

**From:** [Snyder, Jean \(DOH\)](#)  
**To:** [BrownScott, Jennifer](#)  
**Subject:** Dungeness Bay Classifications  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 21, 2018 11:45:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [Dungeness River Festival Poster 2015v4.pptx](#)  
[Dungeness Bay.pdf](#)

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Good Morning,

Thank you for your interest in marine water quality improvements in Dungeness Bay. Below is a general description of the history of the shellfish growing area including classification changes. Attached is the powerpoint/poster, we created in 2015 with maps of classification changes by year. I have also included in this email a pdf of the current classifications, which includes the most recent 2016 upgrade in classification. Please contact me with any questions or concerns about the Dungeness Bay Shellfish Growing Area.

#### History of Dungeness Bay Shellfish Growing Area Classifications

- Sometime in the 80s the inner bay was originally classified. Sample results for Marine Water Stations 103 -115 go back to at least May, 1989. Consistent monitoring (6 times per year) started in 1992.
- In 1997, water quality at marine water monitoring stations began to show signs of degradation
- January, 2000, our office downgraded 300 acres from Approved to Prohibited based on poor water quality at the marine water monitoring stations.
- May 2001, an additional 100 acres was downgraded from Approved to Prohibited
- In September 2003, 227 acres were downgraded from Approved to Prohibited and 1062 acres from the inner bay were downgraded from Approved to Conditionally Approved. In addition, 92 acres from the inside of the bay near Cline Spit was also upgraded from Prohibited to Conditionally Approved.
- In April, 2011 424 acres were upgraded from Prohibited to Conditionally Approved
- In August, 2012, ***due to harvest requests by the JTSK Tribe and Dungeness Farms***, three new marine water monitoring stations were set up near the mouth of the Dungeness River to better understand the impacts of the river to the Growing Area and assess potential reclassification in the Prohibited area near the mouth of the Dungeness River.
- In October, 2015, 688 acres were upgraded from Conditionally Approved to Approved in the inner bay. In addition, 40 acres in two different areas were upgraded from Prohibited to Conditionally Approved.
- In June 2016, Marine Water Station 207 was added to the growing area. A request from the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to expand geoduck harvest in a portion of the upper bay. The new station is needed to evaluate the area.
- In October 2016, upgraded from Conditionally Approved to Approved due to improved marine water quality.

#### Dungeness Bay Classification Change Timeline

2000: -300 acres

2001: -100 acres

2003: -1,289 acres

2003: +92 acres

2011: +424 acres

2015: +728 acres

2016: +272 acres

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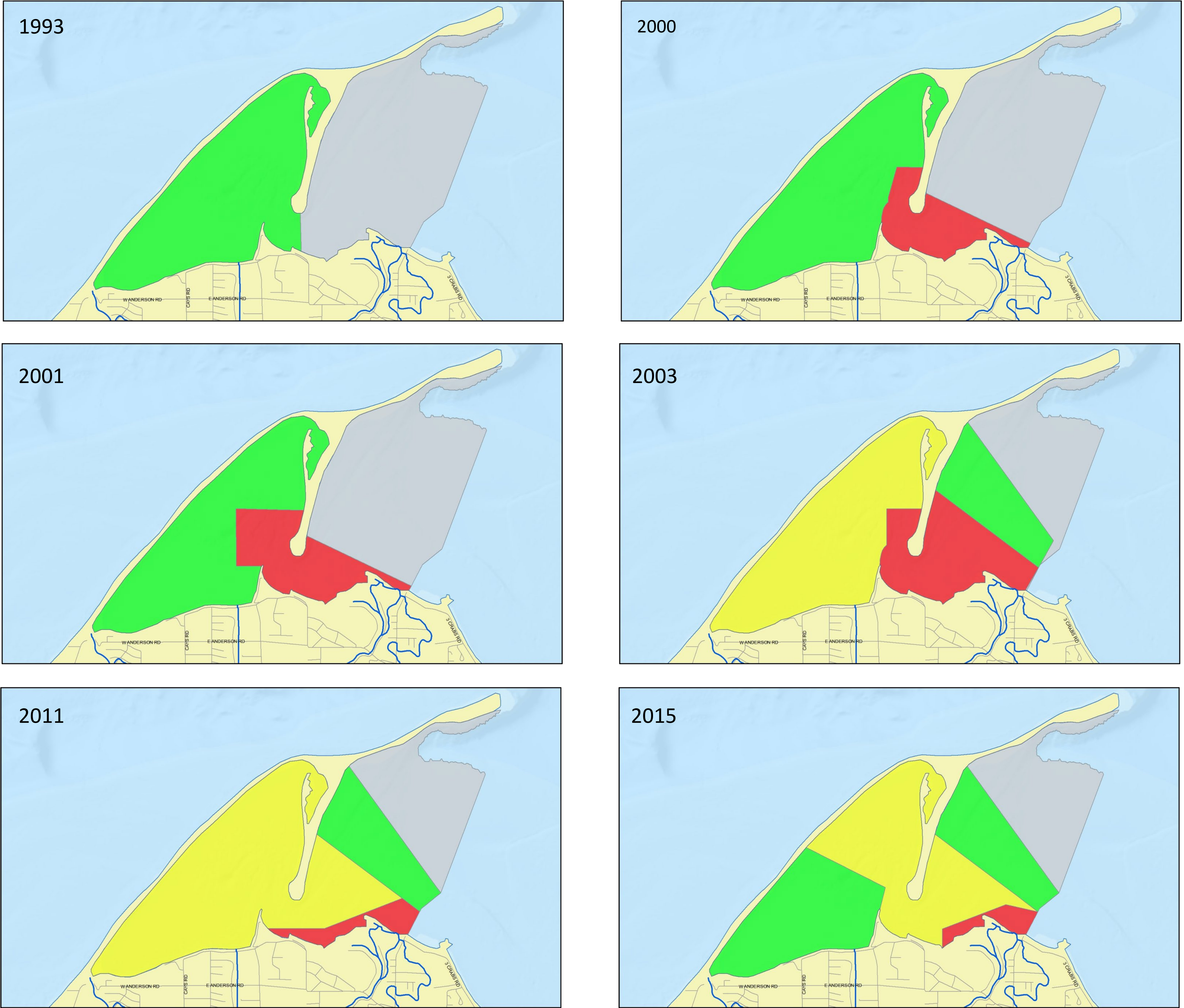
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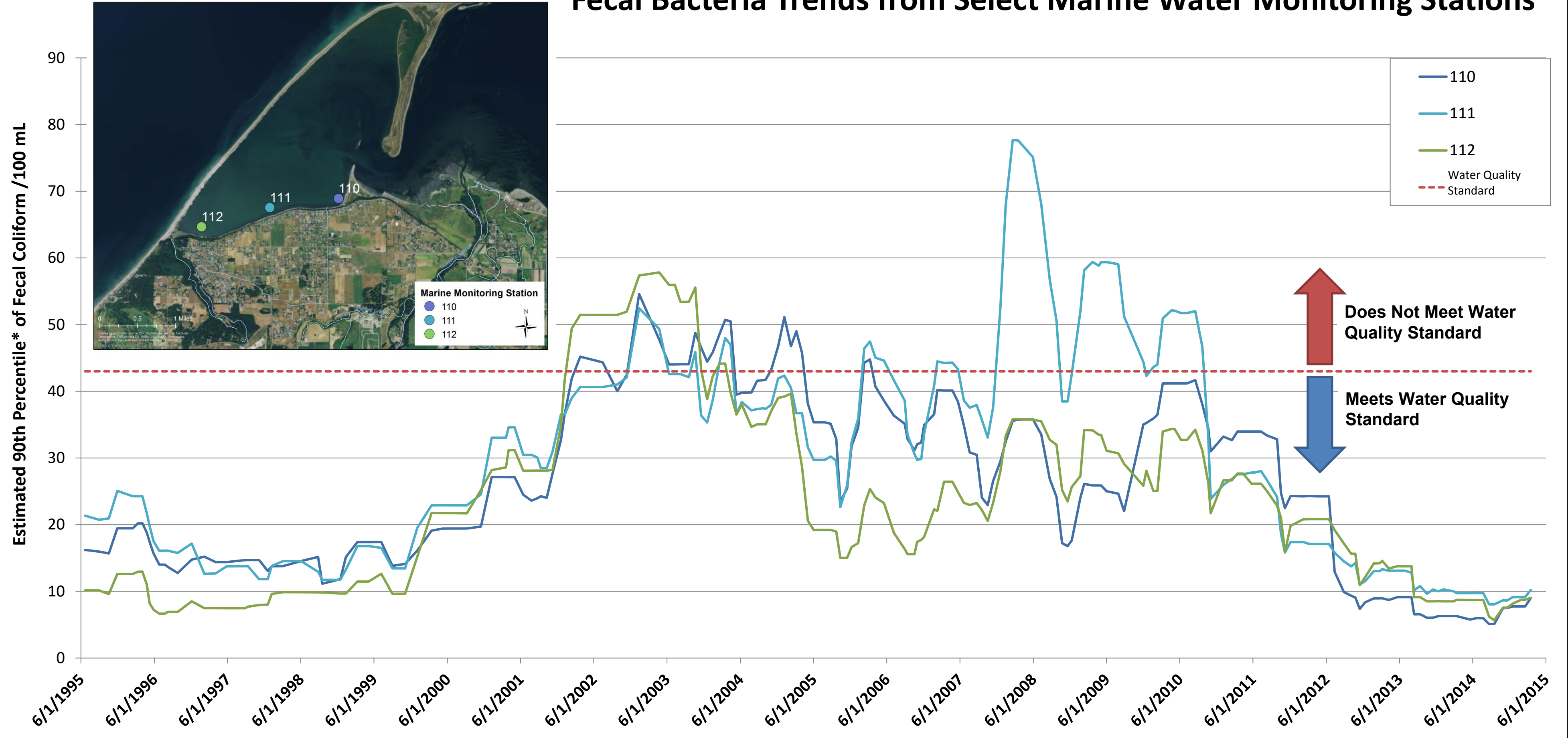
# History of Dungeness Bay Shellfish Growing Area Classifications



Growing Area Classifications:      
Approved Conditional Prohibited Unclassified  
Conditionally Approved areas are open for harvest from February through October each year.

