

Photos taken November 3, 2006 under mussel rafts in Gallagher Cove during dive commissioned by APHETI, a citizen group. See page 2 for dive details.

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Beggiatoa bacteria growing in white mats under mussel rafts.



Miscellaneous debris under mussel rafts – 'dead zone.'



Clumps of tunicates under mussel rafts.



Beggiatoa mats under mussel rafts.

Excerpt from email letter from Prof. Joel Elliot, University of Puget Sound:
“...it is clear that one of your samples had a lot of Beggiatoa in it...as for the sediment from the sample with all of the Beggiatoa, there was a high concentration of hydrogen sulfide in the porewater as you know from the rotten egg smell. This is consistent with the conditions where you find the growth of surface mats of Beggiatoa.” 11/9/06

DIVE DATA:

***DATE 11/3/2006 TIME: 12:15PM – 1:15PM (APPROX.12FT TIDE)**

***DEPTH:30FT. CONSTANT WEST TO EAST UNDER RAFTS**

***2 PROFESSIONAL DIVERS WITH LIGHTS & CAMERA**

OBSERVATIONS:

***DEPTH ACTUALS NOT PER RAFT PERMIT**

***3+INCHES “SLUDGE” OVER DIVE AREA & SURROUNDS (NOT PER PERMIT DESCRIPTION)**

***FUNNELED NETS FLARED FROM CENTER FLOATS TO BOTTOM ANCHORED WITH BRICK LIKE WEIGHTS (NOT PER PLAN)**

***ENTIRE AREA COVERED MUSSEL SHELL DEBRIS**

***SCATTERED SPREAD, SHEET METAL, PVC, OTHER DEBRIS**

***WHITE MATTING (BEGGIATOA?) SPREAD OVER ENTIRE AREA**

***3 WHITE CLUMPS (AGGRESSIVE COLONIAL TUNICATE?)**

***NO ALGAE, EELGRASS, PLANT LIFE**

*** BENTHIC LAYER UNDER RAFTS & SURROUND APPEARS SIGNIFICANTLY COMPROMISED – DIVERS SAID AREA LOOKED LIKE A DEAD ZONE.**