



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600 • Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

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December 7, 2021

Heckes Clams Inc.  
Attn: John Heckes  
PO Box 1657  
Ocean Park, WA 98640

RE: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **202100749**,  
Heckes Bundle 5 - King Group, Pacific County, Washington

Dear John Heckes:

On September 29, 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 commercial cultivation of shellfish on 168 acres of privately owned and leased tidelands in Willapa Bay. Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Manila clams (*Venerupis philippinarum*) will be grown directly on the substrate between -2.0 to +3.7 feet. Seeding will occur by hand or from a vessel. Harvest will occur by hand or dredge/barge after one to four years.

Manila Clam Culture

Manila clams will be grown in areas with suitable cultivation conditions. There are currently 97 acres in Manila clam cultivation, and the number of acres in clam cultivation is expected to vary from time to time based on environmental, market, and other conditions. The maximum area anticipated to be under Manila clam cultivation at any given time is 112 acres. Shell or gravel may be applied to enhance the substrate (no more than 1 inch per year). Clams may recruit naturally to the bed, but if there is no or inadequate natural recruitment, seed may be placed. Some or all of the acreage under Manila clam cultivation may be covered with predator exclusion netting. The mesh size of Manila clam nets is 1/4 inch. Nets are typically maintained throughout the culture cycle (approximately 2-3 years) and are secured to the substrate with rebar. Manila clams are harvested by hand at low tide with rakes.

### Oyster Bottom Culture

Oysters will be grown directly on the substrate in areas with suitable cultivation conditions. There are currently 18 acres in oyster bottom cultivation, and the number of acres in oyster bottom cultivation is expected to vary from time to time based on environmental, market, and other conditions. The maximum area anticipated to be under oyster bottom cultivation at any given time is 18 acres. Oysters may naturally set on the bed or may be seeded by hand or from a vessel. Shell may be spread for catching naturally recruiting larvae. Oysters may be transplanted during grow-out to fattening beds. Oyster beds may be harrowed during grow-out to move the oysters back to the sediment surface. Oysters will be harvested by hand during low tide or by dredge after 3-4 years, depending on site conditions.

The project site is located on tidelands within Willapa Bay, on parcel number 79004000080, 79004004081, 11111055046 and 11112255258, near Ocean Park, Pacific County, Washington; Section 15, Township 11 North, Range 11 West; WRIA 24, Willapa Watershed.

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

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's consistency determination please contact Marco Pinchot at [marco.pinchot@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:marco.pinchot@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

**Filing an appeal with the PCHB:**

**Mailing Address:**

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
PO Box 40903  
Olympia, WA 98504-0903

**Street Address:**

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
1111 Israel RD SW  
STE 301  
Tumwater, WA 98501

**Serving a copy of the appeal on Ecology:**

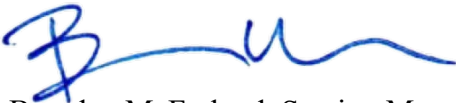
**Mailing Address:**

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
PO Box 47608  
Olympia, WA 98504-7608

**Street Address:**

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Sincerely,



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

e-cc: Aquaculture-Reinforcement-Team@usace.army.mil  
Timothy M. Long, Corps of Engineers (Corps)  
Laura Hendricks, Coalition to Protect Puget Sound Habitat  
Amy van Saun, Center for Food Safety  
Marco Pinchot, Ecology  
Loreé Randall, Ecology  
ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov