

Brian Kingzett: Hi. My name is Brian Kingzett. I am a biologist with Goose Point Oyster Company. I'm also trained as a marine biologist but I consider myself an environmentalist, a naturalist, and a [unintelligible]. So Willapa Bay is a very unique ecosystem estuary in North America. It's a true case study of industry working with nature in a sustainable manner to provide both ecological and economic benefits in this food system. Part of that is because of the practice of extensive traditional bottom culture that, as you've heard, has been practiced for many generations here in the bay. And that provides habitat complexity that mimics the natural oyster reef system and encourages the – and facilitates higher trophic levels such as fish and birds and, as we heard from the crab fisherman, juvenile crabs of economic importance. Anthropogenic changes led to the increase of a natural pest – much like climate change has encouraged the spread of the mountain pine beetle. Shrimp areas reduce biodiversity in addition to producing the economic losses that are described in the SEIS. And until non-chemical means are found to suppress and maintain shrimp populations at a healthy ecological level the science supports the issuance of the permit and the application and will provide the controls to reduce shrimp numbers on beds and the ongoing monitoring will provide the controls and checks to ensure that any applications are performed and evaluated in a responsible manner. And I add that to the comments that have been made by prior speakers. Thank you.