



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. **200901147**,
Chuckanut Shellfish Wiggin Lease 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 the Wiggin Lease commercial shellfish farm on tidelands on parcel #P61609 in Samish Bay. The project area is 3.11 acres, of which 1.50 acres of is actively cultivated. On the actively cultivated area 1.09 acres is currently cultivated with Manila clams (*Venerupis philippinarum*). Manila clams will be cultivated between the +2.0 foot (ft) and +5.0 ft Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) tidal elevations. 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 about 1.5 ft. wide. Predator exclusion nets are installed with a tractor implement that creates a trench to sidecast material that is then backfilled to bury the edges of the net. The clams are harvested at low tide with a modified tulip bulb harvesting machine which separates the clams from the sand. Over the duration of the permit authorization, some, or all the 1.5-acres of actively cultivated area may be converted to geoduck clams (*Panopea generosa*) or Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*). Pacific oysters will be suspended in plastic mesh bags or cages or on-bottom with harvest by hand. Geoduck will be 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, sliding the net over the core and placing it back into the hole. Geoduck will be harvested 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 non-motorized scow. Eelgrass is present throughout the project area in areas that will not be cultivated.

The Wiggin Lease Farm is located on tidelands located on parcel #P61609, Township 36 N; Range 3 E; Section 28, in Samish Bay near Bow, Skagit County, Washington.

Latitude and Longitude of Cultivation Area Corners: 48.593009 / -122.460143, 48.593013 / -122.458797, 48.591155 / -122.458769, and 48.591134 / -122.460059

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 loree.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	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

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
Loreé Randall, Ecology
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