

Katie Gaut

I do NOT support this new permit to use the pesticide imidacloprid to control burrowing shrimp on commercial shellfish beds in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor. I agree with the Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides that:

- 1) The Toxicity to Non-Target Aquatic Invertebrates is Addressed in SEIS, but Evidence for Minimal Impact is Lacking or Contradictory in the SEIS
- 2) There are significant Data Gaps that Undermines Ecology's Conclusion Of No Significant Adverse Effects
- 3) That there was No Recognition of Potential Impact to Two Nearby National Wildlife Refuges
- 4) Uncertainty Regarding Important Indirect Effect
- 5) Monitoring Required Under The Permit is Inadequately Described

I recognize the importance of aquaculture to the state of Washington, but adequate research and evaluation must be performed to allow for pesticide use in our tidelands and waters. The consequences are far too great to allow operation with this amount of uncertainty. Thank you for your time and consideration and do not hesitate to contact me for additional comments or questions.

Thank you,
Katie Gaut