



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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April 14, 2021

Chuckanut Shellfish, Inc.
Attn: Bill Dewey
704 E. Hiawatha Boulevard
Shelton, WA 98584

RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **200701174**,
Chuckanut Shellfish Farm, Samish Bay, near Bow, Skagit County, Washington

Dear Bill Dewey:

On March 2, 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 Chuckanut Shellfish, Inc.'s proposal to continue operating an existing commercial shellfish on tidelands in Samish Bay. The project area is 30.19 acres, of which 4.93 acres is currently cultivated with Manila clams (*Venerupis philippinarum*), 0.01 acres is cultivated with Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) and 2.5 acres is cultivated with Geoduck clams (*Panopea generosa*). Mechanical clam harvest currently occurs on 4.93 acres. Manila clams will be cultivated between the +2.0 foot (ft) and +5.0 ft Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) tidal elevations, oysters between the +2.0 ft and -4.0 ft MLLW, and geoduck clams between 0.0 ft and -4.0 ft MLLW. The 7.44- acres of actively cultivated area cultured with species may vary from year to year. Manila clams are cultivated in varying length rows under 48-inch wide rigid plastic mesh predator control nets. Each net is typically 150-ft. long. The net rows are separated by aisles that are about 1.5-ft. wide. Predator exclusion nets are installed with a tractor implement that buries the edges of the nets. Macroalgae is removed from the nets using a rotary sweeper on a tractor. Nets remain the full cycle of growth and then are removed by tractors. The clams are harvested at low tide with a modified tulip bulb harvesting machine which separates the clams from the sand. Pacific oysters are suspended in plastic mesh bags or cages or on-bottom with harvest by hand. Geoduck is being cultivated using individual plastic mesh tubes without cover nets. This involves installing plastic mesh geoduck nursery tubes by pulling a core of sand out with a tool similar to a razor clam gun, setting the sand core onto the tideland, sliding the net over the core and placing it back into the cored out hole. Geoduck is harvest using a hand-held water jet to liquefy the substrate so the geoduck clams can be removed by hand. Access to the site is by a 30-ft. vessel which pushes or tows a nonmotorized scow. Eelgrass is present throughout the project area in areas that will not be cultivated.

The project site is located on tidelands located on parcel # P61611, P61610, P61607, P61608, and P61616, Township 36N, Range 3E, Section 28, in Samish Bay near Bow, Skagit County, Washington.

Latitude and Longitude of Cultivation Area Corners: 48.594836 / -122.461544, 48.594901 / -122.457576, 48.593035 / -122.457493, 48.593075 / -122.456176, 48.591189 / -122.456133, 48.589891 / -122.457499, 48.589364 / -122.459086, 48.591140 / -122.459139, 48.591155 / -122.458769, 48.593013 / -122.458797, 48.593009 / -122.460143, 48.591134 / -122.460059, and 48.591129 / -122.461446.

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

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's consistency decision, please contact Loreé Randall at lore.randall@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 Pollution Control Hearings Board 1111 Israel RD SW, STE 301 Tumwater, WA 98501	Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608 Pollution Control Hearings Board PO Box 40903 Olympia, WA 98504-0903

Sincerely,



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

e-cc: Kirsten Brown, Corps of Engineers
Laura Hendricks, Coalition to Protect Puget Sound Habitat
Amy van Saun, Center for Food Safety
Loree' Randall, Ecology
ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov – Aquatics No. 137243