



Measure 2.1: Supplemental - Increase improved shellfish classification acreage in Puget Sound from net increase of 3,038 acres in 2007-13 to net increase of 8,614 acres by 2016



GOAL 3.2.1 - SHELLFISH

Department of Health

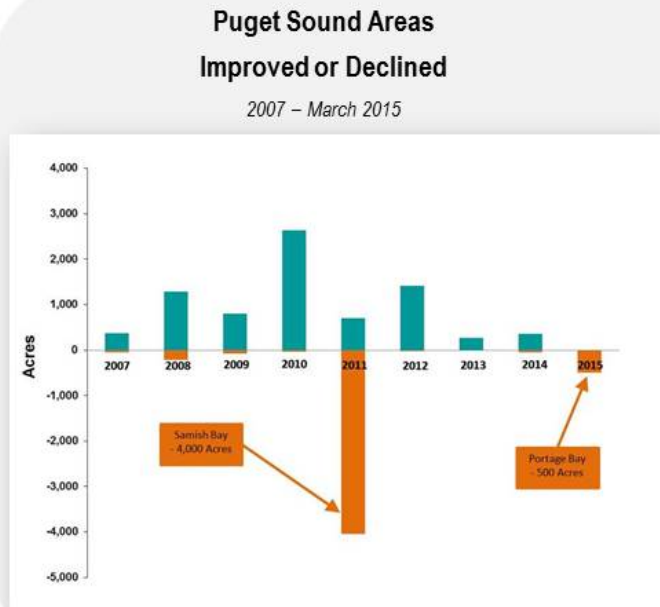
John Wiesman, Secretary

**Maryanne Guichard,
Assistant Secretary**

January 8, 2016



Background: *Overall water quality is improving*



- Long term trends show improved water quality
- Poor water quality in Samish Bay and Portage Bay have masked this success

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Moving the Needle

2015 Upgrades:

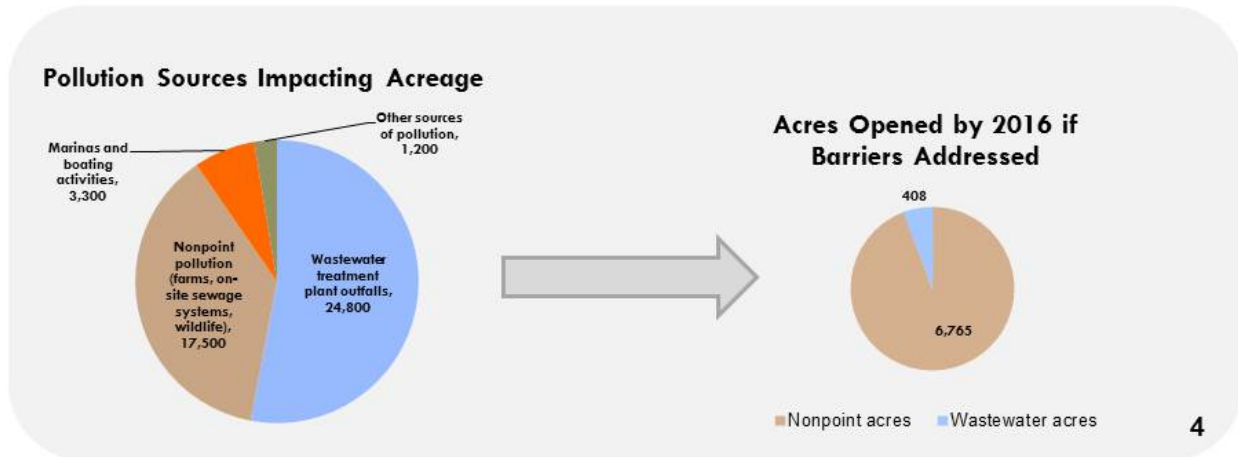
- Dungeness Bay
+ 700 acres
- Ketron Island
+ 200 acres
- King Co. (Midway)
+ 130 acres



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Current State: *We have the opportunity to improve water quality if barriers are addressed*

