

Open House

The much-anticipated first Pollution Identification and Correction Open House of 2019 is scheduled for March 20 at Sequim Prairie Grange/Macleay Hall (290 Macleay Road) from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

This is a good opportunity to get updates on local stream health trends, shellfish growing area status, activities in current and past PIC Focus Areas, and resources available to improve and protect water quality. Post card invites recently went out to our neighbors in the Lower Dungeness area—we hope you can make it and we look forward to questions and discussion.



March 2019 Update Topics

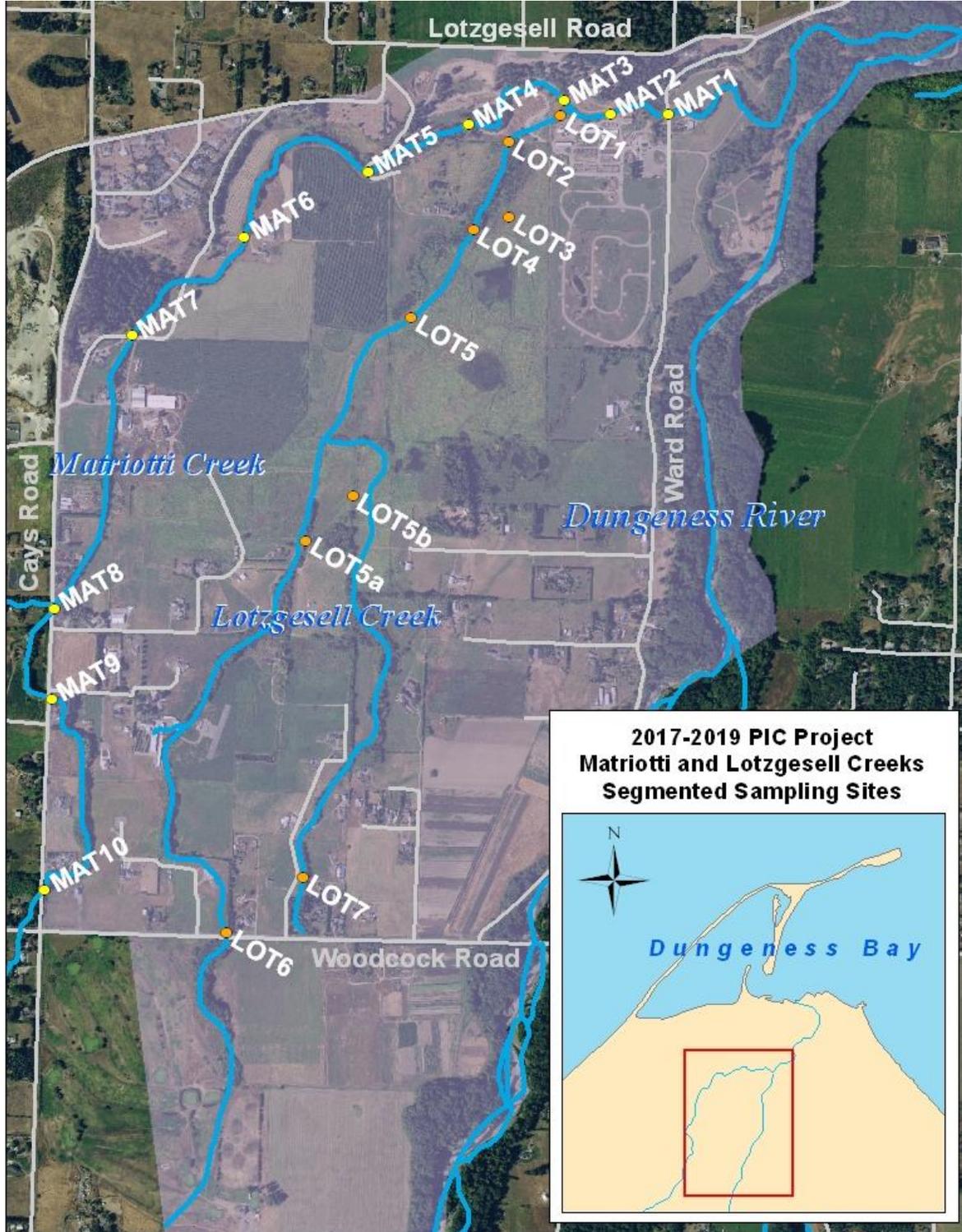
- Open House
- Segmented Water Quality Sampling
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- Shellfish Growing Area Status
- Resources



PIC Open House scheduled for March 20, 2019 at Sequim Prairie Grange (Macleay Hall).

Segmented Water Quality Sampling

The following sites are sampled periodically for bacteria in order to decide which stream segments need improvements. Sampling began in early 2018 and will continue into 2019.



MARCH 2019 UPDATE

So far, the segmented sampling team has visited the Matriotti/Lotzgesell project area twice in 2019.

