

Yet another spring rainstorm (it IS spring, right?) brought the Samish River up from 380 cfs on 4/25 to 750 cfs on 4/26. At 380 cfs, the river was already approximately double the normal flow for the date, so we are clearly in a period of abnormally rainfall and river flow. At the WSU Extension weather station in west Mount Vernon, the average April rainfall is 2.6". We've already had 4.13" including today's 0.25" and counting, or approximately 160% of normal. Anybody else tired of this "stuff"?

The data from 4/26 shows clean water at the headwaters, a jump at the Samish River above Parsons Creek, and another jump between Chuckanut Drive and Thomas Road. See the graph below all the numbers. The Thomas Road results were well above the 4.7 trillion bugs/day loading criteria, confirming the bay closure triggered by the river rise. The samples from 4/27 were well below closure criteria and the bay was reopened Sunday, April 29, after the customary two-day purging period.

Skagit County and Ecology inspectors have been busy in the last couple of weeks. A few new activities have been identified for improvements.

4/26/2012 0.41" of rain in lowlands, river at 613-709 cfs and rising

Site Number	Site No.	Result	Duplicate	Samish River loading (trillions per day)
Samish River at Hwy 9	11	33		
Samish River at upper Prairie Rd	SAM3PR	14		
Parsons Creek at mouth	PAR	240		
Samish River above Parsons Creek	SAMPAR	240		
Samish River at Double Creek Ln	SAMDCL	350		
Skarrup Creek at Double Creek Ln	SKAR	540		
Samish River at 1st Prairie Rd	SAM1PR	350		
Samish River at Grip Road	SAMGRIP	240	350	
Swede Creek at Grip Rd	8	920		
Samish River at F&S Grade Rd	SAMFS	240		
Weir Creek Prairie Rd	WCPR	2400		
Friday Creek at Prairie Rd	6	350		
Samish River at Hwy 99	SAMH99	350		
Bob Smith Creek at Hwy 99	BSCreek	>1600		
Thomas Creek at F&S Grade Rd	4	1600		
Willard Creek at F&S	WILL	1600		
Thomas Creek at Hwy 99	3	540		
Samish River at Chuckanut Drive	SAMCD	350	350	
Samish River at Thomas Rd 0840	32A	540	1600	16
Samish River at Thomas Rd 1115	32B	920	540	11
Samish River at Thomas Rd 1450	32C	350	240	5.1

4/27/2012 0.25" rain, river at 622 cfs and falling

Site Number	Site No.	Result	Duplicate	Samish River loading (trillions per day)
Samish River at Thomas Rd 1230	32	49	79	1.0

