

From: [Heather McFarlane](#)
To: [Lubliner, Nathan \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: Draft General Permit for Zostera japonica Management on Commercial Clam Beds in Willipa Bay
Date: Saturday, February 15, 2014 11:06:33 AM
Attachments: [Image \(2\).jpg](#)
[Image.jpg](#)

Mr. Lubliner, as members of the Coalition to Protect Puget Sound Habitat and active participants in regulatory review of aquaculture issues, our Friends of Burley Lagoon supports comments by the Xerces Society and Coalition members regarding the Department's proposal to allow the application of more chemicals to an already problematic site in Willipa Bay. We understand it is difficult to slow the industrial steamroller that demands additional chemical loads, but why can't the Department halt issuing permits while the EPA studies go forth? Is the Department going to wait until there is a health disaster before taking a conservative approach?

Attached is the announcement of EPA's attempt to study how chemical exposures may impact brain development. Surely the citizens around Willipa Bay/Grays Harbor (and Puget Sound generally) deserve some consideration before further intrusions of chemicals into their immediate environment.

Sincerely,
Heather McFarlane
Friends of Burley Lagoon
PO Box 541
Burley WA 98322-0541
253-857-4376



Heather McFarlane < heatherrmc76@gmail.com >

News Release: EPA Awards More Than \$3 Million to Researchers Studying How Chemical Exposures May Impact Brain Development

U.S. EPA < usaepa@service.govdelivery.com >
Reply-To: usaepa@service.govdelivery.com
To: heatherrmc76@gmail.com

Wed, Feb 12, 2014 at 9:15 AM

CONTACT:

Milbourn.cathy@epa.gov
202-564-7849
202-564-4355

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2014

EPA Awards More Than \$3 Million to Researchers Studying How Chemical Exposures May Impact Brain Development

WASHINGTON- Today the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced over \$3 million in grants to research institutions to better understand how chemicals interact with biological processes and how these interactions may lead to altered brain development. The studies are focused on improving EPA's ability to predict the potential health effects of chemical exposures.

"This research will transform our understanding of how exposure to chemicals during sensitive lifestages affects the development of the brain," said Lek Kadeli, acting assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Research and Development. "By better predicting whether chemicals have the potential to impact health and human development, these grants will not only advance the science necessary to improve chemical safety but protect the well being and futures of children in this nation."

These grants focus on developing better adverse outcome pathways (AOPs), which are models that predict the connection between exposures and the chain of events that lead to an unwanted health effect. AOPs combine vast amounts of data from different sources to depict the complex interactions of chemicals with biological processes, and then extend this information to explain an adverse health effect. EPA expects to use the knowledge gained from this research to develop efficient and cost-effective models to better predict if and how exposure to environmental chemicals may lead to developmental neurotoxicity.

Recipients of EPA's funding for developmental neurotoxicity adverse outcome pathway research include:

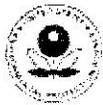
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.
The University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.
University of California, Davis, Calif.
Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif.

These awards are advancing the science and technological capability to model and predict how chemicals behave when they come into contact with biological systems. This improved understanding supports the Agency's mission of protecting human health and the environment and amplifies the impact of its chemical safety research efforts. EPA's chemical safety research is accelerating the pace of chemical screening, helping to protect vulnerable populations and species, developing solutions for more sustainable chemicals and using computational science to understand the relationship between chemical exposures and health outcomes.

For more information about these awards visit: <http://epa.gov/ncer/adversepath>

For more information on EPA's National Research Program on Chemical Safety, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/research/chemicalscience/>

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