

Ann Pelo

We know that neonicotinoids are a disaster for pollinators. We think there's a good likelihood that imidacloprid adversely impacts marine invertebrates and life cycles, and probably also impacts fish and birds by wrecking their ecosystem's health. And the Department of Ecology is considering allowing it to be used on shellfish beds?!? What about the "ecology" part of the department? Beyond legal considerations, beyond commerce, beyond the "yuck" and "no way" from Seattle restaurateurs and consumers, there is an ethical obligation to the ecology of Willapa Bay.

That's what you're charged with stewarding, right? Ecology. Ecosystem health. The flourishing of the lives of tiny marine invertebrates and whales, of bees and eagles. The flourishing of life.

Not the flourishing of farmers who have disrupted the natural ecosystem by planting more shellfish than the ecosystem can sustain.

The flourishing of life.

There's such a lot more at stake than shellfish growers' commercial success right now. There's a whole lot of life and living ahead, years and decades and generations from now. The job of the Department of Ecology is to stand on the side of that life living forward.

Do not issue a permit for imidacloprid.

Sincerely,

Ann Pelo