

Quarterly Enumclaw Data-sharing Meeting Notes, 1/21/25 Meeting

Note taker: Alison Schweitzer, King County Stormwater Services

- Sampling updates from the Plateau
 - Ecology is doing much less monitoring now. This year is a status and trends year (last year was an implementation year)
 - Ecology sampling:
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/julian.sammons/viz/PuyallupTribesStatusandTrends/Dashboard1?publish=yes>
 - King County recent sampling:
 - Pussyfoot Creek:
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/cameron.chapman/viz/PussyfootCreek/SITESDASH>
 - Still dry in October. Only got samples from Charlie Jones in October
 - November: both Pussyfoot and Charlie Jones were flowing
 - December: not raining during sampling, but had rained 1-2 inches recently. Very high bacteria results
 - Two known septic systems with issues, but that is upstream of the one site with a lower bacteria count
 - Second Creek:
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/cameron.chapman/viz/SecondCreek/SITESDASH>
 - Dry in October
 - November: slightly higher sample at downstream most sample
 - December: very high E Coli levels, likely due to wash off of fields
 - Boise Creek
 - October: slightly higher reading at Beaver Creek, but very low water level in Beaver Creek- only a small portion of increased bacteria reading can be explained from Beaver Creek.
 - Bacteria drops right before it discharges into the White River
 - In November and December- still higher bacteria hits downstream
 - Don't know about the City of Enumclaw water that enters along Enumclaw Buckley Road
 - High bacteria values in summer samples after rain events

- Boise Creek sees a bigger spike in bacteria than other creeks
 - Beaver Creek has been a focus- high bacteria samples in summer, but very low flow. Might've identified a potential bacterial source.
- Septic and Wildlife Contributions to Enumclaw's Fecal Pollution Problem—presentation by Cameron Chapman. See provided presentation slides/slide notes for additional details.
 - Two main suspected anthropogenic sources: domestic animals or septic systems. Or others?
 - Mostly sampled roadside ditches, some storm drains, etc.
 - Sampling from public property.
 - Mostly dry SW infrastructure in the summer
 - Dilution can make it hard to find sources
 - Have found about 15 septic discharges over the years. Almost all have been eliminated. The elimination of septic sources has not been enough to bring Boise Creek into compliance
 - High hits of ruminant and cow markers, more than the human marker
 - Just recently got a bird marker. Microbial source tracking is challenging, and isn't the sole solution.
 - Bacterial issues on the Plateau seem to be more animal related than septic related.