- **Able to fix:** Non-complex watersheds (moving the needle)
- **Long-term fix:** Wastewater and stormwater outfalls
- **Opportunity:** Complex watersheds with nonpoint pollution sources (farms & septic)

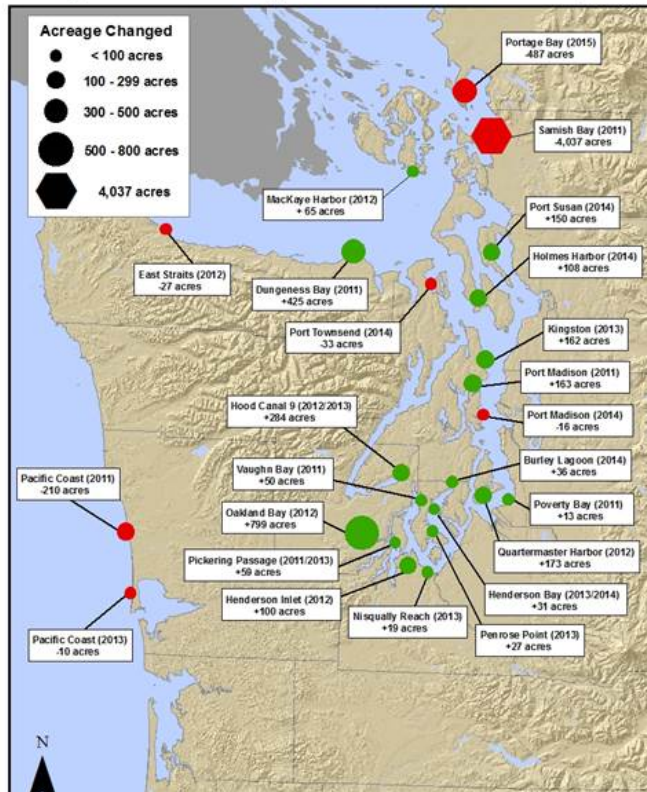


Shellfish Coordination Group

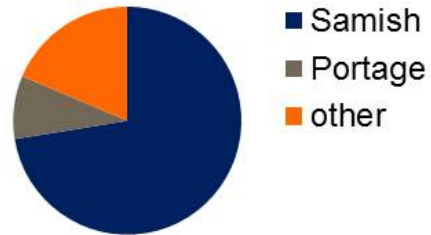


Why focus on Samish?

