

From: [BrownScott, Jennifer](#)
To: [Pelizza, Sylvia](#)
Subject: More aquaculture stuff
Date: Friday, December 4, 2015 4:06:28 PM

DNR also received a letter from Chairman Allen and were wondering if we could share letters and responses with one another. I told him that I would ask.

Are the letter and response public documents?

DNR said that the lease permits "limited commercial harvest" and that the permitted use is described in Exhibit B (the Overview of Operations that I sent previously). He said that anything outside of that which is allowed in the lease would need to be negotiated and any changes would need to be approved in an amendment made to the current lease, or a new lease would need to be created. The entire description of permitted use is inserted below. All emphasis in the following excerpt has been added.

Overview of Operations

The goal of the continued cultivation of shellfish for the near future on this lease will be to assist in assessment and monitoring of the health and productivity of Dungeness Bay. The existence and productivity of shellfish are considered an indicator of clean water and a healthy ecosystem in the Straits of Juan de Fuca and adjacent waters. It is expected that the Washington State Dept of Health (DOH) will continue to test water quality in the bay for shellfish cultivation. **The Tribe plans to implement an off-bottom oyster operation on the lease with the use of Aqua purses** (See attached map). A two year grow out period is required for off-bottom culture. We will plant diploid oysters, which will reach harvestable size in two years, and triploid oysters which will be harvested at the end of one year. Although triploids can be harvested sooner, diploid oysters are more resilient than triploids in warm conditions. **The culture area will encompass approximately 100 x 100 foot plot**, roughly equivalent to one quarter acre within the lease area. It will entail **using no more than three dozen metal fence posts, rope, and 60 aqua-purses**. The size, location, and culture methods used to grow oysters will be discussed and **approved by DNR and USFW** prior to establishment. The Tribe will strive to recognize and **plan work in the Bay from May 15 through July 30** when cultivation activities will be least disruptive to use of the Bay by Brant and other waterfowl. The Tribe will confer with USFW before conducting activities on the lease outside this window.

A small test plot of geoducks was planted in 1997 (about 50 x 100 feet) (see map). Since planting, the predator protection tubes have been removed. A small sample of geoducks will be harvested periodically to observe the quality and size of the animals. Any plan to increase or change the number and cultivation of geoduck will be discussed and approved by the DNR and USFW prior to proceeding.

-jennifer

PS: I'll look into my voucher

Jennifer Brown-Scott
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~~Dungeness NWR~Protection Island NWR~San Juan Islands NWR~~
~~Copalis NWR~Flattery Rocks NWR~Quillayute Needles NWR~~

On Fri, Dec 4, 2015 at 3:53 PM, Pelizza, Sylvia <sylvia_pelizza@fws.gov> wrote:

Jennifer:

I tried to approve your travel voucher, but it is not letting me. Says there are errors. Can you please check it.

Thanks.

Sylvia

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**Sylvia R. Pelizza**

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