

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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February 4, 2021

The Honorable Ron Allen Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe 1033 Old Blyn Highway Sequim, WA 98382

RE: Water Quality Certification Order No. **19591** for Corps Reference No. **NWS-2007-1213**; Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm, Dungeness Spit, Sequim, Clallam County, Washington

Dear Chairperson Allen:

On April 10, 2020, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe submitted a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) under the federal Clean Water Act for the Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm, Clallam County, Washington.

On behalf of the state of Washington, the Department of Ecology certifies that the work described in the Joint Aquatic Resource Permit Application (JARPA) and the public notice complies with applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, and applicable state laws. <u>This certification is subject to the conditions contained in the enclosed Order</u>.

Please ensure that anyone doing work under this Order has read, is familiar with, and is able to follow all of the provisions within the attached Order.

If you have any questions about this decision, please contact Lori Kingsbury at (360) 407-6926 or by e-mail at Lori.kingsbury@ecy.wa.gov. The enclosed Order may be appealed by following the procedures described within the Order.

Sincerely,

Perry J Lund, Section Manager Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program Southwest Regional Office

Enclosure

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe February 4, 2021 Page 2

e-cc: Pam Sanguinetti, Corps of Engineers Elizabeth Tobin, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Hansi Hals, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Jennifer Brown-Scott, USFWS Linda Storm, EPA Amy Jensen, EPA Sean Carlson, WADNR Loree' Randall, Ecology Lori Kingsbury, Ecology Rick Mraz, ECY, Ecology Rebecca Rothwell, Ecology ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov Attached List

cc: Susan Chamberlin Fisse Davis

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm Comments Email List

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IN THE MATTER OF GRANTING A)
WATER QUALITY)
CERTIFICATION TO)
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe)
pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 (FWPCA)
§ 401), RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260)
and Chapter 173-201A WAC)

ORDER No. 19591 Corps Reference No. NWS-2007-1213 Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm within Dungeness Bay, near Sequim, Clallam County, Washington

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Attention: The Honorable Ron Allen 1033 Old Blyn Highway Sequim, WA 98382

On April 10, 2020, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe submitted a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) under the federal Clean Water Act for the Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm, Clallam County, Washington. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) issued a joint public notice erratum on April 30, 2020.

The proposed work is to cultivate 34 acres of Pacific oysters using two on-bottom methods: mesh bag culture and loose culture. Up to five (5) acres will use on-bottom bag culture, and the remaining acreage will use on-bottom loose culture methods. The contiguous 5-acre area for on-bottom bag culture would be located near the northeastern boundary of a 50-acre lease parcel, in proximity to the boat access sites.

On-bottom bag culture will grow oysters in 2 ft. x 3 ft. x 3 in. mesh bags. The bags are secured to a line, and the line is anchored to the substrate using 3 ft. x 3 in. screw anchors or metal posts. Oysters typically grow out for approximately 14-15 months in the bags, and are then spread out onto the beach after reaching a larger size.

The loose beach method entails spreading the oysters directly onto the substrate. Harvest is done by hand by collecting and placing the oysters into oyster harvest bags. The bags are then lifted onto a marine vessel. Loose culture cultivation would occur between the +3-foot and -2-foot tidal elevations (MLLW).

Work is proposed to avoid native eelgrass by establishing a minimum 25-foot buffer setback for all cultivation activities. Access to the project site would be by vessel. There are two boat access areas that have been located to avoid eelgrass; all work from vessels would occur within the leased area.

The project site is located within Dungeness Bay on tidelands along the Dungeness Spit, near Sequim, Clallam County, Washington; NE Quarter, Section 23; Township 31 North; Range 4 West; WRIA 18, Elwha-Dungeness Watershed.

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With this Order, Ecology is granting the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm project, provided that the activity is conducted in accordance with the Section 401 Water Quality Certification request Ecology received on April 10, 2020, and the following supporting documentation contained in an e-mail letter from the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to Ecology dated January 26, 2021:

- 1. Regarding water quality monitoring; and,
- 2. Compliance with the programmatic consultation for shellfish farming activities in Washington State inland marine waters between the Seattle District Corps of Engineers and the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including all applicable limits on discharges and survey and/or monitoring requirements:
 - a. Programmatic Biological Assessment, Shellfish Activities in Washington State Inland Marine Waters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program, October 2015;
 - b. Programmatic Biological Opinion, National Marine Fisheries Service, September 2016. Programmatic Biological Opinion for Shellfish Activities in Washington State Marine Waters, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, August 2016.

Based on the information submitted, Ecology has determined that the discharge from the project will comply with state water quality requirements. Prior to undertaking any changes that materially alter the project, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe must contact Ecology to determine whether a new Section 401 Water Quality Certification is required.

Issuance of this Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this proposal does not authorize the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe to exceed applicable state water quality standards (Chapter 173-201A WAC), ground water quality standards (Chapter 173-200 WAC) or sediment quality standards (Chapter 173-204 WAC). Furthermore, nothing in this Section 401 Water Quality Certification absolves the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe from liability for contamination and any subsequent cleanup of surface waters, ground waters, or sediments resulting from project construction or operations.

Any work that causes distressed or dying fish or discharges of oil, fuel, or other chemicals into state waters or onto land with a potential for entry into state waters <u>is prohibited</u>. If such work, conditions, or discharges occur, immediately notify Ecology's Regional Spill Response Office at 360-407-6300 and the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife with the nature and details of the problem, any actions taken to correct the problem, and any proposed changes in operation to prevent further problems. You will also need to notify the Washington Emergency Management Division at 1-800-258-5990, for actual spills to water only.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with 33 U.S.C. §1341, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260 Chapter 173-200 WAC and Chapter 173-201A WAC, this WQC is granted to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Dungeness Bay Oyster Farm project.

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This Certification is not effective until the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Corps) Seattle District issues a permit for this project. Order No. 19591 will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance of the Corps Permit.

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

You have a right to appeal this Order to the Pollution Control Hearing Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order. 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 both of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order:

- File your appeal and a copy of this Order 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 Order 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.

Street Addresses	Mailing Addresses
Department of Ecology	Department of Ecology
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk	Attn: Appeals Processing Desk
300 Desmond Drive SE	PO Box 47608
Lacey, WA 98503	Olympia, WA 98504-7608
Pollution Control Hearings Board	Pollution Control Hearings Board
1111 Israel Road SW, Suite 301	PO Box 40903
Tumwater, WA 98501	Olympia, WA 98504-0903

ADDRESS AND LOCATION INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions about this Order to:

Lori Kingsbury Department of Ecology Southwest Regional Office PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504-7775 lori.kingsbury@ecy.wa.gov Order No. 19591 Corps No. NWS-2007-1213 February 4, 2021 Page 4 of 4

MORE INFORMATION

- Pollution Control Hearings Board Website http://www.eluho.wa.gov/Board/PCHB
- Chapter 43.21B RCW Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office Pollution Control Hearings Board http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.21B
- Chapter 371-08 WAC Practice And Procedure http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=371-08
- Chapter 34.05 RCW Administrative Procedure Act http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=34.05
- Chapter 90.48 RCW Water Pollution Control http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=90.48
- Chapter 173.204 WAC Sediment Management Standards http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-204
- Chapter 173-200 WAC Water Quality Standards for Ground Waters of the State of Washington http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-200
- Chapter 173-201A WAC Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington

http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-201A

SIGNATURE

February 4, 2021 Date

Perry J Lund, Section Manager Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program Southwest Regional Office Department of Ecology