



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

September 10, 2021

Hama Hama Oyster Company
Attn: Adam James
35846 N US Hwy 101
Lilliwaup, WA 98555

RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **201000448**,
Hama Hama Oyster James Farm, Mason County, Washington

Dear Adam James:

On September 8, 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 cultivate shellfish on 5 acres of privately-owned tidelands between the ordinary high water mark at (+12ft) and the extreme low tide (-4ft). This farm cultivates geoduck, Pacific oysters, and Manila, littleneck, savory, and butter clams. Oysters occur on 4 acres between +5ft Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) and the extreme low tidal elevations; clams occur on 2 acres between +4ft MLLW and the -1ft MLLW tidal elevations; and geoduck occur on 1 acre between -1ft MLLW and the extreme low tidal elevations. Polyculture (co-culture) is practiced across much of the farm, meaning in many places multiple species of shellfish are grown in and around one another. There is some eelgrass present at the project site in the lower areas below -2ft MLLW. Access to tidelands is by boat and by foot through uplands.

Oyster cultivation occurs in clusters and singles. Clusters are cultivated through 'shell cultch' methodology, which entails oyster shells that are bagged, crated and/or threaded on a line and placed in the intertidal area during summer months to catch natural spat, and then transplanted and spread in a nursery or grow-out area. Harvest is completed by hand and oyster clusters are placed in a bushel basket and retrieved at high tide by a barge. Single oysters are grown directly on the substrate under anti-predator nets, in 'bag on bottom' culture method, or through off (near) bottom cultivation methodology that includes the following: 'rack and bag' culture, in which oysters are grown in bags secured to a wire mesh frame; floating bags, which are string along 100ft lines that are anchored to the substrate; and tipping bags, which are attached to posts and contain buoys that allow the bag to tip up and down with the tides. Grow out period for oysters is 2-3 years. Harvest takes place manually by hand during low tide and oysters are placed

into tubs for pick up and transfer. Bags are harvested by pulling and emptying oysters onto barges for transfer. Bags are reused and hatchery seed is used.

Clams beds are ‘frosted’ with a mixture of washed gravel and oyster shell chaff, no more than 1” per acre per year. Clam seed is broadcasted by hand into the intertidal area. Some areas are netted and some are not, and the netted areas move around as needed. Anti-predator netting is installed by staking the net to the substrate using 24” bent rebar that is driven into the substrate. The grow-out period for clams is 18-24 months. Harvest takes place manually by hand at low tide using rakes to loosen the sediment and allow the clams to be collected into 5 gallon buckets. Full buckets are emptied into sacks for pick up by boat.

Geoduck cultivation will entail placing PVC or mesh nursery tubes, approximately 9” in length, manually into the lower intertidal substrate at a density of approximately one tube per square foot. Three to four geoduck seeds are placed in tubes. The PVC tubes are covered with canopy netting secured with rebar or with individual net coverings. Mesh tubes are covered with mesh caps. After approximately 18-24 months, the tubes are removed and the area is re-netted with canopy netting. Harvest occurs by hand using a low-pressure water pump with an attached wand that loosen the sediment around the geoducks for removal by hand. Harvest activity will occur approximately 5-7 years after planting.

The project site is located on tidelands within Hood Canal, on parcel number 324262180100, adjacent to 35846 N US Hwy 101, near Lilliwaup, Mason County, Washington; Section 26, Township 24 North, Range 3 West; WRIA 16, Skokomish-Dosewallips Watershed.

Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with Hama Hama Oyster’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

Sincerely,



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

e-cc: Aquaculture-Reinforcement-Team@usace.army.mil
Samantha Dailey, 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. 140276