

Resolution # \_

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO  
SKAGIT COUNTY ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS** the Skagit County Board of Health has the authority to enact local rules and regulations as necessary in order to preserve, promote and improve the public health pursuant to RCW 70.05.060, and

**WHEREAS**, a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) was issued November 7, 2011, and published in the Skagit Valley Herald on November 10, 2011, including notice of a Public Hearing set for December 13, 2011 at 1:30 pm; and

**WHEREAS**, the DNS was submitted to Washington State Department of Ecology and placed on the SEPA register under Ecology SEPA number 201105439; and

**WHEREAS** the DNS was sent to other interested parties on or about November 10, 2011; and

**WHEREAS** proposed revisions to the On-site Sewage Management Plan were placed on the Skagit County Health Department web-site on or around November 10, 2011.

**WHEREAS**, a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) was issued November 7, 2011, and published in the Skagit Valley Herald on November 10, 2011, including notice of the Public Hearing set for December 13, 2011 at 1:30 pm; and

**WHEREAS** notification of the proposed expanded Marine Recovery Area and hearing date was sent to 1,160 property owners who are presumed to have septic systems and would be affected by this change by US mail on or about November 22, 2011, and

**WHEREAS** property owners in the Samish Watershed received the Clean Samish Initiative newsletter on or about November 23, 2011 announcing the proposed expanded Marine Recovery Area; and

**WHEREAS** a public hearing was held on December 13, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners closed the public hearing and postponed a decision regarding adoption of the revised On-site Sewage Management Plan,

**WHEREAS** a community meeting was held at the Alger Community Hall on January 24, 2012 from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm,

**WHEREAS** Skagit Board of Health, considered this proposal on April 16, 2012; deciding to give the public two additional weeks to respond,

**WHEREAS** information regarding this proposal was placed on the Skagit County Public Health's web page on or around May 1, 2012, and notification to approximately 1,200 property owners on or around May 11, 2012,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

The Board of Health adopts the On-site Sewage Management Plan (Attachment A) designating all areas of the Samish Watershed where there are likely to be on-site sewage systems a Marine Recovery Area.

**WITNESS** our hands and the official seal of our office this 29 day of May, 2012.



**BOARD OF HEALTH  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt  
Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Sharon D. Dillon  
Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

Ron Wesen  
Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Attest:

**ATTEST:**

Linda Hummer  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

A. O. Denny 5-17-12  
A. O. Denny, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Skagit County Prosecutor's Office

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

Corinne Story  
Corinne Story, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Skagit County Health Department

Peter Brown, Director

### Designated Marine Recovery Areas

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#### Samish Watershed

Four Marine Recovery Areas and one Sensitive Area were designated in the Samish Watershed in 2007. Even so, commercial shellfish harvesting in Samish Bay continues to struggle. Four thousand acres of the Samish Bay commercial shellfish growing area was downgraded from approved to conditionally approved based on rain events in 2011. Though water quality monitoring data from Skagit County Public Works has shown improvement, it is still not enough to meet State water quality standards. Capturing the remainder of the Samish Watershed on-site sewage systems in an MRA will help to bring the entire watershed up to State water quality standards.

The boundaries include only areas where there are likely to be on-site sewage systems. It includes the 2007 - 2008 MRAs; Samish Island, Colony Creek, Upper Samish and Lower Samish. Thomas Creek Sensitive Area is now a Marine Recovery Area. The Willard Creek drainage is also included in the Samish Watershed MRA.

Figure 6 depicts the area added to the existing MRA's and sensitive area to define the Samish Watershed Marine Recovery Area. *MRA Designation – yellow or threatened (water quality trends show improvement . . . are still below standard, and/or O/M data inspection rate is below 80%)*



# On-site Sewage Management Plan

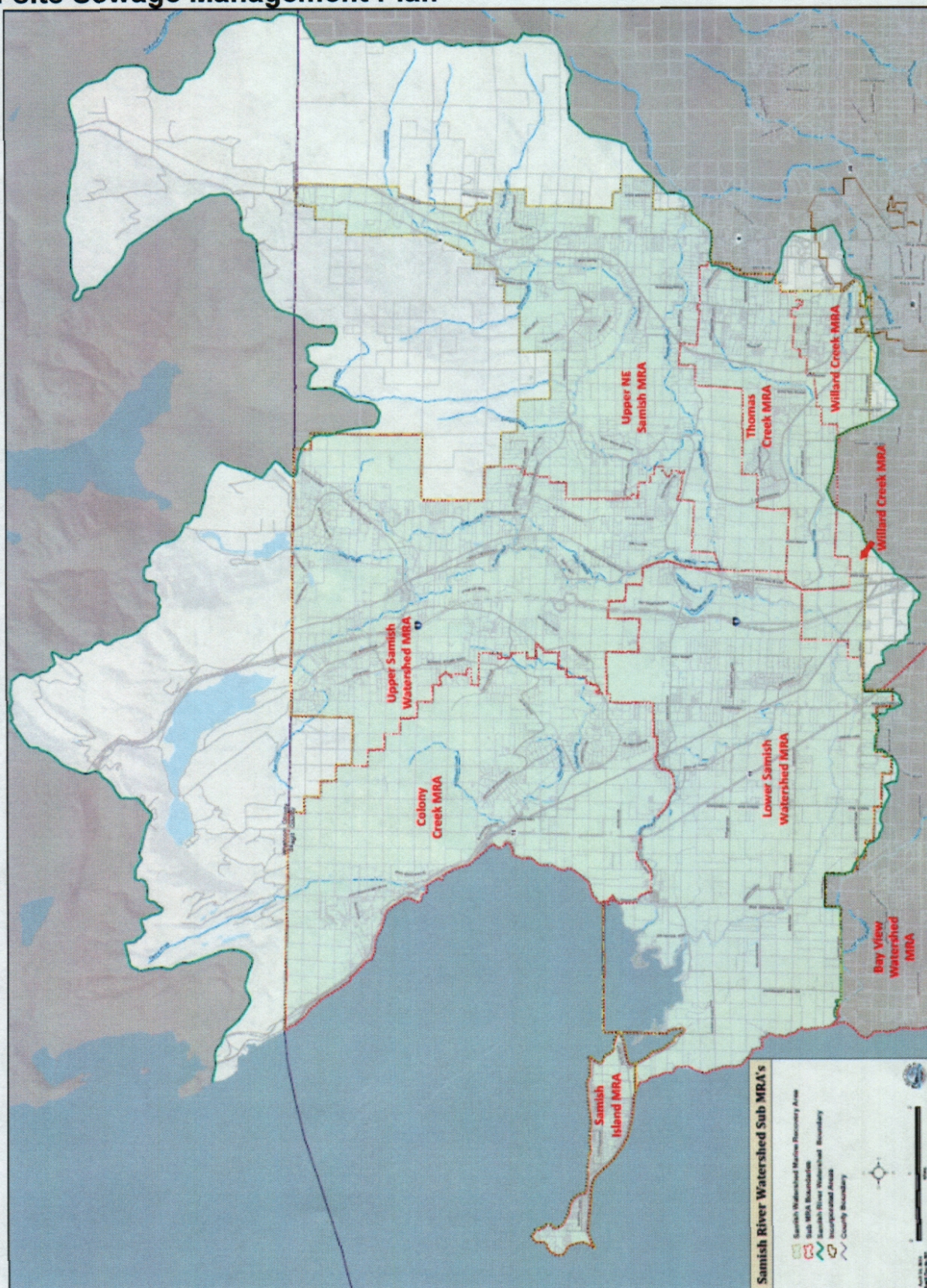


Figure 6 – Samish Watershed MRAs



# On-site Sewage Management Plan

## Similk Beach community

Similk Bay shellfish commercial shellfish acreage was upgraded to approved November 22, 2010. All on-site sewage systems in Similk Beach have been identified, inspected and repaired as needed. To maintain this success, Similk Beach will remain a Marine Recovery Area. *MRA – green or Complete (water quality meets standards and requires ongoing monitoring, and O&M data indicates inspections at 80% or greater)*

