



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WA-15-1400

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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MEMORANDUM  
January 7, 1983

To: Files  
From: John Bernhardt  
Subject: Notes on Minter Bay Survey of August 26, 1982

Minter Bay was sampled for fecal coliform (FC) three times during incoming tide. The intent was to determine whether these bacteria built up in the bay waters during this period. Our results are given below:

Sampling Run Time Sampled Tide Stage	Fecal Coliform Count (col/100 ml)		
	A 0811-9030 Early Flood	B 1105-1200 Mid Flood	C 1350-1405 Late Flood
<u>Station Number</u>			
1 - Minter Creek	50	70	69
3 - Upper Bay	<100	130	--
4 - Upper Bay	53	--	100
5 - Mid Bay	90	92	50
6 - Mid Bay	110	40	30
12 - Lower Bay	6	<2	10
14 - Lower Bay	--	12	30
15 - Bay Mouth	3	4	22
16 - Henderson Bay	--	2	2

The samples were analyzed at the Tacoma-Pierce County Health District Laboratory using the Most Probable Number (MPN) method. The stations are shown in Figure 1.

The data are inconclusive because of the small sample size but certainly do not discount the possibility of bottom sediments or a source(s) of FC outside Minter Bay. FC levels seemed to increase at all three lower bay stations over time (stations 12, 14, and 15) while the Henderson Bay station (16) remained very low.

JB:cp

cc: Tim Determan  
Dick Cunningham  
Section Files