

# Possession Sound

## Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Possession Sound

Year Ending: December 31, 2023

Classification: Approved, Prohibited

### Activities in the Growing Area in 2023

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) criteria. Marine water quality stations 222, 331, 332, 333 and 334 were only sampled five times due to a ceremonial canoe journey occurring in Tulalip Bay in July.

A routine three-year shoreline evaluation was completed. The Snohomish County Health Department followed up on three shoreline on-site sewage system complaints and collected bacteria samples from Greenwood Creek and Island County Public Health collected routine bacteria samples in two drainages on Whidbey Island. Ongoing elevated bacteria levels measured in Greenwood Creek requires the existing Prohibited area to remain in place and bacteria levels were low in the other two drainages. No new or changes in pollution sources were identified.

Snohomish County Public Works and Snohomish Conservation District continue to implement pollution identification and correction activities in the region.

### Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 1 summarizes results of the 30 most recent samples collected from the area. All stations in the Approved area meet the NSSP water quality standard.

### Change in Actual Pollution Sources that Impact the Growing Area

We currently have no information indicating that the area has new sources of pollution.

### Classification Status

- Well within the classification standards
- Meets standards, but threatened with downgrade in classification
- Fails to meet current classification standards

### Remarks and Recommendations

Table 1 shows that all stations meet the NSSP water quality standard for an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.

**TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Possession Sound Growing Area**

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

| Station Number | Classification | Date Range             | Range (FC/100mL) | Geomean (FC/100mL) | Est. 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile (FC/100mL) | Meets Standard |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---|----------------|
| 223            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 17.0       | 1.9                | 3.4   | Y              |
| 224            | Approved       | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 11.0       | 2.3                | 4.7   | Y              |
| 225            | Approved       | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 79.0       | 2.4                | 7.8   | Y              |
| 226            | Approved       | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.1                | 5.1   | Y              |
| 227            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 9.3        | 1.9                | 2.8   | Y              |
| 228            | Approved       | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 7.8        | 2.0                | 3.6   | Y              |
| 229            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 13.0       | 2.1                | 4.4   | Y              |
| 232            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 130.0      | 3.3                | 13.3  | Y              |
| 233            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.0                | 4.3   | Y              |
| 234            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 9.3        | 1.9                | 3.2   | Y              |
| 235            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 27.0       | 2.4                | 5.7   | Y              |
| 236            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 17.0       | 2.1                | 4.6   | Y              |
| 237            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 17.0       | 2.0                | 3.8   | Y              |
| 238            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.2                | 5.0   | Y              |
| 239            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 23.0       | 2.2                | 4.8   | Y              |
| 240            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 14.0       | 2.2                | 5.0   | Y              |
| 244            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 17.0       | 2.3                | 5.1   | Y              |
| 245            | Approved       | 9/29/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.6                | 8.0   | Y              |
| 252            | Approved       | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 49.0       | 3.5                | 12.3  | Y              |
| 253            | Approved       | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.9                | 8.9   | Y              |
| 327            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 49.0       | 3.1                | 10.3  | Y              |
| 328            | Approved       | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 49.0       | 3.1                | 11.5  | Y              |
| 343            | Approved       | 9/29/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.5                | 7.1   | Y              |
| 222            | Prohibited     | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 79.0       | 3.3                | 12.6  | Y              |
| 331            | Prohibited     | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 240.0      | 5.3                | 30.5  | Y              |
| 342            | Prohibited     | 3/19/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 46.0       | 3.1                | 10.9  | Y              |
| 155            | Unclassified   | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 7.8        | 2.1                | 3.9   | Y              |
| 230            | Unclassified   | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 49.0       | 2.6                | 8.1   | Y              |
| 231            | Unclassified   | 1/29/2019 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 23.0       | 3.0                | 8.8   | Y              |
| 251            | Unclassified   | 11/9/2015 - 11/6/2023  | 1.7 - 33.0       | 2.9                | 8.2   | Y              |
| 332            | Unclassified   | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 110.0      | 4.3                | 19.6  | Y              |
| 333            | Unclassified   | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 220.0      | 4.4                | 25.4  | Y              |
| 334            | Unclassified   | 12/26/2018 - 11/6/2023 | 1.7 - 130.0      | 5.7                | 31.9  | Y              |

The standard for approved shellfish growing waters is fecal coliform geometric mean not greater than 14 organisms/ 100 mL with an estimated 90th percentile not greater than 43 organisms/ 100 mL. The above table shows bacteriological results in relation to program standards.

