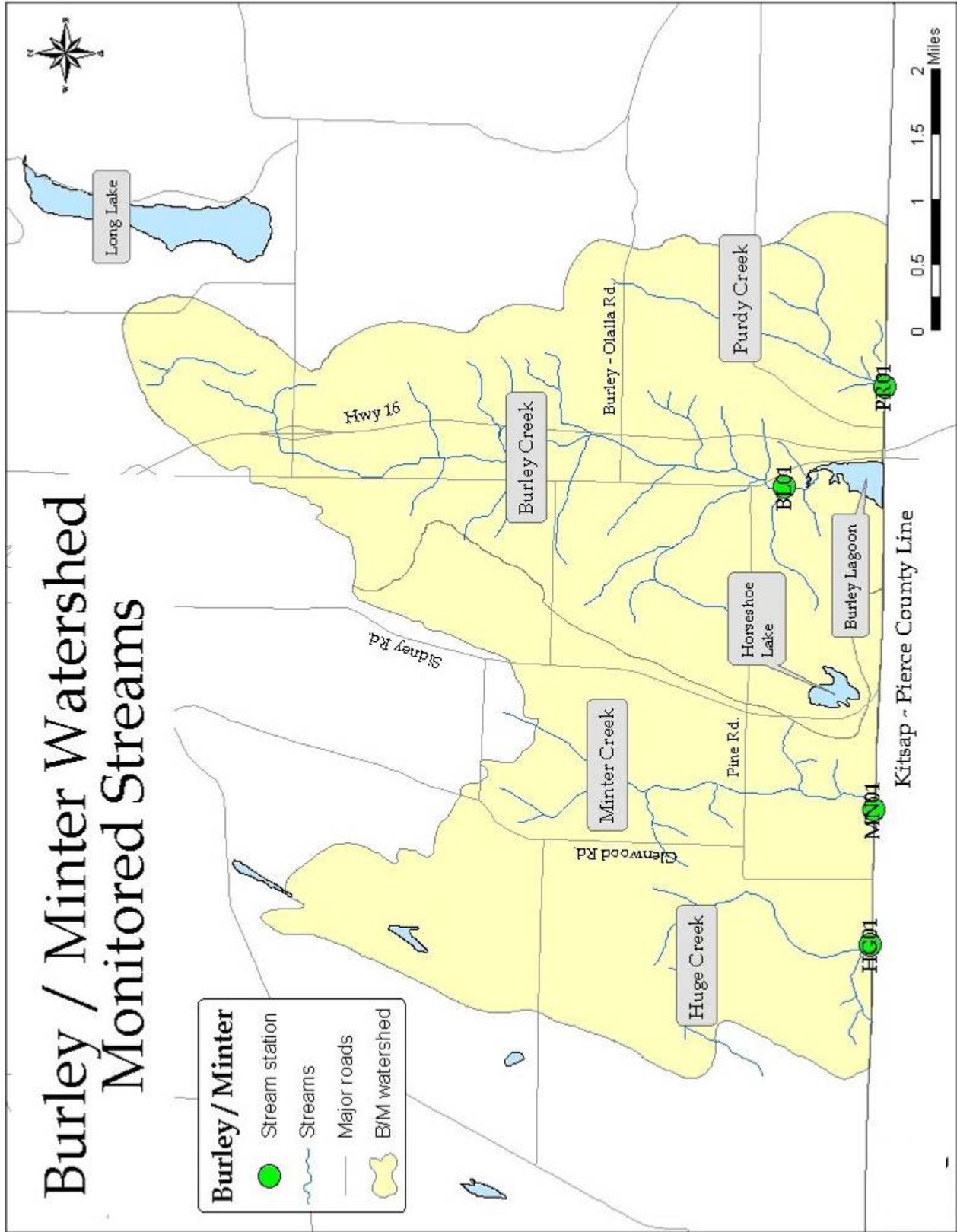


# **BURLEY / MINTER WATERSHED**

*2012 Water Quality Monitoring Report  
Kitsap Public Health District*

# Burley / Minter Watershed Monitored Streams



# BURLEY / MINTER WATERSHED

The Burley Creek / Minter Creek (B/M) watershed, designated as Extraordinary Primary Contact waters by the State, is located in southern Kitsap County. The Health District began water quality monitoring in this watershed on a regular basis in 1996. There is no marine water located within the Kitsap County portion of the watershed.

## 2012 WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

Waterbody	Long term trend	Short term trend	Meets WQ Standard?	2011 FC Bacteria GMV	2012 FC Bacteria GMV	Health Advisory?
Burley Creek (BL01)	→	→		70	57	No
Huge Creek (HG01)	→	→		29	25	No
Minter Creek (MN01)	↗	→		29	15	No
Purdy Creek (PR01)	→	→		28	15	No

### MONITORED TRIBUTARY STREAM(S) WITHOUT TREND ANALYSIS

- Bear Creek (*tributary to Burley Creek*), The Public Health Advisory issued in 2010 due to pollution has been lifted for 2013 based on improving bacteria levels in the stream.

### WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS AND CURRENT STATUS SUMMARY

#### HEALTH DISTRICT WATERSHED PIC PROJECTS

Health District staff have worked on numerous projects over the years to correct bacterial pollution in Burley Creek. This creek drains into Burley Lagoon where shellfish harvesting has been limited by pollution problems, and the area has been identified as a Marine Recovery Area. The ongoing partnership with Tacoma/Pierce County focuses on finding pollution from septic systems or agricultural waste management. During the 2011 and 2012 water years, 151 properties have been inspected, and 13 failing on-site septic systems have been identified and repaired. Although the Bear Creek tributary of Burley Creek has been improving, further work will continue in the area to address pollution in the tributary.

#### WASHINGTON STATE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT: LISTED PARAMETER(S) AND CATEGORIES (see page 1-10 for further explanation)

Bear Creek	Dissolved Oxygen (5), Fecal coliform bacteria (4B)
Burley Creek	Dissolved Oxygen (5), Fecal coliform bacteria (4B), pH (2)
Huge Creek	Dissolved Oxygen (5), Fecal coliform bacteria (2)
Minter Creek	Dissolved Oxygen (5), Fecal coliform bacteria (5)
Purdy Creek	Dissolved Oxygen (5), Fecal coliform bacteria (4B)

## SHELLFISH CLASSIFICATIONS

Although not located in Kitsap County, Burley Lagoon receives flow from Burley and Purdy Creeks. The southeast portion of the lagoon is classified *Approved*, the central portion of the lagoon is *Conditional* and the northern area closest to Kitsap County is *Restricted*.

Maps of shellfish closure areas are available on the Washington State [Department of Health Website](#). For specific information on shellfish classifications in Burley Lagoon, see the [most recent report](#) from the State Department of Health.

