

**WAC 220-370-220 Marine plant aquaculture disease control. (1)**

It is unlawful for any person to import into the state of Washington marine plant aquaculture products without having first obtained a permit to do so issued by the department. A copy of the permit shall accompany the imported marine plant aquaculture products at all times until the initial point of entry into the marine environment, and must be presented upon request to department employees.

(2) The director may impose permit conditions as necessary to ensure the protection of aquaculture products and native marine plants from disease or pests when the director concludes there is a reasonable risk of disease or pest transmission associated with marine plant aquaculture products.

(3) For *Porphyra yezoensis* and *P. tenera*, the director will issue import and transfer permits if the plants are in the form of:

(a) Unialgal conchocelis culture of free living material; or

(b) Conchocelis-phase culture in shells after the shells and conchocelis have been washed and soaked in fresh water for at least twenty-four hours; or

(c) Blade phase on netting after two weeks at a temperature of minus twenty degrees centigrade or lower.

(4) For import of other species, the department will consider at least the following criteria, which may require the importer to provide a detailed life history and comply with the requirements of SEPA:

(a) The ability of the marine plant aquaculture product to naturally reproduce or interbreed with existing species in state waters.

(b) The ability of the marine plant aquaculture product to compete with existing species.

(5) Importation of marine plant aquaculture products for scientific study in a laboratory or under other controlled conditions is allowed without having obtained a permit when measures are taken to prevent release of the products or release of their gametes, spores, or tissue fragments into state waters. The director may inspect facilities to ensure appropriate control measures.

(6) For purposes of verification of the disease-free status of the marine plant aquaculture product in subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this section, the department may require sufficient samples for evaluation. In event of failure to obtain permit approval, consideration will be given to introduction after laboratory production of a second generation.

(7) It is unlawful to transfer marine plant aquaculture products between any of the following geographic areas without having first obtained a transfer permit: Columbia River; Pacific Ocean waters; Willapa Harbor; Grays Harbor; Puget Sound. No transfer permit is necessary for transfer within any of the geographic regions described above. When required, a copy of the transfer permit shall accompany the marine plant aquaculture products at all times until the products are reintroduced into state waters, and the transfer permit must be presented upon request to department employees.

(8) Violation of these rules, or the condition of any permit may result in suspension or revocation of the permit.

(9) In the event of denial, suspension, or revocation of an importation or transfer permit, the affected person may appeal the decision to the director. Additional appeals may be made through the Administrative Procedure Act (chapter 34.04 RCW). A suspended or revoked permit will remain suspended or revoked during the appellate process.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047. WSR 17-05-112 (Order 17-04), recodified as § 220-370-220, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 75.58.010. WSR 87-08-033 (Order 87-20), § 220-77-060, filed 3/27/87.]