Livestock and Water Quality Site Visit

Site Visit Information	☒ First Visit	☒ Follow-up Visit
Prepared by: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Arrival Time: 12:00 pm	Departure Time: 12:30pm
Date: 12/28/2012	Current Weather Conditions: Overcast	

Owner/Operator Information	
Name: Bill Vanderlaan	Street: 7878 Goodwin Road
City: Everson, WA	Zip Code: 98247
Phone: (360) 966-57??	Email: None

Site Information	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: Ditches that flow to Breckenridge Creek which is tributary to the Sumas River

General site description (include information about nearby waterbodies and description of farm conditions):
On December 28, 2012, water quality inspector Chris Luerkens and I conducted a water quality compliance inspection of the Bill Vanderlaan property located at 7878 Goodwin Road, Everson WA 98247. This inspection was conducted as both a follow-up inspection to a previous compliant and in response to a second citizen's complaint on the same property. Upon arrival we contacted Mr. Bill Vanderlaan and properly identified ourselves and explained that our purpose was to follow up on the inspection conducted on 11/1/2012. Observations made at the time of this inspection indicated that conditions on the property still constituted the potential to pollute the east Goodwin Road ditch, a tributary to the Sumas River. During our previous inspection, Mak Kaufman advised Mr. Vanderlaan to halt all contaminated discharges into the east Goodwin Road ditch. Mr. Vanderlaan had created a new confinement area by fencing off some grass pasture. At that time Mak Kaufman cautioned Mr. Vanderlaan that the confinement area was too small to support the 30 or so cows on the property. Mr. Vanderlaan stated that he had several other properties that he could confine his herd on. (see previous inspection report)

On November 19th, Mak Kaufman collected a water sample of contaminated water flowing off of Mr. Vanderlaan's property from a 4-inch diameter pipe that was discharging turbid water into the east Goodwin Road ditch in front of this property during a rain event. The lab results showed this discharge to contain 130,000 Fecal Coliform Bacterial Colony Forming Units (CFUs)/100mL water. The east Goodwin Road ditch runs along the front of the property and is separated from the muddy, manure contaminated area by 5 to 10 feet. It is unclear where this pipe originates from and Mr. Vanderlaan maintains that it does not originate on his property and has said he will cooperate in locating the pipe's intake point.

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: At the time of the current inspection, there was evidence of previous runoff leaving this area and entering the ditch near the South gate. See photo 1. A 4" diameter pipe was observed discharging water into the east Goodwin Road ditch in front of the confinement area. It is not clear where the intake to this pipe originates, and Mr. Vanderlaan did not know, but maintained that the pipe did not collect any water from his property. He said he would ask his neighbor to the East. An accumulation of brown foam was observed around the outfall of this pipe into the ditch. See photo 2.

Confinement Areas	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
☐ Distance to surface water (5-10 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 area between the barn and the house to the East of Goodwin Road is covered by approximately 15 inches of mud and manure. Mr. Vanderlaan had previously stated (November 1, 2012), that the cattle would be removed from the muddy, manure contaminated confinement area adjacent to the east Goodwin Road ditch, however at the time of this inspection the cattle were still present in this area. Cattle were observed standing near the feeding ring in the middle of the confinement area nearly knee-deep in mud and manure. See photo 3. The distance between this confinement area and the east Goodwin Road ditch is between 5-10 feet. See photo 4. While a dirt berm has been constructed at the edge of the confinement area, this berm was not extended far enough South or North to prevent runoff from the confinement area from entering the ditch. There was evidence that vehicles driven from the confinement area out onto the gravel parking area between the barn and the ditch had been tracking muddy, manure contaminated soils onto the parking surface, which is also adjacent to the road ditch.

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

Comments:

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

Comments: Mr. Vanderlaan is not using the newly created pasture. He stated that the newly created pasture was quickly trampled into a muddy area by his cows and he moved them back to the confinement area adjacent to Goodwin road because did not want them to cause further damage to the pasture. This is because Mr.

Vanderlaan has too many head of cattle for this small amount of confinement area to support without causing contaminated runoff into state waters. Mr. Vanderlaan previously stated that he has access to several other properties and he should split the herd up and move portions those cattle to several different pastures to avoid the generation of manure, contaminated muddy areas. Each property should not exceed more than one cow per acre and he must prevent manure-contaminated muddy areas from being generated.

Manure Management	☒ Evaluated	☐ Not Evaluated
Current manure management plan? No Manure collected and stored? No Manure storage properly sized? No storage Manure storage covered? No storage Manure being collected often? no	Manure stored on covered, impervious surface? no storage Applied during growing season? No Manure applied during non-growing season? Yes, year round pasturing. Vegetated buffer when manure is applied? N/A Manure applied or stored off site? No	
Comments:		

Other Areas of Concern
Comments:

Corrective Actions

☒ Install livestock exclusion fencing to keep animals at least 35 ft from surface waters (35ft minimum) Permanent buffers function most effectively to protect water quality and prevent invasion by weeds when planted and maintained with native shrubs and trees suited to the soils and hydrology of the site.

☒ Install off-stream stock water watering facilities and locate them at least 75 or more 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: Extend the dirt berm along the edge of the confinement area all the way to the edges of the confinement area to prevent contaminated runoff from entering the Goodwin Road east ditch. Stabilize soil in

the confinement area adjacent to Goodwin Road. Prevent the tracking of manure-contaminated soils from the confinement area to the area near the barn either by not operating vehicles between the two places or installing an adequate BMP to remove mud from tires as vehicles exit the confinement area.

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

Additional Comments
Comments:

Ecology Contact Information	
Name: Jessica Kirkpatrick	Regional Office: Bellingham Field Office
Phone: 360-715-5200	Email: jessica.kirkpatrick@ecy.wa.gov
Physical Address: 1440 - 10th Street, Suite 102, Bellingham, WA 9822	Mailing Address: 1440 - 10th Street, Suite 102, Bellingham, WA 9822

Conservation District Referral: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Whatcom Conservation District
6975 Hannegan Road
Lynden, WA 98264
(360) 354-2035
ccheever@whatcomcd.org

A copy of this inspection form will be provided to your local conservation district.

Inspector Signature: 

Date: 1/22/2012