



Daniel Gillon  
Graduate Student  
School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences  
College of the Environment

April 21, 2015

Dear Daniel,

I am writing to confirm the support of the Dean's Office for your proposal to the Campus Sustainability Fund to develop a feasibility study for the implementation of a shellfish farm at our Big Beef Creek (BBC) facilities. I have appreciated your ongoing consultation with your fellow students and the administrative leadership within the College to ensure that you are taking the appropriate steps to produce a comprehensive feasibility study that both articulates the incredible opportunity we have at Big Beef Creek as well as identifies and suggests pathways to address potential hurdles.

Your proposal is well-timed as the College of the Environment and School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences are working with external partners to invest over \$1.2M in the next two years in both the environmental restoration of the property as well as the BBC research and facilities. I anticipate that the feasibility study may identify possible opportunities to leverage these investments to also support a student-focused shellfish farm and look forward to working with you and your colleagues to determine what these might be.

I also want to address the issue of your inclusion of \$5,000 in your proposed budget to cover outside attorney's fees and confirm that this is standard operating procedure when the University has questions of environmental permitting and land use. While the University of Washington does have state-funded Attorneys General assigned to the university, this Office does not have the staff size nor the expertise to cover this specialized area of law for all of our environmental permitting needs. The College of the Environment Dean's Office is working with the UW Office of Real Estate and an Environmental Planner in the Capital Projects Office as well as an outside law firm on the existing scope of work at Big Beef Creek. The proposed amount of \$5,000 is based on our collective best estimate of the additional funding needed to include a shellfish aquaculture farm in the legal and permitting research and leverages the UW's existing investment in this background work.

Finally, I would be pleased to discuss the details of the above information with reviewers of the Campus Sustainability Fund proposals should they have any follow up questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steph Harrington', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Harrington  
Associate Dean, Planning and Initiatives