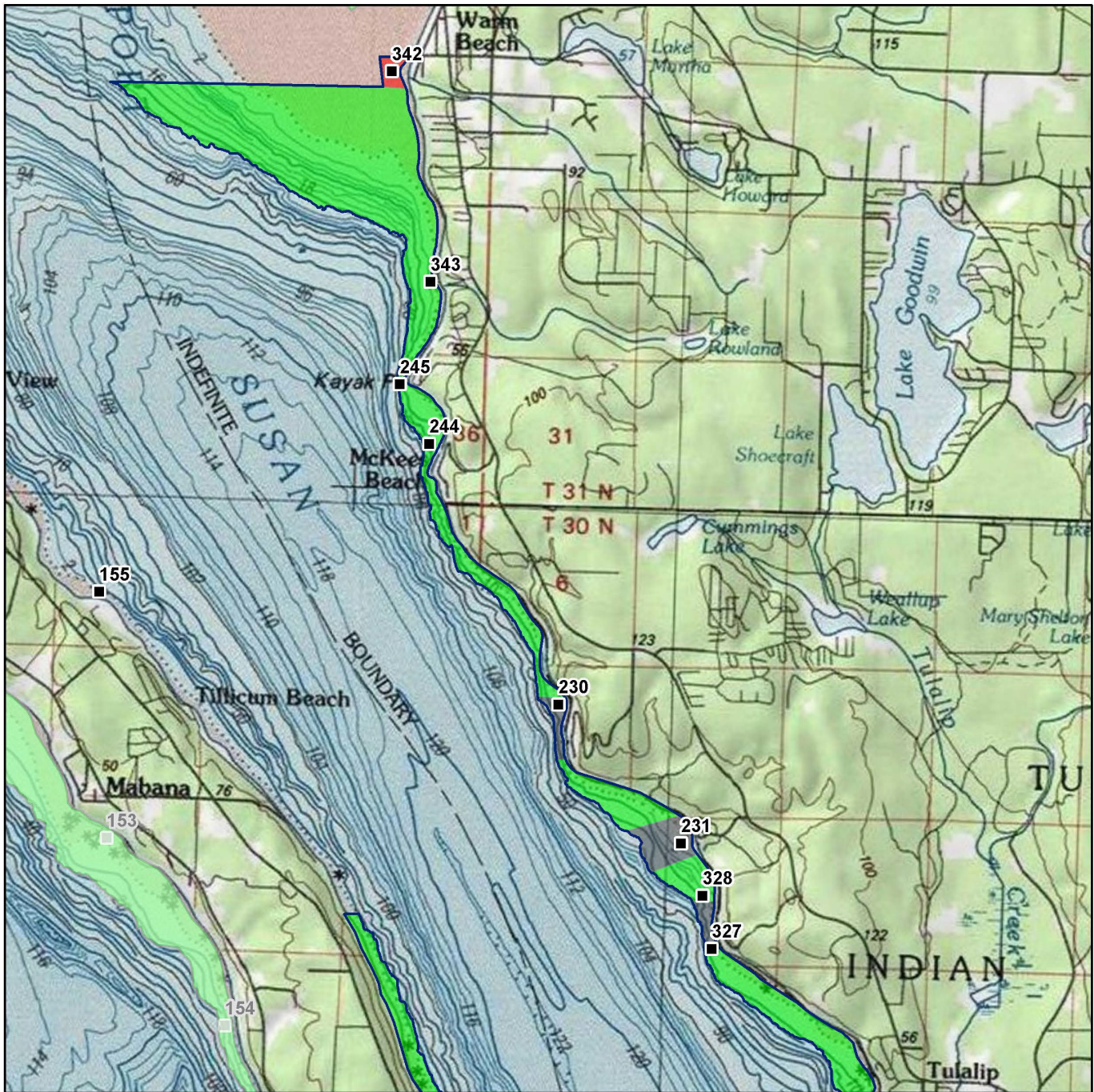
MAP 1. Possession Sound Growing Area (1 of 3)

Possession Sound (1 of 3)

0 1.5 3 Miles

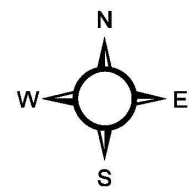


Date Updated: 7/11/2018



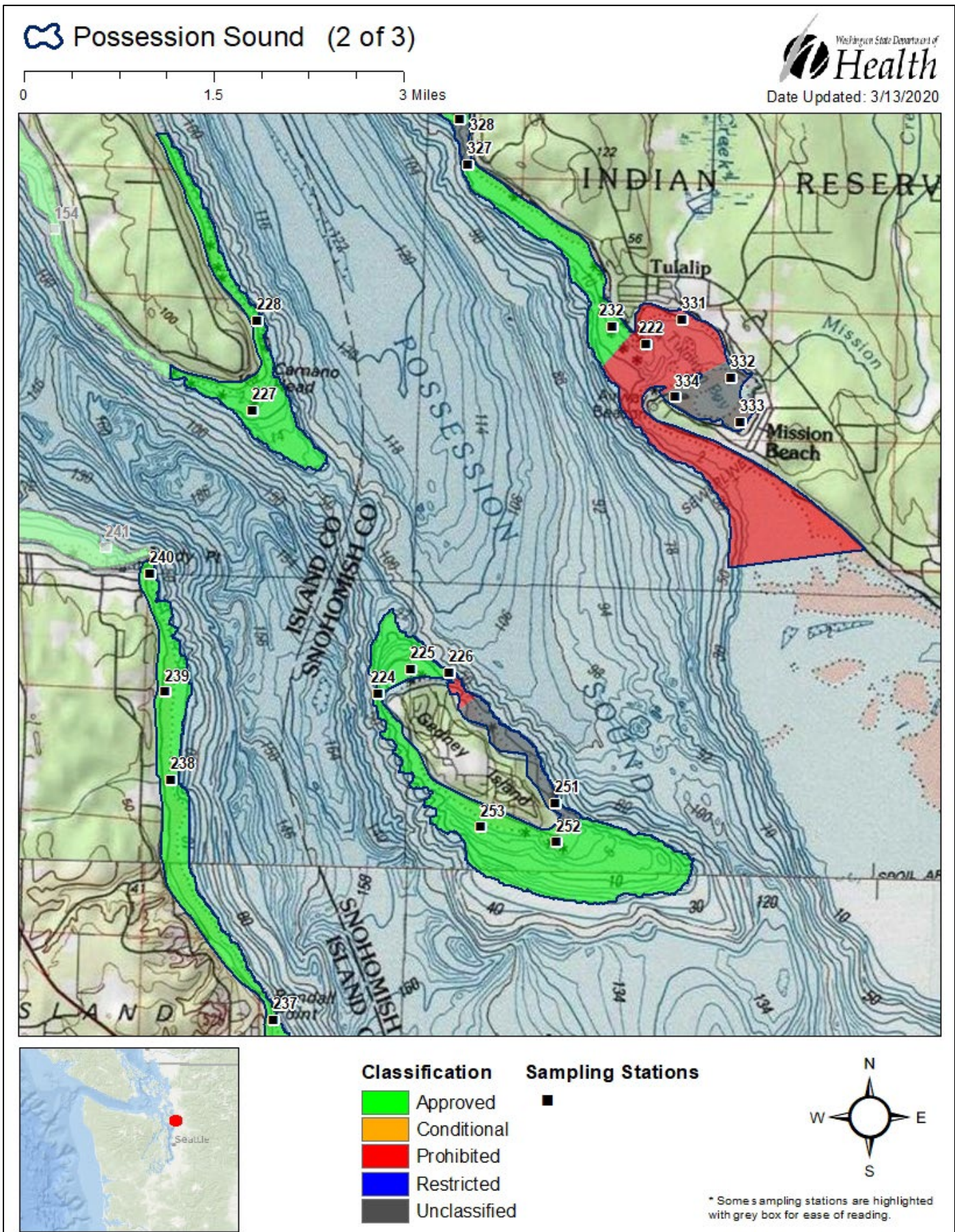
- Classification**
- Approved
  - Conditional
  - Prohibited
  - Restricted
  - Unclassified

**Sampling Stations**



\* Some sampling stations are highlighted with grey box for ease of reading.

MAP 2. Possession Sound Growing Area (2 of 3)

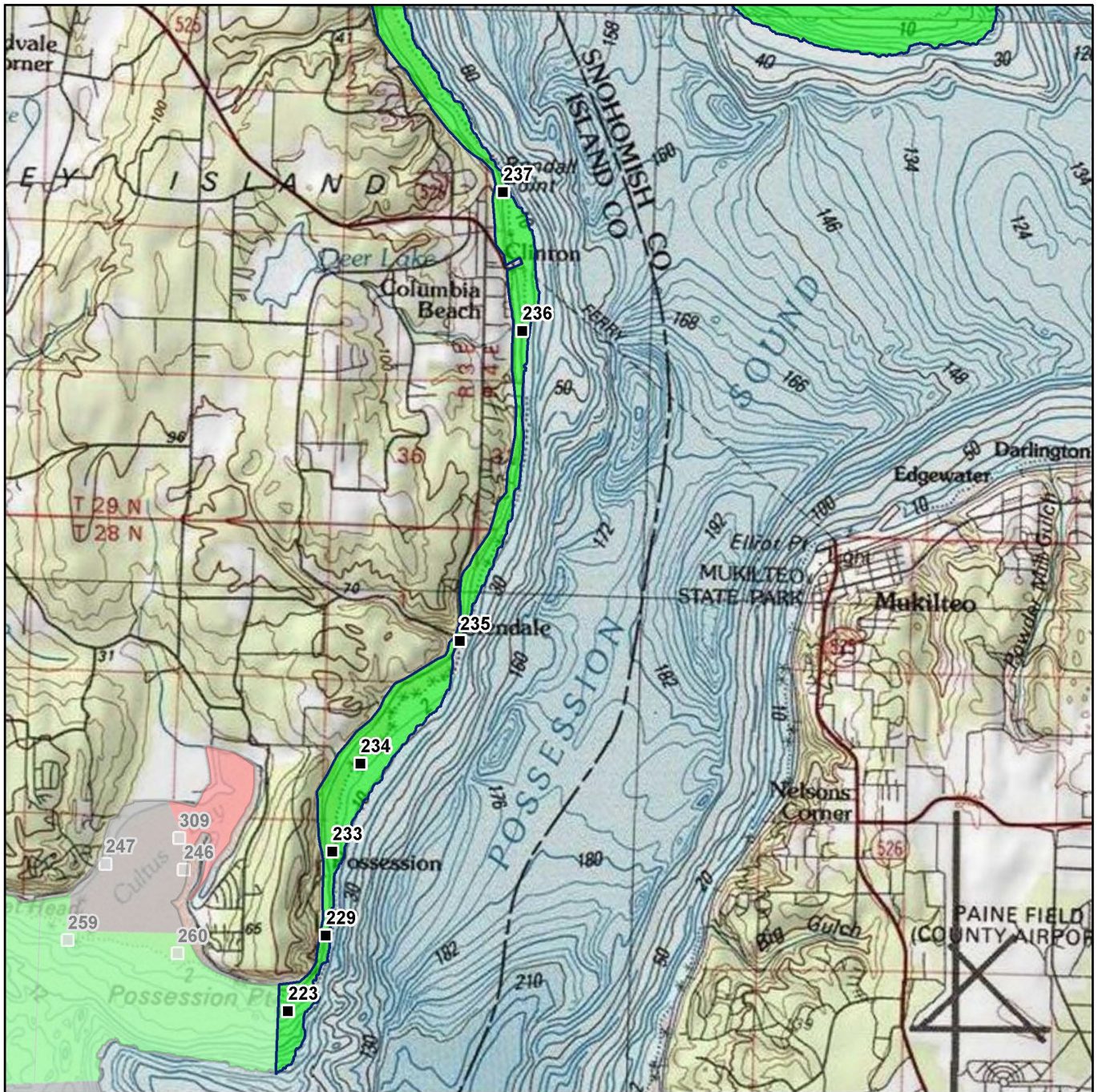


MAP 3. Possession Sound Growing Area (3 of 3)

Possession Sound (3 of 3)

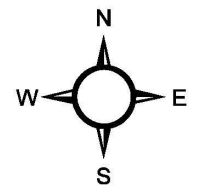
0 1.5 3 Miles

Washington State Department of Health  
 Date Updated: 7/11/2018



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- Sampling Stations**
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