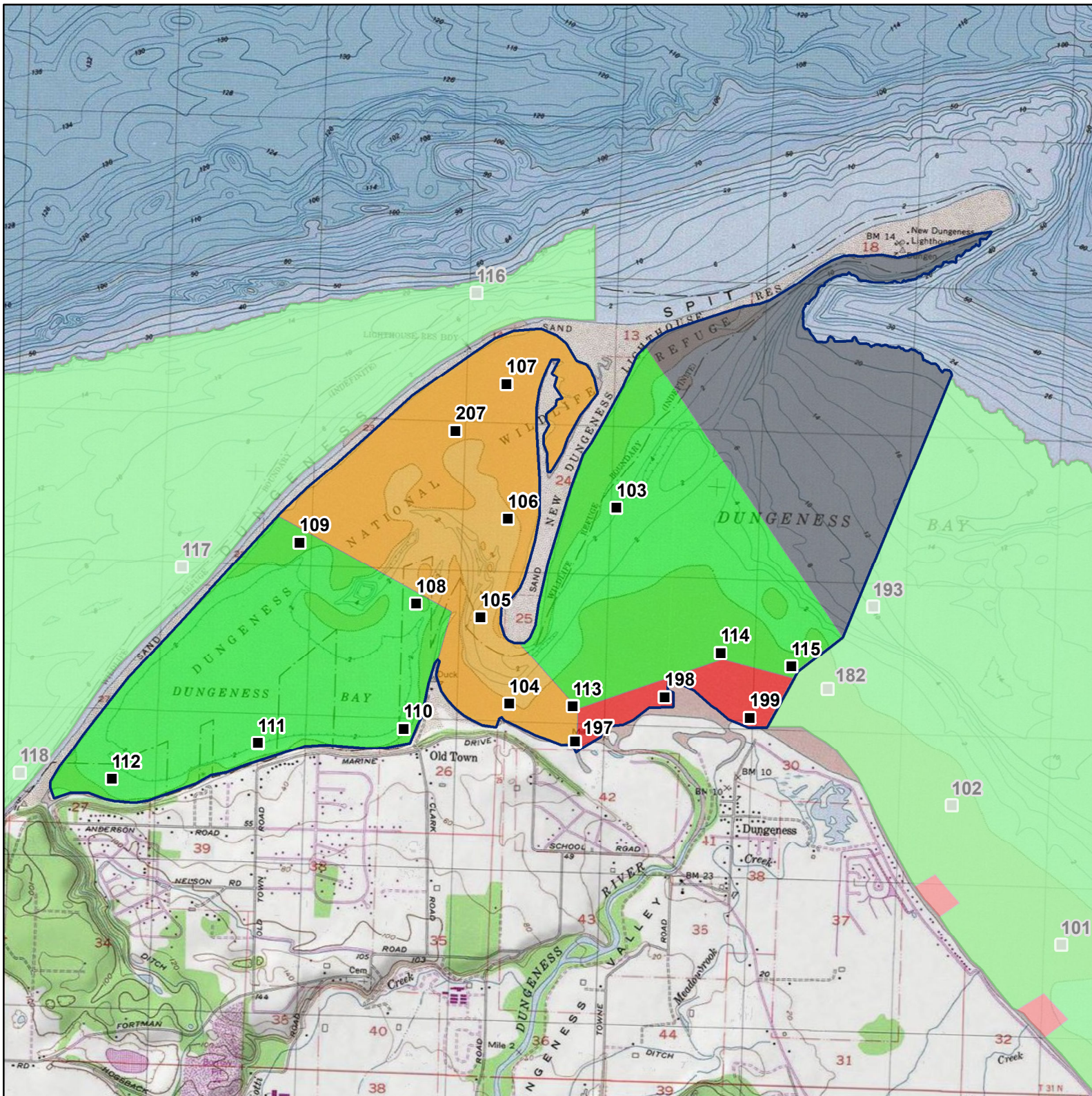
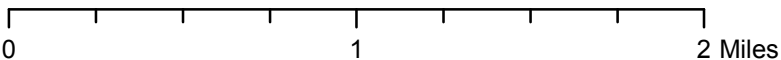
Sustained efforts from the Sequim-Dungeness Clean Water Work Group and cooperation from the local community led to water quality improvements. Activities resulting in the improvements include: piping of irrigation ditches that flow to Dungeness Bay, septic system repairs and replacement, and implementation of best practices on agricultural lands in the watershed. Over 1,200 acres have been upgraded since 2003!

## Fecal Bacteria Trends from Select Marine Water Monitoring Stations



\*Rolling Estimated 90th Percentile based on 30 samples

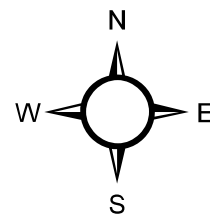




## Classification

- Approved
- Conditional
- Prohibited
- Restricted
- Unclassified

## Sampling Stations



\* Some sampling stations are highlighted with grey box for ease of reading.