Washington Shellfish Growing Area Reclassifications: 2011 - April 2015



Total acres needed

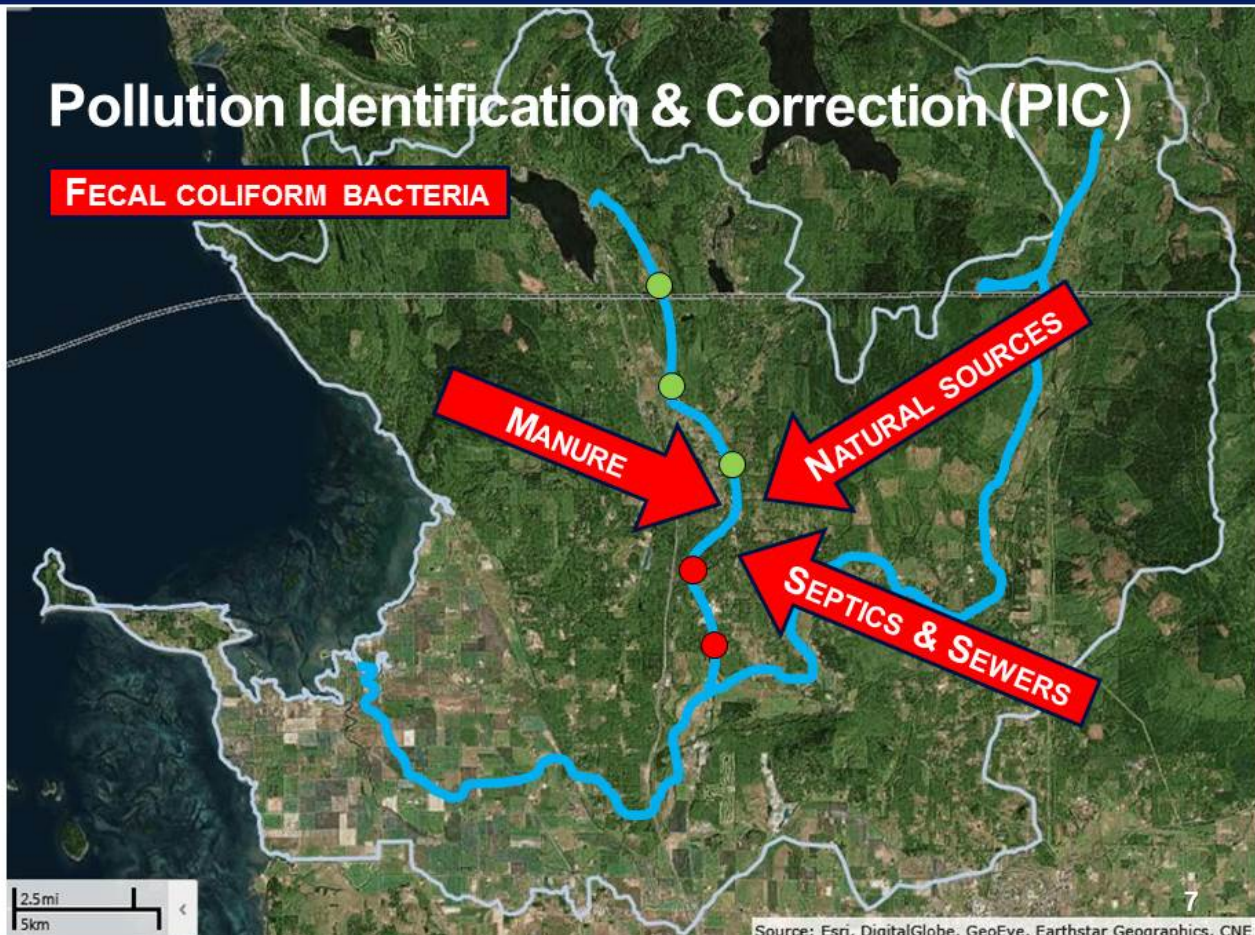


- Local engagement
- No clear answers
- Focused effort could help us statewide

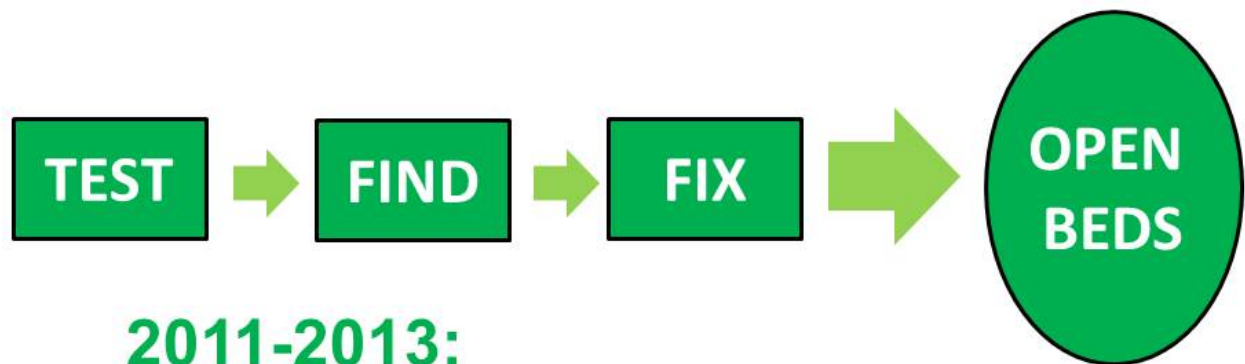
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Pollution Identification & Correction (PIC)

FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA



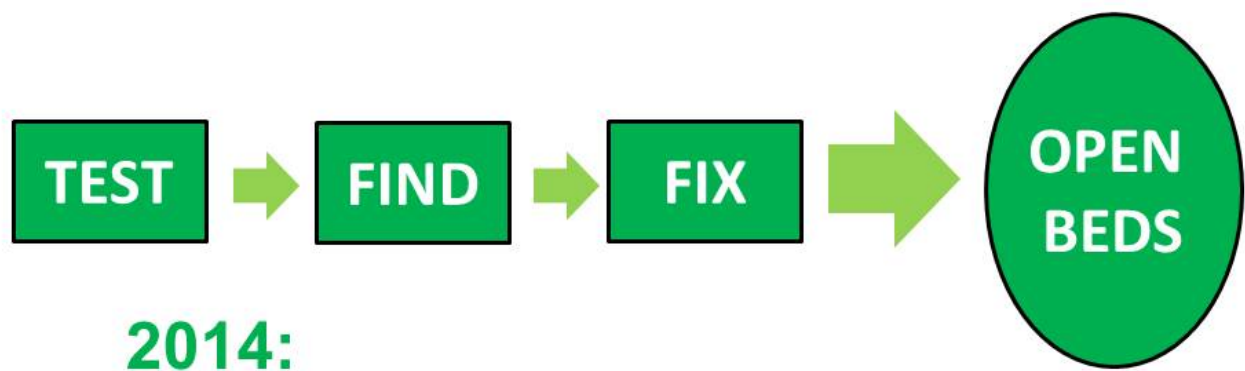
Clean Samish Initiative



- Fixed most of the problem

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Clean Samish Initiative



- Hardest problems left
- Little or no progress

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Applying Your Lean Principles

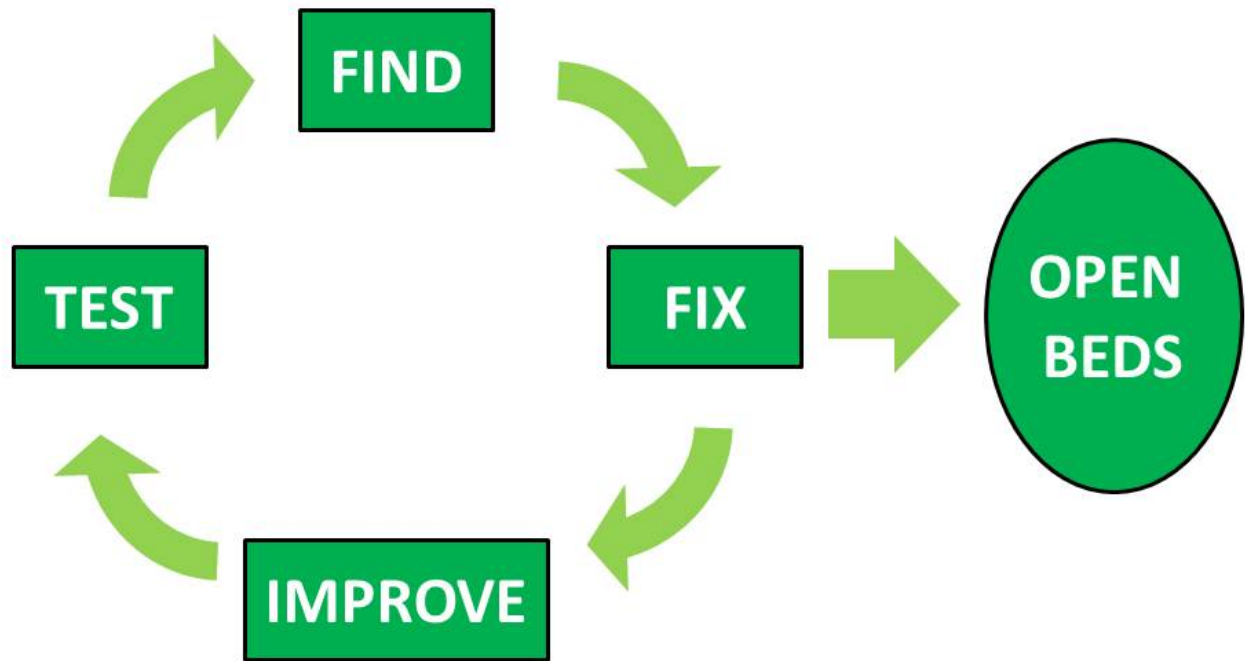
1. Listen to *the people who do the work*
2. Have the *difficult conversations*
3. Find & fix *root causes* (not symptoms)
4. Act fast! *Experiment!* Take risks!
5. *Keep improving*

