

Blythe Horman

I'm writing to urge you to deny the permit to allow the use of imidacloprid in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor.

Your agency has prudently declined this before, due to the fact that Imidacloprid is a dangerous pesticide that many scientific studies have found to cause significant harm to target and non-target species, including aquatic invertebrates, which form the basis of a healthy aquatic ecosystem. The use of this pesticide in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor could result in serious unanticipated negative impacts to these ecosystems, including imperiled fish and bird species. It seems unlikely that reducing the acreage involved, as the new request proposes, will mitigate the adverse impacts, since the pesticide will disperse unimpeded through the harbor and bay waters.

Instead of allowing this dangerous pesticide to be sprayed, I urge the Department of Ecology to work with growers to find creative, non-poisonous alternatives that will not kill off important segments of the food chain and threaten important ecosystems.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,