



Whatcom County

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Legislation Text

File #: AB2019-042, **Version:** 1

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 16.20, Whatcom County Shellfish Protection Districts

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Ordinance extends the sunset date for the Drayton Harbor, Portage Bay, and Birch Bay Shellfish Protection Districts to December 31, 2022. The four year extension matches term lengths for advisory committee members. Public Works - Natural Resources staff recommends the continuation of the shellfish protection districts and feels the work of these groups are vital in identifying and addressing pollution sources that are affecting nearshore marine environments. These districts are also essential to the reclassification of downgraded shellfish areas to approved status and to protecting threatened shellfish areas from future downgrades. Additionally, Public Works staff recommends dissolving the Birch Bay Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee and assigning shellfish protection advisory duties to the Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) District Advisory Committee.