

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

August 6, 2024

WHIDBEY/HYBRID MEETING

PRESENT: Jill Lipoti, Chair, Kelly Webb, Vice Chair, Scott Chase, Barbara Bennett, Paul Ben McElwain, Greg Easton, Patrick Havel, Kelly Webb, Ken Collins, Andi Kopit, Ex-officio, Kelly Zupich, MRC staff

ABSENT: Note if notified or un-notified – Melanie Bacon, un-notified, Jennifer Schmitz, notified

VISITORS: James Watson, WICD, Jessica Reed, Watershed Planner, Carlie Miller, Surface Water Quality, Renee Zavas-Silva, Surface Water Quality, Jessica Owens, NWSC, Clea Barenburg, Salmon Recovery, Heather Teegarden, WSU Extension, Hiller West, Public

CALL TO ORDER: Jill called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** June 4, 2024, minutes approved - July 2, 2024, minutes approved

TRIBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Meredith Penny notified us that the funding they were seeking for the Saratoga Creek fish passage project did not work out. They plan to re-apply to another grant this fall.

IC SURFACE WATER QUALITY ANNUAL UPDATE: Carlie Miller

- Review of water year 2023, October 2022 - September 2023
- For more details see the Power Point presentation at the end of the meeting minutes.

COMP PLAN UPDATE:

- The subcommittee team is working on finalizing the Transportation element. The Climate element is the last of the Comprehensive Plan elements to provide comments on.

NWSC UPDATES:

- The Senate bill to reauthorize the NWSI has passed out of the Senate Committee.
- Chris Kelly (Jefferson MRC) – Alternatives to kelp surveys using satellite imagery.
- Skagit MRC has 50 people signed up to turn in their vessels.

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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DEI UPDATES:

- We plan to introduce more Indigenous cultural items to further educate our committee members about the ongoing work of the tribes.
- The DEI subcommittee will work to draft an updated Tribal Acknowledgement that brings more action into the wording.

COORDINATOR'S UPDATES

- Jeff Wheeler a new MRC candidate from Camano has been approved by the committee. We will then send on our recommendation to the Board of Island County Commissioners.

Meeting Adjourned 6:00pm

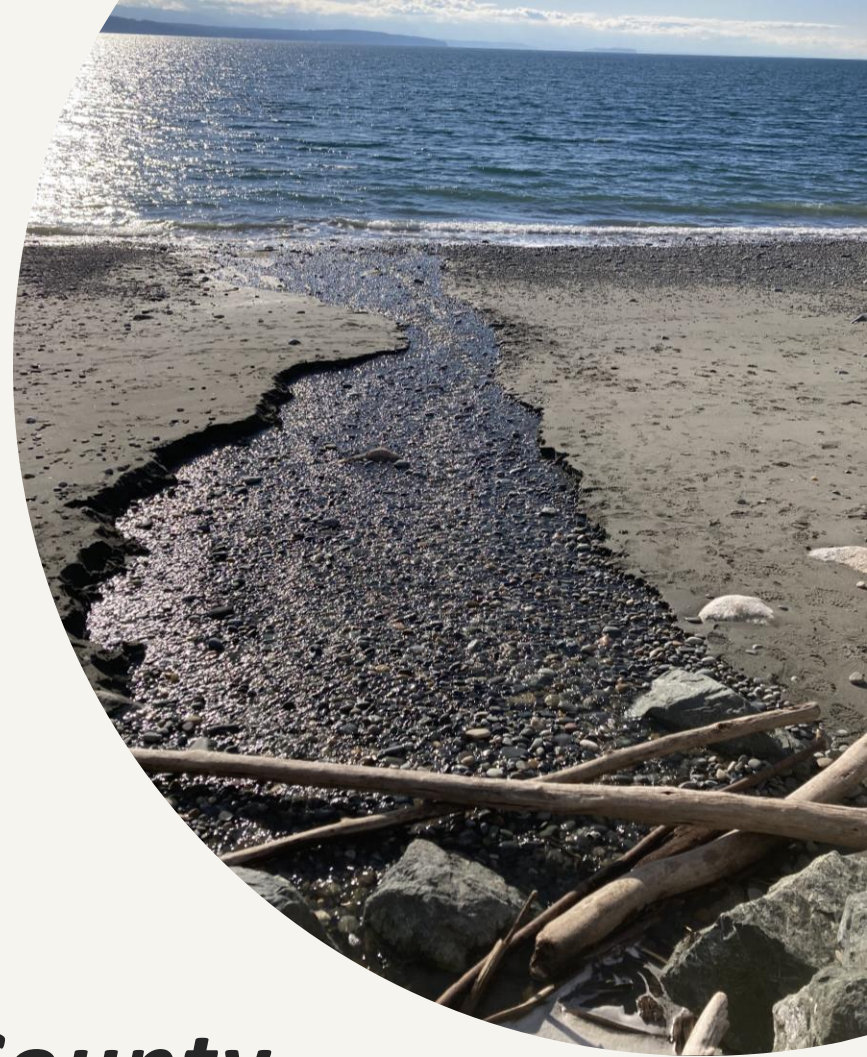
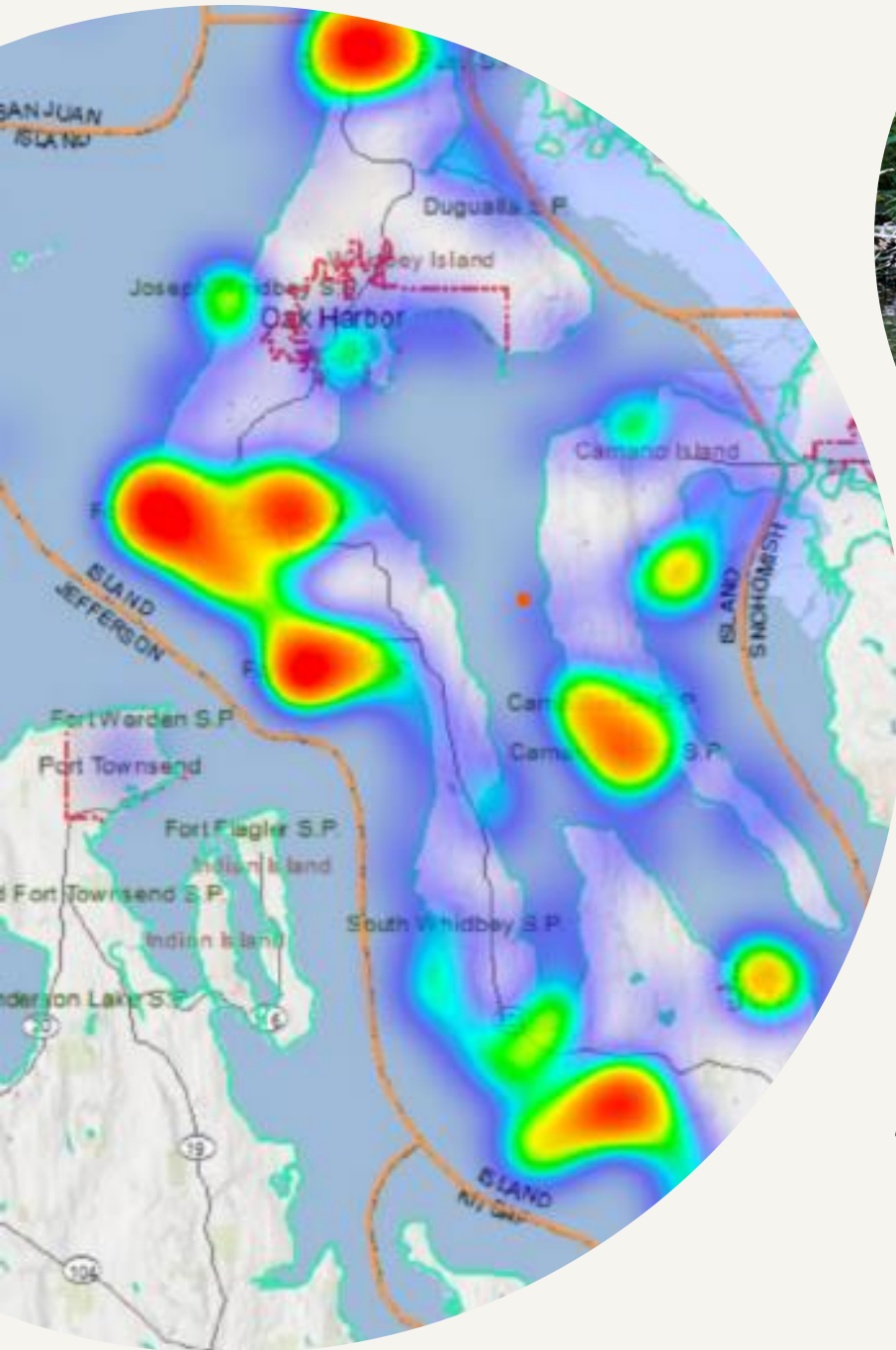


