



LONGLINES

Volume 25 No. 3
Summer 2022



**INSPIRING THE
NEXT GENERATION...**

PCSGA



PACIFIC COAST SHELLFISH GROWERS ASSOCIATION

120 State Avenue NE #142
Olympia, WA 98501
www.pcsga.org
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(360) 754-2744

The PCSGA strives to ensure a healthy industry and environment for shellfish farming on the Pacific Coast.

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.....

Comments and questions about *Longlines* are invited. Please email: newsletter@pcsga.org

PCSGA IS HIRING!

MEMBER SERVICES COORDINATOR

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

The Member Services Coordinator will represent the mission and the interests of the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association. Specifically, this individual will strengthen the membership experience, working with members to identify and reflect key issues into new and existing PCSGA programs and tools. Additionally, this position will provide administrative support for the organization in order to help PCSGA achieve its mission and goals.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Member Engagement and volunteer support

- Regularly interact with Grower and Allied Members to attain their input on priority issues, needs and opportunities for improved engagement
- Lead member-orientated activities including those aimed at renewal and retention

Support PCSGA leadership and staff with meeting and event planning and communications

- Event planning, coordinate vendors, and staff events as needed
- Manage volunteer activities at beach clean-ups, community events, fundraisers, etc.
- Coordinate with staff and support communications including light graphic design duties
- Produce content for website, social media, and newsletter, and coordinate distribution

Organization Support / General Administrative Duties

- Perform general administrative functions, including but not limited to general correspondence, phone, email, schedule meetings, meeting minutes, submit PDC reports, etc.
- Ensure Desk Reference Manuals are updated annually
- Assist other staff as needed

QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- Exceptional written and oral communication skills.
- Experience developing and maintaining client/stakeholder relationships.
- Demonstrated success supporting daily functions of the office, often with conflicting priorities.
- Leadership and teamwork experience: work cooperatively and collaboratively with others in complex and sometimes politically sensitive arenas.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite; comfortable with virtual communication platforms, such as Zoom; experience working with WordPress, InDesign and databases preferable. Learns new software quickly.
- Works independently, prioritizes tasks, and is a self-starter. Understands what needs to be done and how best to accomplish tasks.
- Exhibits discretion, confidentiality and professionalism when working with sensitive, private or adverse information.
- Appreciation for farming and/or working waterfronts.

Email cover letter, resume and names of three professional references to:

Connie Smith, Assistant Director • conniesmith@pcsga.org

*Include in the Subject Line: Member Services Coordinator Job Application

Cover Photo: Samantha Klein (PCSGA Stewardship Officer) jumped boot-first into engaging with our grower members to learn about their operations and outreach priorities. Pictured here is (top) Lisa Carleton-Long, Operations Manager - Rock Point Oyster Company; (left) Matt Henderson, Site Manager - Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Point Whitney Hatchery; and (right) Kathleen Nisbet-Moncy, Nisbet Oyster Company. Samantha details her experiences in the article on pages 4-5.

Pearls from the Prez

The Italians have a wonderful expression that perfectly captures the moment we're all in today: *Lupus in fabula*. *The wolf in the fairy tale*.

Just when life is going swimmingly, along comes a demon, a dragon, a diagnosis, a downsizing. Just when our fairy tale seems poised to come true, a wolf shows up and threatens to destroy it.

The common undercurrent in the conversations we're all having these days – and the one we're most reluctant to say out loud – is that we all feel completely overwhelmed.

We're facing an epidemic of wolves.

As we emerge from our collective upheaval we're wondering: Should I resume my prior life or refresh it somehow? Should I restart old relationships or go start new ones? Should I pick up my job or simply pick up and leave?

We're unsettled, unnerved, unsure. We don't know how to tell our stories anymore. We're in between dreams.

Let's be clear, I don't have the answers. I do have the stories; I do have the friends and family that have carried me through the demons and the dragons. That brief moment when we put ourselves in front of the wolf and no longer allow it to have a say in our own fairy tale. We also have that story that continues to be better than the day before with no sign of a wolf around a corner, although we continue to wait for its arrival.

What is your story? How do recall your story? Is it a tale riddled with all the heartache and disappointment, or is it one of perseverance, commitment, and love?

My current story is one of love. Not only for a partner that is dedicated and devoted, but also for an extended family that has made me one of their own. And just when I thought my family was full, no room to grow, a granddaughter is on her way.