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“Mud on Boots”



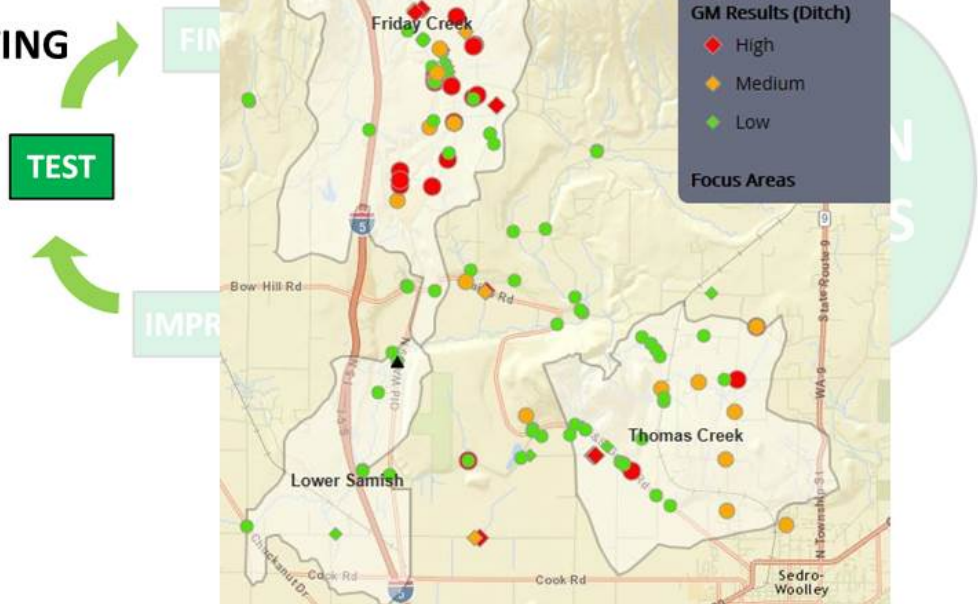
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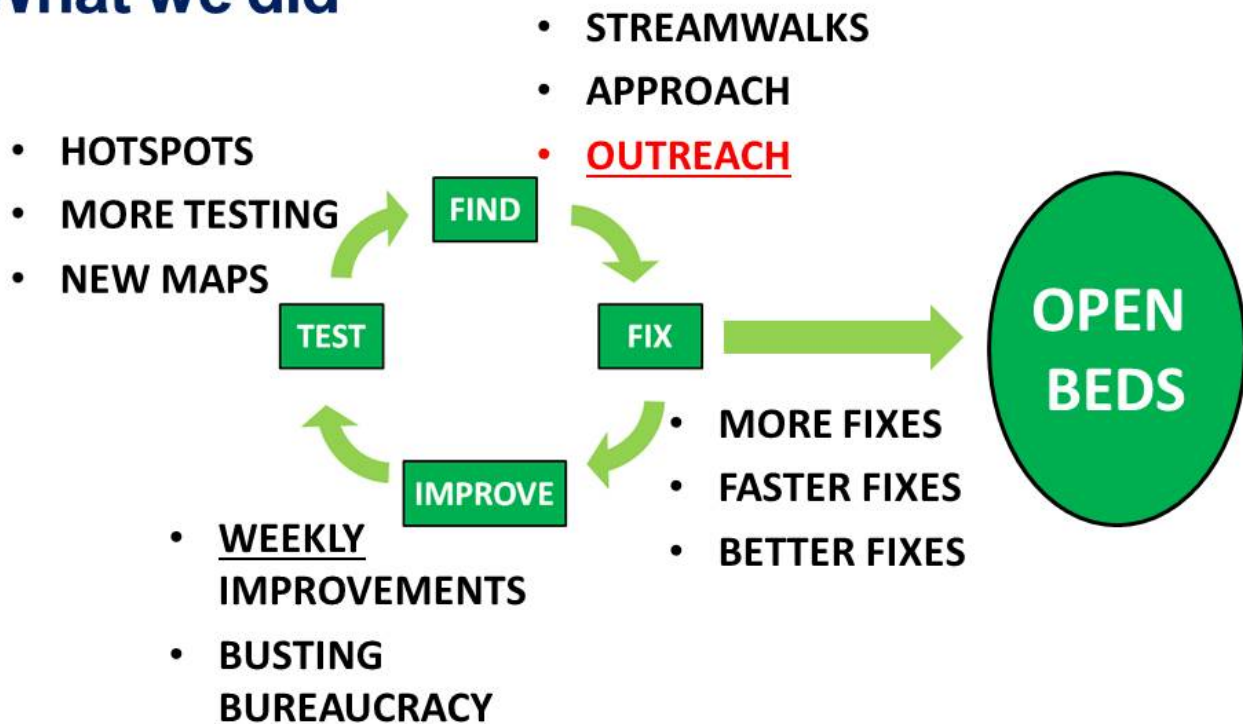
What we did