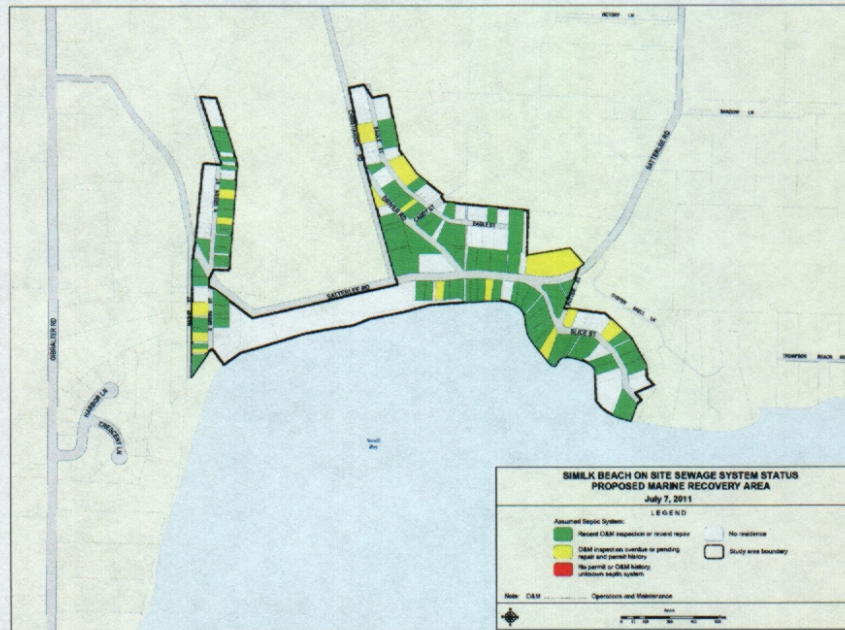


Figure 7 Similk Beach O&M status July 7, 2011



# On-site Sewage Management Plan

## Bay View

The Padilla Bay and Bay View rural village Marine Recovery Area previously designated can simply be termed Bayview MRA. All on-site sewage systems in the existing Bayview Marine Recovery Area were identified in 2010 – 2011. Less than 80% of those, however, are up-to-date with their inspections. *MRA Designation – yellow or threatened.*

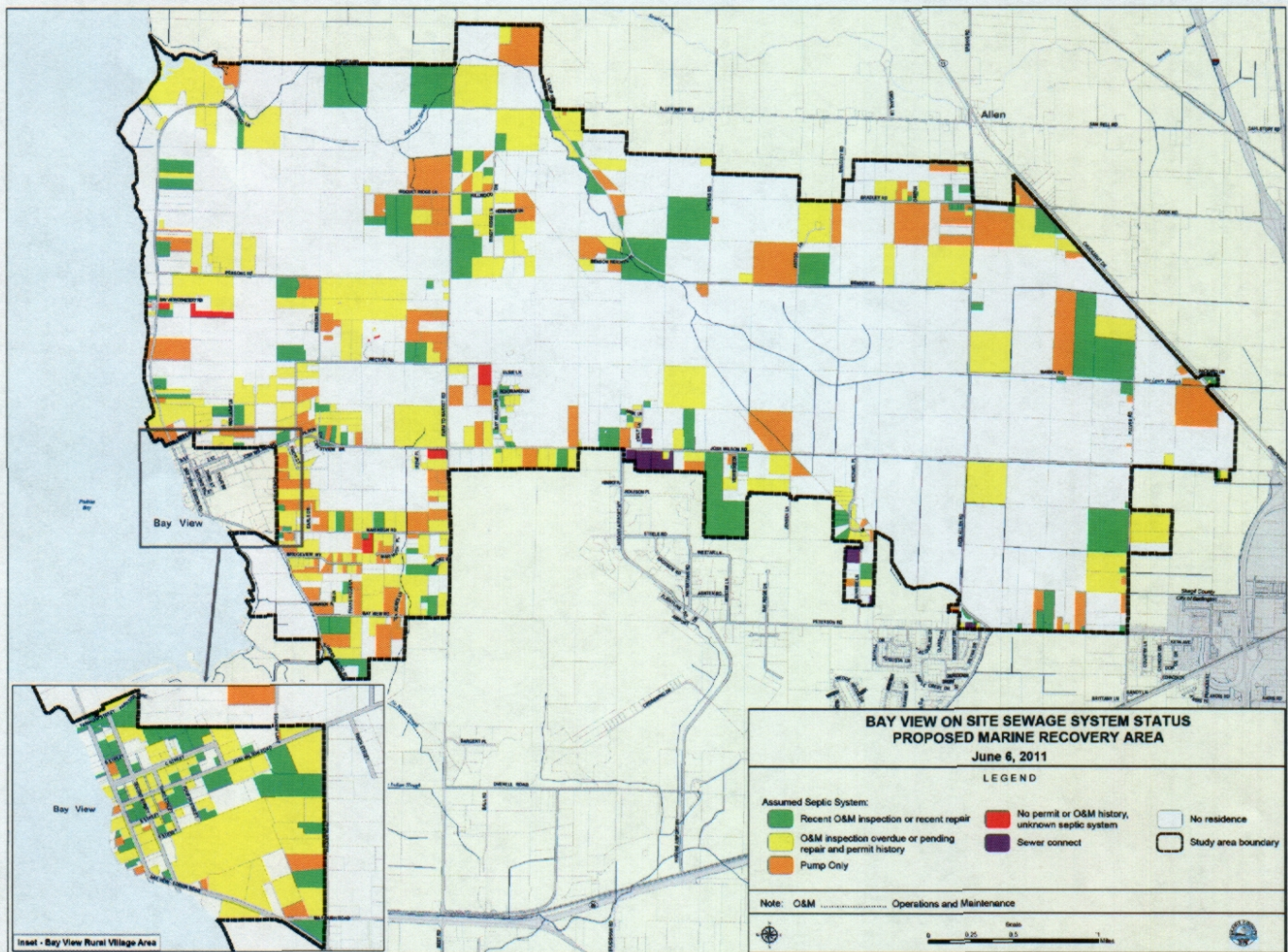


Figure 8 Bay View O&M status June 6, 2011



# On-site Sewage Management Plan

## Yokeko Point, Dewey Beach, Quiet Cove Communities

All straight pipes sending sewage to Deception Pass and Similk Bay have been eliminated, and all on-site sewage systems inspected and repaired as needed. *MRA Status – green or complete.*