In this chapter of my fairy tale, I find myself mired in continued efforts to promote and continue my work to be an advocate for our industry. I continually remind myself, just how lucky I am, to serve in this capacity. That does not mean it is all roses and princess tales. It means that there is meaning to what I do. How easily I can find gems, and smiles that will last a lifetime.

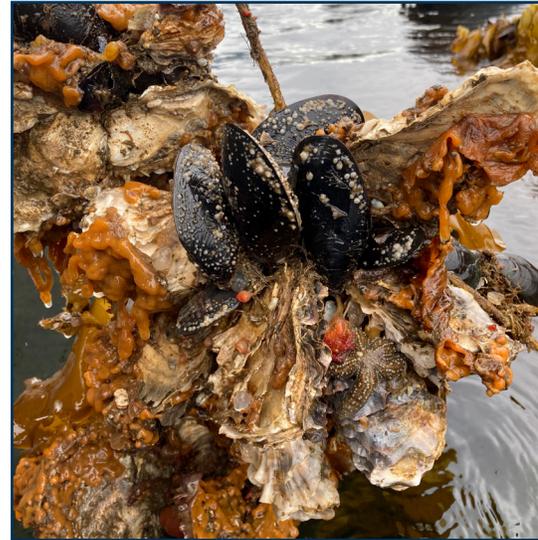
The less we give space for the wolves; in sheep's clothing, in destruction, in continued ill intent, and instead find the joy, the more peace we grant ourselves.

Our stories are important, they are what will be told after we are gone. What will your storytellers say about you?

"Every once in a while, in the middle of an ordinary life, love gives us a fairytale"
- Unknown

Miranda Ries
Pacific Seafood, Pacific Shellfish

MONTHLY ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!



April: Call Nichols (BlueTrace) captures a photo of Longline Pacific oyster clusters that are a nursery for all manner of sealife, including juvenile spot prawns and ochre stars.



June: Nyle Taylor (Taylor Shellfish, WA) photographed a Dungeness Crab finding refuge amongst mesh tubes in Discovery Bay at low tide. Rock Crabs, Graceful Crab, Spider Crab, and others are often found hiding, mating and foraging amongst the mesh tubes.

**SNAP A PHOTO,
WIN \$100!**
Contest rules at www.pcsga.org

Builders Initiative Update: Exploring Common Ground

By: Samantha Klein, PCSGA Stewardship Officer

I am now at the end of my second month as the new PCSGA Stewardship Officer. I have tried to understand the history and scope of this industry and PCSGA's role in supporting our members. It has felt at times, as Connie Smith (PCSGA Assistant Director) says, that I am "drinking out of a firehose" of information. I have also thought deeply about how my background in marine science and environmental justice can inform my work to ensure a healthy, sustainable future for our members and the communities that they operate in.

I find that the best way to understand something is by firsthand experience. So at Connie's suggestion I jumped boot-first into visiting our members on site, walking onto the tidelands, sinking into mud, smelling the briny scent of fresh shucked oysters, and hearing the rush of water in algae culture systems. During these visits I have listened to our members explain their communication and outreach priorities. One thing I have learned thus far is that there is a vast diversity in our members' operations, markets, sites, needs, and production methods.

My first visit was to the **Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Point Whitney Hatchery**. Their site manager, Matt Henderson told me about the process of receiving Pacific oyster seed from Kona HI and culturing different species of algae to feed them. He explained that they are trying to move away from the open algae culturing systems that have a higher risk of contamination, to the newer closed continuous culture systems like the ones made by PureBiomass. Matt explained to me that growers are concerned about Ostreid Herpesvirus (OsHV-1) and micro-variants becoming a bigger issue in Washington and other areas along the North American West Coast.

Next I visited **Rock Point Oyster Company** at Tarboo Bay to learn about their company from Lisa Carleton-Long. I toured around their seed raising facility for Pacific Oysters and clams, wet storage facility and some of the nearby tidelands with rack and bag growing systems. Lisa explained to me that during COVID when sales declined, she planned farm maintenance projects for the crews, such as removing old creosote racks and hand-removing oyster drills.

To finish off my initial visits in the Hood Canal region, I stopped by **Hama Hama** and met up with our current Board Member and their Wholesale Manager, Justin Stang. We discussed their strategies of marketing directly to customers through their website when restaurants were closed during the early pandemic. He showed me some of the sustainable packaging materials, such as their Corr Cool Insulated liners that are fully recyclable in curbside bins.

