

Grays Harbor

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



Prepared By: Mark Toy

Area: Grays Harbor

Year Ending: December 31, 2022

Classification: Approved, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2022

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling criteria except Station 202 was sampled five times due to a lost bottle. Only five Regulatory samples were collected at stations 26, 27, 34, 35, 36, and 37, with one sample event taken during an emergency closure (11/4/2022 -11/11/2022) due greater than 3 inches of rain in 24 hours at the Hoquiam Airport rain gauge.

There were five emergency closure events that closed portions of Grays Harbor for a total of 45 days. The Elk River portion of the growing area was closed twice and extended once due to excessive rainfall (>3 inches/24 hours) measured at the Hoquiam Airport. The central portion of the growing area was closed and extended once due to concurrent sewage overflows at the Aberdeen and Hoquiam WWTP, and 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. The Station 35 in the Approved portion of the growing area is in concerned status with an estimated 90th percentile value of 20.4 FC/100 ml. Samples results during the emergency closure in November (outside of the regulatory database) ranged from 49-79 FC/100 ml.

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 some concerns
- 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.

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/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	Est. 90 th Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
16	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 110.0	2.3	6.7	Y
18	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 13.0	2.4	5.9	Y
19	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 27.0	2.0	4.1	Y
22	Approved	3/1/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 110.0	2.3	6.7	Y
23	Approved	12/20/2017 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 22.0	2.2	4.9	Y
24	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 17.0	2.9	7.2	Y
25	Approved	12/20/2017 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 23.0	3.4	9.6	Y
26	Approved	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 13.0	3.3	8.7	Y
27	Approved	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 49.0	4.2	17.3	Y
28	Approved	3/1/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 33.0	2.7	7.9	Y
29	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 79.0	2.7	10.6	Y
30	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 79.0	2.6	7.4	Y
31	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 7.8	2.1	3.5	Y
32	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 13.0	2.1	3.9	Y
33	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 33.0	3.2	10.0	Y
34	Approved	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 33.0	4.7	18.9	Y

TABLE 1. Continued

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	Est. 90 th Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
35	Approved	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 49.0	4.8	20.4	Y
38	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 23.0	2.8	8.7	Y
188	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 79.0	2.1	5.6	Y
191	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 23.0	2.2	5.0	Y
192	Approved	12/20/2017 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 13.0	2.4	5.5	Y
193	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 33.0	2.6	7.8	Y
194	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 49.0	2.7	8.2	Y
199	Approved	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 33.0	2.9	9.6	Y
202	Approved	12/20/2017 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 17.0	2.0	3.9	Y
13	Unclassified	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 79.0	6.5	29.4	Y
36	Unclassified	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 79.0	6.4	30.1	Y
37	Unclassified	12/20/2017 - 8/31/2022	1.7 - 79.0	6.3	31.2	Y
209	Unclassified	12/20/2017 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 23.0	2.3	5.4	Y
218	Unclassified	1/3/2018 - 11/7/2022	1.7 - 33.0	3.2	12.0	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. Grays Harbor Growing Area

