117	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 170.0	2.5	8.6	Y
118	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 170.0	2.5	8.3	Y
119	Approved	5/16/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 350.0	2.6	10.3	Y
123	Approved	3/26/2019 – 12/21/2023	1.7 - 170.0	4.3	26.1	Y
308	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 70.0	2.4	7.8	Y
312	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 79.0	3.3	12.6	Y
321	Approved	7/24/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 240.0	4.0	19.5	Y
322	Approved	4/17/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 130.0	2.6	9.0	Y
120	Unclassified	3/28/2019 - 12/7/2023	1.7 - 350.0	5.3	30.8	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.

MAP 1: Quilcene Bay Growing Area

