

PIC Background

The Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Project, in its current form, began in 2015 as a response to poor water quality and shellfish closures in Dungeness Bay.

A “Pilot Project” area included Golden Sands Slough, 3 Crabs Road, and Meadowbrook Creek and Slough (also known as Dungeness Slough). PIC is now expanding across Dungeness River to include portions of Matriotti and Lotzgesell Creeks.

Key activities include:

- Water quality monitoring of district streams
- Sampling to uncover sources of bacterial pollution
- Pollution correction
- Technical and financial assistance to land owners
- Outreach and education

Project partners include Clallam County Environmental Health, Streamkeepers of Clallam County, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, and Clallam Conservation District.

PROJECT AREA FIELD TRIP October 11, 2017

The Clean Water Work Group and Dungeness River Management Team invite the Clallam County Board of Health to **visit PIC Project sites of interest** from 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM on October 11, 2017.

Stops will include **WDFW Nearshore Project, Golden Sands, 3 Crabs Road, and Dungeness Farms.**



3 CRABS OVERVIEW

Shoreline Survey Conducted

On May 30, 2017 Environmental Health staff conducted a shoreline survey of the 3 Crabs Beach to look for potential sources of bacterial pollution. At low tide no obvious seeps were noted and no water samples were collected. The Golden Sands Slough tide gate was observed and photographed.



Regular Septic Inspections

We encourage our neighbors to keep up with regular septic inspections—especially given proximity to marine waters. “Red to Green” maps help keep track of inspection status in the area.

2017 Correspondence:

- June friendly reminder letter pointed out rebates
- September follow-up postcard, coinciding with Septic Smart Week, underscored State law
- Enforcement timeline planned; may use administrative penalties to incentivize compliance
- ~35% compliance in April → Improving



