DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Livestock and Water Quality Site Visit

Site Visit Information	☐ First Visit	☒ Follow-up Visit
Prepared by: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Arrival Time: 2:00 pm	Departure Time: 2:45 pm
Date: 10/17/2014	Current Weather Conditions: Raining	

Owner/Operator Information	
Name: Dave & Jackie Brown	Street: 1769 W. Badger Road
City: Custer	Zip Code: 98240
Phone: 360-815-0054	Email:

Site Information	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: Lower Nooksack (Bertrand)

General site description: This inspection was conducted as a follow-up to ensure that sources of pollution discovered during the June, 2014 inspection had been corrected. Mr. Brown and I looked at the areas that previously were or had the potential to cause discharges, and I observed that adequate corrective actions had been taken.

Dave and Jackie Brown raise primarily dairy heifers on their approximately 80 acre property. According to Mr. Brown, there are approximately 300 heifers on the property all year. The heifers are kept in two barns and not allowed out on pasture. The facility is a former dairy, and two dairy lagoons are used to store liquids throughout the year.

Site Evaluation

Stream Corridor and Areas Near Surface Water	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
☐ Bare, exposed, eroding soils	☐ Absence of woody vegetation	
☐ Contaminated run-off (active or potential)	☐ Manure accumulations	
☐ Slumping stream banks and erosion	☐ Animal access to surface water	
☐ Overgrazing of grasses	☐ Livestock paths and trails along riparian areas	

Comments: A waterway runs south along the western property line and discharges into Dakota Creek. Monitoring station SW21 is the nearest downstream station on this waterway at Loomis Trail Road. The waterway is approximately 200 feet away from the barns, and 130 feet away from the manure/bedding drystack. The area between the facility and the stream is well vegetated, and animals do not have access to the water.

An underground pipe delivering roof runoff to this stream no longer also carries runoff from the barnyard area. An open pit was installed in the middle of this pipe. Mr. Brown explained that the purpose of this pit is to provide a reservoir area to settle out any pollutants, and to provide an opportunity to stop any pollutants that might get into that line before the water reaches the stream.

manure management plan. Not implementing a manure management plan creates a much higher risk of discharging pollutants to state waters than if one was implemented.

Since the previous inspection, Mr. Brown has poured a concrete pad and done grading work to better contain runoff from the south side of his manure dry stack area. This appears to be effective.

Other Areas of Concern
Comments:

Corrective Actions
No corrective actions are recommended at this time.

Photos Taken: ☒ Yes ☐ No	Sample Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Additional Comments
Comments: I strongly encourage Mr. and Mrs. Brown to contact the Whatcom Conservation District at 360-354-2035 extension 3 for assistance in creating and implementing a manure management plan that will reduce the risk of their operation discharging pollutants to state waters in the future.

Ecology Contact Information	
Name: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Regional Office: Bellingham Field Office
Phone: 360-725-5217	Email: Jessica.Kirkpatrick@ecy.wa.gov
Physical Address: 1440 10th St., Suite 102 Bellingham, WA 98225-7028	Mailing Address: 1440 10th St., Suite 102 Bellingham, WA 98225-7028

Inspector Signature: 

Date: November 3, 2014

Confinement Areas	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
☐ Distance to surface water (ft)	☐ Polluted run-off reaching surface water	
☐ Presence of mud and manure	☐ Roof runoff water flows to confinement areas	
☐ Signs of previous runoff reaching surface water	☐ Adjacent land slopes toward surface water	

Comments: The confinement areas are located inside barns. The majority of the confinement space is contained by barn walls.

The following issue was the only one noted during the inspection:

The floor drain that collected runoff from the asphalt pad in front of the two heifer barns has been disconnected from the gutter system that delivers roof runoff to the stream. A sump and pump has been installed to collect the runoff from the asphalt pad and transfer it to the manure storage lagoon.

Stock Water	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
☒ Distance to surface water (500 ft)	☐ Mud and standing water at tanks	
☐ Overflow from tanks on to the ground	☐ Animals accesses stream for stock water	

Comments: Cattle are watered inside the barns, which are drained to the manure lagoons.

Upland Pasture Areas	☐ Evaluated	☒ Not Evaluated
☐ Animal access to stream corridors	☐ Signs of overgrazing and erosion	
☐ Distance to surface water (>500 ft)	☐ Manure accumulations and bare ground	

Comments: There are no pastures used by this operation. Cattle are kept indoors at all times.

Manure Management	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
Current manure management plan? no	Manure stored on covered, impervious surface?	
Manure collected and stored? yes	Applied during growing season?	
Manure storage properly sized? unknown	Manure applied during non-growing season?	
Manure storage covered?	Vegetated buffer when manure is applied?	
Manure being collected often?	Manure applied or stored off site?	

Comments: Manure from the barns is scraped outside into the two lagoons and the drystack west of the barn. A sump pump between the barns drains liquids to the near lagoon. The operation currently does not have a