

**From:** [Don & Debbie Gillies](#)  
**To:** [ECY RE Japanese Eelgrass Permit Comments](#)  
**Subject:** public comment  
**Date:** Friday, October 05, 2012 6:26:18 AM

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To Kathy Hamel:

I support the use of imazamox to control the invasive class C noxious weed *Zostrea Japonica* in Willapa Bay. There is a noticeable increase in *Zostrea Japonica* in the central bay east shore near Stony Point. This area is home to some of the best shellfish beds in the bay and utilized heavily to produce a healthy nutritious food source for America. Willapa Bay is a valuable state resource that cannot be allowed to fall victim to an invasive species. Governmental agencies stepped up to the plate controlling *Spartina* and have shown the world how dedication, determination and hard work can save valuable natural resources. Keeping Willapa Bay as a pristine, pollution free, vibrant estuary while producing a valuable food source and supporting the local economies should be a priority for the state government.

The shellfish growers will continue to act as stewards of Willapa Bay and will assist ecology and the state of Washington in keeping this wonderful natural resource and our private property shellfish growing areas clean and productive. At the current rate of infestation by *Zostrea Japonica* it seems counter productive to limit the control to commercial clam beds only. Why narrow the scope of the proposed permit, do you want to go through this again when the invasion of this noxious weed necessitates control in other areas?

It is definitely "appropriate" for Ecology to develop a general permit to allow the use of imazamox as a control tool for *Zostrea Japonica*. It is in the best interest of the State to control this weed and maintain the economies of Pacific County.

Thank You,  
Don Gillies