*Island County
Surface Water Quality
Monitoring Program*

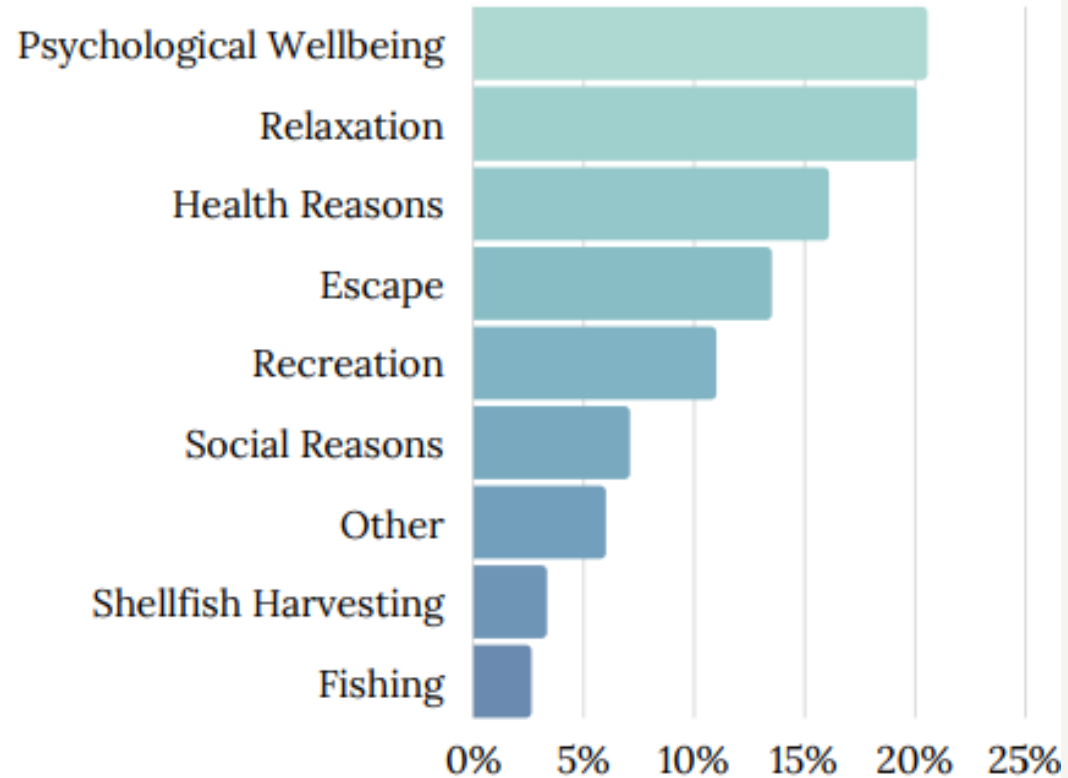
*2022-2023
Annual Report*

Island County Natural Resources





What do Island County residents value?



RESIDENTS VISIT SHORELINES FOR A RANGE OF REASONS

How can we ensure people have access to healthy and productive shorelines?

Regular and Consistent Surface Water Quality Monitoring





Data Collection

- Carlie Miller, Natural Resource Specialist IC SWQ
- Sage Ince, Natural Resource Specialist has since moved to Jefferson County and Renee Zavas Silva has been hired!
- Jessica Reed, Natural Resource Specialist, Watershed Planner

Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program Highlights

**37/
200**

Watersheds monitored
across Island County,
up 150% from 2022



MORE THAN

4000

Staff hours logged



OVER

450

Water samples
analyzed



OVER

50

Source ID
samples analyzed



MORE THAN

10

Source ID investigations referred
to Adaptive Management



*Surface Water
Quality
Monitoring
Program
(SWQMP)
components:*

**Priority Watersheds, Core and
Rotational Site Sampling**

**Source Identification (SID)
Sampling**

Reconnaissance Sampling

Effectiveness Sampling

*Surface Water
Quality
Monitoring
Program
(SWQMP)
components:*

**Priority Watersheds, Core and
Rotational Site Sampling**

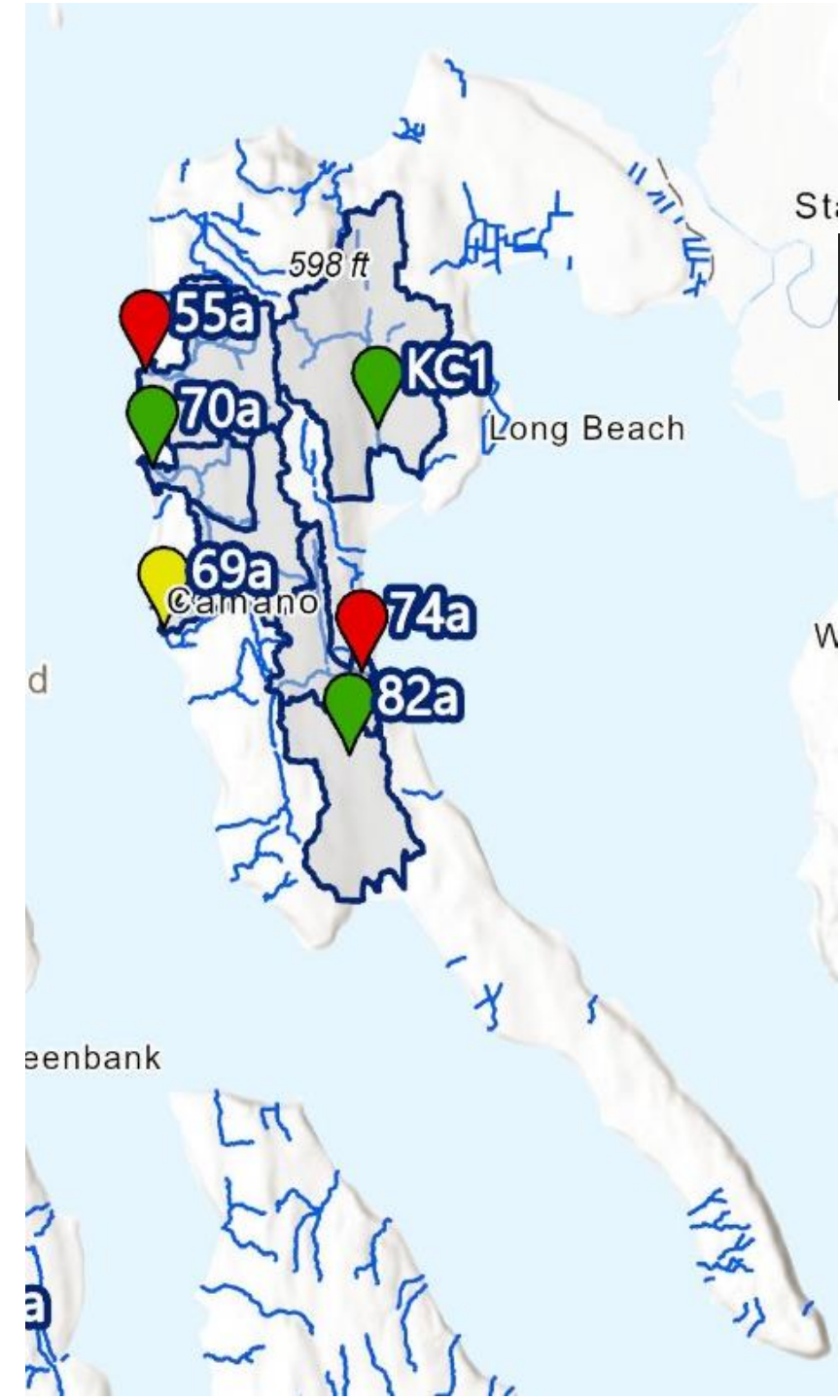
**Source Identification (SID)
Sampling**

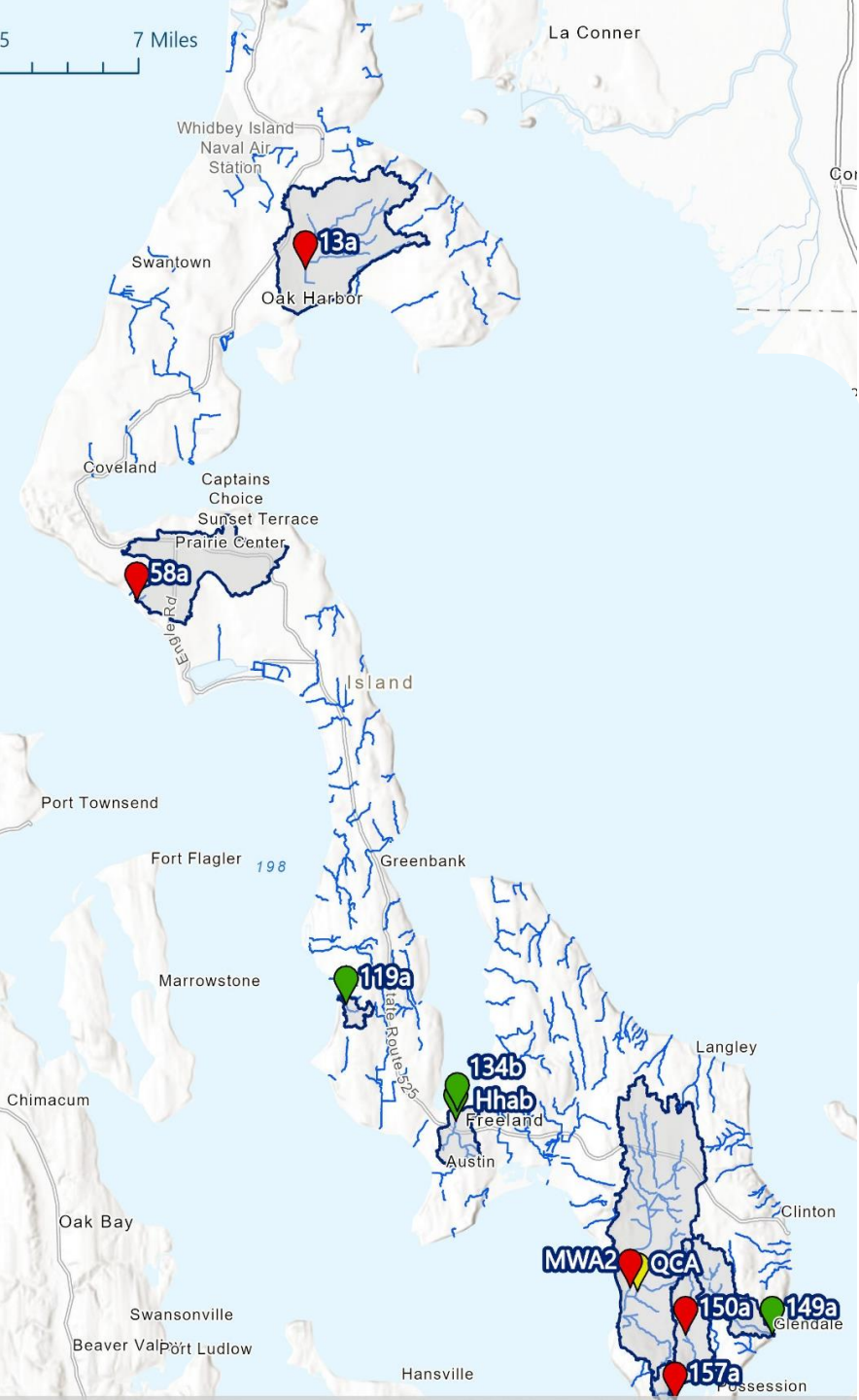
Reconnaissance Sampling

Effectiveness Sampling

2023 Priority Watersheds - Camano Island

Camano Island	
Core	Rotational
55a - Carp Creek 69a - Chapman Creek 74a - Cavalero Creek KC1 - Kristoferson Creek	82a - Bonnie Ln 70a - Sunset W Camano





