

Living with Wildlife

Within a watershed, bacterial pollution can come from many sources. Our counterparts in Whatcom County recently found that a streamside raccoon “latrine” at a popular beach and campground area caused unhealthy conditions due to polluted water. Limiting the animals’ access to campground food and covering the latrine area with chicken wire caused the animals to move on and improved water quality.

Please don’t feed the wildlife! Here in Clallam County, we’ve heard stories of people feeding raccoons next to the Dungeness River.

The availability of food leads to growing animal populations that concentrate their wastes in sensitive areas.



March 2018 Update Topics

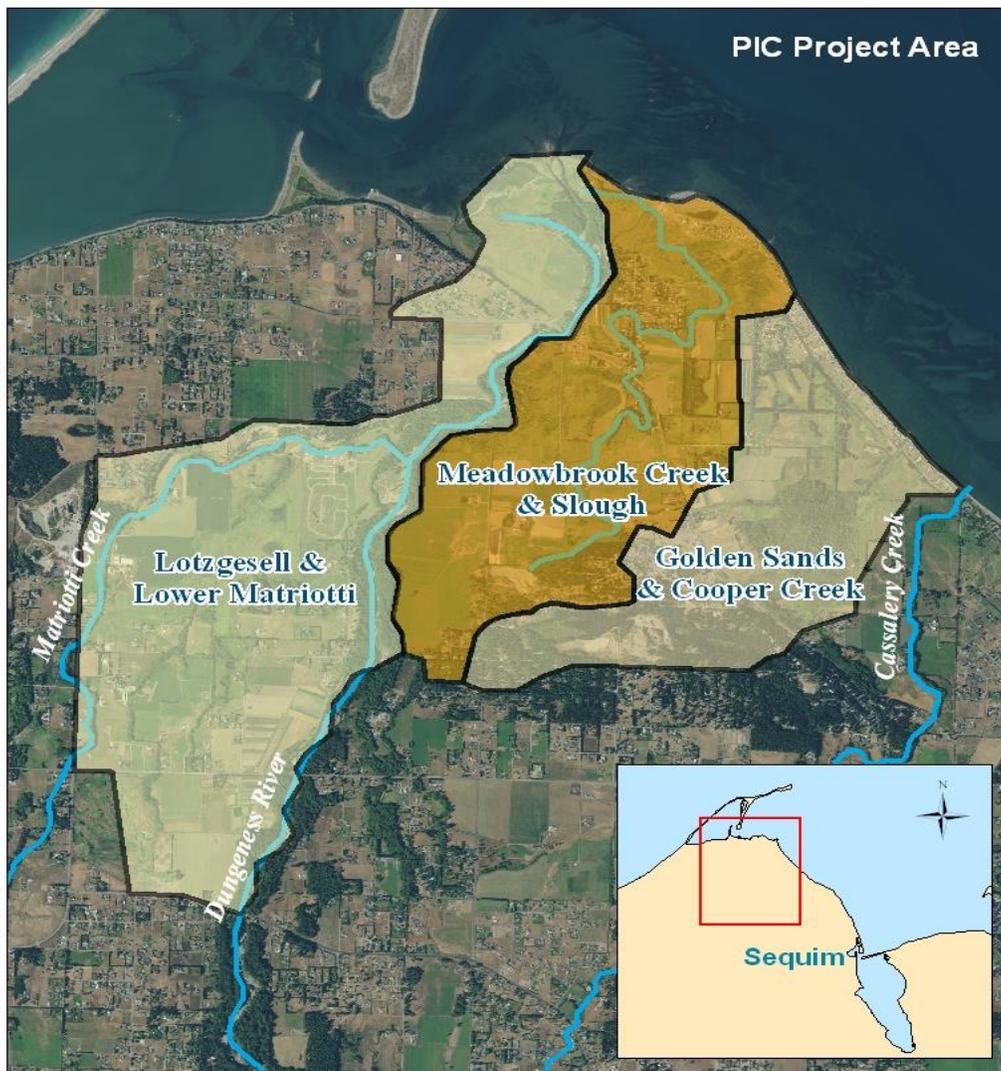
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PIC Project Focus Areas