Bacteria levels in the streams appear relatively low, with the exception of sites MAT6 and MAT7 which stood out on February 7.

LOT5a appeared to have higher bacteria levels than we'd previously observed, though this result may have been confounded by a neighbor dog that jumped into the stream and disturbed sample collection.

Again, there was not enough water at site LOT7 to collect a good sample on February 7. By March the water level was high enough to resume sample collection.

Units in the below table are fecal coliform colony-forming units (CFU) per 100 mL sample:

Sample Site	2/7/2019	3/7/2019
LOT1	16	6
LOT2	44	12
LOT3	4	28
LOT4	25	< 6
LOT5	42	2
LOT5a	194*	4
LOT5b	12	2
LOT6	< 6	< 2
LOT7	NA**	5
MAT1	> 95	22
MAT2	32	4
MAT3	36	18
MAT4	16	34
MAT5	12	32
MAT6	176	22
MAT7	306	20
MAT8	10	6
MAT9	10	2
MAT10	4	4

* Dog jumped in stream during sample collection, disturbing sediments.

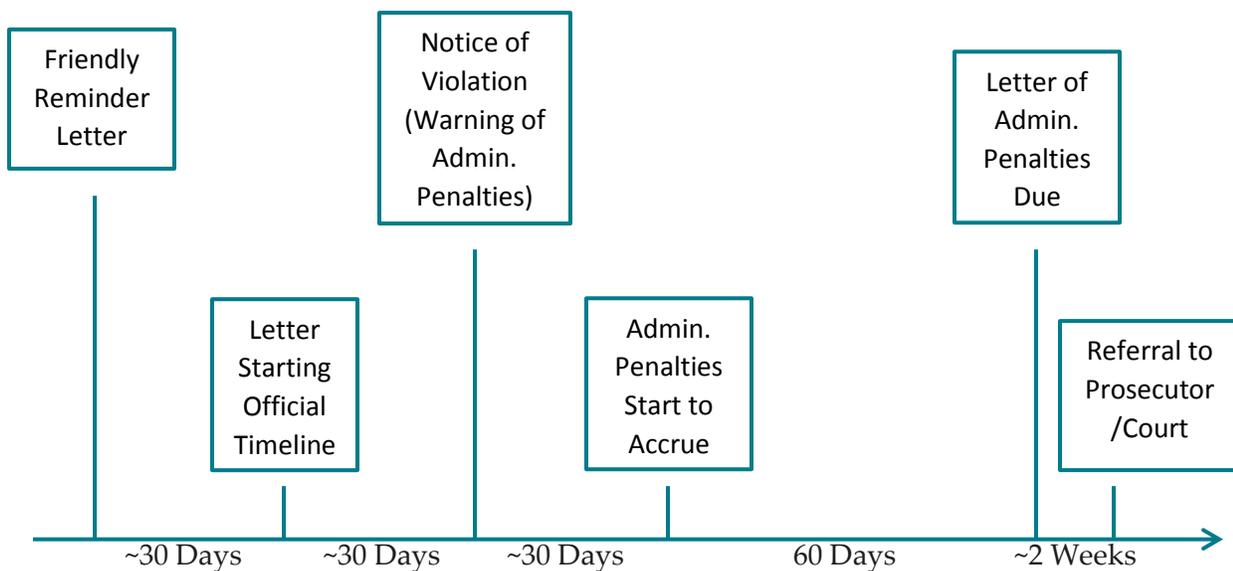
**Insufficient flow/volume—no sample collected.

Hotspot Follow-Up and Septic Inspection Compliance

Various bacteria “hotspots” were measured in Lotzgesell and Matriotti Creeks in the summer of 2018. Thanks again to all the neighbors near these spots that have invited Clallam County Environmental Health out to conduct PIC parcel surveys. Most of these surveys have occurred along Matriotti Creek, parallel to Cays Road, and involved looking for obvious sources of bacterial pollution such as animal waste or ponding on septic drainfields.

Besides conducting parcel surveys, Environmental Health has begun requiring septic inspections focused along the streams and Dungeness River within the current PIC Focus Area. Inspections should make sure wastewater from each household receives treatment and does not make people sick by getting into streams or drinking water. Regular inspections also help prevent expensive failures.