2023 Priority Watersheds - Whidbey Island

Whidbey Island

Core

- 13a - Crescent Creek
- 58a - Ebey's Reserve
- 134a - Freeland Park
- Hhab – East Freeland Marsh
- MWA2 - Maxwellton Creek
- 157a - Scatchet Creek
- 149a - Glendale Creek

Rotational

- 119a - South Whidbey State Park
- 150a - Cultus Creek
- QCA - Quade Creek

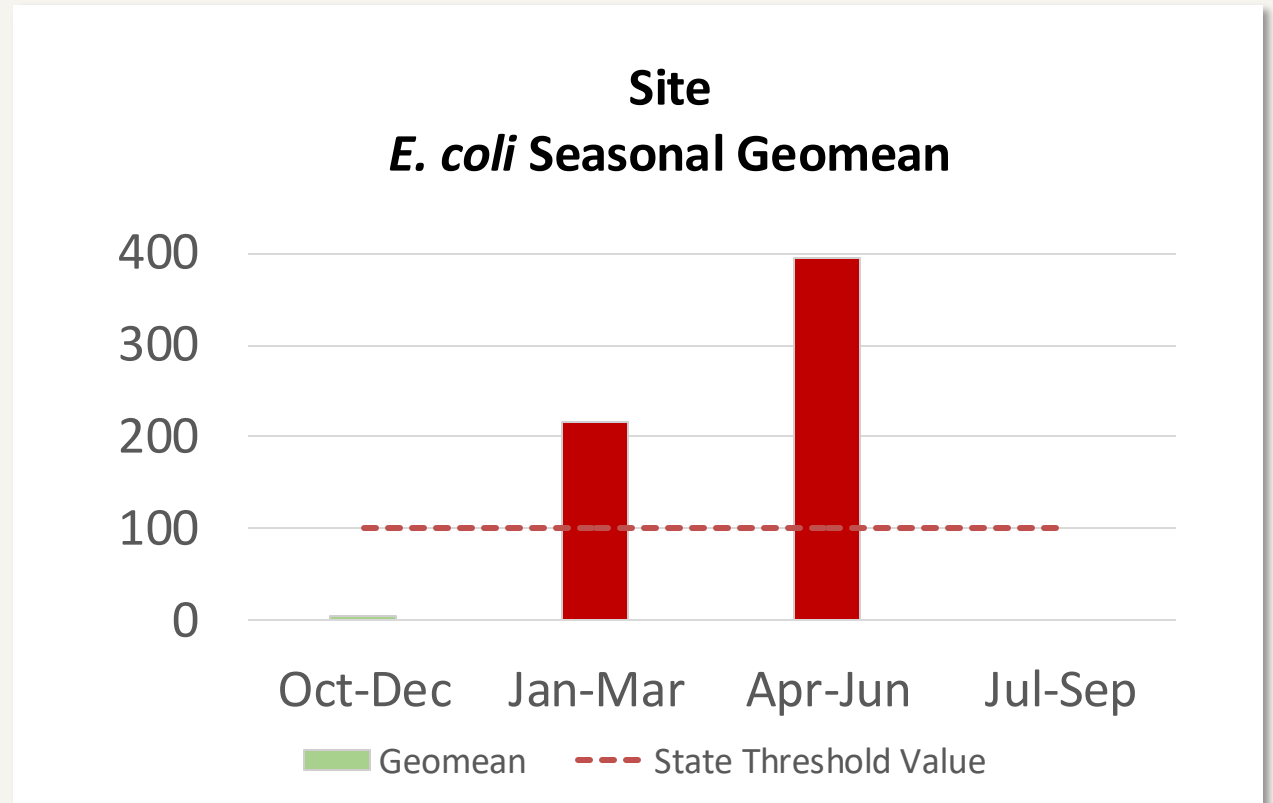
Water
Quality
Standards
for Surface
Waters of
the State as
per Chapter
173-201A
WAC

Salmonid spawning, rearing and migration	Temperature	7-day average of the daily maximum temperatures no greater than 17.5°C (63.5°F)
	Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	8.0 mg/L minimum*
	pH	Between 6.5 and 8.5
	Turbidity	Shall not exceed 5 NTU over background when background turbidity is 50 NTU or less
Primary Contact Recreation	<i>E. Coli</i> (Most Probable Number MPN)	<i>E. coli</i> organism levels within an averaging period must not exceed a geometric mean value of 100 CFU or MPN per 100 mL, with not more than 10 percent of all samples (or any single sample when less than ten sample points exist) obtained within the averaging period exceeding 320 CFU or MPN per 100 mL.

How was Stream Health Defined?

Streams were evaluated based on Part 1 and Part 2 of the state standard for *E. coli*:

- Averaging Period
Geomeans < 100 MPN/100 mL
- Less than 10 percent of samples > 320



Water Quality Status of Island County Streams (2023)



7/16 Met the Water Quality Standard

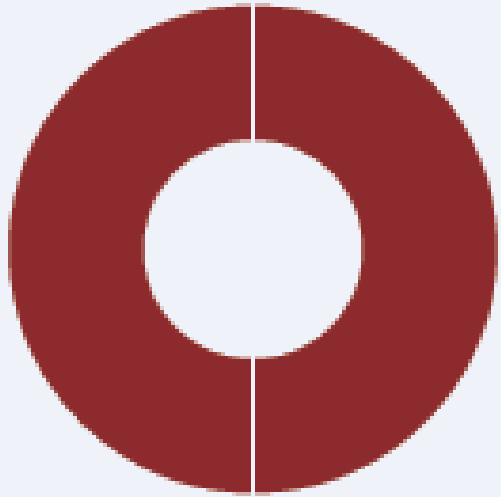


2/16 Met one of the Water Quality Standards



7/16 Failed the Water Quality Standard

North Whidbey Area Results



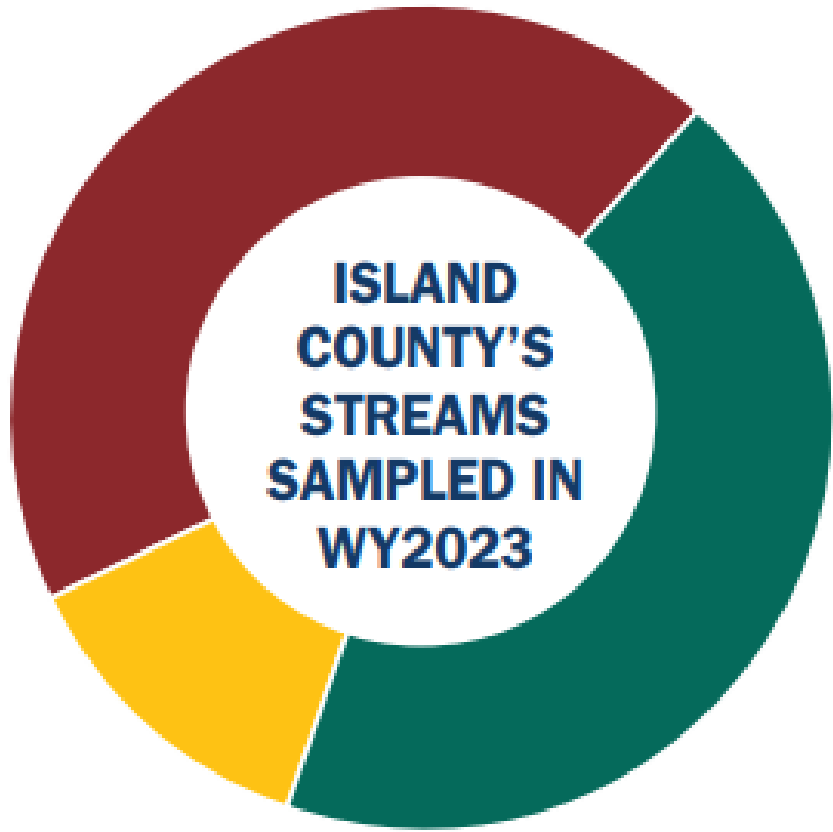
■ Crescent Creek
■ Ebey's Landing

■ Poor

■ Moderate

■ Good

Water Quality Status of Island County Streams (2023)



7/16 Met the Water Quality Standard



2/16 Met one of the Water Quality Standards



7/16 Failed the Water Quality Standard

South Whidbey Area Results



- South Whidbey State Park
- Freeland Park
- E Freeland Park
- Cultus Creek
- Glendale Creek
- Scatchet Creek
- Maxwelton Creek
- Quade Creek




