

Skagit County conducted routine ambient water quality monitoring in the Samish Basin on Thursday, June 23. Results are below. This set of sample sites represents the new list of ambient stations with the addition of four sites at Ecology's request – The Samish River above Parsons Creek, Parsons Creek, Skarrup Creek, and the Samish River at F&S Grade Road. These sites had been part of our normal storm sampling regimen, but have been added to the ambient sampling to help determine whether progress is being made in reducing Samish River fecal coliform pollution.

6/23/2011

<b>Location</b>	<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Fecal Coliform, cfu/100 mL</b>	<b>Duplicate</b>
Samish River at Hwy 9	11	11	
Parsons Creek at mouth	PAR	110	
Samish River above Parsons Creek	SAMPAR	130	
Skarrup Creek at Double Creek Ln	SKAR	220	
Swede Creek at Grip Rd	8	350	
Samish River at F&S Grade Rd	SAMFS	79	
Friday Creek at Prairie Rd	6	49	
Thomas Creek at F&S Grade Rd	4	170	
Thomas Creek at Hwy 99	3	79	130
Samish River at Thomas Rd	32	33	79
Alice Bay Pump Station	33	49	
Edison Slough at School	36	110	
Edison Pump Station	37	170	
North Edison Pump Station	38	170	
Colony Creek at Colony Road	39	110	

These samples were taken on a slowly declining hydrograph with no precipitation in the 48-h preceding sampling. When was the last time we could say that?

Coliform counts were moderate in the middle Samish River and tributaries, declining further downstream. The highest-count tributary, Swede Creek, is in our current focus area for letters and property inspections. Pump stations also showed moderate results.