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March 16, 2022

Allen Shellfish, LLC Attn: Brian Allen PO Box 11775 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Re: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. 200701384,

Harmon Lease, Thurston County, Washington

#### Dear Brian Allen:

On February 10, 2022, 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 continueation of a commercial shellfish aquaculture farm that cultivates geoduck clams on approximately 0.3 acres of privately-owned tidelands between approximately +2.0ft and -4.5ft Mean Lower Low Water elevation contours. There is no eelgrass present at this site. The site is maintained through site visits to ensure that gear is in place. Regular access is via boat; no regular upland access.

Planting occurs when juvenile geoduck seed are placed in flexible high-density polyethylene (HDPE) mesh sleeves (4 x 13 inches) which are pushed into the substrate to a depth of 6-7 inches (leaving 6-7 inches emergent) by using low-pressure pumped seawater that prepares the substrate for installation. The top of the mesh tube is left open. These mesh sleeves stay in place for the first 24-30 months after planting for predator deterrence and exclusion.

The mesh sleeves are UV-stable; designed and manufactured for marine application. Typically, mesh sleeves are installed at a density of one tube per 1-1.3 square feet and planted with 3-4 seed clams in each tube. The mesh sleeves are removed once the geoducks are large enough and they are left to grow unprotected until harvest. The mesh sleeves stay in for about 30 months before the removal process begins (or about 1/2 the culture period). Polyvinyl chloride (or PVC) tubes and predator exclusion nets are not used.

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Geoduck clams are harvested using either dry (i.e., during low tide exposure) or wet (i.e., diving) harvest methods. Dive harvest is the majority harvest activity. Market size clams are harvested individually using a low-pressure water pump. Once harvested, a new crop is planted and the aforementioned process is repeated. Total growing time is approximately 4-7 years.

The project site is located on tidelands within Nisqually Reach, on parcel number 44900013702, adjacent to 6108 88th Avenue NE, near Olympia, Thurston County, Washington; Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 1 West; WRIA 13, Deschutes Watershed.

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

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's consistency determination, 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.

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#### 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

Chelsea Fannin, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Teressa Pucylowski, Ecology Loreé Randall, Ecology

ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov