

Jim Sayce: I want you to know this is my 90 second version because that's what you told us in South Bend – so if I go over a little bit that's okay.

I'm Jim Sayce. I'm Executive Director of Pacific County Economic Council. I live in Seaview, Pacific County. A decade of undergraduate and graduate studies in Ecology and 3 decades work in Pacific County at Land Use Regional Planning Community Development History and, finally, Economic Development have brought me full circle into our sustainable reality. The Pacific County economy faces the vagaries of nature and that's definitely inclusive of Willapa Bay – which is the ecotone, which is the boundary between land and ocean and is where all the action is in terms of dynamic forces. Our economy is grown by natural resources – whether recreation or production. Our survival strategy is ultimately to be generalists with a suite of tools that allows us to face uncertain conditions and thrive. And that “uncertain conditions” includes the anthropogenic forces of global warming -- which are quite fascinating and quite an irony because here we are talking about dealing with forces that are caused by ourselves, ultimately.

The EDC accepts the SEIS conclusions regarding economic impact of a shellfish industry -- most importantly, the Taylor Shellfish Company's observation. Fact: Shrimp control is necessary to maintain a healthy and viable bottom culture shucked meat oyster industry in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor. This also saves family farms. One of the reasons it saves family farms is the capitalization of the bottom culture isn't as costly. Or I should say bottom culture is more expensive in some cases than un-bottom culture.

The EDC supports alternative 3 of the SEIS – otherwise known as the 500-acre proposal. With IPM I must say that monitoring is key to a good IPM. So good monitoring means good IPM.

Finally, having a suite of oyster culture types represents a strategy against change. We are sustainable because of the choices we have accepted and made. We live close at hand to the sea and the land. And I'm going to close by saying I'm really familiar with the use of tractive forces and physical equipment in Willapa Bay. In the early aughts I experimented extensively with devices to work in Willapa Bay – a low pressure ground contractive force equipment – and there is yet to be a device invented to work on that level of muddy environment that could, say, crush or manipulate that sediment such to negatively impact shrimp. What that means is, you can't go out there and plow like you can a wheat field -- and particularly on an annual basis. And the cost of that is extraordinary and the physical damage that would result in is equally extraordinary. I believe that the SEIS is based on good science and the best available science as it attempts to mitigate risk. But I do want to say that Willapa is a dynamic system. It is so dynamic that any particular species is going to have extraordinary variability on its impact – due to what we would commonly call natural forces but now we get to call them anthropogenic forces. I will submit risks in testimony but thank you very much.