

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Genetics and Disease Issues Concerning Geoduck Aquaculture

Shellfish Aquaculture Regulatory Committee
Lacey, Washington
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Overview

Effects of Geoduck Aquaculture on the Environment: A Synthesis of Current Knowledge. 2008. Straus, et al.

Authors do an excellent job summarizing current knowledge for genetics and disease in geoduck aquaculture. WDFW consults frequently with Dr. Friedman's lab concerning shellfish disease and genetic issues.

Overview

Effects of Geoduck Aquaculture on the Environment: A Synthesis of Current Knowledge. 2008. Straus, et al.

Disease

- Disease control rules are good and effective.
- The current permitting system has been in place for a long time.
- Shellfish growers are accustomed to the system.
- Compliance is a minimum problem.

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Genetics

- Not specifically addressed by a RCW or a WAC.
- Possibly the greatest long term risk to the health of native geoduck populations.

Shellfish Disease

Regulatory Authority

RCW 77.12.455

Prevention and suppression of diseases and pests.

RCW 77.60.060

Restricted shellfish areas - Infestations - Permit.

RCW 77.115.010

Disease inspection and control of aquatic farmers - Development of program - Elements - Rules - Violations.

Shellfish Disease

WDFW Rules

WAC 220-72

Prevention and suppression of diseases and pests.

WAC 220-77

Restricted shellfish areas - Infestations - Permit.

Shellfish Genetics

Regulatory Authority

RCW 77.12.047

Scope of commission's authority to adopt rules - Application to private tideland owners or lessees of the state.

RCW 77.12.020

Wildlife to be classified.

RCW77.115.010

Disease inspection and control of aquatic farmers - Development of program - Elements - Rules - Violations.

Shellfish Genetics

WDFW Rules

WAC 232-12-271

Criteria for planting aquatic plants and releasing wildlife.

Changes?

Under the authority of RCW 77.115.010, work with Department of Agriculture to strengthen WAC 220-72 and WAC 220-77 to include specific language for “genetic health.”

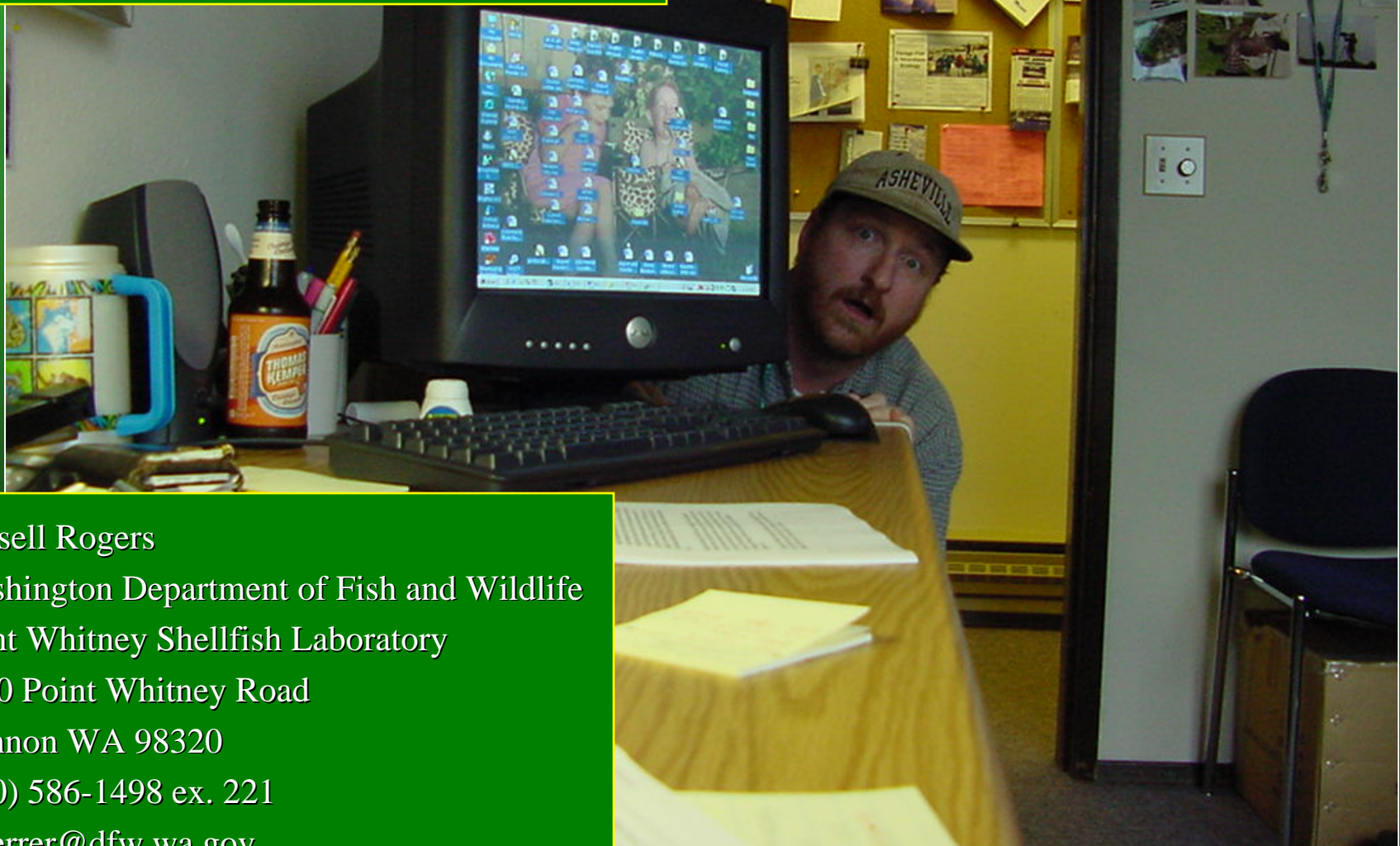
By doing this issues concerning genetics in native cultured shellfish can be rolled into an existing permitting system.

Include a review of hatchery practices by WDFW approved geneticist or a “genetic review committee” (similar to a required health examination by a WDFW approved shellfish pathologist).

The End



Questions?



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