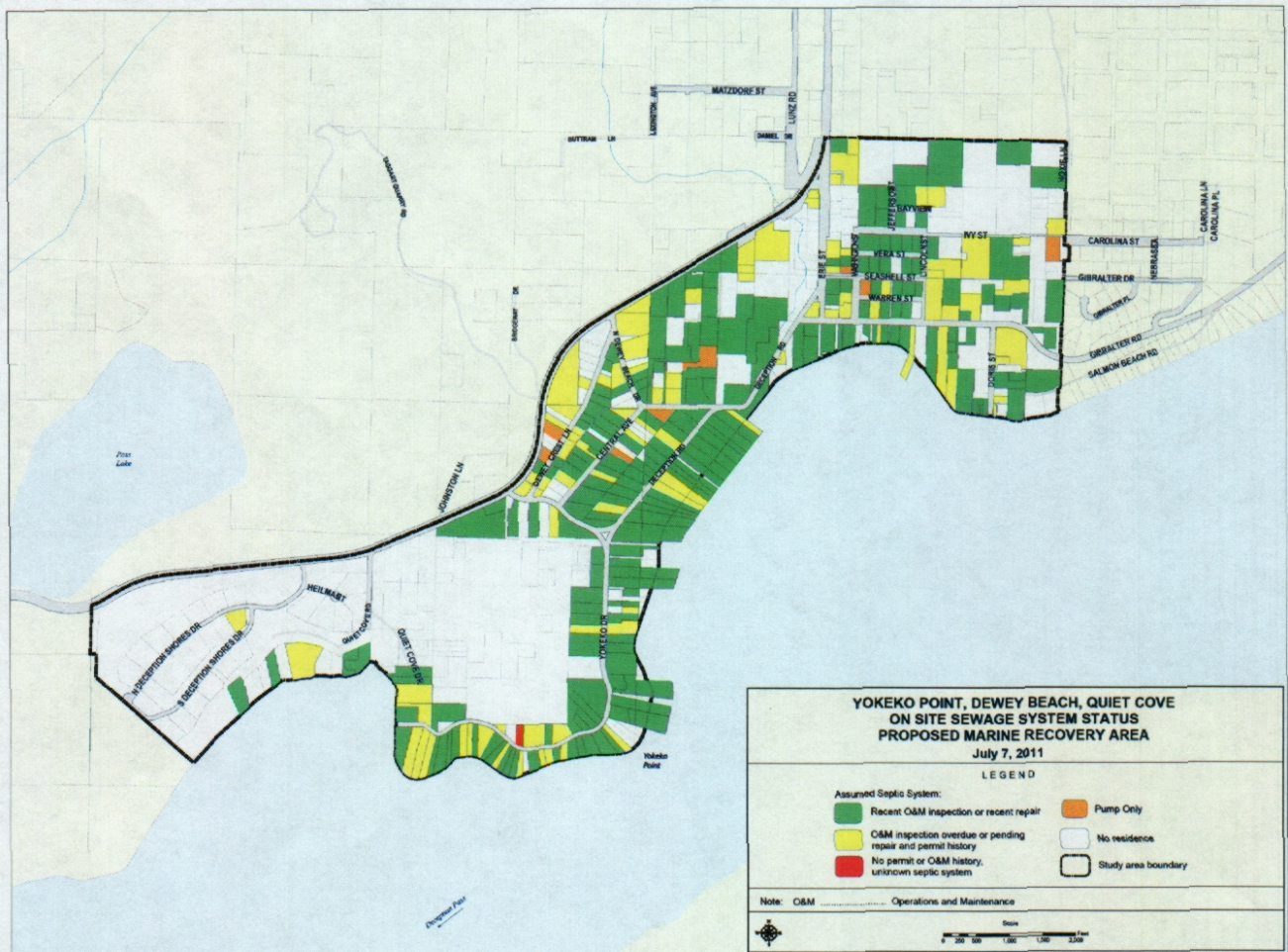


Figure 9 Yokeko, Dewey Beach, Quiet Cove O&M status July 7, 2011



## On-site Sewage Management Plan

**Guemes Island** This island is designated a sole source aquifer, thus requires the designation as a Marine Recovery Area. All on-site sewage systems have been identified, however, it remains in threatened status because inspection rates are currently below 80%. *MRA designation – yellow or threatened.*