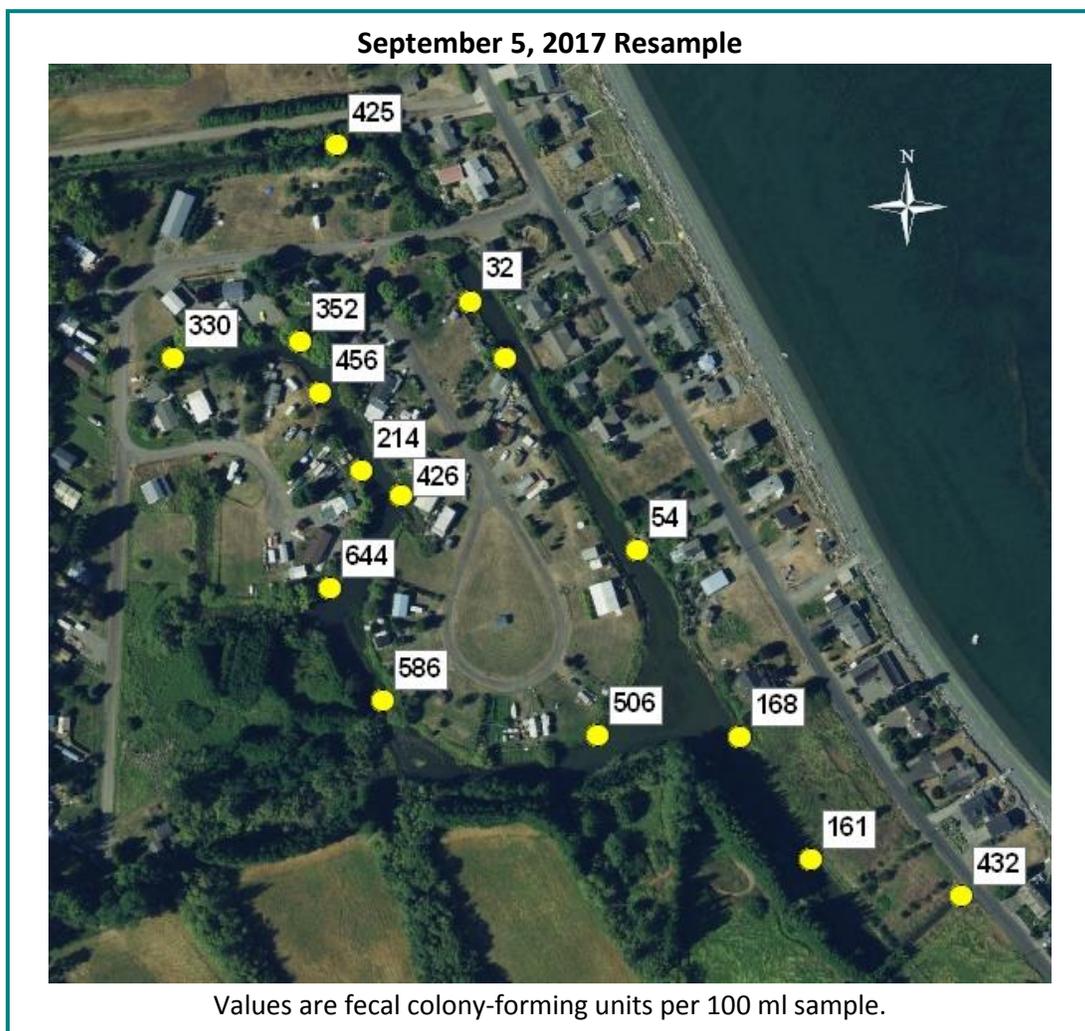
GOLDEN SANDS OVERVIEW

PIC Steps in Golden Sands

- “Segmented sampling” with partner JSKT largely concluded in 2016.
- Three official “hot spots” were discovered, each with over 50 fecal colony forming units per 100 ml sample.
- Pollution correction efforts commenced to eliminate non-conforming sewage disposal methods.
- Conservation District cost share program helped various residents install conforming septic systems.

Current Water Quality

While water quality generally improved into early 2017, follow-up sampling has shown high levels of fecal coliform bacteria return periodically. Measurements confirmed high bacterial counts on September 5, 2017 when all segmented sites were resampled.



GOLDEN SANDS OVERVIEW

Plume Events

Early in the PIC project, multiple “plume events” were observed in Golden Sands Slough. Though increasingly rare, Environmental Health staff learned of a potential discharge when a plume of “milky” water with suds or bubbles appeared in the slough around September 20, 2017. On September 21 Environmental Health staff took water samples “upstream,” “downstream,” and from within the plume itself. High bacterial counts (284 fecal CFU/100 ml) measured from within the plume, coupled with its appearance, gives a good indication that this may have been an illicit discharge of sewage or greywater. This event highlights the importance of conforming waste disposal methods. Greywater requires the same treatment as “black” water—wash basins, showers, and laundry appliances all require connection to an approved sewage treatment system and should never discharge onto the ground or into waterways.



MEADOWBROOK (DUNGENESS) SLOUGH OVERVIEW

Highlights

- “Segmented sampling” confirmed six “hot spots” in the slough by July 2017
- Slough walk in May 2017 did not uncover any obvious direct discharges to sample
- Dye testing of septic systems immediately adjacent to slough August, September 2017
- One “leaky” septic uncovered through dye testing
- Awaiting three more dye test results from laboratory
- Septic inspection compliance begun in neighborhood