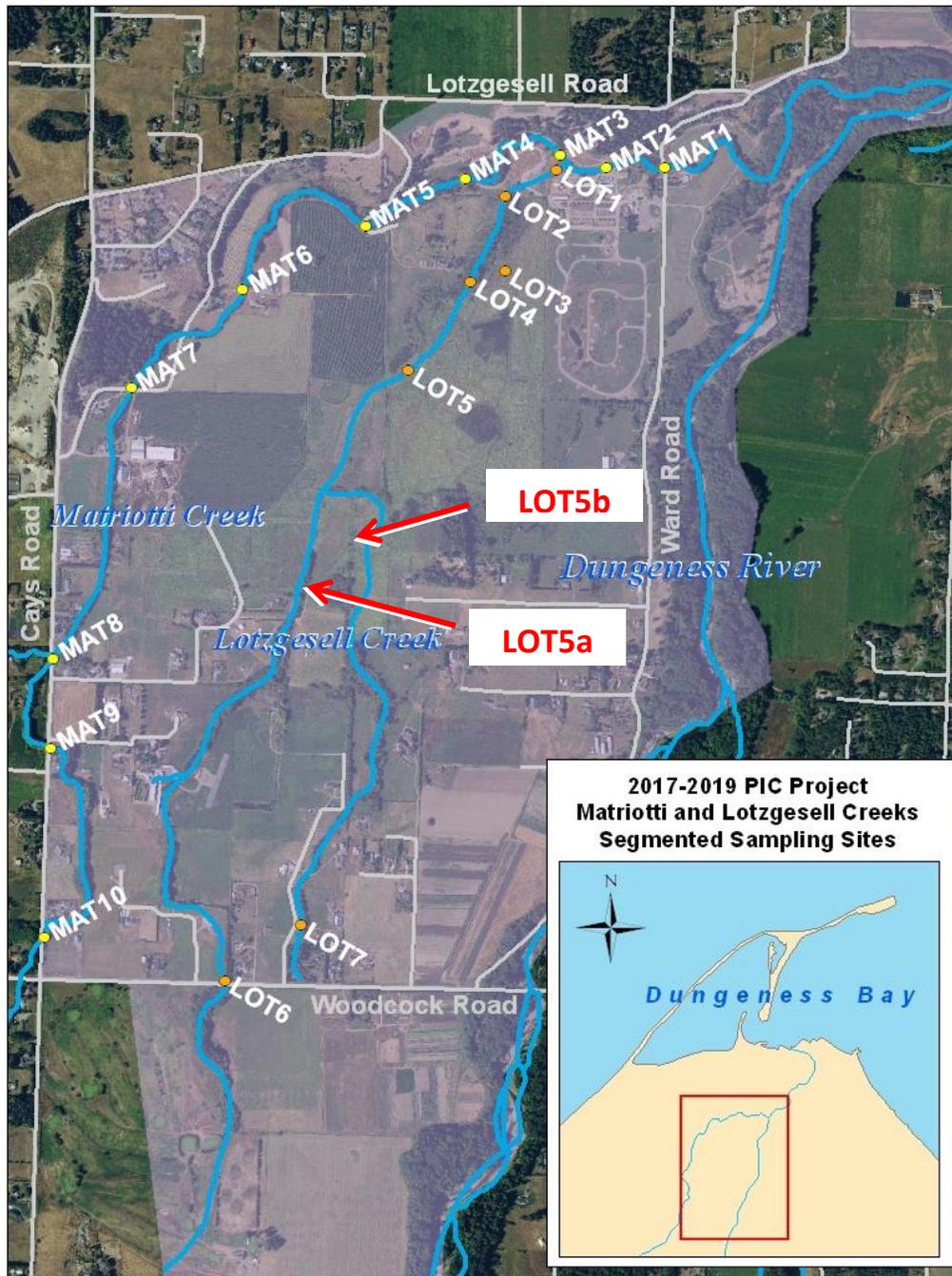
Between 2015 and 2017 the PIC Project focused on an area to the east of the Dungeness River, including Meadowbrook Slough, Meadowbrook Creek, Golden Sands Slough and 3-Crabs Road.

