

**Regulatory Branch** 

July 28, 2021

Reference: NWS-2007-1213 Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (Dungeness Bay)

Dear Commenter:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Regulatory Branch (Corps) has issued a permit for the referenced application to cultivate 34 acres of Pacific oysters with up to 5 acres of on-bottom bag culture and the remaining acreage using on-bottom loose culture methods in Dungeness Bay near Sequim, Clallam County, Washington. This application was the subject of Public Notices dated December 3, 2018, December 10, 2018, and April 30, 2020. We received your comments and request for a public hearing on this permit application.

Public hearings are held when a hearing would provide the Corps with additional information that is necessary for a thorough evaluation of pertinent issues, but when that information is not otherwise available. We did not hold a public hearing because the Corps had the necessary information to evaluate the permit application.

The determination as to whether a Department of the Army permit will be issued for certain work in waters of the U.S. is based on an evaluation of the individual and cumulative impact which the work may have on the public interest. We evaluated relevant factors concerning this permit for impacts upon the public interest. The views of Federal, State, and local governmental agencies, were given great weight in our evaluation, as were your comments. After consideration of the above, we have concluded that the work is not contrary to the public interest and this permit has been issued.

Your interest is appreciated and you may be assured that your comments were given full consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Pamela Sanguinetti at pamela.sanguinetti@usace.army.mil or by phone at (206) 764-6904.

Sincerely,

Michelle Walker Chief, Regulatory Branch