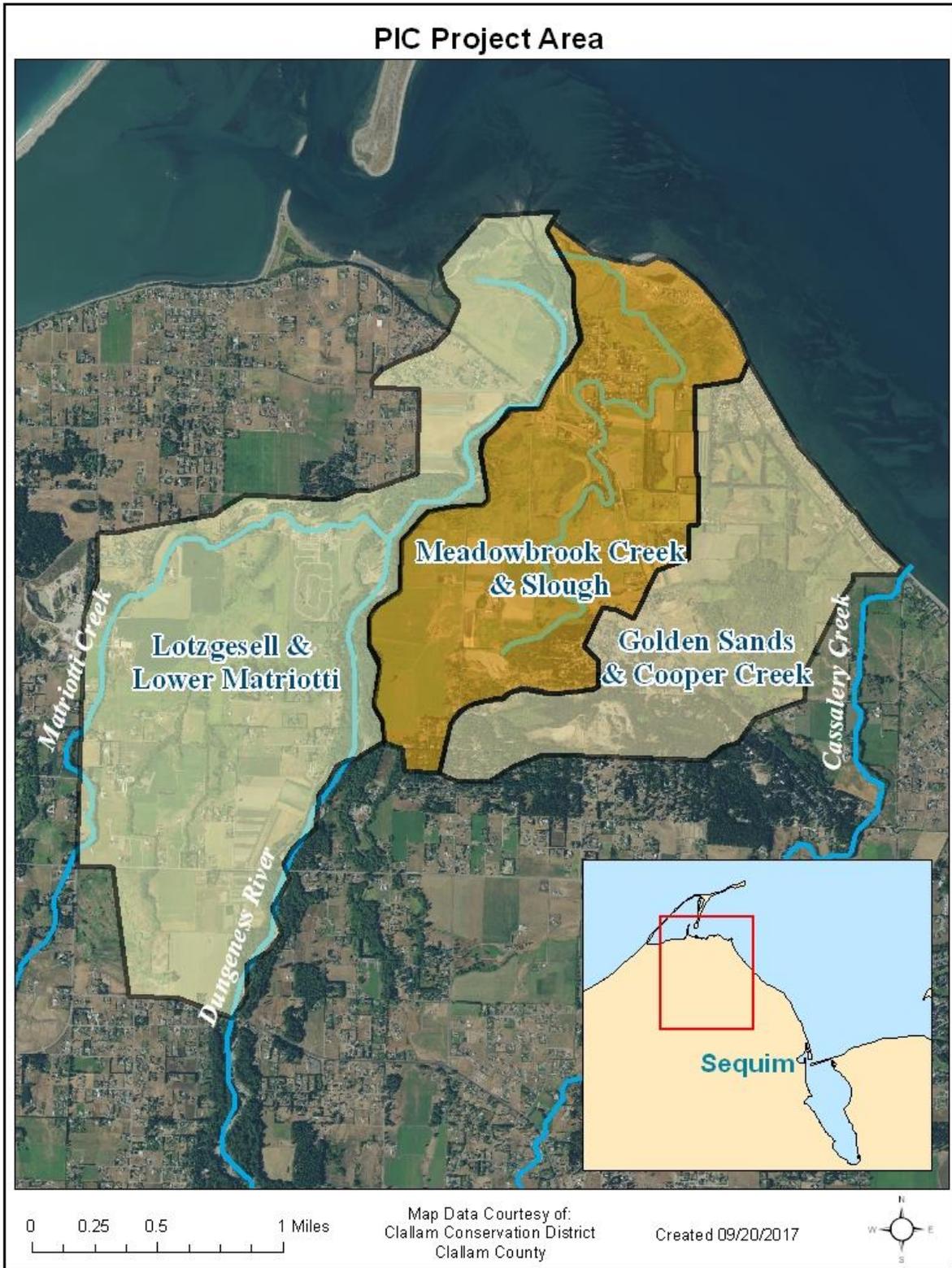
BY THE NUMBERS

- 6 “hot spots” confirmed
- 17 properties assessed
- 13 site investigations
- 6 households dye tested

SEPTIC INSPECTION COMPLIANCE TIMELINE

- 17 friendly letters
- 8 timeline started
- 6 notices of violation
- 4 administrative penalties accruing

EXPANDED PIC PROGRAM OVERVIEW



EXPANDED PIC PROGRAM **OVERVIEW**

Expanded PIC Program

- State DOH grant funded from EPA's National Estuary Program
- April 2017 through March 2019
- General boundaries of project area selected
- Initial segmented sampling sites selected in Matriotti Creek
- Provisional permission to access some sites
- QAPP needed before collecting environmental data
- Much pollution correction and follow-up remains in pilot project area



Success Story in Golden Sands

THE BIG PICTURE

