

Livestock and Water Quality Site Visit



Site Visit Information	<input type="checkbox"/> First Visit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Visit
Prepared by: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Arrival Time: 10:00 AM	Departure Time: 10:45 AM
Date: 4/7/2016	Current Weather Conditions: Sunny	

Owner/Operator Information	
Name: Lee Wiebe	Street: 6689 Malloy Road
City: Ferndale	Zip Code: 98248
Phone: 360-319-2440	Email: WiebeConstruction@comcast.net

Site Information	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: California Creek
<p>General site description: Mr. Wiebe keeps between 10 and 30 cattle year round on this property. The farm is located in the California Creek drainage, a seasonal tributary to California Creek runs west to east through this farm and monitoring site SW44 is located immediately downstream of the property on Malloy Road.</p> <p>This visit was prompted by observations and photographs from 3/22/2016 showing water discharging from a dirt surfaced confinement area towards a tributary of California Creek. Mr. Wiebe and walked the area and discussed options for controlling run-on from the adjacent road.</p>	

Site Evaluation

Stream Corridor and Areas Near Surface Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bare, exposed, eroding soils <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contaminated run-off (active or potential) <input type="checkbox"/> Slumping stream banks and erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Overgrazing of grasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Absence of woody vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations <input type="checkbox"/> Animal access to surface water <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock paths and trails along riparian areas	
<p>Observations: During this site visit, I observed only the part of the stream corridor that lies between the culvert crossing and where the stream passes nearest the winter confinement area for bulls. The following observations were made about this segment of the stream corridor:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cattle are excluded from the stream by fences at the top of the bank of the stream.2. The part of the winter bull confinement area that extends from the top of the slope down to the fence above the stream still has little vegetation growing on it. It is evident that water passes through this area from the confinement area west of the barns and into the stream.		

Confinement Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (50 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs of previous runoff reaching surface water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjacent land slopes toward surface water
<p>Observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The bull/steer winter confinement area has been restricted to a smaller area near the top of the slope. Animals are no longer in this confinement area for the spring, and Mr. Wiebe has committed to making improvements this spring. 2. The dirt-surfaced confinement area west of the barns and main winter confinement is sloped toward the tributary of California Creek and has accumulations of manure and is saturated with water. A swale discharges water from the Brown Road area through this confinement area and towards the tributary of California Creek. This condition is causing water contaminated with manure to discharge to the tributary during larger runoff events. 	

Stock Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (100 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	
Observations:		

Upland Pasture Areas	<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 (ft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of overgrazing and erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations and bare ground	
Observations: The pasture areas were not evaluated during this visit.		

Manure Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
Current manure management plan? no Manure collected and stored? Yes Manure storage properly sized? Unknown. Manure storage covered? No Manure being collected often? Yes.	Manure stored impervious surface? Yes. Applied during growing season? Yes. Manure applied during non-growing season? No. Vegetated buffer when manure is applied? Yes. Manure applied or stored off site? Unknown.	
<p>Observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solid manure is stored in an uncovered concrete bunker adjacent to the barn and confinement area. 2. Liquid runoff from the confinement area and solids storage bunker flows to an underground holding tank just east of the concrete confinement area. Mr. Wiebe has had this pumped down this winter, and there were no signs that it had overflowed. 		

Other Areas of Concern

Comments:

Corrective Actions**In addition to the corrective actions identified on the report from the February 2 visit:****By September 30, 2016:**

- 1) Install a culvert or other form of run-on control that will convey stormwater from the Brown Road area across the confinement area west of the barn and prevent it from coming into contact with manure. Mr. Wiebe stated that this was his preferred option.
- 2) Even with the run-on from Brown Road eliminated, it is possible that manure contaminated runoff from the confinement area will discharge over the top of the cattle lane and onto the slope above the tributary of California Creek. To reduce the risk of this happening maintain the area as a grassed pasture and do not allow manure to accumulate between September 30 and April 30 of each year. Do not allow cattle access during the winter rainy season until the ground has dried out enough to support grazing cattle and the risk of large runoff events has passed.

Photos Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ NoSample Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ No**Additional Comments**

Comments:

Ecology Contact Information

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Inspector Signature:

Date: 4/14/2016