



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

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

March 16, 2023

Taylor Shellfish Farms  
Attn: Erin Ewald  
130 SE Lynch Road  
Shelton, WA 98584

Re: Coastal Zone Consistency for Corps Reference No. **201001238**, TSF Hitchcock Lease,  
Mason County, Washington

Dear Erin Ewald:

On December 21, 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 proposal to continue cultivating geoduck on approximately 2.5 acres of privately-owned tidelands between +3.0ft and -4.5ft Mean Lower Low Water. There is no eelgrass present at the site. Access to the project areas occurs primarily by boat. Managers may occasionally access the farm from the nearby upland State Park access point and then across Taylor owned and leased ground in order to check on crew and crop or following storm events to ensure gear is secure.

PVC or HDPE mesh nursery tubes, approximately 9 inches in length, are inserted into lower intertidal substrate by hand at a density of approximately one tube per square foot. Three to four juvenile geoduck are then placed in each tube. Area netting may be placed over the tubes and is secured to the substrate with rebar stakes every 25 feet. After approximately 12-15 months, the tubes are removed, and the area is covered with area netting. The net is removed once it has been determined the geoduck are able to evade predation (after about 3 to 6 months) and the beach is left undisturbed until harvest.

Harvest occurs approximately 5-7 years after planting. The geoducks are harvested in the intertidal zone at low tide or by divers at high tide. This harvest method allows the hand extraction of geoducks, which burrow as deep as 3 feet. The harvester inserts the probe in the substrate next to an exposed geoduck siphon or the hole left when the siphon is retracted. By discharging pressurized water around the geoduck, the sediment is loosened, and the clam is removed by hand. Geoduck harvesting occurs year-round.

The project site is located on tidelands within Case Inlet, on parcel numbers 120073200010, 120073200011, and 120073200012, near Shelton, Mason County, Washington; Section 7, Township 20 North, Range 1 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 Taylor Shellfish's determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's consistency determination, please contact Teresa Pucylowski at [teressa.pucylowski@ecy.wa.gov](mailto: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. The appeal process is governed RCW 43.21B and WAC 371-08. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2). More information is available at <https://eluhwa.gov/content/11>.

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this Order with the PCHB (see filing options below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this Order on the Department of 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 RCW 43.21B and WAC 371-08.

### **Filing an appeal with the PCHB:**

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit:

<https://eluhwa.gov/content/11>

#### **Filing by mail**

##### **Mailing Address:**

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

#### **Filing in person (or by certified mail/courier)**

##### **Street Address:**

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

#### **Filing Electronically**

##### **E-mail Address:**

[Pchb-shbappeals@eluhwa.gov](mailto:Pchb-shbappeals@eluhwa.gov)

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

Electronic copies of appeals are not accepted at the Department of Ecology per WAC 371-08-305(10).

**Filing by mail**

**Mailing Address:**

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

**Filing in person (or by certified mail/courier)**

**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

Sent via e-mail: erine@taylorshellfish.com

E-cc: Aquaculture-Reinforcement-Team@usace.army.mil  
Rory Lee, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Teresa Pucylowski, Ecology  
Loreé Randall, Ecology  
fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov