

October 14, 2010

To: Department of Ecology

Subject: 2011 Aquatic Plant and Algae Management General Permit

The Lower Hood Canal Watershed Coalition was first briefed on the concerns with the use of herbicides to control native plants in Haven Lake in Mason County at the Coalition meeting on March 1, 2010

The Lower Hood Canal Watershed Coalition is composed of local residents, businesses and representatives from local, state and tribal agencies dedicated to restoring and maintaining the fresh and marine water quality in the lower Hood Canal watershed. Haven Lake is in the lower Hood Canal watershed and is connected to the Tahuya River.

Members of the Coalition have reviewed the current recommended changes to the Department of Ecology General Permit and permitting process proposed by Monica Harle (and reviewed by legal counsel) and provided to the Department of Ecology.

Members of the Coalition firmly support the Ms. Harle's recommendations to revise the permit for the control of native plants and share her concerns about the implementation (or lack of).

Sincerely,

Robert Hager
Co-Chair
Lower hood Canal Watershed Coalition

Constance Ibsen
Co-Chair
Lower Hood Canal Watershed Coalition