## 3/31/11 MASON SOURMAN

## Army Corps sees rise in

## Public comment wanted for Taylor Shellfish farm

By ARLA SHEPHARD

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is accepting public comment on the possible installation of a new two-acre Taylor Shellfish geoduck farm in Totten Inlet near Shelton.

Since March 12, 2007, anyone applying to build a geoduck farm must go through a new Army Corps permit process and Department of Ecology certification — since that date, however, the Army Corps has not authorized any new applications, with the exception of a few specific cases.

In the last few months, the Corps has seen an increase in the number of geoduck farm applicants, as well as an increase in the size of the proposed farms.

"We put public notices out as soon as we see [the applications], and we'll have three notices out this week," said Pamela Sanguinetti, project manager for the Seattle district of the Army Corps, on Tuesday. "The farms are mostly in South Puget Sound ... I would say the applications are increasing, and they're starting to come in a larger size."

The three public notices to be released this week concern farms at Harstine Island, while the public comment period for another application by Trident Marine Services for a farm at Pickering Passage, has already passed.

Comments for the Taylor Shellfish farm are due April 14 and can be e-mailed to pamela.sanguinetti@usace.army.mil or mailed to Pamela Sanguinetti at Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Wash. 98124.

To view the complete notice for the Taylor Shellfish farm and other farms, visit nws. usace.army.mil/PublicMenu/Menu.cfm?site name=REG&pagename=Public Notices

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