The Purpose of this brochure is to create awareness for Puyallup Tribal members interested in geoduck harvesting. Although geoduck harvesting is a cultural privilege, it is also a hazardous undertaking. To ensure your safety, there is a process in place to allow harvesters to work safely.

Step One: Contact the Shellfish Department at

253-573-7992

- Learn about classes
- Call desired class to receive a start date
- A medical and drug screen clearance required before class begins (see step six)
- Contact a boat captain

*All first time divers must complete a dive class and receive a diploma. The tribal member is responsible for the payment of the training course (see step seven). The tribal member is also responsible for finding a boat to sponsor their dive technique training as well as to become a crew member once training is complete.

Step Two: Make Appointment at Puyallup Tribal Health Authority (PTHA) call 253-593-0232

- Request a dive nurse visit
- Tell appointment desk whether you are a first time diver or renewal diver

*Update and if needed DSHS must be completed if required by referral services, before appointment date.

Step Three: Referral for Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center

- Receive a referral request from nurse
- Take referral request to referral services
- Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center will contact member to make appointment

*The appointment for first time divers consists of basic lab tests, EKG, hearing test, and a chest x-ray. Annual appointments for renewal only require basic lab test, EKG, and a hearing test. However, the chest x-ray can be requested.

Step Four: Pick Up Results and Packet

- The results from the dive nurse visit will be available in about a week
- Pick up medical history questionnaire packet from referral services

*It's the responsibility of the diver to hand deliver the results and packet to their appointment at Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center. The staff at PTHA will not fax the results or the packet.

Step Five: Clearance from Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center

The appointment at Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center is an in-depth hyperbaric physical. For more information visit www.virginiamason.org/hyperbaric

- The results from Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center will be available to PTHA one week after the visit

*In some cases a member may not be cleared by Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center to dive. The concerns of Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center will be referred to PTHA who will work with the member to remedy those concerns. However, not all medical concerns are reversible, and it is Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center who gives the final clearance. PTHA emails the Shellfish Department with the results from Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center.

Step Six: Drug Screening

- Call Shellfish Department to receive referral to Sterling Reference (required for first visit only)
- Each member must provide an observed drug screen to test for illegal substances because of the hazards associated with geoduck harvesting
- The only results accepted by the Shellfish Department are from Sterling Reference Lab.

Step Seven: Take Training Course and Receive Diploma

- Pass training course at desired school
- Take a copy of diploma to Shellfish Department to receive training permit

Step Eight: Reimbursement for Dive Course

- The Shellfish Department will only provide a reimbursement to members who
  1. Are medically cleared to dive
  2. Pass observed drug screen
  3. Graduate and receive diploma from dive course
- Turn course invoice into Shellfish Department showing you paid. Notify staff of whether check is to be picked up at main administration building or mailed (The process for repayment is not immediate, so expect two weeks to receive a check)

Step Nine: Pass Proficiency Test

- After 24 dives under water a proficiency test is administered and monitored
- The test is 100 pounds in a half hour
- If test is not successful, continue training and test again
- All trainee harvests will be sold and proceeds to tribe

Step Ten: You are now a Geoduck Diver!

- The boat captain will turn in a copy of dive logs to the Shellfish Department for stipend payment
- The Trainee will receive a stipend per dive after 24 dives

ALL GEODUCK DIVERS MUST

- Abide by shellfish harvesting codes
- Pass quarterly observed drug screen
- Receive annual medical clearance by following steps 2-5

Contact Information

Shellfish Department

Nancy Shippentower - Director

253-573-7909

David Winfrey - Shellfish Biologist

253-573-7933

Deanna Finley - Office Assistant

253-573-7992

Puyallup Tribal Health Authority

Mainline

253-593-0232

Virginia Mason Hyperbaric Center

1100 Ninth Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101

Mainline: 206-583-6543

www.virginiamason.org/hyperbaric

Sterling Reference Laboratories

3716 Pacific Ave, Suite C

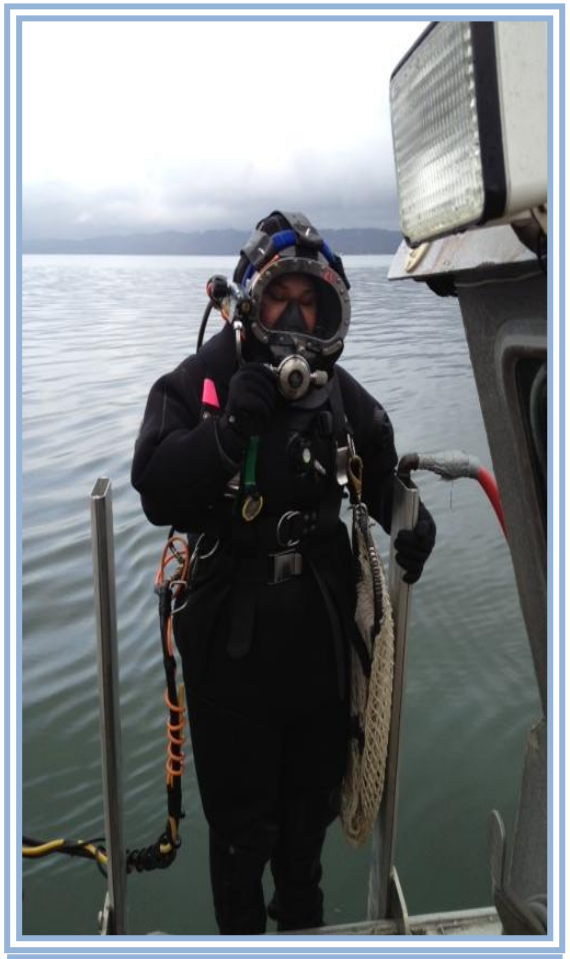
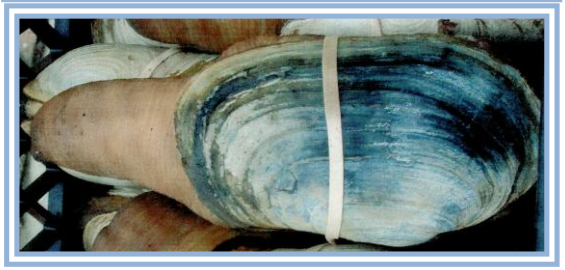
Tacoma, WA 98418

Mainline: 253-472-0458

Puyallup Tribe

Shellfish Department

2015

PUYALLUP TRIBE

THE PROCESS TO BECOME A GEODUCK HARVESTER