Poor

Moderate

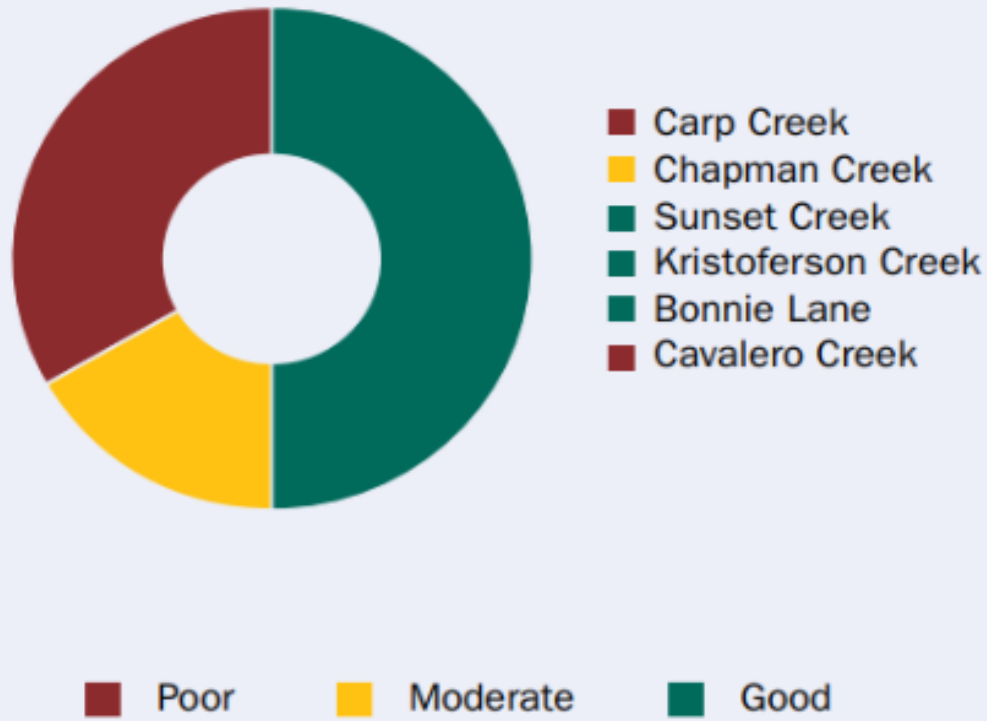
Good

Water Quality Status of Island County Streams (2023)

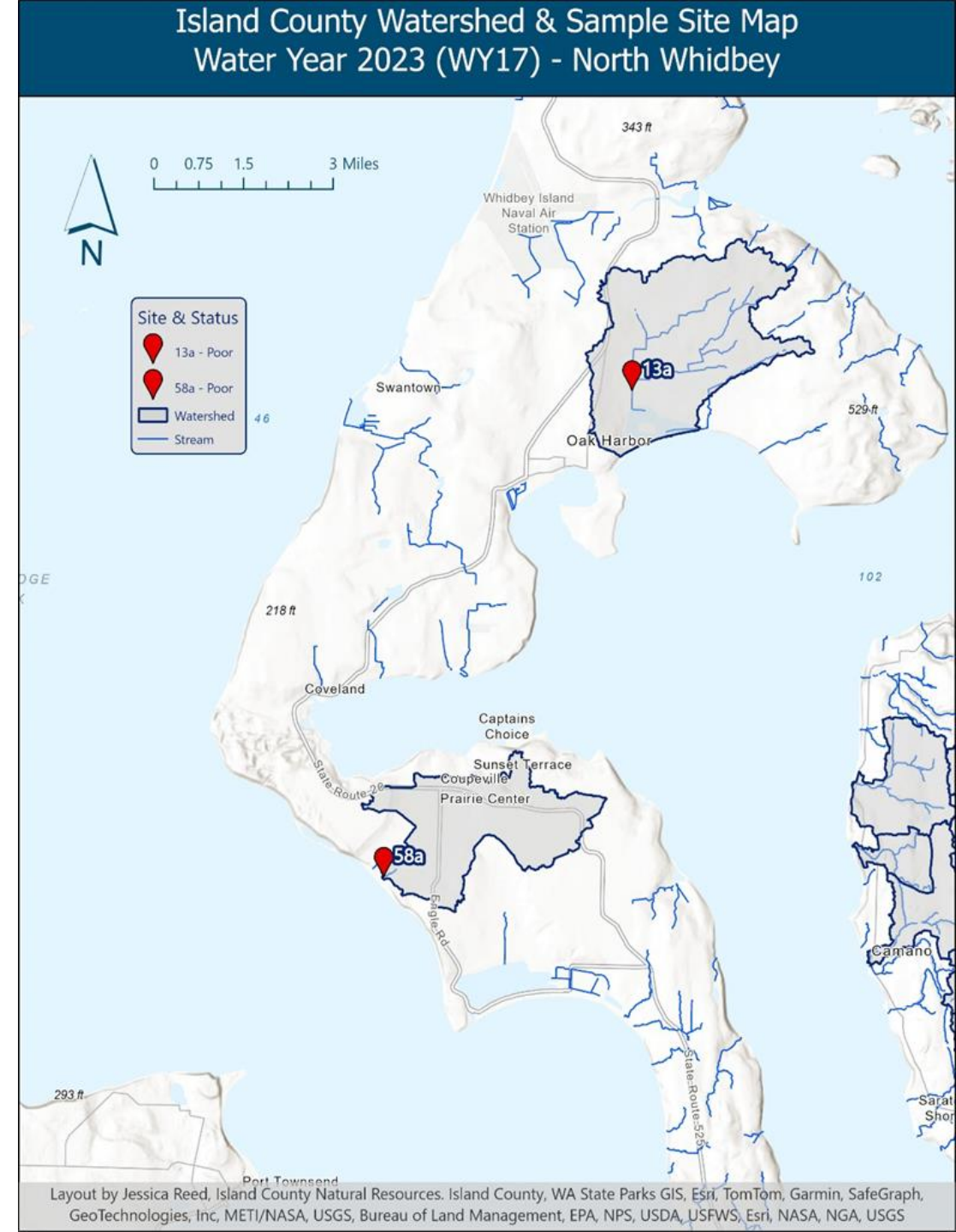


-  **7/16 Met** the Water Quality Standard
-  **2/16 Met one** of the Water Quality Standards
-  **7/16 Failed** the Water Quality Standard

Camano Island Results



WY2023 North Whidbey Results



Crescent Creek

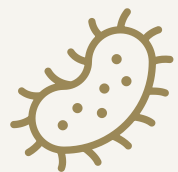


Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023

Crescent Creek Summary Statistics *Cells filled with light green meet state standards

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Poor	Moderate	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	FC 430	FC 155	FC 49	502	119	395	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	10	13	14	50	0	33	<10

** WY2018-WY2020, WQI used to evaluate water quality status, WY2021-WY2023 *E. coli* data used **



E. coli

33% of samples exceeded 320
(5 out of 15 samples)

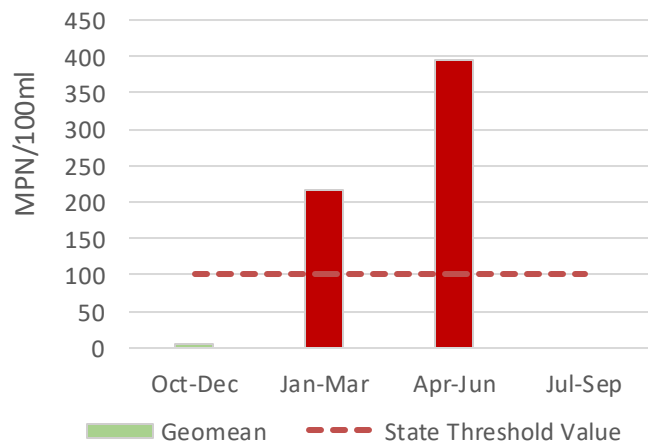
Crescent Creek



Flow

Stream Flow: 8 out of 12 months
Discharge Max: 11 cfs, Min: Dry

Crescent Creek E. coli Seasonal Geomean

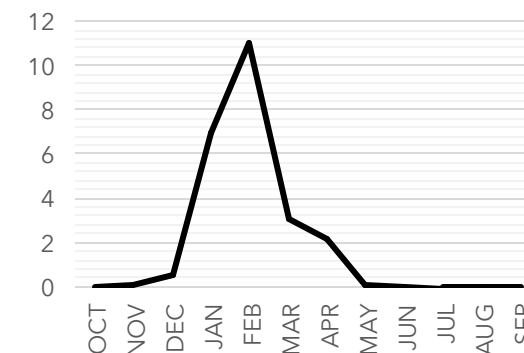


Levels high Jan - June; site failed both parts of the state standard.



Photo: Northwest Treaty Tribes

Crescent Creek Monthly Discharge (cfs)



Ebey's Landing



Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023



Ebey's Landing Summary Statistics *Cells filled with light green meet state standards

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	Poor	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	FC 130	FC 702	FC 190	57	263	821	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	24	18	38	0	39	43	<10

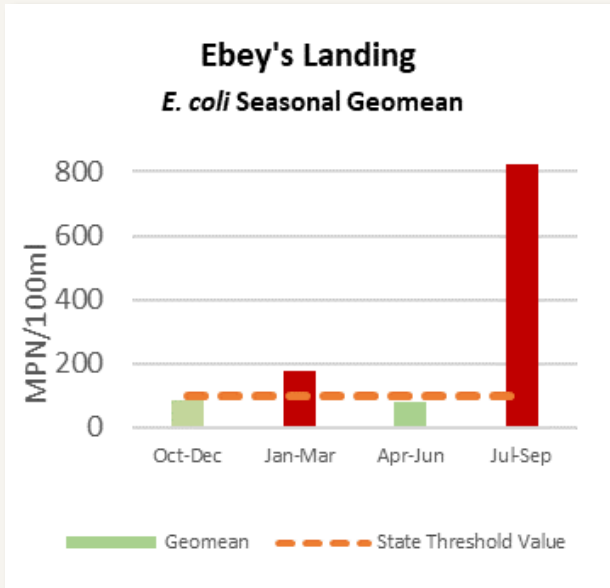
** WY2018-WY2021, WQI used to evaluate water quality status, WY2022-WY2023 only *E. coli* data used **

