

David Beugli: David Beugli, Clatsop County. So first thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new Supplement Environmental Impact Statement to control burrowing shrimp, using Imidacloprid. The Willapa Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association was founded in 1959 as a way for shellfish farmers to work together to solve common problems. Currently, membership includes about 20 farms located in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor. The majority of these farms are family owned and have been farmed by the same families for multiple generations. The shellfish industry is the single largest employer of Pacific County – responsible for nearly 2,000 family-wage jobs. This represents over \$100 million of economic output on a yearly basis. In addition, Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor represent the largest oyster growing area in the U.S. – producing nearly 25% of the nations oysters.

The new permit that we have requested represents a single and significant reduction in acres where growing shrimp will be controlled. From 2,000 acres per year in the original issued permit to our current request of 500 acres. This represents a 75% reduction in the total acres that would be treated on a yearly basis. We've also committed to not using helicopters but focus on more precise ground-based applications. The new SEIS – just like the previous EIS – shows that there will be no bay-wide impacts and that these applications will have no direct impacts of fish, birds, marine mammals or human health. These findings alone support the timely issuance of a new permit. That's all. Thank you.