I next spent a few days out on the Washington Coast, familiarizing myself with our members in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor. My first stop was **Northern Oyster Company** at the Port of the Peninsula in Ocean Park, to meet with the owners, Marilyn and Brian Sheldon, their son Jeb Sheldon, and David Beugli, the Director of the Willapa-Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association.

They proudly use the traditional method of bottom culture. I learned that due to changing environmental conditions, natural oyster sets were no longer reliable after 2004, so they built an oyster larvae setting station in 2009. Brian demonstrated the process for setting oyster larvae on cultch for me. The Sheldon's

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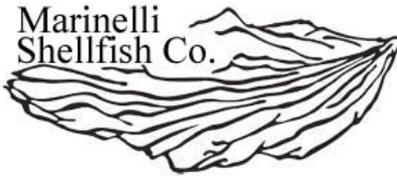
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are committed to stewarding the tidelands as their family has for generations while finding solutions to issues such as burrowing shrimp infestations and plastic waste in the marine environment.

I had the special opportunity of tagging along with Kathleen Nisbet-Moncy of **Nisbet Oyster Company** as she checked on the status of several oyster beds. Trying not to get stuck in the mud, I helped them collect samples of oysters from different beds to estimate the mortality rates and volume of meat produced by each bed. We also encountered pests such as red rock crab and oyster drills. Kathleen described some areas that had been lost to burrowing shrimp and some beds where shrimp had subsided for unknown reasons. She said that for predatory pests such as European green crab, red rock crab and drills, there hasn't been adequate government funding and support to develop effective management methods other than to trap and manually remove them. As for burrowing shrimp, they are still searching for methods to control this devastating pest.

As we traveled between beds, Kathleen and I discussed how to get positive messages through to environmentalists and the general public who are not familiar with the reality of shellfish farming. What we kept coming back to, is that ultimately people need to use estuaries for farming and fishing. Shellfish grower tideland management is not harmful, but critical to produce healthy food and sustain rural communities.

The next day I headed to Tokeland to meet up with David Beugli again and help out with some research investigating the efficacy of different oils for controlling juvenile burrowing shrimp. This research was funded through Washington Department of Agriculture and conducted by Paradox N.R. Plots had been treated the day before with small amounts of

clove oil and peppermint oil injected beneath the surface of the sand. We then sieved cores of the sand and counted the number of live, dead, and injured juvenile burrowing shrimp present. These numbers will be compared with control samples to determine the efficacy of these oils in controlling burrowing shrimp populations before they grow to adulthood.

Impacts of COVID

Many of our members described the challenges they faced during COVID. For members who sell primarily shucked meat, demand for their product didn't seem to change. However, for members who primarily sell half shell oysters to restaurants, sales declined greatly at the beginning then continued to fluctuate through various restaurant restrictions. Similar to other sectors, the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities within our industry. As we deal with repercussions of the pandemic, I hope we can continue to find ways to collaborate and support each other.

My goal for this grant work is to build social license for all of our members and represent their priorities and needs equally: whether a member manages 17,000 acres of tidelands or 50 acres; has one person working in their shucking facility or 50; been farming for five generations or one. I witnessed many common priorities and needs during my visits - shellfish growers need clean water, healthy coastal ecosystems, a supportive regulatory environment, and a continued passion for producing sustainable food in the next generation. I could clearly see that our members take great pride in stewarding the tidelands and feeding our communities. Thank you for the opportunity to learn from you all and to provide support for this vital industry. I look forward to many events and shared projects in the future.



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Hama Hama Turns 100 Years Fresh!

This year, Hama Hama Company turns 100 years old.

We're proud to have spent a century selling real, essential things. Oysters and trees. Food and shelter. Hama Hama Company consists of two separate businesses: an oyster company, and a logging company. We are still family owned and operated, and our work is inextricably bound to our way of life here. Our common ancestors, Harry and Helena Robbins, gifted their children and grandchildren a life lived in the outdoors, a stubborn love of honest work, and a way of doing business that does its best to honor all the people involved in it. Some of the decisions they made may not hold up to our modern scrutiny, but we are eternally grateful for the beautiful land and the thoughtful systems of governance that they left us.

