#### **Dutcher Cove**

July 2007 Case Inlet Shoreline Association

**Mission:** preserving and protecting Case Inlet for future generations, focusing on community stewardship, education and scientific research.

New invasive methods of aquaculture are threatening our pristine shorelines.

Dutcher Cove July 2007

### Natural inter tidelands like this...

Dutcher Cove October 2007



Zangle Cove, 2006





Totten Inlet, 2006

In July 2007 an application was submitted to convert 26 acres of Dutcher Cove inter tidelands into an industrial aquaculture farm!



#### Dutcher Cove Lagoon is designated as

#### 'Critical Salmon Habitat'

The proposed farm would block off the entrance to the lagoon disturbing natural habitat including forage fish, which is essential food for salmon.



# A 26 acre aquaculture farm would:

- Convert the majority of the cove to an industrial aquaculture farm
- Reduce rich biodiversity to a monoculture
- Restrict use and access to beach
- Threaten critical salmon habitat area

We commend the moratorium imposed in British Columbia and recommend Washington State do the same.



From their website:

"Applications for new intertidal geoduck aquaculture are currently not being accepted due to gaps in understanding of geoduck aquaculture techniques on fish habitat"

http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/fisheries/shellfish/geoduck/main.htm



Totten Inlet, 2006



Taylor Foss Farm, Summer 2007

There are barges, workers, and ongoing activity, days, nights, week days, weekends.

Hammersley Inlet August 2007

# Today we walk the tidelands with our children.





Dutcher Cove, May 2005





Dutcher Cove is rich in biodiversity

- Kelp crabs
- Cockle shells
- Moon snails
- Red rock crabs
- Sea Stars
- Sea Gulls
- Sand dollars
- Clingfish

#### Tomorrow - aquaculture equipment and structures would displace natural habitat.

Vexar Tunnels for geoducks - Nisqually Reach, June 30, 2007

### Aquaculture creates hazards to wildlife and humans.



Taylor Foss operation, 03/07



Hartstene Island Geoduck Farm August 10th, 2006.



Hunting grounds for natural habitat, like this eagle...



Dutcher Cove July 2007

## ... will turn into death traps.



Dead crab caught under aquaculture net

Taylor Foss operation, 6/11/07

# Dead fish on aquaculture net



Today - cool clear waters reflect shoreline colors...

Dutcher Cove, October 2007



Tomorrow - harvesting geoducks would liquefy the substrate 3 – 4 feet deep...

Taylor Foss Farm, 8/14/07



Taylor Foss Farm, 8/14/07



Taylor Foss Farm, two days after harvest, 4/22/07



#### Join and contribute to local organizations www.caseinlet.org

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Photo by Jerry Libstaff

Dutcher Cove, December 2004