

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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October 8, 2021

Seattle Shellfish, LLC Attn: Derek Epps 2101 4th Ave E, STE 201 Olympia, WA 98506

## RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. 201200397, Rodeheaver Family Trust, Thurston County, Washington

Dear Derek Epps:

On May 27, 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 commercially cultivate up to 1.0 acres of geoduck, clams (littleneck, Manila, butter, Eastern soft shell, horse, and razor clams) and various species of oysters (Pacific, Kumamoto, Eastern, Olympia, and European flat oysters) with no fallow ground. The entire project area lies between +5.0ft Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) and -4.5ft MLLW, or other property boundary, and within the property boundaries. Geoduck, clams, and oysters are cultivated on about 0.8 acres of the project area, with cultivation of oysters and clams (no geoduck) occurring on about 0.2 acres of the project area closest to the +5.0ft MLLW boundary. There is no use of mechanical bed preparation equipment.

Single-set seed or oyster cultch are cultivated in mesh grow bags that are either secured directly to the substrate bottom or are suspended in a tide-tumbled/flip bag system. Bags are attached to the racks, stakes, or lines using reusable plastic or wire ties. Installation occurs during low tide. Oyster tumbling involves attaching a buoy and securing the bags to a horizontal crossbeam (stainless steel rod, polypropylene or nylon line, or plastic coated cable) for the hanging lines and held in place by rebar stakes or similar posts driven into the substrate. Oysters grow in the bags and are checked periodically during low tides to ensure that the bags remain secure and to remove fouling organisms and predators. Oysters are harvested by hand at low or high tide.

Clam species are seeded by hand, after which the clams are covered with area nets for protection. The nets are secured to the substrate using rebar stakes. Clam nursery systems, including mesh bags or trays, may be used until seed is of sufficient size to plant. Depending on various seasonal and environmental conditions, clam nurseries may be periodically turned, and any fouling or predators may be removed from the area. Harvesters dig clams during low tides using clam rakes, shovels or other hand tools, then subsequently smooth the substrate.

Rodeheaver Family Trust Corps No. 201200397, Aquatics No. 139001 October 8, 2021 Page 2 of 3

Juvenile geoducks are planted in PVC or flexible mesh tubes, up to 6 inches in diameter and up to 13 inches in length. The tubes are inserted into the substrate such that only the top section (approximately 1/3) of the tube protrudes above the beach. Two to four seed clams are placed in each tube and tubes are typically installed at a density of about 1 tube per square foot. PVC tubes may be covered by individual and/or area netting. Individual netting consists of a small, plastic mesh net secured to the tube by a UV-resistant rubber band. Area netting is secured with rebar stakes placed vertically into the substrate and may be installed over the PVC or flexible mesh tubes.

About two years after planting, tubes are removed while area netting may be redeployed over the bed for several months for continued predator protection. Geoduck are then harvested as much as eight years after planting. Geoducks are harvested using a hand-operated water wand, which can occur at low (beach harvest) or high (dive harvest) tide. Typically, a wand is a pipe about 18 to 24 inches long with a nozzle on the end that releases surface-supplied seawater from a hose at a pressure of approximately 40 pounds per square inch (about the same pressure as that from a standard garden hose) and a flow of 20-30 gallons per minute. Multiple divers may work in an area at one time.

The project site is located on tidelands within Totten Inlet, on parcel number 39000004600, near Olympia, Thurston County, Washington; Section 33, Township 20 North, Range 2 West; WRIA 13, Deschutes Watershed.

Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with Seattle 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 Teressa 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.

Rodeheaver Family Trust Corps No. 201200397, Aquatics No. 139001 October 8, 2021 Page 3 of 3

## ADDRESS AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Street Addresses	Mailing Addresses
<b>Department of Ecology</b> Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503	<b>Department of Ecology</b> Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608
<b>Pollution Control Hearings Board</b> 1111 Israel RD SW STE 301 Tumwater, WA 98501	<b>Pollution Control Hearings Board</b> 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 Joseph Rivera, Corps of Engineers Teressa Pucylowski, Ecology Loreé Randall, Ecology ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov – Aquatics No. 139001