Ebey's Landing

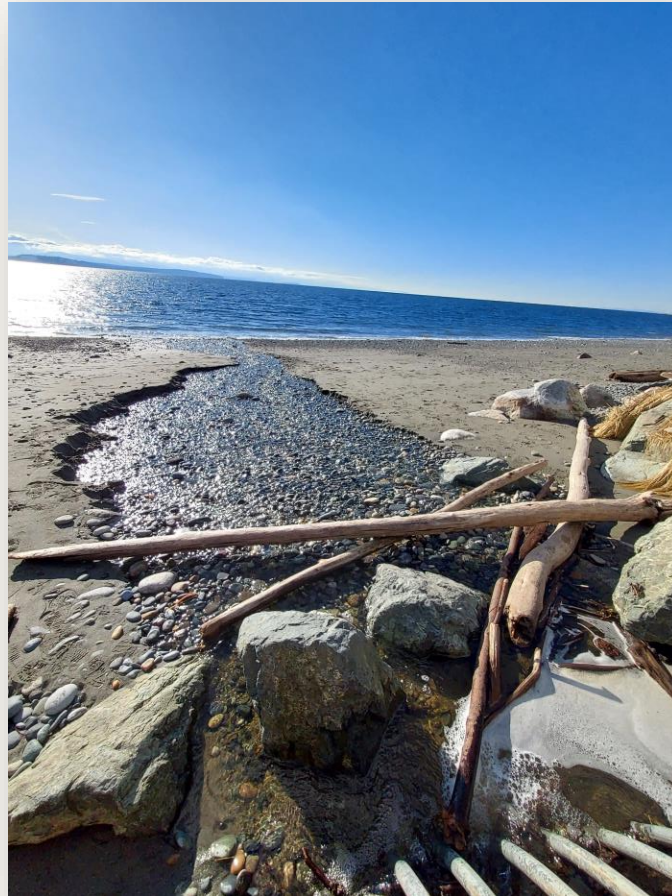


E. coli

43% of samples exceeded
320
(10 of 23 samples)

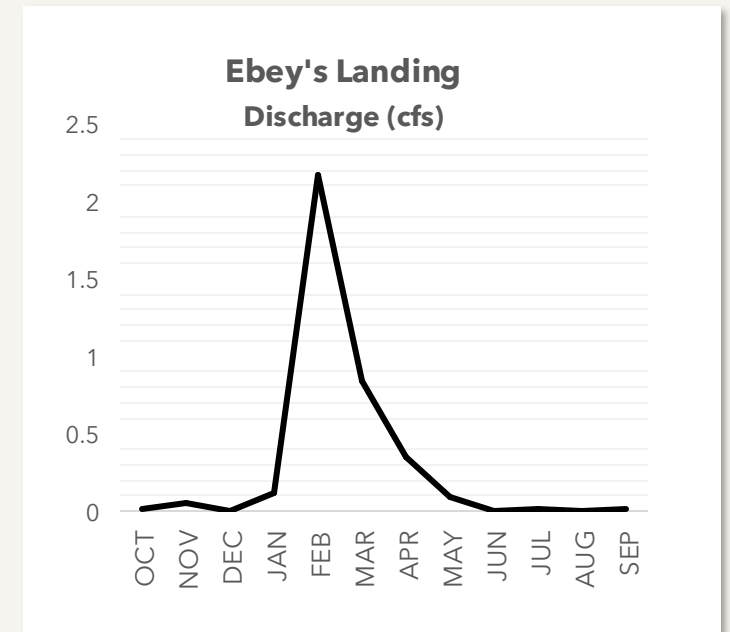


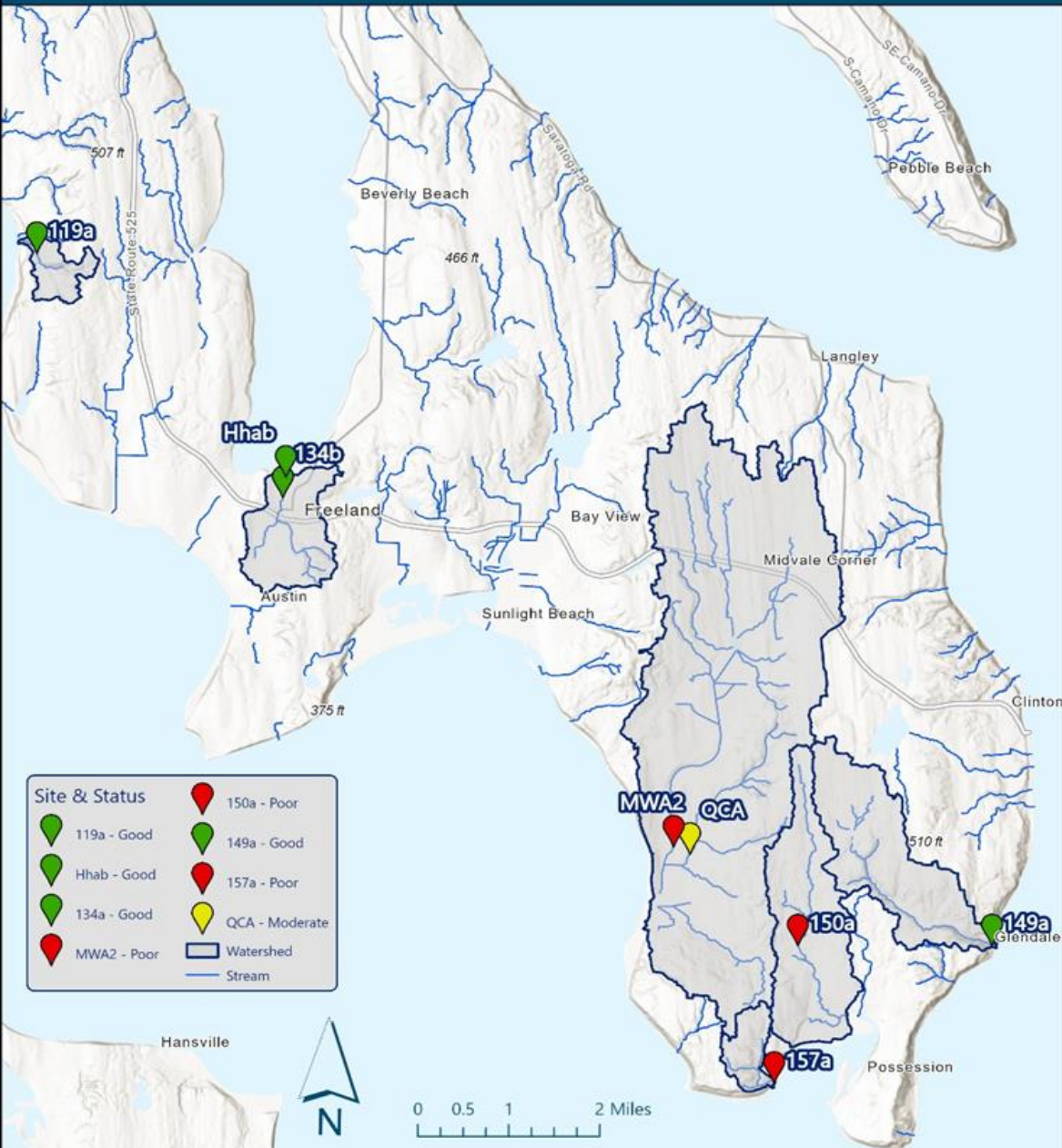
Levels high Jan - Mar and Jul - Sep;
site failed both parts of state
standard.



Flow

Stream Flow: Year-round
Discharge Max: 2.2 cfs, Min: 0.01





WY2023 South Whidbey Results

Cultus Creek

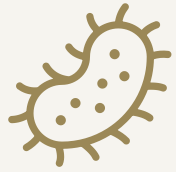


Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	NA	NA	Moderate	NA	NA	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	NA	NA	FC 855	NA	NA	761	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	NA	NA	25	NA	NA	50	<10

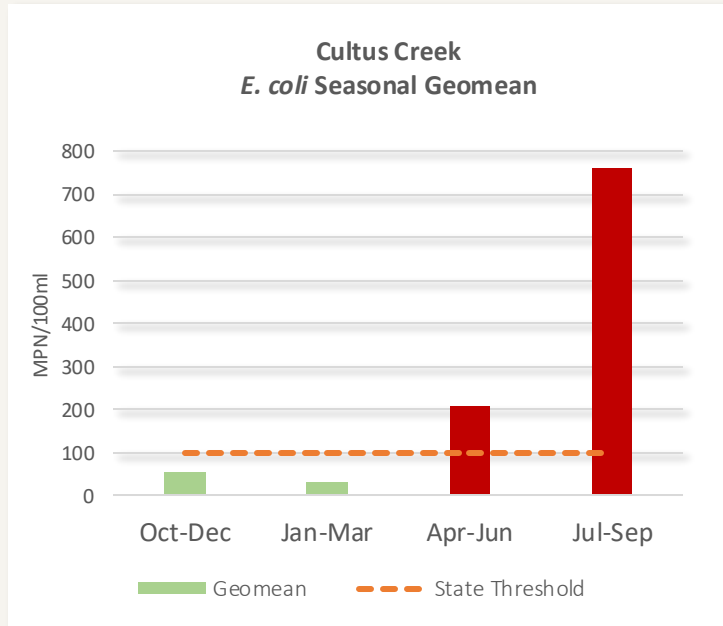
** WY2018-WY2021, WQI used to evaluate water quality status, WY2022-WY2023 only E. coli data used **





E. coli

50% of samples exceeded 320
(12 of 24 samples)



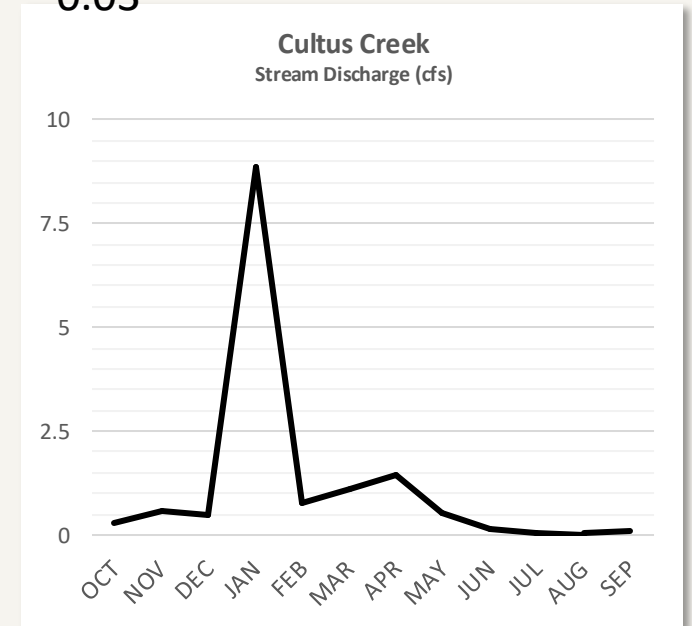
High hits Apr - Sep. Failed Part 1 and 2 of standard.

Cultus Creek



Flow

Stream flow: Year-round
Discharge: Max 8.87 cfs, Min: 0.03



Maxwelton Creek

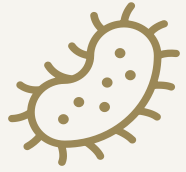


Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023



Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / E. coli	FC 183	FC 225	FC 150	151	461	463	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	4	7	8	13	33	46	<10

** WY2018-WY2021, WQI used to evaluate water quality status, WY2022-WY2023 only E. coli data used **



E. coli

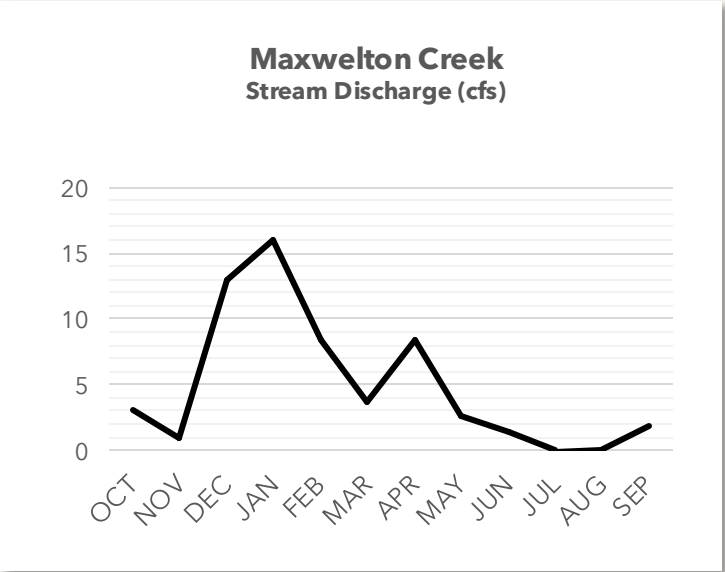
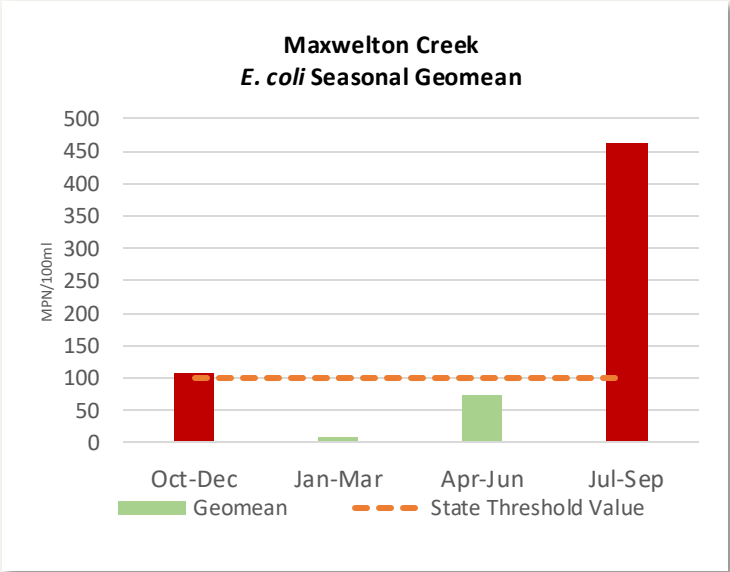
Maxwelton Creek



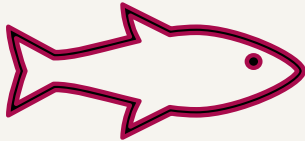
Flow

46% of samples exceeded 320
(12 of 26 samples)

Stream Flow: Year-round
Discharge: Max 8.87 cfs, Min: 0.03



Levels high Oct - Dec and Jul - Sep; site failed both parts of the standard.



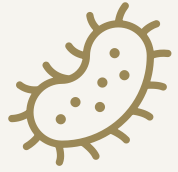
Scatchet Creek



Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	FC 364	FC 398	FC 553	205	245	321	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	32	33	36	7	6	19	<10





E. coli

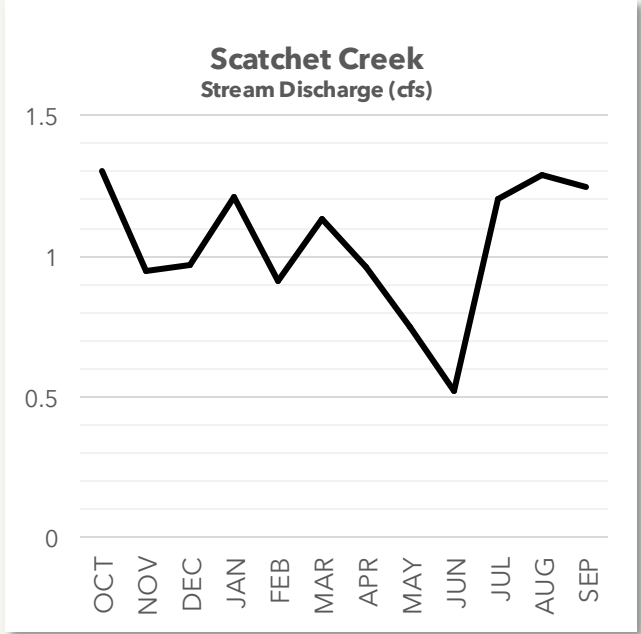
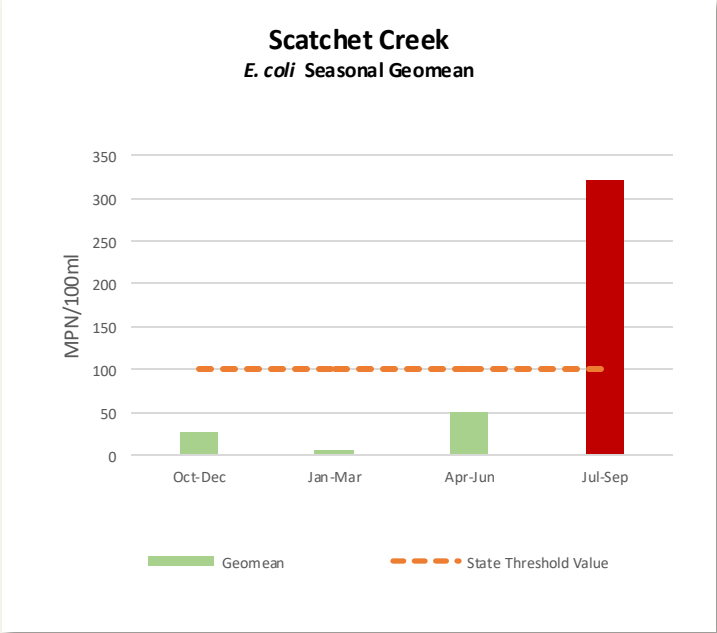
17% of samples exceeded 320 (3 out of 17 samples)

Scatchet Creek



Flow

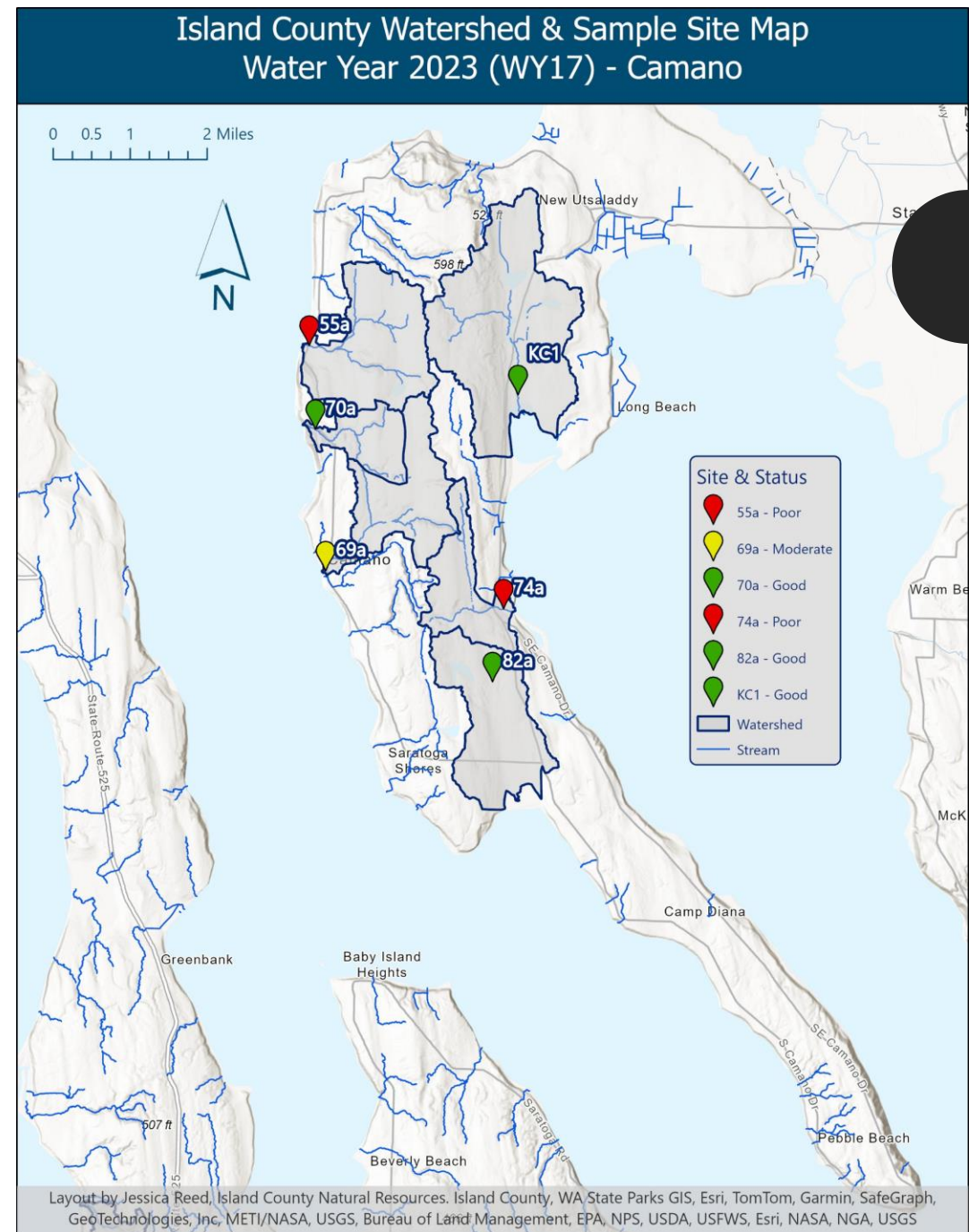
Stream flow: Year-round
Discharge: Max 1.3 cfs, Min: 0.52



Annual lower than WY2022, but High hits Jul - Sep. Failed Part 1 and 2 of standard.



