



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600 • Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000
711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341

March 30, 2021

Ernie's Oysters Co., LLC
Attn: Jeanette Adams
9605 Steamboat Island Rd. NW
Olympia, WA 98502

RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **201100724**,
Ernie's Oysters Aquaculture Farm, Thurston County, Washington

Dear Jeanette Adams:

On January 29, 2021, the Department of Ecology received a Certification of Consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) for the above project.

This determination is for the proposed project to continue to farm 5 acres of Pacific oysters and geoduck clams on 10.5 acres of privately-owned tidelands: 1.75 acres of geoduck clams, 1.5 acres of oysters grown in flip bags, and 1.75 acres of oysters grown on bottom. No eelgrass has been observed at the farm site. The farm area is accessed from the upland by foot.

For oysters grown on bottom, seed is spread directly onto the beach as cultch. As the oysters grow they will develop into clusters, and after the first year they are broken apart with a hammer as a way to improve growth. As an additional maintenance measure, the oysters will also be periodically raked out of the sand where they may have become buried in order to prevent suffocation. Oysters reach maturity in about 3 years, and are harvested by hand at low tide, breaking apart the oysters into singles and putting them into mesh bags which hold about 5 dozen oysters each. Buoys are then tied to these bags and then picked up at high tide by boat. For oysters grown as singles in flip bags, seed is placed in 2'x3' mesh bags which are connected to a rope line secured with rebar at each end. Bags will be periodically flipped to prevent oysters being buried during grow-out. Thirty days before harvest, oysters are emptied from the bag onto the beach and then harvested using the same method as the bottom-grown oysters.

To prepare the beach for geoduck planting, multiple 6"x9" PVC tubes are pushed into the sediment with about 1½" of the PVC tube left exposed. About 4-5 individual geoduck seed are placed within each tube. Each individual tube is then covered by a 7"x7" net that is tightly secured with a rubber band. A large canopy net is then placed over all of the tubes and secured to the sediment with rebar stakes. After a year, all materials are removed from the beach including area nets, individual nets, and tubes. The geoduck are harvested by a third party at high tide

using a low pressure, high volume water hose attached to a boat, which is used to extract the geoduck from the sand. Harvest geoduck are then collected in totes and loaded onto the boat.

The project site is located on tidelands within Totten Inlet, on parcel numbers 93010500000, and 39000000100, 39000000200, and 39000000300, adjacent to 9605 Steamboat Island Rd. NW, near Olympia, Thurston County, Washington; Section 4 and 33, Township 19 and 20 North, Range 2 West; WRIA 14, Kennedy-Goldsborough Watershed.

Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with Ernie's Oysters Company's determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's consistency decision, please contact Teresa Pucylowski at teressa.pucylowski@ecy.wa.gov.

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

You have a right to appeal this decision to the Pollution Control Hearing Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision:

- File your appeal and a copy of this decision with the PCHB (see addresses below). Filing means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours.
- Serve a copy of your appeal and this decision on Ecology in paper form - by mail or in person. (See addresses below.) E-mail is not accepted.

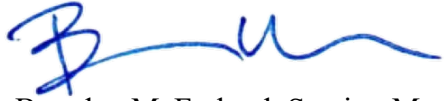
You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

ADDRESS AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Street Addresses	Mailing Addresses
Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503	Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608
Pollution Control Hearings Board 1111 Israel RD SW STE 301 Tumwater, WA 98501	Pollution Control Hearings Board PO Box 40903 Olympia, WA 98504-0903

Ernie's Oysters Aquaculture Farm
Corps No. 201100724, Aquatics No. 139532
March 30, 2021
Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,



Brenden McFarland, Section Manager
Environmental Review and Transportation Section
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

e-cc: Benjamin Sherman, Corps of Engineers
Laura Hendricks, Coalition To Protect Puget Sound Habitat
Amy van Saun, Center for Food Safety
Teresa Pucylowski, Ecology
Loreé Randall, Ecology
ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov – Aquatics No. 139532