



Livestock and Water Quality Site Visit

Site Visit Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Visit	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Visit
Prepared by: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Arrival Time: 11:30	Departure Time: 12:45
Date: 5/4/2014	Current Weather Conditions: Raining.	

Owner/Operator Information	
Name: Jeff Snyder	Street: 1956 Hampton Road
City: Everson	Zip Code: 98247
Phone: 360-815-0382	Email: Snyderfarms@aol.com

Site Information	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: Lower Nooksack (Bertrand)
General site description: Mr. Snyder raises dairy replacement heifers at this largely indoor operation. The facility has two large barns that house the heifers, two underground manure storage sumps, and a lagoon. Mr. Snyder made significant improvements to this farm following an inspection and warning letter issued by water quality inspector Mak Kauffman in 2010. The Whatcom Conservation District has prepared a farm plan for this operation. Manure is applied to the fields behind the barn, and other rented fields, during the spring, summer, and fall. Mormon Ditch, a tributary of Kamm Creek runs east to west through this property.	

Site Evaluation

Stream Corridor and Areas Near Surface Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input checked="" 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	
Comments: The stream corridor of Mormon Ditch was in good condition during this visit. Animals are fenced approximately 20 feet away from the stream in the summer months, and are fenced more than 50 feet away from the stream during the winter months. The stream runs directly along the toe of the manure lagoon and along the west side of the facility.		

Confinement Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (15 ft)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Polluted run-off reaching surface water	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presence of mud and manure	<input type="checkbox"/> Roof runoff water flows to confinement areas	
<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of previous runoff reaching surface water	<input type="checkbox"/> Adjacent land slopes toward surface water	
Comments:		

1. During the inspection, brown colored runoff from the heavily manured confinement area in front of the south barn was observed running through the small berm around the confinement area, running across the access road, and discharging into the Hampton Road roadside ditch. This runoff water was contaminated with manure, and this is a discharge of pollutants into state waters.
2. The outdoor confinement area to the rear of the south barn was in good condition and no discharges were observed. This area is fenced away from the stream.

Stock Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (500 ft) <input type="checkbox"/> Overflow from tanks on to the ground	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mud and standing water at tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Animals accesses stream for stock water	
Comments: Cattle are watered at the barns. An outdoor water trough is located adjacent to the south barn and on top of a concrete pad. Mud and standing water were present at the tanks.		

Upland Pasture Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal access to stream corridors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (20 ft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of overgrazing and erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations and bare ground	
Comments: Two horses are kept in the north barn, and these are the only animals that are allowed to graze in pastures on this property. The horses are kept more than 50 feet away from Mormon Ditch in the winter, and allowed to graze within 20 feet of Mormon Ditch in the summer.		

Manure Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
Current manure management plan? yes Manure collected and stored? yes Manure storage properly sized? Not evaluated Manure storage covered? No - lagoon Manure being collected often? Yes	Manure stored on covered, impervious surface? No-lagoon. Applied during growing season? Yes. Manure applied during non-growing season? Yes Vegetated buffer when manure is applied? Yes- from 40 feet in the wetter months of fall and spring and up to 10 feet in the summer Manure applied or stored off site? Not evaluated	
Comments: Manure at this facility is scraped from the barns into two sumps, and then pumped to the lagoon. Manure is applied to fields in the spring, summer and fall. Soiled bedding from the calf barn was observed applied to the field east of the barns somewhat recently. It is likely that during the last rain event some of this contaminated material was washed into Mormon Ditch.		

Other Areas of Concern
Comments:

Corrective Actions

- ☐ 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)

-Solid manure and soiled calf bedding are contaminated with fecal coliform bacteria and should be treated with the same precautions as liquid manure. Observe setbacks and appropriate timing when applying these wastes to the field.

- ☒ Site and design confinement and manure storage areas to prevent pollution of surface and ground water

-Immediately install a BMP adequate to prevent water from discharging from the confinement area in front of the east barn into the Hampton Road roadside ditch. The small, loose –soil vegetated berm around this area is inadequate and leaking, as demonstrated by the active discharge through this berm that was ongoing at the time of the inspection. I recommend that you rebuild this berm with a compacted soil berm as a temporary measure. Be advised that simply plugging the hole that the water was discharging out of at the time of the inspection is not sufficient to prevent discharges in the future, as the berm that is in place is not adequate to prevent discharges.

- ☐ 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:

Photos Taken: ☒ Yes

☐ No

Sample Taken: ☐ Yes

☒ No

Additional Comments

Comments: I recommend that you review your farm plan with the Whatcom Conservation District and revise as needed to include best management practices to prevent discharges from the application of solid manure and soiled calf bedding, as well as an improved BMP for the front confinement area. I also strongly recommend that you fully implement all elements of that farm plan.

Ecology Contact Information

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Inspector Signature: _____

Date: _____

3/6/2014