

Lisa Bishop

Comment E0083

Source	First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Phone Number	Representing	Email Received
SMP Rulemaking 2010	Lisa	Bishop	Lisa@skookumshe llfish.com	360-426-9759	Little Skookum Shellfish Growers	11/23/2010 9:51

Dear Ms Bouta:

We are a family owned shellfish farm that has been in operation for 127 years. Our family has been living on this same piece of property that entire time, enjoying the beautiful habitat, sharing it with countless wildlife, while using the same as a commercial revenue source. As John Dodge stated in the Olympian June 15, 2009, we are careful stewards of a special property since 1883. We have been watching the SARC process and now see the Shoreline Guidelines changes proposed by the Department of Ecology. The changes are not consistent with the intent of the legislature or SARC. These changes are not appropriate. Shellfish is special, a preferred use for Puget Sound. Without aquaculture in Puget Sound the marine ecosystem would collapse as we have seen in the Chesapeake and many other major urbanized estuaries. Shellfish growth aids other species (vascular plants, algae, forage fish, etc). They filter feed, cleaning out the bay. The proposed changes remove important water quality protections, endangering the shellfish, finfish, and human usage of Puget Sound. Small businesses would be hurt by the changes proposed. We currently have 27 employees with a payroll of about \$1 million. Our farm is small compared to other growers in our area. The economic impact statement is flawed. The analysis focused only on geoduck aquaculture, a species we do not cultivate. We would like the original language from the SARC recommendations and HB2220 retained, acknowledging aquaculture as being of statewide interest, recognizing the benefits of aquaculture in protecting the resources and ecology of the shoreline and giving aquaculture equal standing with other water dependent uses. There is also some confusion about the Governor's executive order. We understand that all rulemaking is suspended. Clarification as to whether this WAC is exempt from the Governor' order is needed.

Sincerely, Lisa Bishop, Brett Bishop, Manager, Little Skookum Shellfish Growers