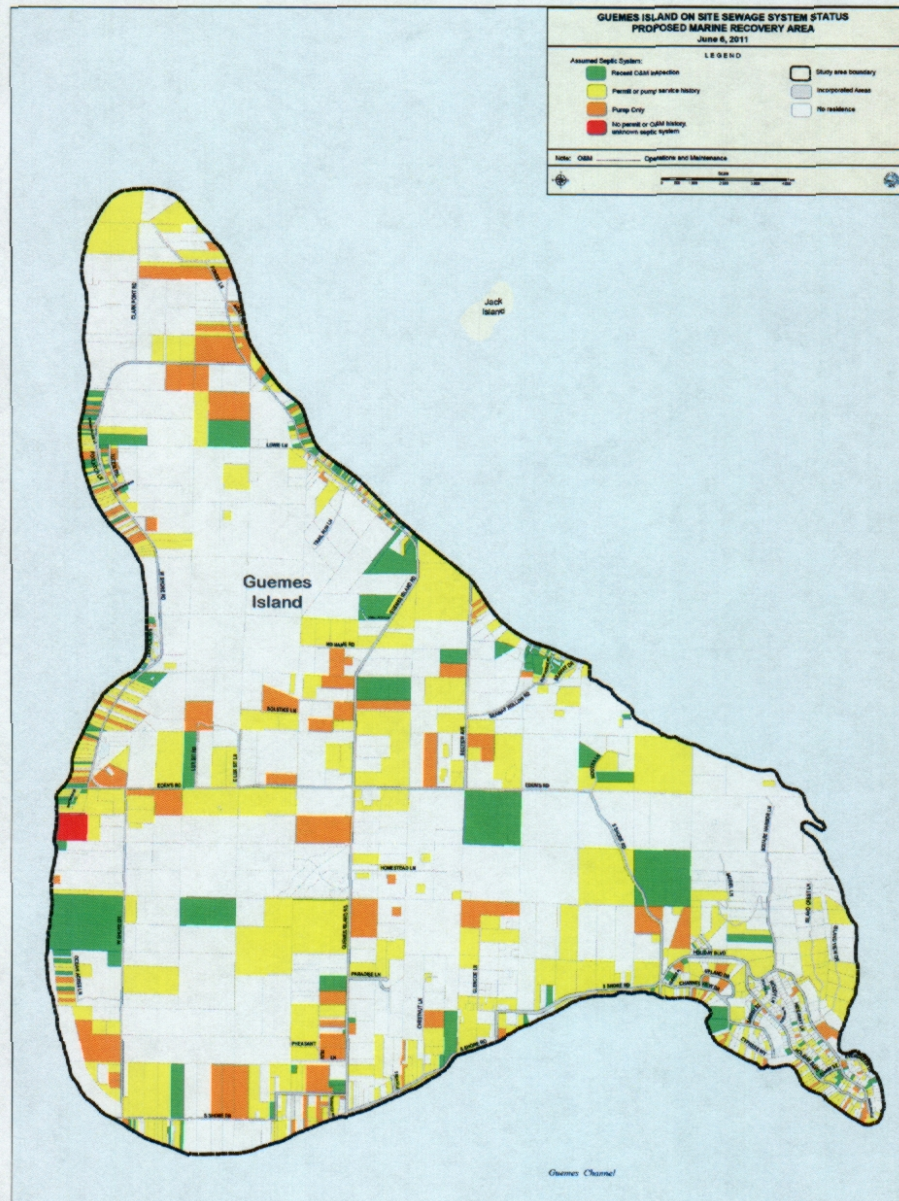


Figure 10 Guemes Island O&M status



# On-site Sewage Management Plan

## Nookachamps Creek Watershed

All on-site sewage systems in the Nookachamps watershed have been identified. Inspection status is currently below 80%. *MRA status – yellow or threatened.*

