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**To:** [Jennings, Jonathan \(ECY\)](#)  
**Subject:** Willapa Bay eelgrass spray permit  
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Hello Jonathan,

I know that I missed the cut off for the public comment period; but I just learned of it this morning and thought it couldn't hurt to express my thoughts. I'll be brief and I hope you consider my comment.

the eelgrass they are looking to spray is a non-native invasive species that really has no ecological benefit (the blade is too thin) and crowds out a portion our native eelgrass habitat as well as crowding out the native benthic invertebrates. So, management of this species in Willapa is a good thing. Spraying should be a last resort, but it should be a tool in the toolbox.

I have serious concerns with the clam growers being allowed to be the ones to identify which eelgrass they have, being the ones identifying the buffers, administering the toxin, and being the ones to monitor themselves for compliance. That is a HUGE problem. There should be written into the permit some kind of oversight and assessment of the impacts (good or bad) by a third party.

I also have concerns that once the invasive eelgrass is controlled that the native benthic invertebrates (like the mud shrimp) will return and then the clam growers will want to spray the native invertebrates in order to grow their non native clams.

I know my comments will not be a part of the public doc, since comment period closed, but I hope you still consider my concerns.

Thank you,  
Lisa Belleveau