## INDIVIDUAL STREAM DATA

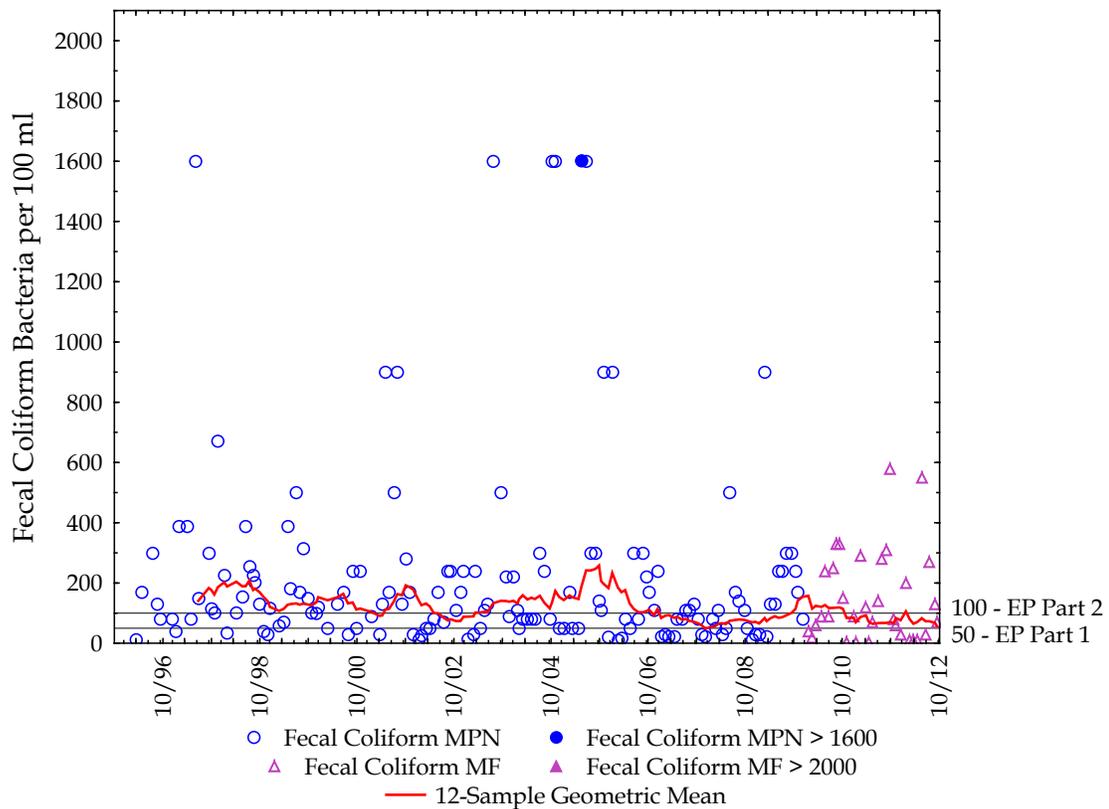
### BURLEY CREEK

Burley Creek originates in wetlands just north of Mullenix Road. The main stem and its tributaries combine for over nine miles of stream corridor. It flows south and discharges into Burley Lagoon near commercial shellfish growing areas in Pierce County. Land use in the Burley Creek drainage is a combination of rural residential and agricultural. Although bacteria levels have dropped since 2005, current water quality is still relatively poor with frequent periods of elevated bacteria. Statistical analysis for the creek shows a **stationary trend**. A tributary stream, Bear Creek, had a public health advisory issued in 2010. After a couple years of clean up efforts, the levels of fecal bacteria have decreased, and the advisory has been **lifted** for 2013.



Burley Creek monitoring station BL01, downstream of the Spruce Road bridge.

### BURLEY CREEK TREND GRAPH



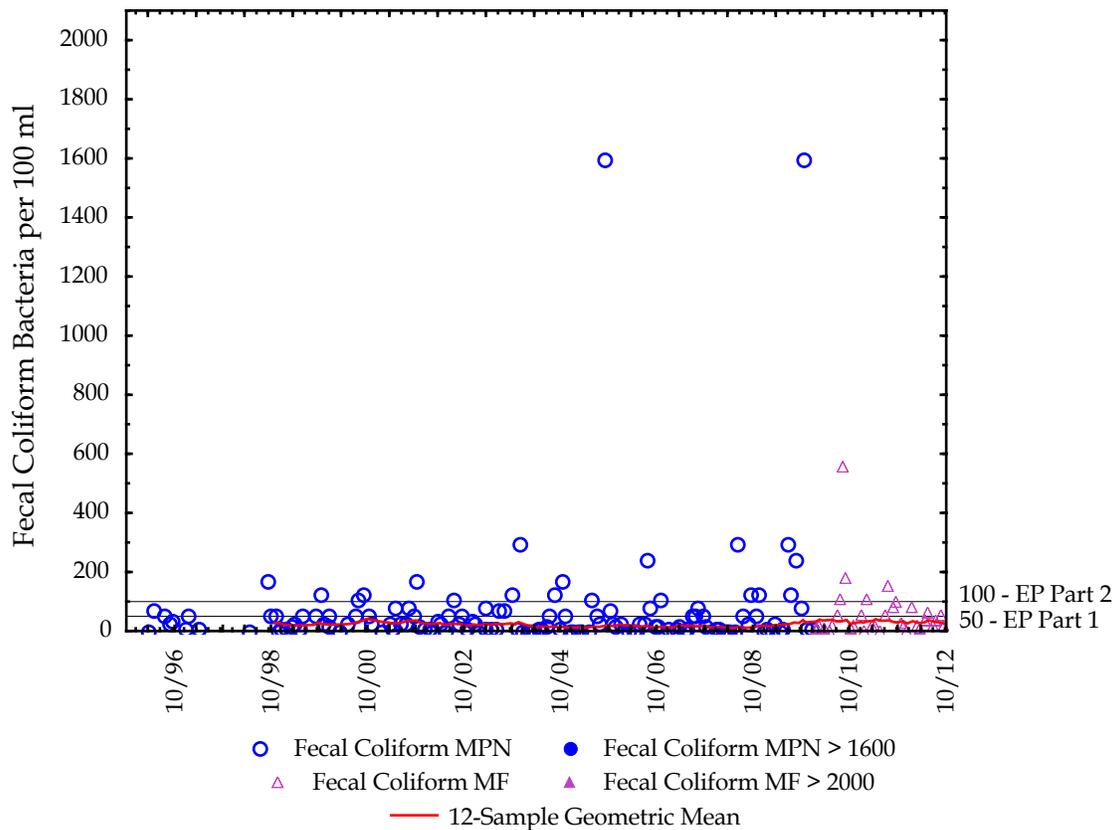
HUGE CREEK

Huge Creek originates north of SW Hunter Road in south Kitsap, flows across the Kitsap/Pierce County line, and discharges into Minter Creek. It is approximately 3.7 miles long. Land use in the Huge Creek drainage is a combination of rural residential and agricultural. Even though the creek periodically has elevated bacteria counts, water quality over the last year has been good. Long term trend analysis for the creek has previously shown an improving trend, and since bacteria levels have stabilized, Huge Creek now has a **stationary trend**.



