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News Release

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Jump Off Joe Creek Water Quality Project To Be Discussed at October 14th Meeting

BREMERTON, WA — Because of water quality improvements following a Health District pollution cleanup project, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recently reopened shellfish harvesting at the mouth of Jump Off Joe Creek, located five miles south of the Hood Canal Bridge, on the eastern shoreline of Hood Canal. The results of that work will be discussed at a community meeting on Wednesday, October 14th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Bredablik Elementary School Library, 25142 Waghorn Road NW, near Poulsbo.

DOH closed shellfish harvesting at the mouth of Jump off Joe Creek in 2003, due to elevated levels of fecal coliform bacteria in the stream. In 2004, the Health District initiated preliminary clean up work along the stream, including intensive water quality monitoring (to locate pollution “hot spots”), and some limited property inspections. In 2007, the Health District was awarded a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology to conduct a more intensive pollution identification and correction project in the area. The purpose of the project has been to reduce bacterial pollution in the stream and re-open shellfish harvest at the stream mouth. Both goals have now been accomplished.

Matching funds for the project have been provided by the Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater Management Program.

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