Various households, within the project area and behind on septic inspections, have received friendly reminder letters to call a septic inspector. Compliance timelines proceed as follows, until Environmental Health receives notice that a septic inspection has been *scheduled*:



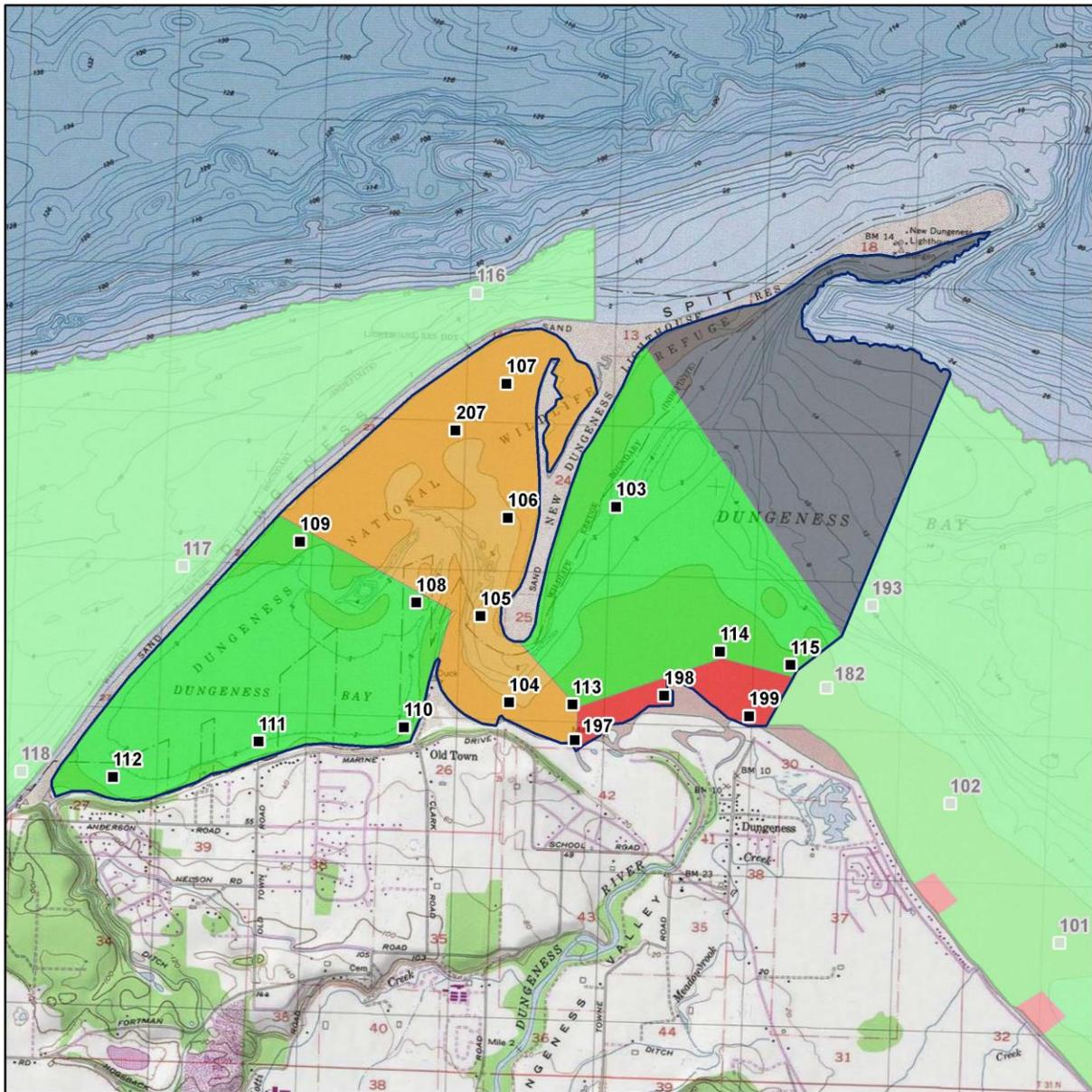
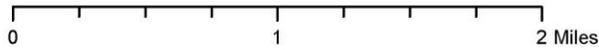
Shellfish Growing Area Status

Graphic courtesy of Washington DOH.

Dungeness Bay

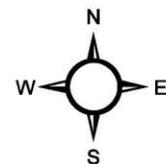


Date Updated: 10/6/2017



- Classification**
- Approved
 - Conditional
 - Prohibited
 - Restricted
 - Unclassified

Sampling Stations



* Some sampling stations are highlighted with grey box for ease of reading.

Our partners at Washington State Department of Health (DOH) regularly sample marine waters in and around Dungeness Bay for bacteria. Using this information (and more) DOH is able to “classify” shellfish growing area. “Approved” means pollution levels do not prohibit shellfish harvest. “Conditionally approved” means pollution prevents harvest during part of the year — usually the rainy season. “Prohibited” means pollution prevents shellfish harvest all year.

The PIC program, along with other projects, aims to improve water quality for everybody. We’re hopeful that our efforts will help increase the acreage of “approved” shellfish growing area and reduce the acreage of “conditionally approved” and “prohibited” shellfish growing area in Dungeness Bay.

Resources:

- Pollution Identification and Correction Website:
www.clallam.net/pic
- All PIC Segmented Sampling Data:
<https://clallam.box.com/s/2o5o56lyc00c0ej7by7e2id7hd7gy7j1>
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Shellfish Information:
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/shellfish/>
- Washington Shellfish Safety Map:
www.doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety.htm