

Dear Interested Parties:

In light of the elevated levels of dioxins found by Ecology in sediments in Oakland Bay, the Department of Health collected shellfish samples from multiple locations in the bay to determine if dioxins were present at levels of health concern in commonly consumed species - Manila clams, Pacific oysters, Kumamoto oysters, and mussels. We have received the preliminary laboratory results. While we are still working through the Quality Control/Quality Assurance (QA/QC) process, we want to let you know our preliminary review shows values are very low and do not appear to indicate health concerns for even high consumers. We are still evaluating this data and will keep everyone in the loop as things move along.

I hope this helps alleviate some of the public health concerns raised by the sediment results. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Elmer Diaz, Toxicologist at 360-236-3357, or email Elmer.Diaz@doh.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

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