

Samish sampling this week included Storm Team on Sunday, June 17 (Thanks Pete and Susan) in response to a rainstorm and river rise; and Skagit County personnel on June 18 (second round of rain); June 19 (ambient), and June 20 (just in case). Results below. Recall that the loading criteria for Samish Bay shellfish bed closures is 4.7 trillion colonies per day.

The river rise on June 17 resulted in a shellfish bed closure which was confirmed by the Storm Team results and extended by the Skagit County samples on June 18. June 19 samples were below the closure criteria and resulted in the bay reopening on June 20. June 20 samples were far below loading criteria.

Once again we have a late spring rain event with high fecal counts and high loading, resulting in a polluted river and closed shellfish beds. Clearly whatever conservation practices are being implemented in the basin are insufficient for these spring rain events. Skagit County Health continues to work with septic tank owners, and the number of failing systems is low and falling. Migratory waterfowl left months ago. It would appear that conservation practices designed to prevent livestock manure runoff are either not being implemented or are insufficient for the heavy spring rains we have experienced the last few years. I ask that everybody in the Samish Basin examine their land use practices and contact the Skagit Conservation District or Skagit County Public Works/Public Health if they think their property may be contributing to the fecal coliform pollution, whether from septic system failure, livestock manure, pet waste, or any other source of fecal material. We will not get this problem fixed until everyone steps up. A polluted river does not belong in Skagit County.

Sunday, June 17 (Storm Team) River at 340 cfs and rising, rainfall 0.52"

Site Number	Site No.	Result	Duplicate	Samish River loading (trillions per day)
Samish River at Thomas Rd 0730	32	2200	2500	20

Monday, June 18 (Skagit County) River at 429 cfs and cresting, rainfall = 0.42"

Site Number	Site No.	Result	Duplicate	Samish River loading (trillions per day)
Samish River at Thomas Rd 0825	32	1700	1600	17
Samish River at Thomas Rd 0925	32	1600	1600	17
Bob Smith Creek at WDFW access	BSCreek	3500		

Tuesday, June 19 (Skagit County) River at 298 cfs and falling, rainfall = 0.05"

Site Number	Site No.	Result	Duplicate	Samish River loading (trillions per day)
Samish River at Hwy 9	11	23	49	
Samish River at upper Prairie Rd	SAM3PR	Not sampled		

Samish River above Parsons Creek	SAMPAR	23		
Parsons Creek at mouth	PAR	33		
Samish River at Double Creek Ln	SAMDCL	Not sampled		
Skarrup Creek at Double Creek Ln	SKAR	350		
Samish River at 1st Prairie Rd	SAM1PR	Not sampled		
Samish River at Grip Road	SAMGRIP	Not sampled		
Swede Creek at Grip Rd	8	110		
Samish River at F&S Grade Rd	SAMFS	79		
Weir Creek Prairie Rd	WCPR	Not sampled		
Friday Creek at Prairie Rd	6	240	130	
Samish River at Hwy 99	SAMH99	Not sampled		
Bob Smith Creek at Hwy 99	BSCreek	Not sampled		
Thomas Creek at F&S Grade Rd	4	540		
Willard Creek at F&S	WILL	Not sampled		
Thomas Creek at Hwy 99	3	540		
Samish River at Chuckanut Drive	SAMCD	Not sampled		
Samish River at Thomas Rd 1430	32A	240	170	1.5
Alice Bay Pump Station	33	240		

Edison Slough at School	36	130	
Edison Pump Station	37	1600	
North Edison Pump Station	38	9200	
Colony Creek	39	170	

Wednesday, June 20 (Skagit County)	River at 249 cfs and falling, rainfall = 0.00"			
<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site No.</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Duplicate</b>	<b>Samish River loading (trillions per day)</b>
Samish River at Thomas Rd 0825	32	49	130	0.055