

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: 10:00 a.m.	Departure Time: 11:30 a.m.
Date: 6/26/2013	Current Weather Conditions: dry and sunny	

Owner/Operator Information	
Name: Joseph Kirkman	Street: 967 Loomis Trail Road
City: Lynden	Zip Code: 98269
Phone: 354-3796	Email:

Site Information	
County: Whatcom	Watershed: Lower Nooksack
General site description (include information about nearby waterbodies and description of farm conditions): Mr. Kirkman operates a small cattle farm that borders McClellan Creek in the Bertrand Watershed. The property appears to be well-run and actively managed by Mr. Kirkman, who has already taken several steps to ensure pollution does not discharge from his farm. Mr. Kirkman and I walked the property and he explained the way he operates his property	

Site Evaluation

Stream Corridor and Areas Near Surface Water	<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	
Comments: A permanent buffer is in place that keeps cattle more than 40 feet from McClellan Creek. The riparian area has been replanted in native trees and appears to be very healthy.		

Confinement Areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (300 ft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Polluted run-off reaching surface water	
<input 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: A winter sacrifice area located near the barns is more than 300 feet to the nearest surface water and located on level ground. Cattle are kept in the small barn during the harshest days of winter, but Mr. Kirkman does not allow them to stay on the concrete pad in front of the barn. This pad could drain towards the irrigation pond		

Stock Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Evaluated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to surface water (300 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: An off stream watering tank is located more than 300 feet from surface waters.		

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 (50 ft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of overgrazing and erosion <input type="checkbox"/> Manure accumulations and bare ground	
Comments: The property has been segmented into several pastures. Mr. Kirkman practices rotational grazing and is careful to rotate cows to a different pasture before they have grazed the grass down to 3" in height. The grass on all the pastures was in excellent condition.		

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? yes Manure storage covered? yes Manure being collected often? yes	Manure stored on covered, 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? no	
Comments: Manure is collected from the concrete slab where cattle are fed during the winter and stored in a covered manure storage structure. It is applied to pastures during the summer.		

Other Areas of Concern
Comments: none.

Corrective Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Install livestock exclusion fencing to keep animals at least 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.
<input type="checkbox"/> 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:

Photos Taken: ☒ Yes

☐ No

Sample Taken: ☐ Yes

☒ No

Additional Comments

Comments: Mr. Friedman was very supportive of clean water goals and had already taken several steps to protect it. His farm is well run and poses little, if any, risk to water quality

Ecology Contact Information

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Inspector Signature:



Date: July 5, 2013