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You will notice some comments pertaining to information that we are still compiling to bolster our discussion.

FYI: I added one sentence about the potential increase in green crab adjacent to the eelgrass beds. We are not currently trapping for green crab in the lease area because it does not contain preferred habitat. However, green crab have been found among oyster aquaculture in the Salish Sea. In January, oyster farmers identified the first green crab found in Samish Bay https://wsg.washington.edu/samish_bay_egc/. It is possible that siting an oyster farm adjacent to eelgrass will increase the likelihood of impacts from expansion of green crab to this area by providing a food source and usable habitat (oyster bags). We did address green crab concerns in our letter to the County.

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