



THURSTON COUNTY
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**PUBLIC HEALTH AND
 SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

MEMORANDUM

June 5, 2023

David M. Bayne, MPH
 Director

Dimyana Abdelmalek, MD, MPH
 Health Officer

TO: Abbie Adams, Community Planning & Economic Development Department

FROM: Dawn Peebles, Thurston County Environmental Health Division *DP*

SUBJECT: Project 2022103702, Folder Sequence 22-109565 XC (22-109568 XA),
 Tax Parcel 93000100000, Mazanti Henderson Bay Shellfish Farm Joint Aquatic
 Resources Permit (JARPA) and Environmental Checklist Application (SEPA)

The above-referenced project has been routed to this department for review and comment. This project is proposing to establish a commercial shellfish operation on 8.5 acres of privately owned tidelands within Henderson Inlet to include manila clams, oysters, and geoduck clams. Manila clam seed will be broadcast by hand and harvested mechanically or by hand digging after about 2-3 years. Oysters are grown in both bags and on the bottom without bags. Harvest takes place typically after 2 years by handpicking during low tide or manually forking oysters into tubs for pick up and transfer. Geoduck culture will occur using PVC and/or mesh nursery tubes placed in the substrate on approximately on-foot centers. Canopy netting is installed to cover PVC tubes to protect them from dislodging. Tubes are removed approximately after two years and grow-out continues for approximately 4-7 years. Harvest is done using a hydraulic wand inserted into the substrate directly adjacent to the individual geoduck.

The farm will be maintained with no equipment stored on the site and all non-essential gear removed at the end of the work period. The project site is accessed by boat with approximately 4-5 employees on average with additional workers during different operation periods. Sanitation facilities will be available on boats for employees working on the site. Motors are muffled by approved exhaust systems and biodegradable oil will be used in the hydraulic systems. Taylor Shellfish has a Central Safety and Environmental Codes of Practice Committee that guide managers and workers in safe and environmentally sound operations. The upland portion is currently developed with existing residences that are served by Johnson Point Homeowners Association Group A public water system and individual on-site septic systems.

Environmental Health's review of the project is complete, and the proposal appears to meet the requirements of the Thurston County Sanitary Code. Therefore, Environmental Health approval of this project is hereby recommended. If you have any questions regarding Environmental Health's review, I can be reached at (360) 867-2650 or dawn.peebles@co.thurston.wa.us.