



STATE OF WASHINGTON

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD

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March 9, 2012

Dear Ms. Hamel:

The Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB) recognizes that Japanese eelgrass, *Zostera japonica*, is causing serious economic harm to Washington's shellfish growers, which is why in 2012 the WSNWCB added this species as a Class C noxious weed on commercially managed shellfish beds only. The WSNWCB fully supports Integrated Pest Management (IPM), of which chemical control can be a necessary component. Therefore, we appreciate and support the Department of Ecology's efforts to issue a general permit for the application of imazamox to manage Japanese eelgrass on commercial shellfish beds.

Sincerely,

Alison Halpern
Executive Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