WY2023 Camano Island Results



Carp Creek

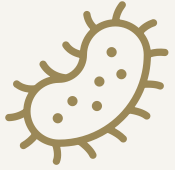


Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Moderate	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	FC 55	FC 210	FC 65	46	55	274	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	0	32	0	0	0	22	<10

* WY2018-WY2021, WQI used to evaluate water quality status, WY2022-WY2023 only E. coli data used **





E. coli

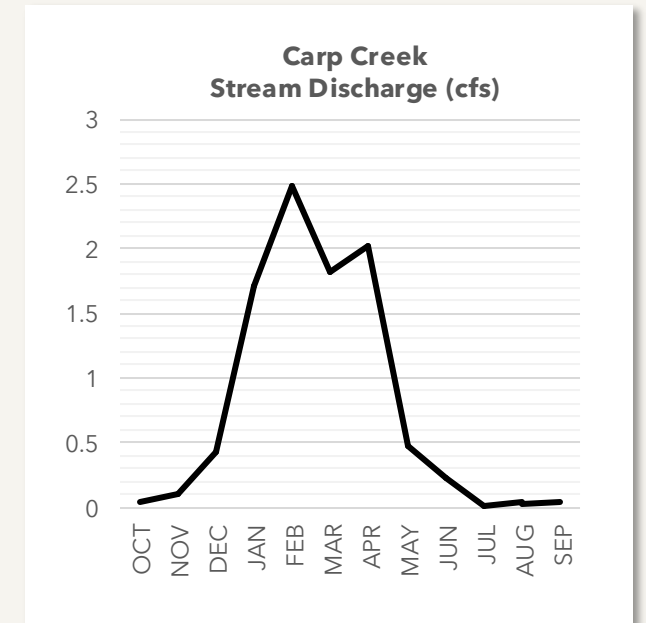
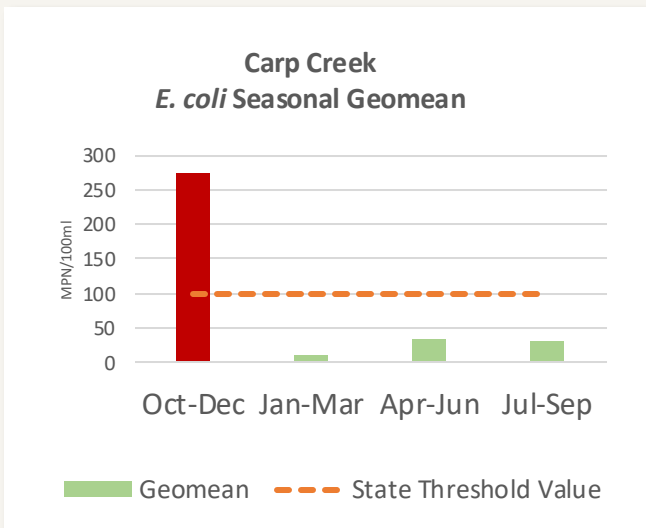
22% of samples exceeded 320 (4 out of 18 samples)

Carp Creek



Flow

Stream flow: Year-round
Discharge: Max 2.49 cfs, Min: 0.01



High hits during Oct-Dec. Failed Parts 1 and 2 of standard.



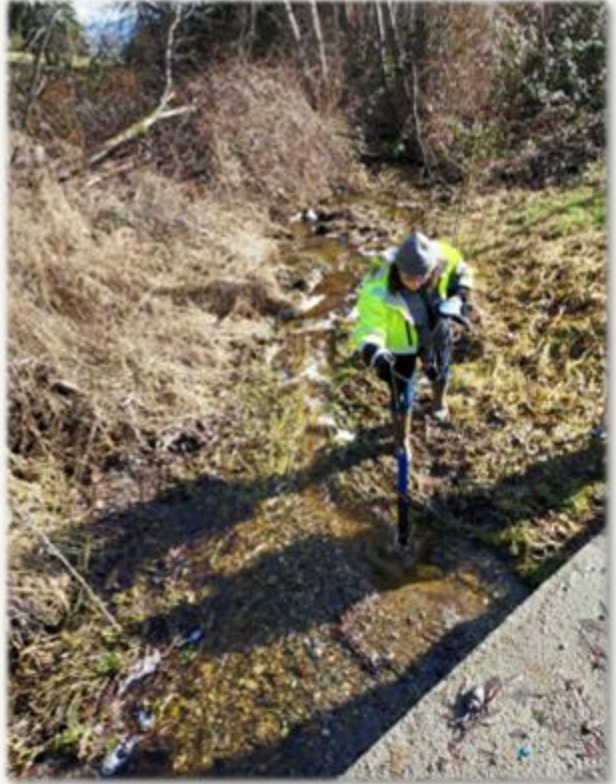
Cavalero Creek

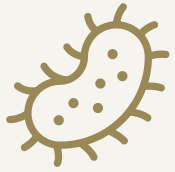


Water quality was **Poor** based on data collected in WY2023

Six Year Trends	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	State Standard
Water Quality Status	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Poor	
Pt 1: Max GM FC / <i>E. coli</i>	116	289	143	64	120	193	<100
Pt 2: % Exceedances	0	14	7	0	0	18	<10

** WY2018-WY2021, WQI used to determine water quality status, WY2022-WY2023 only E. coli data used **





E. coli

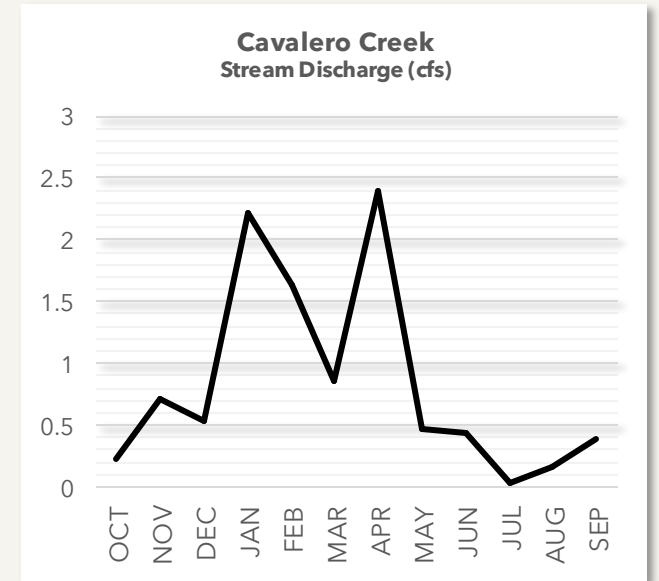
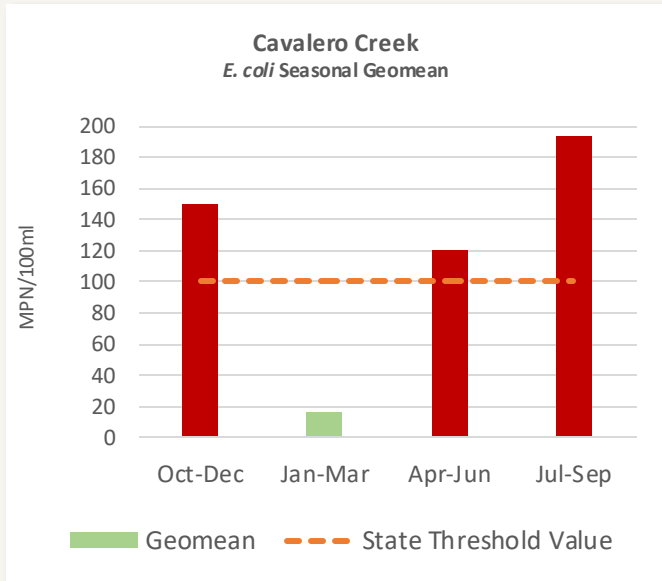
19% of samples exceeded 320 (5 out of 27 samples)

Cavalero Creek

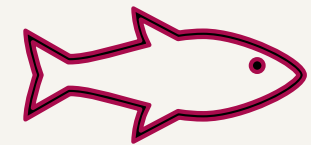


Flow

Stream flow: Year-round
Discharge: Max 2.39 cfs, Min: 0.03



High hits Oct – Dec and Apr – Sep.
Failed Parts 1 and 2 of standard.



