# Changes To Oyster Drill (*Ocinebrellus inornatus*) Restricted Areas





Rich Childers; Puget Sound Shellfish Manager, Fish Program
Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
February 7-8, 2014

#### **Presentation Outline**

- Oyster drill restricted areas background
- Why changes to drill areas are needed
- Proposed drill area changes
- Public input/comment
- Questions
- Public testimony

#### **Oyster Drill Restricted Areas Background**

- The Japanese oyster drill was introduced into Washington waters in the early 1900s along with imported oysters
- Natural spread is very slow
- Shellfish transfers can spread drills to un-infested areas
- Regulated shellfish transfer permits issued by WDFW minimize the transfer and distribution of drills
- Drill area expansion is monitored through tideland inspections
- Shellfish industry supports regulations and restrictions for limiting the spread of oyster drills

- Drills lay eggs on oyster shell
- No planktonic larval stage
- Easily introduced into new areas through movement of oyster shell
- Adults prey on all species of oysters

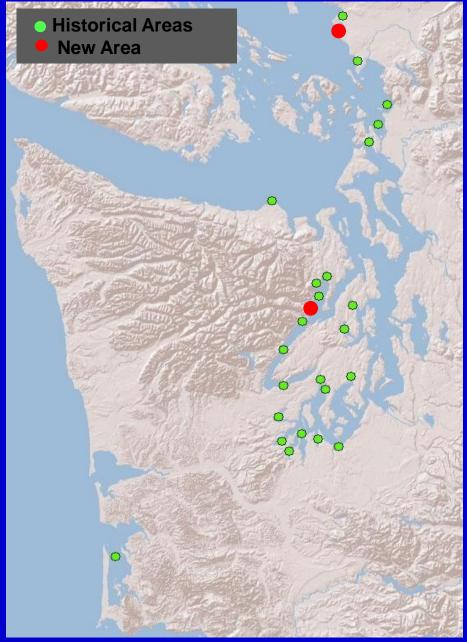


WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Information subject to changes and amendments over time



Commission Presentation February 7, 2014

**Current Oyster Drill Areas** 



### Why Changes to Oyster Drill Areas are Needed

- Technical adjustments (latitude/longitude) in two drill area WACs
- Expansion of oyster drills in two areas (Birch Bay & Dosewallips)

#### **Public Input**

Rule change proposals posted on Department website

No comments received

## Questions