

Feb 3, 2015

Memo to: Brandi Lubliner, Washington State Department of Ecology
From: Rick Haley, Skagit County Water Quality Analyst
Subject: Task A1.1 for RSMP monitoring

Deliverable A1.1: Summary of site visit for suitability, permissions and stage measurement approach.

Due Date: January 31, 2015

Skagit County will provide a letter summarizing the site conditions to the RSMP Coordinator: 1) dry in late summer, 2) anticipated to be hazardous for wading in winter months, and 3) how stage and discharge is planned to be monitored near the site. The letter will also discuss any pertinent local knowledge about the sites and/ or any outstanding permission necessary for monitoring.

Skagit County is responsible for monitoring five sites in the Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP). These sites are:

Site No.	Long	Lat	Stream name
15-WUGA	-122.23445	48.516929	Brickyard Creek*
19-OUGA	-122.30661	48.379443	Carpenter Creek
20-OUGA	-122.278929	48.528191	Willard Creek
27-OUGA	-122.26793	48.541156	Thomas Creek
44-OUGA	-122.609383	48.428358	Campbell Lk Outlet

*Although the original RSMP documents refer to this as Willard Creek, the site location is actually Brickyard Creek

These sites were all visited by Skagit County personnel in January, 2015 and found to be suitable. They do not appear to pose any unusual hazards during normal high winter flows. Site 44-OUGA (Campbell Lake outlet creek) may go dry in the summer (we do not have experience with this site but Campbell Lake is known to recede below the outlet structure in dry weather). The other sites will most likely not go dry except in the case of severe drought.

Site 15-WUGA was designated Willard Creek in the original RSMP roster, but the stream at the coordinates given is actually Brickyard Creek. Brickyard Creek was rerouted many years ago from the Samish River Basin to the Skagit River Basin, and this may account for the confusion. This reach is in an area of suburban homes.

Site 20-OUGA (Willard Creek near confluence with Thomas Creek) is the site of storm event monitoring for fecal coliform as part of the Clean Samish Initiative. It is a low-gradient stream that has been made into a roadside ditch. It will have very low discharge and warm temperatures in the summer.

Site 27-OUGA requires permission from a property owner for access. We are in communication with the owner who has asked that we contact him prior to each visit.

All of these sites except 20-OUGA will be suitable for discharge measurement during most flows using our equipment (Gurley Pygmy flow meter with Aquacalc 5000 flow computer). However, during the first sample run in January, the computer malfunctioned and only site 19-OUGA was measured with the flow meter. Discharge at the remaining sites in January was estimated using the neutral buoyant object method. A replacement part for the flow computer has been ordered and we anticipate using the flow meter for subsequent discharge measurements. Site 20-OUGA will have velocities below the threshold for the flow meter during low flow months.