

PRESS RELEASE

City of Mount Vernon Press Release

For Immediate Release

August 8, 2007

Mount Vernon to conduct dye testing in the Skagit River

(Mount Vernon, WA) – Consultants for the City of Mount Vernon will be conducting a one-day field test in the Skagit River to determine the dispersion of effluent that is discharged from the City's wastewater treatment plant into the river. The test is set for sometime between August 13 -15, depending on weather and river conditions.

The study involves injecting a dye into the City's treatment plant effluent that enters the river just south of town. The dye used is a fluorescent dye that is environmentally friendly and is approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology for use in hydrological studies.

The dye may cause the river to have a pink tint for approximately four hours while the dye is being injected into the effluent. Discoloration will lessen the further away from the outfall. The study is one more step the City is taking to be a good steward of the environment by reducing our impacts to the Skagit River. For further information contact Bill Fullner, Wastewater Division Manager, at (360) 336-6219.