

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101

July 18, 2001

## CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Reply To

Attn Of: ORC-158

Jack Golden P.O. Box 64 Oysterville, WA. 98641

Re:

Jack Golden, Oysterville, WA.

Consent Agreement and Final Order

CWA-10-99-0188

Dear Mr. Golden:

Enclosed is a conformed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the matter referenced above, which was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk earlier today. Finalizing the CAFO was delayed until we were able to confirm that all of the commenters listed in Exhibit B to the CAFO had received a copy of the proposed CAFO at least 30 days ago. Because all of the commenters received the CAFO more than 30 days ago, and none of the commenters asked EPA to set aside our settlement agreement, we were able to finalize and file the CAFO today.

As indicated in Paragraph 3.4 of the CAFO, payment of the \$13,854 penalty is due within 30 days of today's date. Please also note that beginning at Paragraph 3.9, the CAFO requires that you complete the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) described in Exhibit A to the CAFO. The SEP was also described in the related Administrative Order on Consent issued to you and the Savilla A. Weller Trust.

Please contact me at 206-553-1810, with any questions concerning this matter Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Deborah E. Hilsman

Assistant Regional Counsel

CC:

Dick Clark, WOO Dick Reiners

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HEARINGS CLERK
EPA -- REGION 10

## BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the matter of:	7
in the matter of.	Docket No. CWA-10-99-0188
JACK GOLDEN,	) CONSENT AGREEMENT AND PROPOSED FINAL ORDER
Respondent.	)

## I. AUTHORITY

- 1.1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 309(g) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g). The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue the Final Order contained in Part IV of this CAFO to the Regional Administrator of EPA, Region 10.
- 1.2. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(1) and (g)(2)(B) of the CWA and in accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties," 40 C.F.R. Part 22, EPA hereby issues, and Jack Golden hereby agrees to the issuance of the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO.

28 CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 1

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#### II. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 2.1. On October 28, 1999, EPA initiated this proceeding against Jack Golden ("Respondent") pursuant to Section 309(g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), by issuing an Administrative Complaint against Respondent for the assessment of an administrative penalty.
- 2.2. As a result of information exchanged during settlement negotiations, EPA and Respondent have agreed to resolve this matter by executing this CAFO.
- 2.3. The complete factual and jurisdictional basis for proposing the assessment of a civil penalty is set forth in the Complaint which is incorporated herein by reference.

## III. CONSENT AGREEMENT

The parties to this action hereby stipulate as follows:

- 3.1. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations contained in the Complaint.
- 3.2. Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in the Complaint.
- 3.3. Pursuant to Section 309(g) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the alleged violations, Respondent's economic benefit of noncompliance and ability to pay the proposed penalty, Respondent's agreement to perform a Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP"), and other relevant factors, EPA has determined and Respondent agrees that an appropriate penalty to settle this action is in the amount of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR DOLLARS (\$13,854).
- 3.4. Respondent consents to the issuance of the Final Order recited herein, to payment of the civil penalty cited in the foregoing paragraph within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Final Order, and to performance of the SEP described herein.
- 3.5. Payment under this CAFO shall be made by cashier's check or certified check, payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America" and shall be delivered to the following address:

Mellon Bank EPA Region 10 P.O. Box 360903M Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251

Respondent shall note on the check the title and docket number of this case.

3.6. Respondent shall serve photocopies of the check described above on the Regional Hearing Clerk and Complainant at the following two addresses:

> Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue, Mail Stop ORC-158 Seattle, Washington 98101

> Office of Ecosystems and Communities U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue, Mail Stop ECO-083 Seattle, Washington 98101 Attn: Steven Roy

