The continued onslaught of spring rains had us out early Tuesday, which we then followed with our regular ambient run. Results:

4/26/2011

Location	Site Number	Fecal Coliform, cfu/100 mL	Duplicate
Samish River at Thomas Rd at 0710	32	540	540
Samish River at Hwy 9	11	13	
Swede Creek at Grip Rd	8	79	
Friday Creek at Prairie Rd	6	70	
Thomas Creek at F&S Grade Rd	4	240	
Thomas Creek at Hwy 99	3	36	
Samish River at Thomas Rd at 1300	32	33	23

The early number was just barely enough to confirm the closure of the bay that was instigated by a 200-cfs rise in the river.

The later sample results just became available and show a remarkable decline in FC levels between morning and afternoon. MarySutton is out sampling again currently based on last night's 150-cfs rise in the river.

Monday night's increase occurred and peaked after hours, so a full PIC sampling was not deemed advisable. Last night's rise and peak also occurred after hours but we decided to complete a full PIC sample anyway, so that's what MarySutton is doing today.

Because we missed the peaks, no Microbial Source Tracking samples were obtained. Based on the low results, that was the proper call.

Rick Haley
Water Quality Analyst
Skagit County Public Works
Water Resources Management
1800 Continental Place
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
rickh@co.skagit.wa.us
360-419-3424 (desk)
360-336-9400 (Public Works receptionist)