- HOTSPOTS
- MORE TESTING
- NEW MAPS



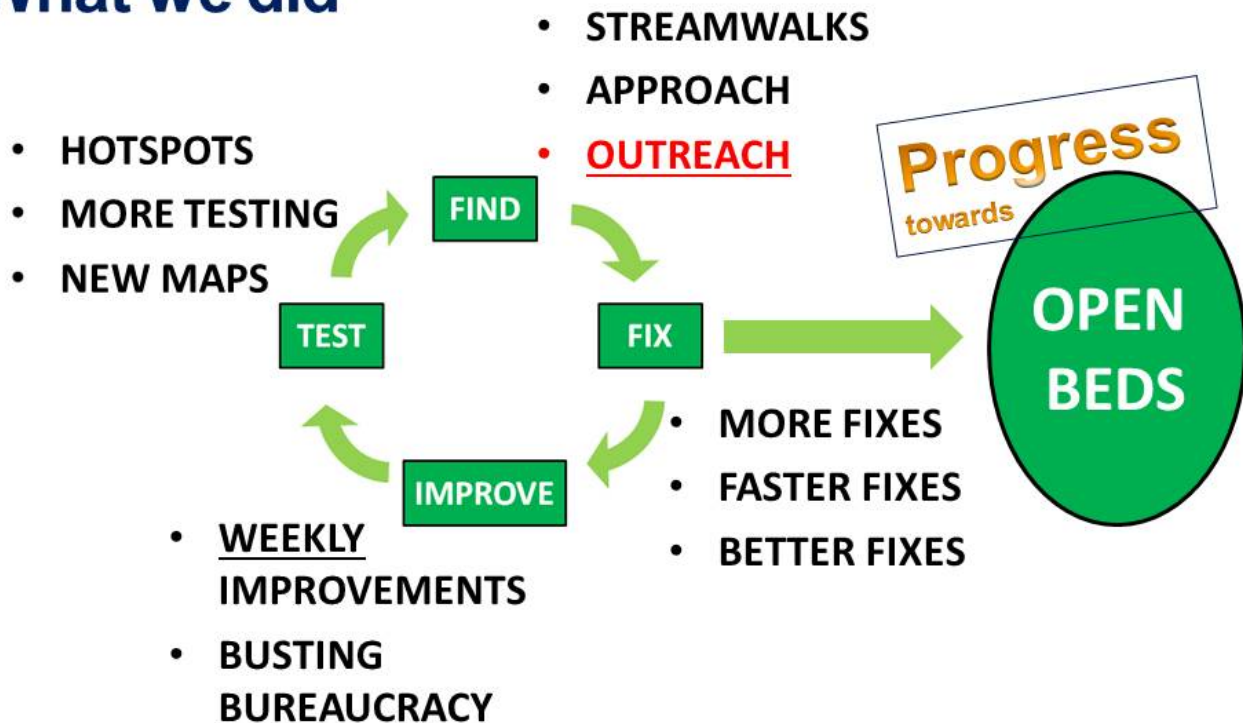
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What we did



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What we did



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What did we learn?