Now, investigative work has shifted to the lower Matriotti/Lotzgesell watershed for the 2017 to 2019 project period. Still, various pollution correction measures continue in the “old” project area...



New Lotzgesell Segmented Sampling Sites

Thanks to property owners we've added two new water quality sampling sites on Lotzgesell Creek. These new sampling sites, named LOT5a and LOT5b, help fill in some blanks and give a more complete picture of what's happening throughout the "new" project area.



March 2018 UPDATE

Segmented Sampling Data

So far, two complete “tours” of all segmented sampling sites have taken place in the Matriotti/Lotzgesell PIC Focus Area (one in January and one in March). All sites, including newly-added LOT5a and LOT5b, were visited on March 8, 2018. Again, bacteria counts were low across the board.

Interestingly, Streamkeepers performed baseline trends sampling on March 13, 2018 and found 254 fecal coliform CFU/100 ml at site MAT1 – quite a difference from what the segmented sampling team measured only a week earlier.

Sample Site	Date	Time	Temp. (deg. C)	Salinity (ppt)	Fecal Coliform CFU/100 ml
MAT1	3/8/2018	9:10	6.5	0.0	6
MAT2	3/8/2018	9:20	6.5	0.1	4
MAT3	3/8/2018	9:45	5.6	0.2	8
MAT4	3/8/2018	9:36	6.2	0.0	4
MAT5	3/8/2018	10:45	6	0.1	22
MAT6	3/8/2018	10:52	5.8	0.1	30
MAT7	3/8/2018	10:57	5.8	0.1	36
MAT8	3/8/2018	11:02	6.1	0.1	16
MAT9	3/8/2018	11:07	5.9	0.1	4
MAT10	3/8/2018	11:11	6.1	0.1	<2
LOT1	3/8/2018	9:27	7.2	0.1	<2
LOT2	3/8/2018	9:32	7.3	0.1	2
LOT3	3/8/2018	10:12	5.7	0.1	2
LOT4	3/8/2018	10:16	7.7	0.1	<2
LOT5	3/8/2018	10:25	8.2	0.1	28
LOT5a	3/8/2018	11:45	8.9	0.1	4
LOT5b	3/8/2018	11:54	7.4	0.1	<2
LOT6	3/8/2018	11:16	9.6	0.1	<2
LOT7	3/8/2018	11:22	6.5	0.1	<2

Meadowbrook/Golden Sands Project Area

Meadowbrook (Dungeness) Slough

The Environmental Health Department has now confirmed two septic failures adjacent to Meadowbrook Slough. One failure has been partially mitigated and a full fix is still required. Meanwhile, a second failing septic system has only recently been discovered and the Health Department needs to begin failure follow-up.

3-Crabs Road

Septic inspection compliance efforts continue in the 3-Crabs area. As of March, 2018 only three property owners still need to schedule inspections!

Golden Sands Slough

Thanks to Clallam Conservation District's cost share program, two new septic systems should be installed in the Golden Sands neighborhood in 2018. These two projects should eliminate various non-conforming systems including storage tanks and direct greywater discharges.

Meanwhile, the Environmental Health Department will continue to address the remaining Sani-Cans, sewage holding tanks, greywater discharges, and other non-conforming systems.

Resources:

- Craft3 offers clean water loans to help eligible owners of failing septic systems: <https://www.craft3.org/>
- Clallam Conservation District's OSS Cost-Share Program helps eligible property owners fix failing septic systems: <http://clallamcd.org/conservation-around-the-house/>