

From: [Fritzi](#)
To: [Robertson, Julie \(ECY\)](#); [Hamel, Kathy \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: Re: Public Comment Period for the proposed development of a General Permit for the Management of Japanese Eelgrass on Commercial Clam Beds in Willapa Bay
Date: Saturday, October 06, 2012 11:20:35 AM

Two questions. Do you mean that the alternative to a General Permit would be clam bed by clam bed. Can you explain this.
Also, are you saying that there will be no permits until the EIS is completed.

-----Original Message-----

From: Robertson, Julie (ECY) (ECY) <JROB461@ECY.WA.GOV>
To: Robertson, Julie (ECY) (ECY) <JROB461@ECY.WA.GOV>
Sent: Wed, Oct 3, 2012 1:26 pm
Subject: Public Comment Period for the proposed development of a General Permit for the Management of Japanese Eelgrass on Commercial Clam Beds in Willapa Bay

October 3, 2012

Public Comment Period for the proposed development of a General Permit for the Management of Japanese Eelgrass on Commercial Clam Beds in Willapa Bay

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is requesting comments from the public about whether or not it is appropriate for Ecology to develop a general permit for the application of the aquatic herbicide imazamox to manage Japanese eelgrass on commercial clam beds in Willapa Bay. We are also issuing a scoping notice for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to cover this activity. Based on comments from Ecology's earlier proposal to issue a permit for all commercial shellfish beds, Ecology plans to narrow the scope of this proposed permit to include only commercial clam beds (excluding geoduck culture) in Willapa Bay in Pacific County.

These management activities may result in the discharge of chemicals to the surface waters of the state of Washington in Willapa Bay. Find the EIS scoping notice and more information at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/eelgrass.html. The comment period for this revised permit proposal is from **October 3 through November 2, 2012 at 5 p.m.** Ecology prefers to have comments submitted by email, but accepts all comments.

Email your comments to: Kathy Hamel at: eelgrasscomments@ecy.wa.gov.

Or please direct comments to:

Kathy Hamel
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 47696
Olympia, WA 98504-7696
Telephone: (360) 407-6562
Email: kathy.hamel@ecy.wa.gov

Purpose of the General Permit: The Japanese Eelgrass Management on Commercial Clam Beds

General Permit (permit) in Willapa Bay will regulate the use of the herbicide imazamox and marker dyes applied to manage Japanese eelgrass on commercial clam beds where imazamox may enter the surface waters of the state of Washington.

Under the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act, a permit is required for the discharge of pollutants which may alter the biological or chemical characteristics of a water body. The proposed permit addresses these legal requirements and regulates the discharge of pollutants to protect surface water quality in Washington State.

Ecology issues general permits in place of a series of individual permits when the permitted activities are similar. Agencies that receive coverage under the general permit must comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.

For more information: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/eelgrass.html.

Questions: If you have questions about the permit, please contact Kathy Hamel at kathy.hamel@ecy.wa.gov, or (360) 407-6562.

Julie Robertson
Water Quality Program
Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-4600
360-407-6435
julie.robertson@ecy.wa.gov