



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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April 27, 2021

Sound Shellfish Company
Attn: Ian Child
P.O. Box 12475
Olympia, WA 98508

RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **202000356**,
Sound Shellfish Geoduck Aquaculture, Mason County, Washington

Dear Ian Child:

On October 7, 2020, the Department of Ecology received a Certification of Consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) for the above project. April 6, 2021, Ecology and Sound Shellfish Company agreed to stay the CZM request to allow time for Sound Shellfish Company to obtain a viable shoreline permit under the Shoreline Management Act. The current stay expires on June 6, 2021. Ecology has received verification that the shoreline permit has been finalized meeting the Shoreline Management Act requirement.

This determination is for the proposed project to cultivate 0.3 acres of geoduck clams on privately owned tidelands within 0.0ft to +3.0ft Mean Lower Low Water. The beach requires no site preparation prior to planting beyond raking any Ulva away from the immediate area to be planted (only very low densities of Ulva have been observed at this site). There will be no redirection of seepage of upland runoff and no native materials will be removed from the aquatic farm site.

To protect juvenile geoduck clams from predators, geoduck seed will be placed in either PVC or Vexar mesh tubes that are pushed into the substrate (by hand for PVC tubes or using a low-pressure water jet for Vexar mesh tubes) at density not to exceed one tube per square foot. The tubes are all 4" in diameter and 12-16" in length and 3-5" of the tube will remain exposed above the substrate. PVC will be capped with individual mesh netting and secured with specialized rubber bands designed to withstand UV light and saltwater; mesh tubes will be secured using zip-ties or hog rings. Area nets may be placed over the tubes and weighed down with rebar stakes. Tubes and nets will be removed after about 1-2 years after planting.

Geoduck are harvested either via dive harvest or beach harvest, although both will use a motorized, low pressure water pump mounted on a vessel offshore. Water will be delivered to the harvester at 20-30 gallons per minute, and is similar to a garden hose at full volume. The end

of the hose is equipped with a nozzle which will be inserted into the substrate, softening the sand adjacent to the geoduck and allowing the clams to be removed by hand. Harvest will occur about 4-5 years after planting.

The project site is located on tidelands within Pickering Passage, on parcel numbers 221247690010 and 221243002030, adjacent to 51 E Old Meadow Rd., near Shelton, Mason County, Washington; Section 24, Township 21 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 Sound 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 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 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: Aquaculture-Reinforcement-Team@usace.army.mil
Christine Jacek, Corps of Engineers
Laura Hendricks, Coalition To Protect Puget Sound Habitat
Amy van Saun, Center for Food Safety
Teresa Pucylowski, Ecology
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