- 3.7. Should Respondent fail to pay the penalty assessed by this CAFO in full by its due date, the entire unpaid balance of penalty and accrued interest shall become immediately due and owing. Should such a failure to pay occur, Respondent may be subject to an administrative action to collect payment under the federal Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended, or to a civil action to collect the assessed penalty under the Clean Water Act. In any collection action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the penalty shall not be subject to review.
- 3.8. Should Respondent fail to pay the penalty assessed by this CAFO in full by its due date, Respondent shall also be responsible for payment of the following amounts:
  - a. <u>Interest</u>. Any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1) from the effective date of the Final Order contained herein, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Final Order contained herein.
  - b. <u>Handling Charge</u>. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(1), a monthly handling charge of \$15 shall be paid if any portion of the assessed penalty is more than thirty (30) days past due.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 3

- c. Attorney Fees, Collection Costs, Nonpayment Penalty. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(9) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(9), should Respondent fail to pay on a timely basis the amount of the penalty assessed by this CAFO, Respondent shall pay (in addition to any assessed penalty, interest, and monthly handling charges) attorney fees, costs for collection proceedings, and a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter during which such failure to pay persists. Such nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to twenty percent (20%) of the aggregate amount of Respondent's penalties and nonpayment penalties which are unpaid as of the beginning of such quarter.
- 3.9. Respondent shall complete a SEP, which the parties agree is intended to secure significant environmental protection, pursuant to the following conditions:
- a. Within one year of the effective date of the Final Order contained in Part IV of this CAFO, Respondent shall ensure that the preservation easement described in Exhibit A to this CAFO is recorded as a deed restriction with the County Recorder's office.
- 3.10. The total value of land preserved by Respondent in implementing the SEP shall be not less than THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$30,000.00). Respondent shall include documentation of the value of the land preserved and the expenditures made in connection with the SEP as part of the SEP Completion Report detailed below.
- 3.11. Respondent hereby certifies that, as of the date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent is not required by any federal, state, or local law or regulation to perform the activities required by this SEP. Respondent further certifies that he is not required by any agreement with a regulating agency, grant, or injunctive relief to perform these activities and that Respondent has not received, and is not presently negotiating to receive, credit in any other enforcement action for these activities.
- 3.12. Respondent shall submit a SEP Completion Report to EPA no later than thirty (30) days following completion of the SEP. Failure by Respondent to timely submit a complete and accurate SEP Completion Report shall be deemed a violation of this CAFO and shall subject

Respondent to stipulated penalties pursuant to Paragraph 3.14 of this CAFO. The SEP Completion Report shall contain the following information:

- a. a detailed description of the SEP as implemented, including a copy of the recorded deed containing the preservation easement described in Exhibit A.
- b. an itemization of costs incurred by Respondent in implementing the SEP (documented by purchase orders, receipts, property appraisals, canceled checks, etc.); and
  - c. certification that the SEP has been fully implemented pursuant to this CAFO.
- 3.13. Following receipt of the SEP Completion Report described in the preceding paragraph, EPA will do one of the following:
  - a. approve the SEP Completion Report;
  - b. reject the SEP Completion Report, notify Respondent, in writing, of deficiencies in the Report, and grant Respondent an additional thirty (30) days in which to correct any deficiencies; or
  - c. disapprove the SEP Completion Report and seek stipulated penalties in accordance with Paragraph 3.14 of this CAFO.

If EPA elects to exercise option (b) or (c) above, EPA shall allow Respondent the opportunity to object in writing to the notification of deficiency or disapproval given pursuant to this paragraph within ten (10) days of receipt of such notification. EPA and Respondent shall have an additional thirty (30) days from the receipt by EPA of the notification of objection to reach agreement. If agreement cannot be reached on any issue within this thirty (30) day period, EPA shall provide a written statement of its decision to Respondent, which decision shall be final and binding upon Respondent. Respondent agrees to comply with any requirements imposed by EPA as a result of any deficiency. In the event the SEP is not completed as contemplated herein, as determined by EPA, stipulated penalties shall be due and payable by Respondent to EPA in accordance with Paragraph 3.14 of this CAFO.