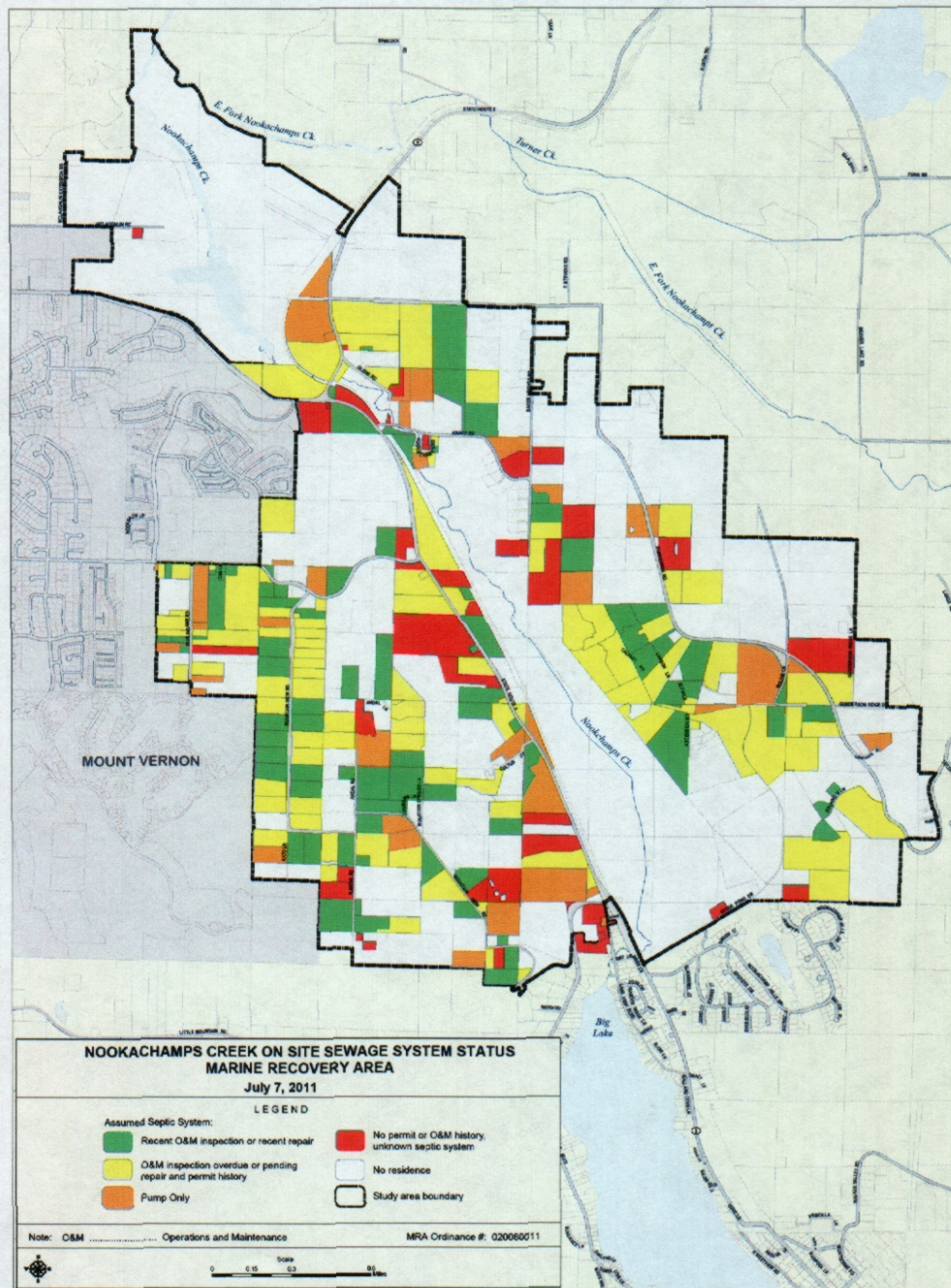


Figure 11 Nookachamps Watershed O&M status



## **On-site Sewage Management Plan**

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### ***C. Coordination with planning entities within the jurisdiction.***

#### **Planning Agencies in Skagit County**

Skagit County Public Health is the health agency for all planning agencies, cities and County, in Skagit County.

Currently the Skagit County Public Health Department coordinates with the Skagit County Planning and Development Services (PDS) office in two ways: administratively and employee sharing. The Environmental Health Supervisor meets quarterly with the PDS Director and key staff. In addition the Health Department has two employees located in the PDS office to review water and on site sewage permits and co-ordinate the permit process with Health Department rules and regulations. When a land-use or development application is received by PDS, the application is routed to the Health Division of PDS if there are either drinking water or on-site sewage issues to be addressed.

The Health Department also has a hydrogeologist as a shared position in Public Works. If a development application shows on-site sewage systems may have an impact on an Aquifer Recharge Area, the County Hydrogeologist is consulted.