

# Geoduck Aquaculture Research Program - Update

Shellfish Aquaculture Regulatory  
Committee



Penny Dalton  
April 4, 2011

# Program Background

## SSHB2220

6-year study of possible effects of geoduck aquaculture on Puget Sound, Strait of Juan de Fuca environments:

1. Effects of predation prevention structures
2. **Commercial harvesting effects, benthic recovery**
3. Alteration of overlying waters, species diversity and abundance
4. Parasites & diseases in wild, cultured geoducks
5. Genetic interaction of cultured, wild geoducks
6. Use of sterile triploid geoducks to diminish the genetic interactions

Report to Legislature by December 2013

# Activities to Date

- Shellfish aquaculture science workshop, Sept 2007
- Scientific literature review, published Dec 2007, updated Oct 2009
- Competitive selection process, Dec 2007
- Project selection, initiation, April 2008
- SARC updates, at least annually 2007 - 2011
- WSG reports to Legislature, Dec 2009, March 2011

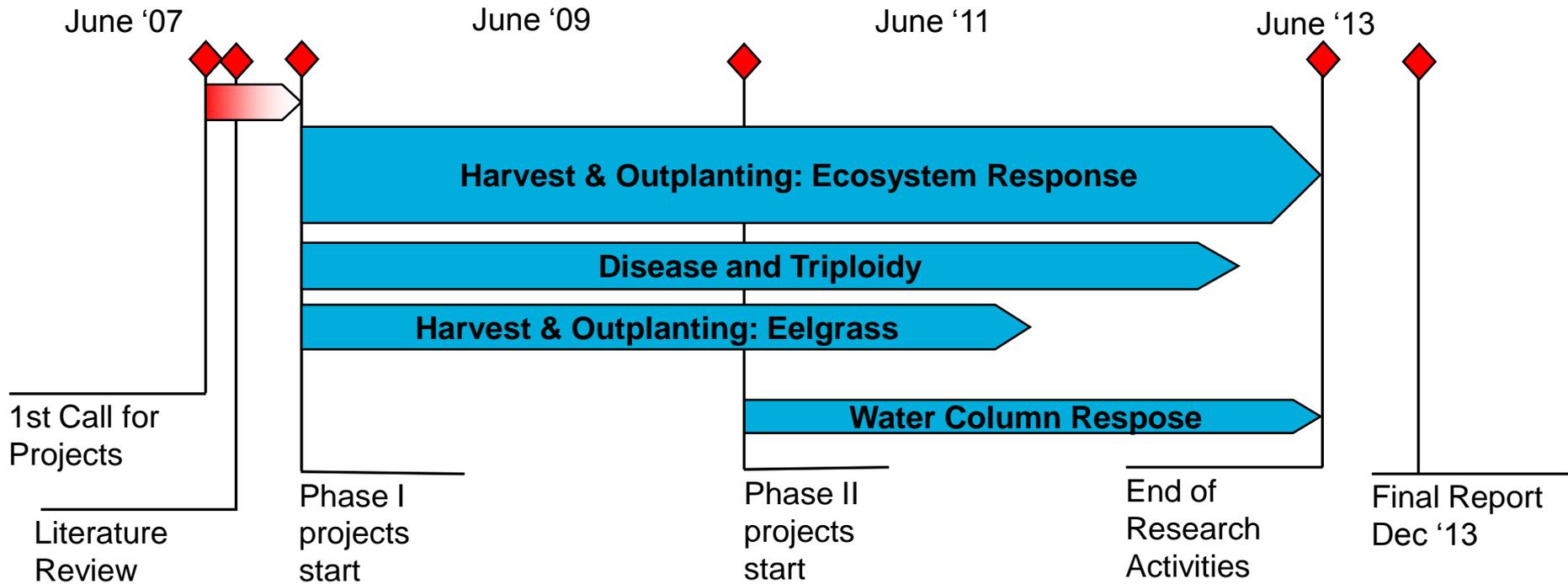
# Research Studies

Geochemical and Ecological Consequences of Disturbances Associated with Geoduck Aquaculture Operations in Washington. (*Glenn VanBlaricom, University of Washington; Jeffrey Cornwell, University of Maryland*)

Cultured-Wild Interactions: Disease Prevalence in Wild Geoduck Populations. (*Carolyn Friedman, University of Washington*)

Resilience of Soft-Sediment Communities after Geoduck Harvest in Samish Bay, Washington. (*Jennifer Ruesink, University of Washington*)

# Program Timeline



# Funding

Project	Study length	Geoduck Research Account 2007-2010	DNR Agreement 2010-2011	UW Royalty Research 2010-2011	National SG Aquaculture Research Investment 2010-2012
Ecological, Geochemical Disturbance	Apr 2008 – June 2013	\$459,935	\$164,563	\$39,972	\$397,672
Cultured-Wild Interactions, Disease	Apr 2008 – July 2011	\$104,000	\$65,688		
Samish Bay Resilience Study	Apr 2008 – July 2011	\$86,612	\$11,000		
Program administration	July 2007 – Dec 2013	\$99,453	\$13,749		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$750,000</b>	<b>\$255,000</b>	<b>\$39,972</b>	<b>\$397,672</b>

# Current Program Status

- 2010 interim report to be posted this week
- Current state funding ending at end of state fiscal year
- Two studies nearing completion – geochemical effects of disturbance, Samish Bay study
- Funding not available to initiate studies on remaining legislative priorities
- Disturbance studies to be completed with federal support rather than through state process, some shift in focus, \$60K shortfall

# Next Steps

- Continue to provide research updates – frequency, venue?
- Report on peer-reviewed results as projects completed
- 2013 Final Report – scope, process?

# For More Information

Washington Sea Grant Web Site:

<http://wsg.washington.edu/research/geoduck/index.html>

206-543-6600