

From: [Laura Westrup](#)
To: [Sonja Cady](#)
Subject: Geoduck Aquaculture Project #2022103702 Johnson Point Loop
Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 7:04:19 AM

Good morning, for the past nine years I have participated in numerous litter pick up activities on beaches and street frontages. It's alarming how many forms of non recyclable plastic are collected — bottles, fast food containers and a surprising number of blue shellfish netting, floats and black growing discs which ends up in the landfill. Yesterday I picked up four netting tubes presumably from vehicles associated with shellfish farming operations along a half mile stretch of Steamboat Island Road. While this may not seem like much, I cleaned the same stretch of road six weeks ago. While cleaning up a stretch of beach on Oakland Bay last summer, the majority of what was picked up was this same form of escaped shellfish industry debris. Our inlets and bays are inundated with flotsam and our natural environments struggle. Legal and industry safeguards are in place to address environmental protections but seeing first hand the volume of shellfish industry flotsam is difficult.

I am not in favor of granting a permit to Taylor Shellfish and Kyle Mazanti for the cultivation of geoduck clams on the former Bush Tidelands off Johnson Point Loop in Thurston County. I believe the practice conflicts with the Washington State's Shoreline Management Act and that this area should not be commercialized for shellfish cultivation.

Sincerely,

Laura Westrup

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