Monitoring Station HG01 at County Line Road

HUGE CREEK TREND GRAPH



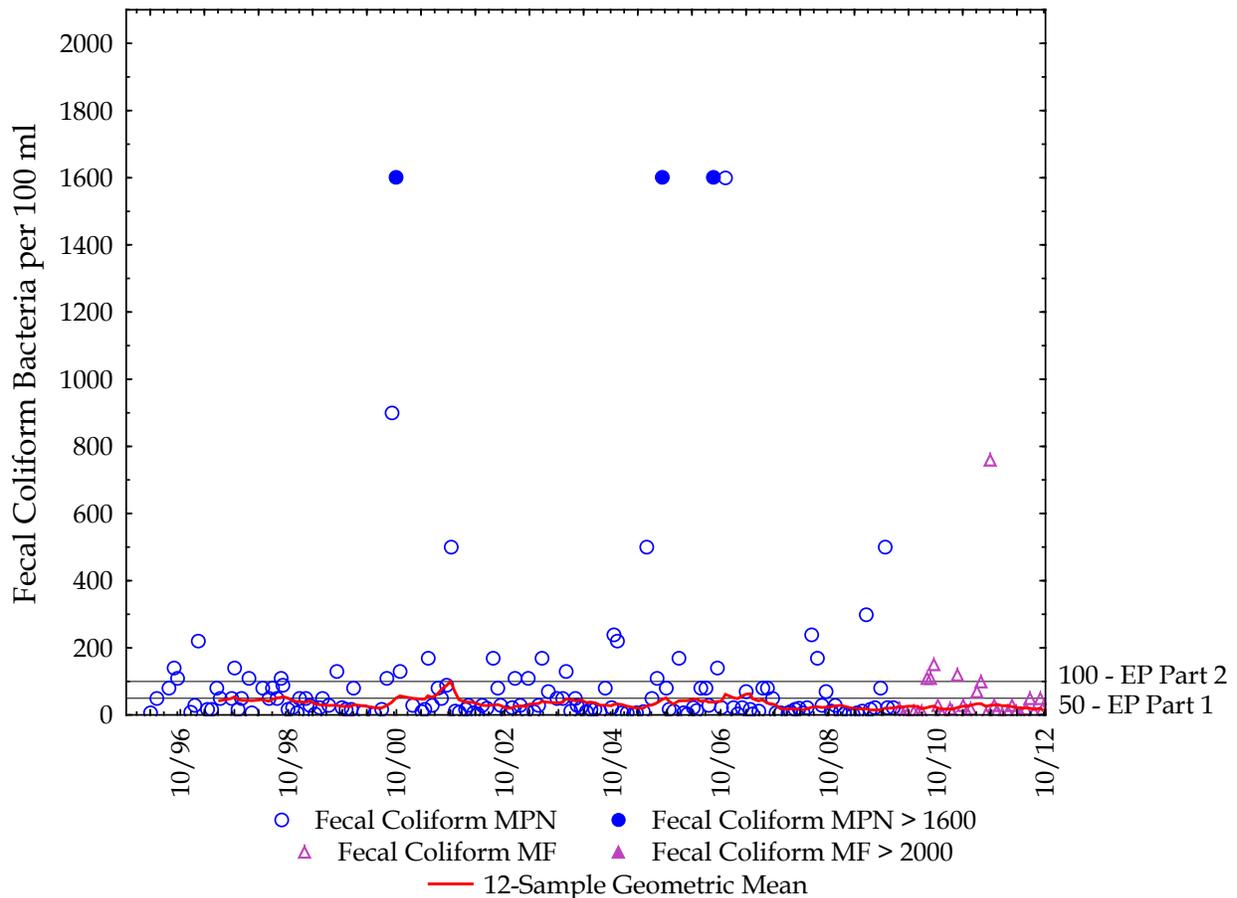
MINTER CREEK

Minter Creek originates north of Minterbrook Road in south Kitsap. The main stem and its two major tributaries, Huge Creek and Little Minter Creek, combine to form over 13 miles of stream corridor. Minter Creek flows south into Pierce County where it discharges into Henderson Bay. Land use in the Minter Creek drainage is a combination of rural residential and agricultural. Water quality over the previous year has been good, with only a few periods of slightly elevated bacteria concentrations. Statistical analysis for the creek shows a long-term **improving trend**.



Minter Creek monitoring station MN01, upstream of Glenwood Road.

MINTER CREEK TREND GRAPH



PURDY CREEK

Purdy Creek originates north of SE Burley Olalla Road in south Kitsap. The main stem and its tributaries combine for over 5 miles of stream corridor. The stream flows in a southerly direction, enters Pierce County and discharges into Burley Lagoon near the town of Purdy. Land use in the Purdy Creek drainage is a combination of rural residential and agricultural. Water quality over the last year has been good, but the creek periodically had elevated bacteria counts. Statistical analysis for the creek shows a long-term **stationary trend**.



Purdy Creek monitoring station PR01, upstream of the culvert under 160<sup>th</sup> St.

PURDY CREEK TREND GRAPH