Septics

- Value of local PIC program
- Need for sustainable funding for septic and PIC programs

Ag Best Management Practices

- Focus incentive programs where needed
- Landowner engagement and support is key to success
- Need for continued funding for BMPs

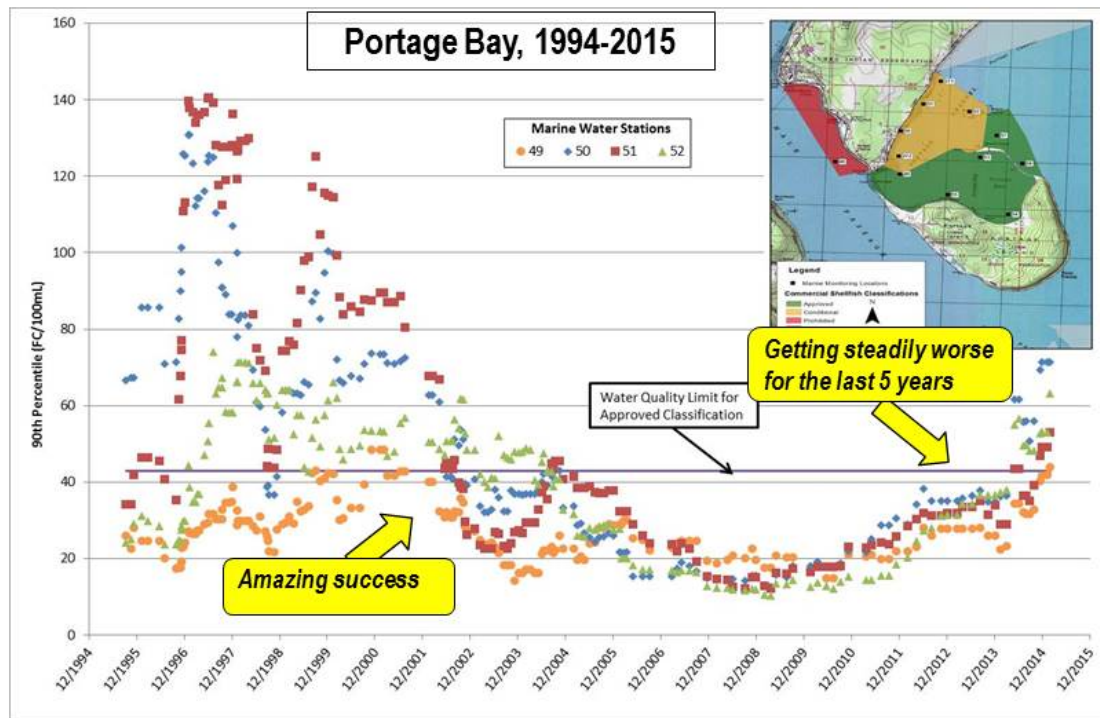
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Impacts at the State Level

- Opportunities for collaboration – and tough conversations – have improved our work
- Local team welcomed our involvement
- We can impact problems that initially seems “beyond our control”
- Lean problem-solving works... even on tough, complex problems with real conflicts

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Can this transfer to Whatcom County?



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Assistance Needed:

- Support sustainable, local PIC and septic operation & maintenance (O&M) programs
- Support expanded, proactive engagement with ag producers, along with a strong regulatory backstop
- As continuous improvement reveals useful policy changes & resource needs... be ready for us to come to you!

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Action Plan