3.14. In the event that Respondent fails to comply with any of the terms or provisions of this CAFO relating to the performance of the SEP, Respondent shall be liable for stipulated penalties according to the following provisions:

- a. For a SEP that has not been completed satisfactorily pursuant to this CAFO, Respondents shall pay a stipulated penalty to the United States in the amount of \$26,146, plus interest calculated in the manner described in paragraph 3.8(a) from December 20, 2000, until the date of payment in full.
- b. If the SEP is satisfactorily completed, but Respondent spent less than ninety percent (90%) of the amount of money required to be spent for the project, Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty to the United States in the amount of \$3,000.
- c. If the SEP is satisfactorily completed, and Respondent spent at least ninety percent (90%) of the amount of money required to be spent for the project, Respondent shall not be liable for any stipulated penalty.
- d. For failure to timely submit the SEP Completion Report required by Paragraph 3.12 of this CAFO, Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty in the amount of \$100.00 for each day after the report is due until it is submitted. Such stipulated penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after performance is due, and shall continue to accrue until the report is submitted, provided that the total stipulated penalties for failure to submit the report shall not exceed \$6,000.
- 3.15. The determination of whether the SEP has been satisfactorily completed and whether Respondent has made a good faith, timely effort to implement the SEP shall be in the sole discretion of EPA.
- 3.16. Respondent shall pay stipulated penalties within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a written demand by EPA for payment of such penalties. Stipulated penalties shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of this CAFO. Interest and late charges shall accrue as described in Paragraphs 3.7 and 3.8 of this CAFO.

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ORDER - 7

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Assistant Regional Counsel

For Complainant

## IV. FINAL ORDER

- 4.1. The terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement are hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is hereby ordered to comply with the foregoing terms of settlement.
- 4.2. This CAFO constitutes a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to the Clean Water Act for the particular violations alleged in the Complaint. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(a), nothing in this CAFO shall affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligations to comply with all applicable provisions of the CWA and regulations and permits issued thereunder.
- 4.3. In accordance with Section 309(g)(1) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(1), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.38(b), the Washington Department of Ecology has been given an opportunity to consult with EPA regarding the assessment of an administrative penalty against Respondent.
- 4.4. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(4)(A) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(4)(A), in November 1999, EPA published public notice of its intent to assess an administrative penalty against Respondent and invited public comment in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.45. In response to the Complaint filed on October 28, 1999, EPA received comments from the six persons listed in Exhibit B to this CAFO. A copy of the Consent Agreement and proposed Final Order was provided to each commenter, by certified mail, return receipt requested as required by 40 C.F.R. § 22.45(a)(b)(4)(i). More than 40 days has elapsed since the issuance of the notice to the commenters and EPA has received no petitions to set aside the Consent Agreement contained herein.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 8

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 553-1810

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 9

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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2 3	I certify that the foregoing "Consent Agreement and Final Order" was sent to the following persons, in the manner specified, on the date below:
4	Original and one copy, hand-delivered:
5 6 7	Mary Shillcutt, Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, Mail Stop ORC-158 Seattle, Washington 98101
8	A true and correct copy, by certified mail, return receipt requested:
9	Jack Golden P.O. Box 64 Oysterville, Washington 98641
1 2 3	Dated: Guly 18, 2001 Melissa L. Whitaker U.S. EPA Region 10
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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 10

U.S. Environmental Protection AGENCY 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 553-1810

#### **EXHIBIT A**

# DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT PRESERVATION EASEMENT

In an Administrative Order on Consent filed in EPA Docket No. CWA-10-2001-0059 (hereafter referred to as "Consent Order"), Respondent Jack Golden and the Savilla A. Weller Trust, the current owner of the property that is the subject of this action, agreed to preserve at least 60 acres of property in exchange for mitigation of the penalty assessed against Respondent Jack Golden in the EPA administrative penalty action, Docket No. CWA 10-99-0188. In the Consent Order Respondent Golden and the Savilla A. Weller Trust (Weller Trust) agreed to undertake the following actions:

- 1. Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the Consent Order, complete written legal description of the 60 acres (at a minimum) at the Site to be preserved as depicted in Attachment 2 to the Consent Order (herein attached as Exhibit C).
- 2. To ensure that the preservation area identified above remain undisturbed after the filing of this Consent Order, within ninety (90) days of receipt of a conformed copy of the Consent Order, provide a copy of the Consent Order to an escrow agent approved by EPA. Instruct the escrow agent to record a copy of this Consent Order with the Office of the Auditor of Pacific County, Washington, along with a deed restriction drafted in accordance with paragraph 32 of the Consent Order, no later than one year from the effective date of the Consent Order. Send to EPA proof of submission of the Consent Order and deed restriction to the escrow agent and proof of recording of the Consent Order and deed restriction to EPA. Ensure that thereafter each deed, title, or other instrument conveying an interest in any property identified in Attachments 1 and 2 to the Consent Order shall contain a notice which states that the property is subject to the deed restriction described in the Consent Order and which references the recorded location of the Order. Send notice of all such conveyances to EPA at the address specified in paragraph 44 of the Consent Order. Bear all costs associated with the actions required by this paragraph.
- 3. Present to EPA for approval prior to submission to the escrow agent, the deed restriction described above and ensure that the deed restriction contains the following information:
  - a. Legal description and plat map of the property to be preserved.
- b. Purpose: The purpose of this deed restriction is to assure that the preservation area will be retained in perpetuity in its natural open space condition and to prevent any use of the preservation area that will significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the preservation area. The owner intends that this deed restriction will confine the use of the preservation area consistent with the conservation values referenced above and to confine its heirs, successors, and assigns to such use. A further purpose of this deed restriction is to provide

wildlife habitat and wetland functions and values intrinsic to the preservation area.

- c. Prohibited Uses: Any activity on, or use of, the preservation area and associated buffer area inconsistent with the purpose of this deed restriction is prohibited. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following activities and uses are expressly prohibited:
  - i. Subdivision and residential development.
- ii. Commercial, industrial, or agricultural development and/or use, including, but not limited to, excavation for a farm pond and livestock grazing.
- iii. Alteration of the land surface or any vegetation other than the removal of hazard trees or non-native invasive species.
  - iv. Mineral development.
  - v. Waste disposal.
  - vi. Timber harvest.
  - vii. Water rights removal
  - viii. Any activities that would result in change of current wetland hydrology.
- d. Reservation of rights: The owners reserve unto themselves, their heirs, successors, and assigns, all rights accruing from their ownership of the preservation area, including the right to engage in or allow or invite others to engage in all uses of the preservation area that are not expressly prohibited herein and are not inconsistent with the purpose of this deed restriction.
- 4. Within thirty (30) days of the recording of the deed restriction, convey management and/or ownership of the preservation area to a conservation group approved by EPA in advance of such conveyance.
- 5. Agree that between the effective date of the Consent Order and the filing of the deed restriction described herein, they will undertake no activity on, or use of, the preservation area and associated buffer area inconsistent with the purpose of the deed restriction.
- 6. Agree that they will not seek mitigation credit for any property preserved under the Consent Order and deed restriction.

EXHIBIT A: CAFO DOCKET NO. CWA-10-99-0188

# **EXHIBIT B**

#### LIST OF COMMENTERS

Ted H. McIntyre 25810 S.E. 30th Street Issaquah, WA 98029-9184

Donald and Roberta Cole P.O. Box 19 Nahcotta, WA 98637

Richard Sheldon, President Northern Oyster Co., Inc. Water Quality Representative Willapa Grays Harbor Shellfish Growers Assoc. P.O. Box 365 Ocean Park, WA 98640

Martha Jordan Trumpeter Swan Society Washington Swan Working Group 14112 - 1st Avenue West Everett, WA 98208

Paul R. Fischbach 409 Boxley Pl. N.E. North Bend, WA 98045

Charles C. Blight 28008 Q St. Ocean Park, WA 98640

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