*Surface Water
Quality
Monitoring
Program
(SWQMP)
components:*

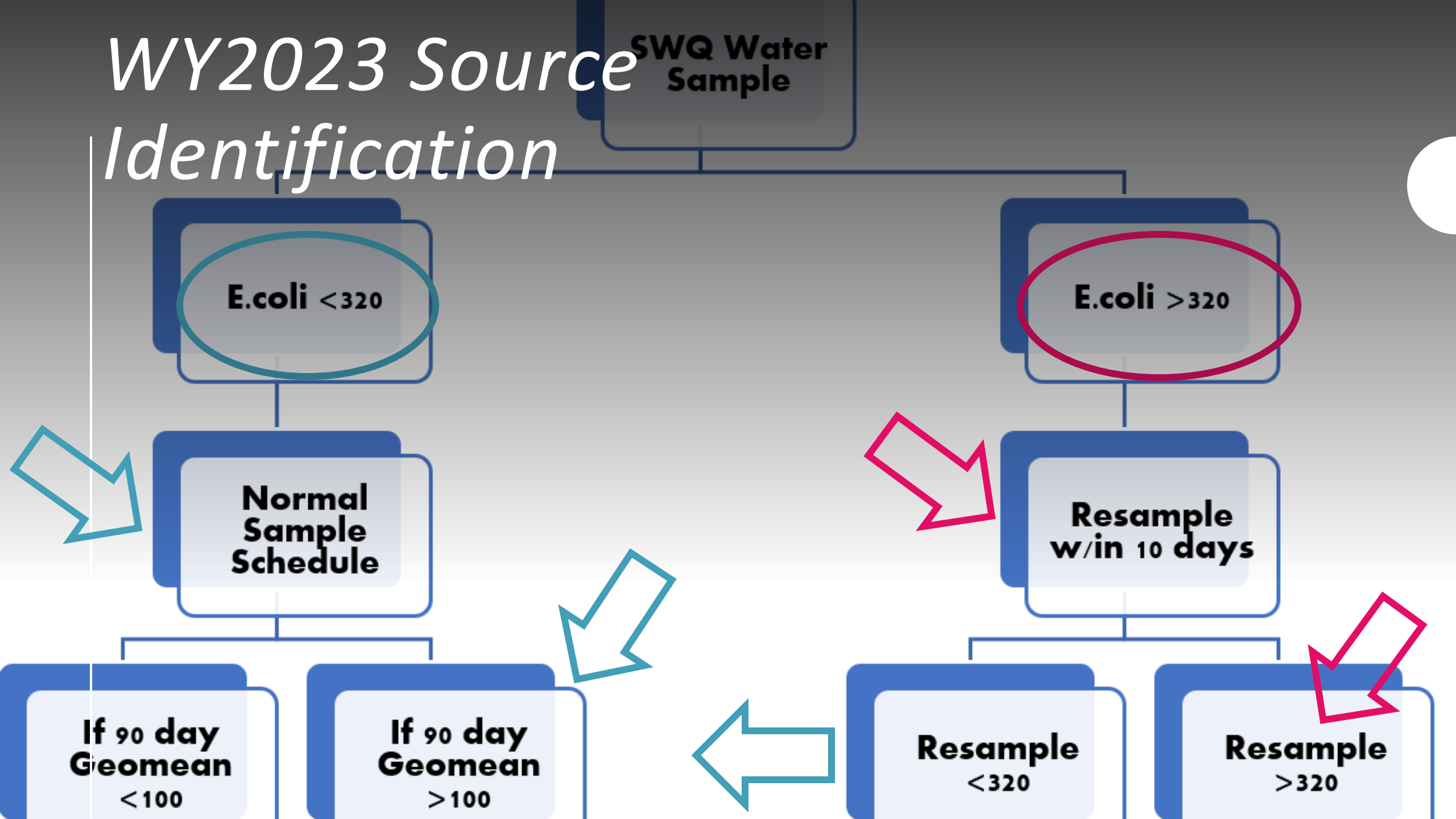
Priority Watersheds, Core and
Rotational Site Sampling

Source Identification (SID)
Sampling

Reconnaissance Sampling

Effectiveness Sampling

WY2023 Source Identification



Adaptive Management Action Team



PUBLIC HEALTH



PUBLIC WORKS



**PLANNING &
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**



**OUTSIDE
AGENCIES**

Source ID and AMAT Successes

- Strawberry Point
- Cultus Creek
- Maxwellton Creek
- Maple Grove



*Surface Water
Quality
Monitoring
Program
(SWQMP)
components:*

Priority Watersheds, Core and
Rotational Site Sampling

Source Identification (SID)
Sampling

Reconnaissance Sampling

Effectiveness Sampling



*WY2023 Reconnaissance
Sampling Activities*

*Surface Water
Quality
Monitoring
Program
(SWQMP)
components:*

Priority Watersheds, Core and
Rotational Site Sampling

Source Identification (SID)
Sampling

Reconnaissance Sampling

Effectiveness Sampling



Effectiveness monitoring plan

Continued focus on...

- Culvert replacements
- Salmon Restoration Efforts
- 13a - Crescent Creek
- KC1 - Kristoferson Creek
(upstream and downstream)
- 74a - Cavalero Creek
- 38a - Arrowhead Ave





Effectiveness monitoring plan

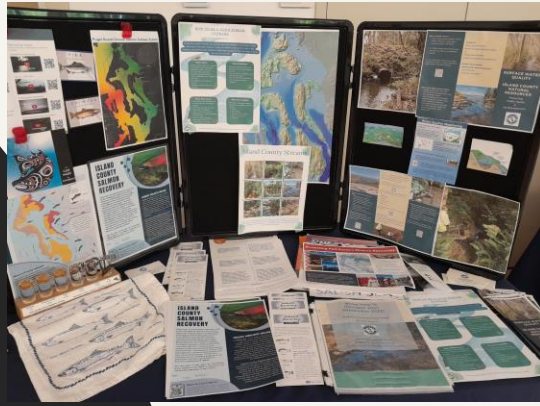
Future Plans

- Livingston Bay Estuary restoration
- Cavalero outfall
- Swantown restoration
- Race Road Salmon restoration
- Fish passage culverts
- Utsalady culvert replacements



WY2023 Education and Outreach Activities

Whidbey 101
Camano 101
Crescent Harbor Elementary
Whidbey Island Fair
Penn Cove Water Festival
Sno-Isle Library Nurture Nature
series



How can we ensure people have access to healthy and productive shorelines?



Requires Regular and Consistent Surface Water Quality Monitoring



Important Areas of Focus

**Continued SWQ
Goals**



For more information and details about surface water quality and our monitoring programs...

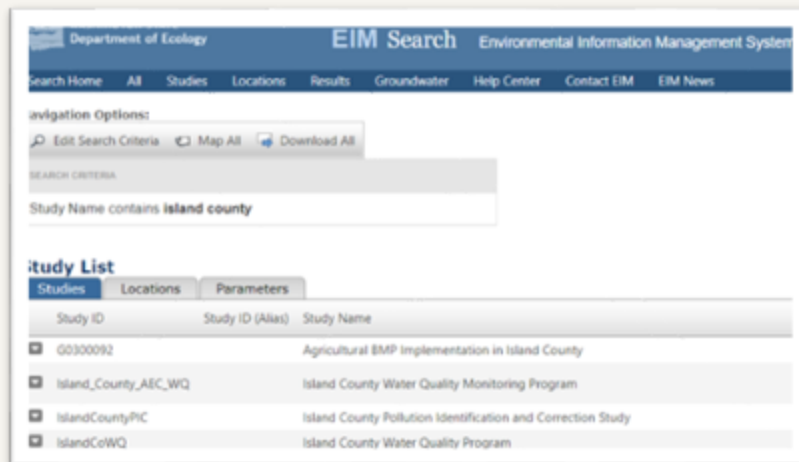
Island County ICGeo Maps



IC Surface Water Quality Report 2023



Washington State EIM Database



Department of Ecology EIM Search Environmental Information Management System

Search Home All Studies Locations Results Groundwater Help Center Contact EIM EIM News

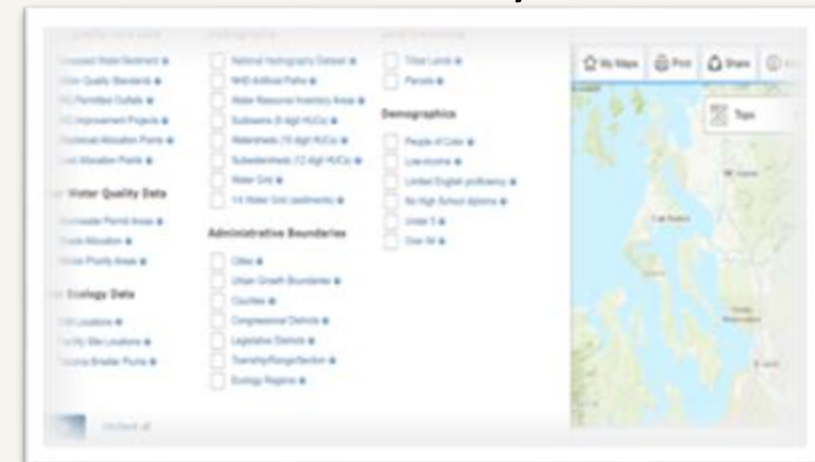
Investigation Options:
Edit Search Criteria Map All Download All

SEARCH CRITERIA
Study Name contains **island county**

Study List

Study ID	Study ID (Alias)	Study Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G0300092		Agricultural BMP Implementation in Island County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Island_County_AEC_WQ		Island County Water Quality Monitoring Program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IslandCountyPIC		Island County Pollution Identification and Correction Study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IslandCoWQ		Island County Water Quality Program

WA State Dept. of Ecology Water Quality Atlas



Department of Ecology Water Quality Atlas

Water Quality Data

- National Water Quality Status
- WQI and/or PFI
- Water Resource Inventory Area
- Subwatershed (8-digit WQID)
- Watershed (10-digit WQID)
- Subwatershed (12-digit WQID)
- Water Use
- 10-Year Total Sediment

Administrative Boundaries

- Cities
- Urban Growth Boundaries
- Counties
- Congressional Districts
- Legislative Districts
- Planning/Regulatory Districts
- Ecology Regions

Demographics

- Total Land
- Persons
- People of Color
- Livestock
- Limited English Proficiency
- No-High School Diploma
- Under 18
- Over 65

Map: Shows a map of Washington state with various regions highlighted.



Thank you!

Questions?

