

WDFW Management Positions Japanese eelgrass and ghost shrimp in Willapa Bay

David Price, Restoration Division Manager, WDFW

Japanese eelgrass (*Zostera japonica*)

- Non-Native species (2010)
- Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) exclusion (2010) eliminated *japonica* from WDFW's priority species list
- Noxious Weed Board letter (2011)
 - Support for clam and oyster growers
 - Urged a cautious approach using experimentation
 - Avoid native eelgrass (overlaps with *japonica*)
 - WDFW strongly opposed chemical treatment in Puget Sound

Japanese eelgrass *con't*

- Ecology permit applications for Imazamox use (2012 – 2014)
 - Urged small-scale, longer-term experimental approach and adaptive management
 - Not appropriate for Puget Sound (Chinook and chum salmon, herring, waterfowl)
 - Avoid native eelgrass by prohibiting aerial application

Burrowing shrimp

- Native species with positive benefits to other species
- Ecology permit applications for Imidacloprid use (2014)
 - Continued support for shellfish industry for solutions to burrowing shrimp control
 - Concern expressed for trophic effects, bioaccumulation effects, toxicity to insects and birds
 - Species of concern: juvenile crabs, finfish, and shorebirds
 - Recommended limited application, experimental approaches, and granular application (no helicopters)
 - WDFW did not oppose the Ecology permit