

Eric Petit: My name is Eric Petit. I'm a small oyster farmer here on the bay. I farm a couple hundred acres. One of my [unintelligible] is, I'm on the very edges of the river, where I'm not around a lot of other growers – and everything outside of me has always been pretty much shrimp ground. So I guess I'm kind of one of the first ones that's going to see the effects of what's going to happen here. And what I'm seeing now -- I've lost about 17 acres over the last 2 years, that's not farmable. What I've seen for recruitment now – I started working for Olsen & Son almost 40 years ago and what I'm seeing for recruitment now is far beyond anything we've seen in the last 20 years. So if I don't have a tool to be able to combat shrimp on my ground then my 100-acre farm that's on the edge – it's going to disappear. I mean I don't have to even think about it – it's going to be gone. It's slowly creeping in on me. So there needs to be something. We've looked at different types of mechanical effects. There isn't anything for me that's going to work besides a chemical. So Imidacloprid is about all we have so I'm hoping there is some way we can make this work. My family has been living on this bay for the last 5 generations and I have 2 daughters that I'd like to be able to pass something on to here and I see – if there isn't a chemical – that my farm will no longer exist here. So, thank you.