

Clean Water Partners: Rocky, Minter, and Vaughn Bay Public Meeting

August 30, 2022

Moderator: Lindsay Tuttle

Note-taker: Tanya Truong

Attendees	Lindsay Tuttle – TPCHD, Tanya Truong – TPCHD, Amber Peralta – TPCHD, Alena Reynolds - DOE, Erica Marbet – Squaxin Island Tribe, Glenn Johnson – Pierce Conversation District, John Erickson – Minter Creek resident, Leslie Banigan – Kitsap Public Health District, Norm McLoughlin – Rocky Bay resident, Tyler Dearman – Pierce County SWM, Neil and Tammy Anderson, Jean Frost – DOH, Helen Jones – Kitsap Conversation District, Kent Kingman – Minterbrook Oyster Company, Ali Querin – Great Peninsula Conservancy, Chris Towey, Paul Borne – Pierce County Conservation District, Dana Coggon – Pierce Conversation District, Cindy Callahan – TPCHD, Barbara Ann Smolko – Pierce County SWM
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Agenda Item	Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC) Rocky Creek & Key Peninsula Conservation Projects presentation by Ali Querin		
Discussion Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPC overview and areas of conservation. • Plan to purchase more land for conservation. • GPC can purchase land, the bigger land with salmon populations and uplands are priorities. • GPC has not done work in Vaughn Bay. • Beavers are left untouched in conserved area. <p>GPC has a small budget for property cleanup such as litter and dumping clean up. Volunteers from GPC also assist with clean up. To join the volunteer group, go to GPC website.</p>		
Key Points/Decisions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPC is in the process of obtaining more grant to purchase land for conservation. • The land must meet certain criteria for GPC to purchase 			
Action Items	What	Who	When
	Can I get a copy of the power point?	Norm McLoughlin	As soon as possible

Agenda Item	DOH Update		
Discussion Summary	<p>Rocky Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality continues to look good based on data from July and June sampling. • There were three sampling events in the last data set. We are hoping to re-evaluate and do six sampling events in the future. • August sampling data shows low fecal coliform level in all stations except station 24. Station 24 has an estimated 90th percentile of 49 organism/100nL. This is unusual at this time of the year. • DOH Shellfish Program would like to collaborate with different local health jurisdictions (LHJ) in the restricted areas. The partnership would help DOH determine the ability to sample shellfish growing water. • Neil – can we do something about the geese population in Rocky Bay? Use dog decoy or geese deterrent. 		

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	<p>Minter Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water quality has been stable in stations where there were concerns. All stations meet the two-part criteria in which the fecal coliform geometric mean less than 14 organisms/100mL with an estimated 90th percentile less than 43 organisms/100mL. Water quality at Minter Bay is improving.• In late fall and early winter, DOH will start shoreline evaluation in all Henderson Bay growing areas. Henderson Bay is divided into four to five areas including Minter Bay. New areas evaluation is based on harvest request.• DOH will contact LHJs to obtain information related to surface water quality.• There will be marine stations set up at Glen Cove. <p>Vaughn Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Station 650 status is prohibited. Shellfish may not be harvested for sale from “prohibited” areas. Information about station 650 status change can be found online.• Water quality is poor in areas around station 609, 610, 611, and 650. From 2/12/2020 – 7/27/2022, the estimated 90th percentile for stations 609, 610, 611, and 650 are respectively 112.0 organisms/100mL, 45.4 organisms/100mL, 32.9 organisms/100mL, and 52.9 organisms/100mL.• Water quality at station 609 and 610 are improving. The change in estimated 90th percentile from annual report period to current period at stations 609 is -28.9 (decrease) and 610 is -4.8 (decrease).• Water quality sampling results at station 608 slightly improves when samples are collected after less than 1” rainfall in 24 hours, from 37.6 organisms/100mL decreases to 30.3 organisms/100mL. This means there is an ongoing cause that is impacting the water quality.• Station 609 has the biggest decrease in estimated 90th percentile (-28.9 decrease) although the fecal coliform data at this station is still above the standard.• Norm McLoughlin – near station 612 and 613, there were seals hauling out at docks. There were four boats near station 613.
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Key Points/Decisions:

- Rocky Bay water is very clean. July sampling data shows low number of fecal coliform geometric mean less than 14 organisms/100mL with an estimated 90th percentile less than 43 organisms/100mL at all stations.
- DOH will partner with different LHJs to sample shellfish growing water and obtain surface water quality data in areas needed.
- The water quality data reported is based on the last 30 samples includes 3 sampling events where there was 1” or greater recorded rainfall in 24 hours 0-4 days prior to sampling. However, DOH would like 6 sampling events.
- Water quality data at Vaughn Bay looks steady since the end of 2021. There were no elevated bacteriological results for August sampling event.

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Agenda Item	TPCHD Update
<p>Discussion Summary</p>	<p>Rocky Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April: Rocky Bay shoreline walk. We did not have high bacterial count. • Water quality results from upland sampling are good. <p>Minter Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will start Minter Bay shoreline walk after we receive approval for Centennial Quality Assurance Project Plan. • No hotspot or site investigation areas at Minter Bay. • Water quality result from upland sampling looks good. <p>Vaughn Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 8/4/2022, we collected samples for special sampling event at a specific site. Based on the water quality results from special sampling, the site meets hot spot criteria. • Water quality result from upland sampling looks good. • We will work with property owners at sites where water quality results exceed the standards to determine the cause of high bacterial count and the solution. • Vaughn Bay pet waste station at the Vaughn Boat Launch is stocked and looks good. • Alena – Is there evidence that it is being used? Yes.
<p>Key Points/Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality results from Rocky Bay, Minter Bay Upland, and Vaughn Bay Upland look good. • Vaughn Bay has areas with high bacterial count. We will work with property owners to identify the cause and the appropriate solution. • We will start Minter Bay shoreline walk after we receive the approval. 	

Agenda Item	Kitsap Update
<p>Discussion Summary</p>	<p>Rocky Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitsap County did four surveys in Rocky Bay. Three looks good. One has a concern of no permit on file. <p>Minter Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We did six surveys in Minter Bay. Five has problems including roof drain right over tank and no permit. • We did three surveys, and two has concerns. • We investigated the farm that Alena referred to us. They were not interested in participating. Kitsap County has a water quality station half a mile from the property. The water quality result at the station looks good. We will sample water at the station again on a wet day. <p>Vaughn Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Borne – We are working with landowners to issue permits.

Agenda Item	South Sound Update (Barbara Ann Smolko)
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Discussion Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pierce County Surface Water Management (SWM) has funds to solve water quality issues encountered in wet season. Lindsay Tuttle, please contact Sara for more information.• Pierce County SWM is making amendments to South Sound Shellfish. One of the amendments allow us to designate approximately \$25,000 to conduct site risk assessment at Vaughn Bay. We will evaluate the site risk assessment data and determine the next step.• We plan to complete the updated Closure Response Plan before the end of the year.• Dana Cogon – the Orca recovery day will be at Tacoma DeMolay Sandpit on 10/15.
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