

## Livestock and Water Quality Site Visit



<b>Site Visit Information</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Visit	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Visit
Prepared by: Chris Luerkens	Arrival Time: 1:00 pm	Departure Time: 1:20 pm
Date: 2/18/2014	Current Weather Conditions: Showers earlier in day. Windy during visit.	

<b>Owner/Operator Information</b>	
Name: Philip & Gwynne Top	Street: 9508 Axling Rd
City: Lynden	Zip Code: 98264
Phone: 510-3963	Email: fireman2066@live.com

<b>Site Information</b>	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: Lower Nooksack (Bertrand)
<p>General site description: On 2/18/2014, I conducted a follow up site visit with Philip. The primary purpose was to try to determine if runoff discharges from the eastern portion of the confinement area. We did not inspect other areas where animals are kept.</p> <p>Animals are confined near the barn for the winter season. The eastern portion of this confinement area is near Bertrand Creek (approximately 35 feet). This portion of the confinement area was saturated and contained some puddles of standing water. Although runoff was not discharging from during the visit it appears possible that runoff could discharge during rain events. The area between the confinement area and creek does slope steeply to the creek.</p> <p>Because the confinement area is mostly bare ground and contains manure, runoff during rain events would likely be contaminated. In the recommended Corrective Actions section below I have suggested that a fence be used to exclude animals from the portion of the confinement area that slopes to the creek.</p>	

### Site Evaluation

<b>Stream Corridor and Areas Near Surface Water</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Bare, exposed, eroding soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Absence of woody vegetation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contaminated run-off (active or potential)	<input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations	
<input type="checkbox"/> Slumping stream banks and erosion	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal access to surface water	
<input type="checkbox"/> Overgrazing of grasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock paths and trails along riparian areas	
<p>Comments: Bertrand Creek runs through property. This property is enrolled in CREP. Fences are installed a minimum of 35 feet from the stream edge. A good growth of woody vegetation is established along the stream and is maintained as part of CREP.</p>		

<b>Confinement Areas</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (35 ft) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presence of mud and manure <input type="checkbox"/> Signs of previous runoff reaching surface water	<input type="checkbox"/> Polluted run-off reaching surface water <input type="checkbox"/> Roof runoff water flows to confinement areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjacent land slopes toward surface water
Comments: Animals are kept in a confinement area located a minimum of 35 and greater from Bertrand Creek. We discussed that it appears that the eastern edge of the confinement does drain to Bertrand. Little vegetation remains in the confinement area. Mud and manure are present.	

<b>Stock Water</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (200 ft) <input type="checkbox"/> Overflow from tanks on to the ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Mud and standing water at tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Animals accesses stream for stock water	
Comments:		

<b>Upland Pasture Areas</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal access to stream corridors <input type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (>500 ft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of overgrazing and erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations and bare ground	
Comments:		

<b>Manure Management</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
Current manure management plan? Manure collected and stored? Manure storage properly sized? Manure storage covered? Manure being collected often?	Manure stored on covered, impervious surface? Applied during growing season? Manure applied during non-growing season? Vegetated buffer when manure is applied? Manure applied or stored off site? no	
Comments:		

<b>Other Areas of Concern</b>
Comments:

<b>Corrective Actions</b>

- ☐ Install livestock exclusion fencing to keep animals at least \_\_\_\_\_ ft from surface waters (35ft minimum)
- ☐ Install off-stream stock water watering facilities and locate them at least \_\_\_\_\_ ft from surface to prevent risk of water quality impacts (minimum of 75ft)
- ☐ Collect manure frequently and store it in a dry, covered area with an impervious floor or deck
- ☐ Apply manure during the growing season at proper rates and times (minimum of 100ft setback from surface water, or the use of a 35ft vegetative buffer)
- ☐ Site and design confinement and manure storage areas to prevent pollution of surface and ground water
- ☐ Provide heavy use protection in confinement areas and at stock tanks to prevent run-off
- ☐ Construct stream-crossings and emergency water locations in ways that protect the stream
- ☒ Other Actions:

**I suggest using fencing to exclude animals from the portion of the confinement that drains toward Bertrand Creek. This will help ensure that manure contaminated runoff does not discharge into surface waters.**

Photos Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Sample Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ No

#### Additional Comments

Comments:

A program that offers financial assistance is available to help install fencing and other infrastructure that may be needed to protect water quality.

#### Ecology Contact Information

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Inspector Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chris Luerkens*

Date: 2/28/2014