Over the course of 2022 we'll be taking some time to look back—and to look ahead. We'll focus on a few human stories that get left out of our standard company history. (If you're burning to know what happened to the railroad, we won't leave you in suspense: we sold it as scrap iron to get through the Depression.) We'll also bring in voices from outside our organization to help us speculate about the future of natural resource management and our role in it. And, most importantly: we're gonna do our darndest to have fun and spread all the joy this particular moment warrants. Welcome to birthday year. Thank you for being here with us.




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Ocean Plastics Recovery in Katmai National Park

by: Bobbi Hudson, Executive Director of the Pacific Shellfish Institute
June 2022

I'm a life-long Alaskan, albeit part-time, but I'd never been to Kodiak. After a stunning flight from Seattle, layovers in Juneau (drinks at Griz Bar with an Alaska Mariculture Alliance colleague) and Anchorage, I arrived in time for Crab Festival Dinner at booth 50, supporting the Kodiak Maritime Museum, then I settled on the 80' R/V Island C.

The next morning captain Andy Schroeder and two crew untied from Herman Harbor, with eleven volunteers from across the U.S. and Canada on board. Simply transiting Kodiak's vibrant working waterfront had me beaming. We navigated Whale Pass, then headed west toward Katmai National Park. We crossed Shelikof Strait with the sun shining and calm seas. I was at ease in 2-3' swells, watching Fin and Humpback whales, then Stellar sea lions at Cape Atushagvik on the Katmai Coast.

Shortly after sunset—although it never really got dark—the deckhand cut the twin 871s and dropped the hook in Missak Bay. We were the only vessel in sight. Cell signal was long gone. VHF channel 16 was nearly silent. I was overcome with appreciation.

My entire time in Katmai, supporting an Ocean Plastics Recovery Project expedition, filled me with gratitude. The landscape is breathtaking. Sea level rises steeply to snowcapped mountains, and beaches vary from cliffs to cobbles to sandy pockets. Wildlife is abundant. I've never seen more brown bears at one time (seven), especially at close range.



Each day we skiffed to targeted, remote beaches, removing accumulated debris near Missak, Kuliak, Amalik, and Hallo Bays. We separated rope from rigid plastic, loaded it into Super Sacks, and hauled everything back to the Island C.

The most common debris were floats, deep sea fishing nets, mooring line, a wide variety of plastic containers, and single use water bottles. Considerable debris originates from Japan and the 2011 tsunami, carried by the N Pacific Gyre. My commercial fishing background helped classify gear types and floats. Thousands of Japanese “banana” floats, some single, some still attached to nets, were removed. I kept a sharp eye for aquaculture gear and found very little: a Go Deep float; and a

single extruded plastic oyster bag. A bummer for the farmer because it was full of market size Pacific oysters, now dead.

Our team found countless shoes, hard hats, fish totes, an entire pallet of tangled packing strap, and crab pot floats. The pot tags indicated 2013-2016 fisheries in Washington and Oregon. It was fascinating.

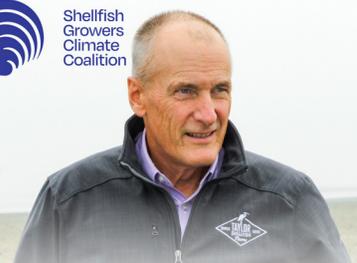
The expedition removed >20,000 pounds of garbage over eleven days. The volume—from such a remote, wild place—was both crushing and motivating. I anticipated feeling that our task was insurmountable, but instead I felt inspired. We made a difference. Thanks to donors, partners, volunteers and NOAA's Marine Debris Program, the Ocean Plastics Recovery Project is making a difference. I'm beyond grateful to have been part of the effort. <https://oceanplasticsrecovery.com>

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— Bill Dewey
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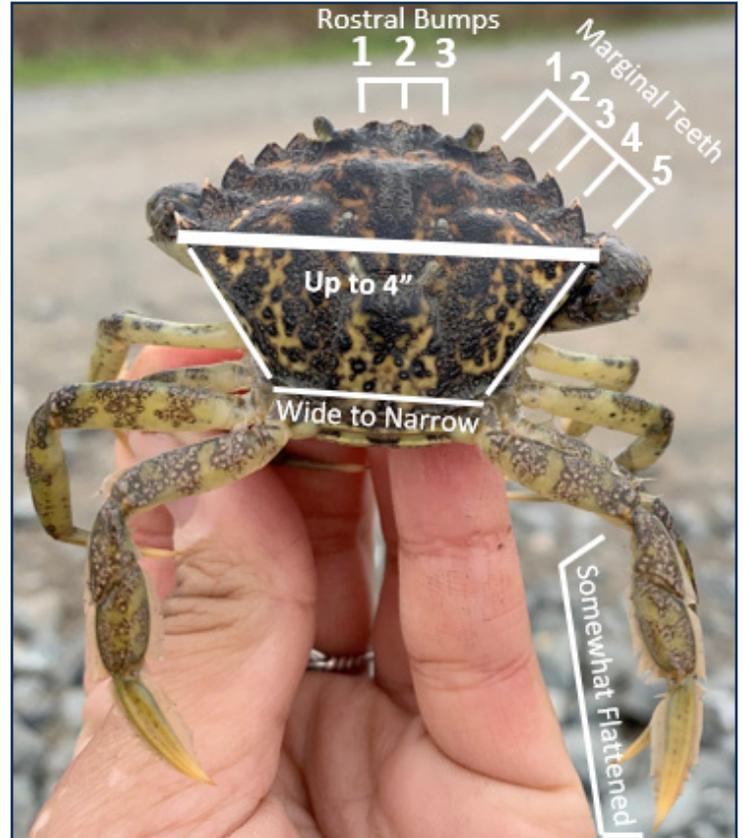
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Emergency Response Efforts Ramp Up To Control European Green Crabs

by: Chase Gunnell - Puget Sound Region Communications Manager, WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
June 2022

The European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) is a globally damaging invasive species that poses a threat to native shellfish, eelgrass, and estuary habitat critical for salmon and many other species. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), other state and federal agencies, shellfish growers, Native American Tribes, and others are coordinating to deploy emergency management efforts, personnel, and equipment to control green crab infestations in Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor, Makah Bay, Lummi Bay and other sites.

A shore crab no larger than a human fist native to the northeastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, the European green crab first became established in the United States in the mid-1800s, arriving by ship to the Cape Cod region. In 1989, green crabs were first discovered on the West Coast in San Francisco Bay, California and later made it into Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia coastal estuaries in the late 1990s helped by strong El Nino currents. Green crab were first discovered on the Washington coast in 1998 in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor, and later in Makah Bay. European green crabs were first documented in the Salish Sea at Sooke Basin, British Columbia in 2012, and in the San Juan Islands in 2016. As of early 2022, European green crabs have not been detected within Puget Sound south of Admiralty Inlet.



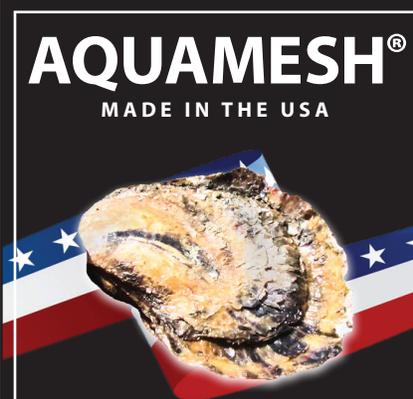
Significant increases in European green crab infestations on the Washington Coast and in Lummi Bay were documented in 2021, likely influenced in part by warm water conditions during the summer and early fall. In December 2021, the WDFW submitted an emergency measures request for invasive green crab response to Governor Jay Inslee. While emergency funding was not immediately available, on Jan. 19, 2022, Gov. Inslee

issued an emergency order to address the exponential increase in the European green crab population within the Lummi Nation's Sea Pond and outer coast areas. The proclamation directs WDFW to begin implementation of emergency measures and urges the Washington State Legislature to provide additional emergency funding as requested by the WDFW. The Legislature did so, authorizing \$8.6 million in emergency



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measures funding in the 2022 Supplemental Budget signed on March 31.

WDFW is now in the process of ramping up the statewide European green crab emergency management program, including developing cooperative agreements with local entities to support a broad range of green crab management actions including monitoring and rapid response efforts. These will also include a new \$100,000 local grant program for European green crab control efforts, as well as pass-through funding and other support for shellfish growers, Tribes, conservation districts and others working to control green crab infestations. Permits and management support may also be available for shellfish growers or private tideland owners encountering European green crabs. Regular updates and more information are posted at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/carcinus-maenas#conservation>

If you find a suspected European green crab or its shell in Washington, report it to the WDFW as soon as possible using the form this webpage. European green crab are classified as a Prohibited Level 1 Invasive Species in Washington, meaning they may not be possessed, introduced on or into a water body or property, or trafficked (transported, bought or sold), without department authorization, a permit, or as otherwise provided by rule.

REPORT INVASIVE EUROPEAN GREEN CRAB

European green crabs may be present in this area





If you find a suspected European green crab or their shell, please photograph it, note the location, and report to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife:

wdfw.wa.gov/greencrab
 Or contact us at:
Phone: 1-888-WDFW-AIS
Email: ais@dfw.wa.gov



European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) are a damaging Invasive species that pose a threat to economic, environmental, and cultural resources. Typically smaller than your fist and found in shallow intertidal areas, these shore crabs are not always green and may be orange, red, or yellow in color. WDFW, Tribes, and partners are working to trap and control infestations. **As a Prohibited species, it is illegal to possess or transport live European green crab in Washington.**

Native crab species commonly mistaken for European green crabs include:












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Remembering Dick Sheldon

Excerpt from the Chinook Observer

Neil Richard “Dick” Sheldon, 87 of Nahcotta, Wash., passed away peacefully on May 20, 2022. He was with family and holding his wife’s hand when he passed.

Dick was born January 21, 1935 to Roy and Ione Sheldon (Houk) at Riverview Hospital in Raymond, Wash. Dick spent most of his 87 years living in Pacific County in Ocean Park, Nahcotta and Raymond. He graduated from Ilwaco High School and attended Grays Harbor College where he played football.

Dick married his wife, and love of his life of almost 70 years, Ruthie Holway on September 4th, 1952. In 1966, he and wife purchased the family oyster business, Northern Oyster Company from her parents, which they operated for 40 years. Dick and Ruthie formed a partnership with Dick’s mother Ione and stepfather Doc Watson to build the Oysterman seafood market in Ocean Park.

In the early 1970s, Dick purchased the troller Twenty Grand and spent 20 years fishing crab, tuna, and salmon from California to Alaska. His sons, Donald, Rodger and Brian fished with him and learned many life lessons. With Ruthie on shore keeping the home fires burning, it truly was the epitome of a small family business.

Dick was well known for his involvement in community and industry affairs, including the Columbia River Crab Fisherman’s Association, Willapa-Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association, and the Pacific County Flood Control Advisory Board. Dick spent years working on a solution for the Burrowing Shrimp expansion in Willapa and Grays Harbor using the “lightest touch on the environment” approach. He



Photo credit: University of Washington - College of the Environment

drove the effort to eradicate Spartina, eventually becoming a member of the “Gang of 4”. Today, the Spartina eradication effort is recognized as the most successful marine invasive species programs in the US. His focus on environmental affairs was always based on his saying “take care of the Bay and it will take care of you”.

While Dick was dedicated in many areas of service to his community, his greatest commitment was to family. He loved all kids and was famous for his Root Beer float making ability. He taught his grandkids many hunting, fishing, and basic life skills.

A service was held May 27 at Penttila’s Chapel by the Sea in Long Beach, Washington, followed by burial at Ocean Park Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Ocean Park Cemetery or the South Pacific County Humane Society.



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Words From Our Members

“Dick Sheldon inspired me to “get involved” and was instrumental in my decision to seek election and serve on the PCSGA Board of Directors (2002 -2012) and to serve as president of WGHOGA (2012-2016). Dick’s passion for protecting Willapa Bay and Washington State’s marine resources was inspiring and contagious. He will be sorely missed.”

- Don Gillies, formerly of Stony Point

“Over the past forty plus years and at times working with him, I came to know and respect Dick Sheldon. I often observed Dick’s most passionate personal involvement for the environmental health and productivity of Willapa Bay. This obsession not only accounted for his speaking out to the assembled but also in his direct personal actions to keep the estuary productive and the waters pollution free. Developers and those advocating activities that would or could have a negative impact were exposed and most forced to comply when their methods or projects were publicly revealed. However, Dick’s larger battles were with biological threats to the bay and often ignored by those regulatory agencies who’s duty it was to learn and correct. Dick played a key role in his advocacy to control by eradication the intertidal modification and destruction with expanding meadows of cordgrass (Spartina). Dick observed the damage on his own intertidal grounds and not only did he often openly inform the resource agencies he personally devoted time and money in an attempt to save those intertidal areas. Finally some in the agencies and others understood that the rapidly spreading cordgrass meadows and biotic destruction had reached several thousand acres, eradication was started.

Dick Sheldon played an early key role in helping save the important intertidal habitat, which is the base of the Willapa Bay biotic productivity. It was always a pleasure to work with Dick on these types of threats to Willapa Bay and this will continue on now without Dick as we face the problem with loss of the intertidal productivity by burrowing shrimp. Of course, Dick worked on this issue also. Dick Sheldon, an accomplished oyster grower and crab fisherman, knew that the health of the Willapa estuary was dependent upon good observation, science and utilization of tested and proven processes. He noted this had to be constant to control or avert the desecration actions whether by human or other biological types. The oyster farmers, bird watchers, fishermen and those who enjoy, love and respect the unique Willapa Bay environment realize the decades of protection and value of Dick Sheldon’s insight, voice and actions. I will miss my friend’s loud greeting of “Doctor Dicky” at gatherings, of course he said it with a smile.”

- Tim Morris, Pacific Seafood

Farewell to a Great Friend of the Shellfish Industry

by: Lt. Governor Denny Heck

On the long flight approaching Seattle from Washington, DC on March 18 of this year, Congressman Don Young of Alaska slumped over unconscious. Upon arriving at SeaTac, the Congressman, who was accompanied on the flight by his wife Anne, was pronounced dead. Thus ended 49 continuous years of representation in the US House of Representatives. At the time, he was the Dean of the House, a title given to the longest serving member. Indeed, he was the longest serving Republican in our nation's history.

Despite our many differences, philosophical and party-wise, Don was my friend. He was brusque, off-color, irascible, short-fused, unpredictable and at times, wildly inappropriate. In other words, bigger than life. He fought tooth and nail for his beloved state of Alaska and he was a great friend of the shellfish industry. More about that later.

But this giant of the Congress, who chaired two separate and important committees during his tenure, started humbly. His first political job, which he did while serving as a guide, hunter, tugboat captain, etc., was as the elected mayor of tiny 700-person Ft. Yukon above the Arctic Circle. Perhaps even more humbly, when he did run for Congress the first time, he was defeated by someone who was known to be dead! (Congressman Nick Begich's plane had gone down weeks before the election but that didn't stop them voters from reelecting him.)

By the time I got to Congress, Don had already served 40 years and he knew who he was and what mattered to him and part of what mattered to him was the shellfish industry. Once, several years into my service, the industry was having a very difficult time with the US Army Corps of Engineers. The issue from our perspective, was an inconsistent application of the rules pertaining to permitting and an outright incorrect interpretation of the rules. Another colleague and I decided on our way to an upcoming meeting with the Corps, we would play Good Cop-Bad Cop. He appropriated the role of Good Cop for himself and I was typecast(?) as the Bad Cop.



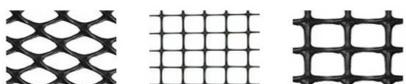
Photo credit: Wesley Early/Alaska Public Media

We entered the small conference room in the Cannon Office Building (named for former Speaker Joe Cannon, the second longest serving Republican member in our nation's history after Don Young). My Good Cop colleague sat to my left. Don sat to my right and the high-ranking USACE general, with multiple stars on his shoulder, sat across from me.

After the preliminaries, I started out. The more I had listened to the Corps and the inconsistencies and the excuses for the damage done, the angrier I became. So, I was fully in Bad Cop mode. When I finished, I saw my Good Cop colleague open his mouth and begin to speak. He didn't get a chance. Don Young fairly exploded. The air was turned a shade of blue and the table barely survived its pounding. What had started out as a strategy of Good Cop/Bad Cop had become Bad Cop/Badder Cop. And it worked! The Corp admitted its mistakes and corrected them. When there was a battle to be waged, there was no better ally than Don Young.

Alaska will miss Don. The shellfish industry will miss him. And I will, too. R.I.P. my friend.

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PCSGA's South Puget Sound Beach Clean-Up Returns!

After a two-year hiatus, PCSGA returned to its annual beach clean-up effort at the Arcadia Boat Launch in Shelton, WA on April 28. Seattle Shellfish, Skokomish Tribe, Squaxin Island Tribe, Sound Shellfish, Taylor Shellfish, Chelsea Farms and Salish Seafoods were among several local grower members who assisted in hauling in marine debris and aquaculture recyclables. Boat crews headed out in the early morning hours to collect debris from local waterways, while on-ground volunteers met the crews when they arrived and tallied the debris.



Boat crews tracked which areas of the South Sound they covered, meticulously noting exactly what kind of debris they were hauling in and the miles of beach they covered. Volunteers with HC Snail, Arcadia Point Seafood, Taylor Shellfish, Pacific Shellfish Institute, and Chelsea Farms sorted the debris, making sure to set aside any reusable aquaculture gear. Some notable items hauled in were damaged recreational boats, tents, tiki torches, chairs, car motors, boots and a very wet computer. PCSGA provided chili dogs and other snacks and beverage for the volunteers, which Chelsea Farms helped grill up.

About 10% of the total marine debris brought in was from the shellfish industry. We were happy to see that a great majority of the gear was in good, working condition. The gear that was salvageable was set aside, and as each crew headed home for the day, they stopped to collect the gear to reuse on their farms. We look forward to our next beach cleanup this October 5th!

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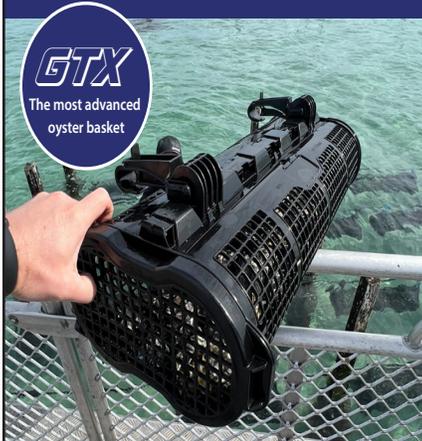


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PCSGA at the GreenSTEM Summit



PCSGA had the wonderful opportunity to present to students about shellfish farming and biology at the GreenSTEM Summit organized by the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group in Belfair, WA.

Two of our Hood Canal oyster farmers, Daniel Hanson & Dawn Smart of HC Snail explained their work of farming Pacific Oysters and demonstrated how to shuck an oyster. They helped our Stewardship Officer, Sam Klein, lead a shellfish identification activity and mussel filtration demonstration.



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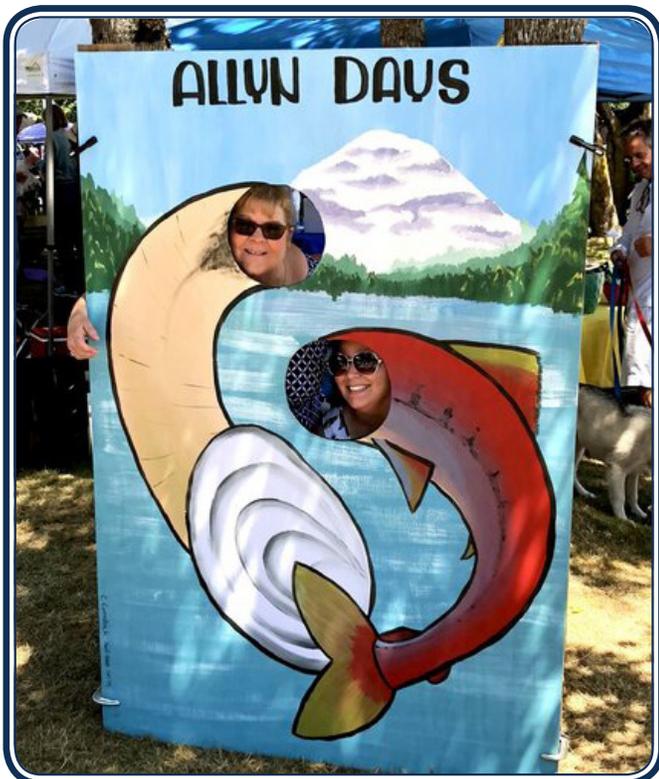
Calendar of Events

July

- 15: Ecosystem Services Photo Contest Submission Due
- 15-17: Allyn Days Festival - Allyn, WA
- 20: PCSGA Board Meeting - via Zoom

August

- 5: National Oyster Day
- 12-14: Seafood, Beer & Wine Festival - Charleston, OR
- 15: Ecosystem Services Photo Contest Submission Due
- 17: PCSGA Board Meeting - via Zoom



September

- 15: Ecosystem Services Photo Contest Submission Due
- 19: PCSGA Board Meeting - Wenatchee, WA
- 20-22: PCSGA Annual Conference & Tradeshow - Wenatchee, WA



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