STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

August 12, 2024

Susannah Edwards
Washington Department of Ecology
Lead Administrative Trustee, Port Gamble Bay Natural Resource Trustee Council
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Washington Dept. of Ecology's Approval of the Port Gamble Bay Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Final Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment

Dear Susannah Edwards:

I have been briefed by Ecology staff and the Attorney General's Office and reviewed the "Port Gamble Bay Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Final Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment." As you are aware, this project is of significant importance to several other agencies, Tribes, and the State of Washington, who all share responsibilities of protecting, managing, and enhancing the environment and habitat in our state. Many of the same agencies and Tribes have committed many years to the cleanup and restoration of the Port Gamble Mill and Port Gamble Bay. This restoration plan is the culmination of a significant collaborative effort between each of those parties, and I am proud to play a role in its advancement.

I have been delegated authority from the Ecology Director to serve as Ecology's authorized official with signatory authority for Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Settlements under Consent Decrees. In my capacity as the authorized official for the Washington Department of Ecology, a participating member of the Port Gamble Bay Natural Resource Trustee Council, I hereby confirm my approval of the "Port Gamble Bay Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Final Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment."

We look forward to completion of the habitat restoration project being proposed and the benefits it will provide for all the inhabitants of our state.

Sincerely,

Barry Rogowski
Program Manager, Toxics Cleanup Program