



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District

# Special Public Notice

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Public Notice Date: September 22, 2023

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## VIRTUAL PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENT

### SHELLFISH MARICULTURE (AQUACULTURE) PERMITTING

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District (Corps) will be holding a Shellfish Mariculture Permitting Virtual Public Outreach Event to be held Tuesday, October 10, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2020, a federal court vacated all existing Nationwide Permit (NWP) 48 verifications (~900 projects) in Washington State and required permittees to apply for new authorization if they wanted to continue operating. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide-enterprise reinforcement team under the command and control of the Seattle District completed the mission between November 2020 – May 2022 when the team evaluated and made permit decisions for all projects affected by the 2017 NWP 48 vacatur. The Seattle District has resumed management of the aquaculture permitting program and staffed accordingly.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENT:** The Seattle District will be hosting a virtual public outreach event on Shellfish Mariculture permitting in Washington State. A representative of Washington State Department of Ecology Section 401 Water Quality Certification program will also be in attendance. If you are interested in attending, you must send an email to our Regulatory Program Assistant, Ms. Marcy Wyatt at [marcy.m.wyatt@usace.army.mil](mailto:marcy.m.wyatt@usace.army.mil) **no later than October 4, 2023**, with your name, email address, and company/agency (if applicable) and the subject line: RSVP Mariculture Permitting - 2023 NWP Public Outreach Event. We will email Webinar access information to RSVP respondents prior to the event.

### **AGENDA:**

1. Background
2. Aquaculture Permitting Overview
3. Current Status of Pending permit applications
4. Seattle Districts aquaculture permitting plan and schedule for the future
5. 401 Water Quality Certification and Coast Zone Management
6. Questions & Answers