

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

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

June 26, 2023

Seattle Shellfish, LLC ATTN: Derek Epps 2101 4<sup>th</sup> Ave E STE 201 Olympia, WA 98506

Re: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Decision for Price Shellfish Farm (Corps

No. 202200908), Case Inlet, Shelton, Mason County, Washington

#### Dear Derek Epps:

On May 30, 2023, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a Certification of Consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) for the above project. Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with Seattle Shellfish, LLC's determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

This project will continue to commercially cultivate up to 0.8 acres of geoduck clams with no fallow ground. The entire project area lies between +5.0 feet Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) and -4.5 feet MLLW, or other property boundary, and within the property boundaries. There is no use of mechanical bed preparation equipment. There is no eelgrass present within the project area. Access occurs by boat.

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 one 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 five

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to 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 to 30 gallons per minute. Multiple divers may work in an area at one time.

The project site is located on tidelands within Case Inlet, on parcel number 121312300070, near Shelton, Mason County, Washington; Section 31, Township 21 North, Range 1 West; WRIA 14, Kennedy-Goldsborough Watershed.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's decision, please contact Teressa Pucylowski at (360) 764-0546.

### Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this decision to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. 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 notice of appeal and a copy of this decision 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 decision 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 Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

# Filing an appeal with the PCHB:

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: https://eluho.wa.gov/content/11

#### Address and Location Information

#### **Street Address:**

**Department of Ecology** 

Attn: Appeals Processing Desk

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300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503

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

#### **Mailing Addresses:**

#### **Department of Ecology**

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

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

#### **E-Mail Address:**

**Department of Ecology**Not currently available (see WAC 371-08)

Pollution Control Hearings Board Pchb-shbappeals@eluho.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Loree' Randall, Section Manager Federal Permitting Section

Jan Randell

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Sent via e-mail: depps@seattleshellfish.com

E-cc: Rory Lee, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Teressa Pucylowski, Ecology fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov