

**Public Comment Form for:  
Ecology Aquatic Mosquito Control NPDES Draft General Permit**  
Public comment period ends March 17, 2010 at 5:00 PM

Please hand comments to the hearings officer or mail to:  
Jonathan Jennings, Department of Ecology, PO Box 47600, Olympia WA 98504-7600  
Comments can be faxed to Jon at 360/407-6426 or scanned and emailed to  
jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

MAR 15 2010

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

**Name:** Lewis M. McCullough

**Address:** 601 S Pioneer Way, Ste.F196

Moses Lake, WA 98837

**E-mail Address:** lmccullough@nctv.com

**Comments:**

Please see attached.

(Additional public comment)

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March 11, 2010

MAR 15 2010

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

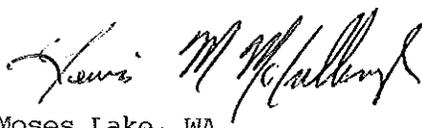
I have been a resident of the Yakima Valley and the Columbia Basin for 62 of my 65 years. Most of my life I was a business man and farmer. I have experienced swarms of mosquitoes so thick they have driven me from the fields, even though I was wearing a hat, long sleeves and repellent. I know, personally, a farmer from the Warden area who had contacted sleeping sickness (encephalitis) in the early 1960's and suffered from it his whole life. I have been vaccinated twice for exposure to meningitis outbreaks among my acquaintances. To quote the Tri-City Herald "Last year was the worst on record for West Nile in Washington, according to State officials. The virus killed a Sunnyside woman in her 70's and sickened nearly 40 people including about nine in Benton County. Many suffered severe symptoms, including encephalitis, meningitis or paralysis. Also, nearly one-half of the 71 horses infected, either died from the illness or had to be euthanized."

My wife and I live on the shoreline of Moses Lake and 400 yards from the Dept. of Natural Resource Sand Dunes and Wetlands area. Despite the good work of the local Mosquito Control District, many evenings if the breeze is just right we are forced into our house because of adult mosquitoes blowing in from the DNR wetlands that are not under the control of the Mosquito Control District. We live with that inconvenience, but without pre-emptive spraying we would never be able to leave our house in the early morning or evening.

Anyone that has lived in Eastern Washington for any length of time, knows that until the last 20 years most people did not live near slow moving water and that was because of the plague of mosquitoes. Today we have a generation of people who do not know and have never experience the hardships, inconvenience and misery of life with the full blown ferocity of nature. Their food is conveniently displayed and waiting for them at the supermarket. There is a pesky mosquito now and then and they think that is normal, but it's not. Without the systems of agriculture and pest control that we have developed over the last 50 years, this would be a far different, harsher and in some instances, an impossible place to live.

In closing I would like to express my disgust in the way this "permit process" has been handled. The DOE has completely ignored science and labeling of the control products being used. They have called this new set of regulations a permit. In reality, it is a denial of a resource. The resource that we have had to control mosquitoes. They tried to slip this regulation in and have been caught. The hearing held at Moses Lake was set up to handle 60 people. Approximately 250 people showed up and that was at 1:00 P.M. on a Tuesday afternoon when working people couldn't attend. Bad planning? I don't think so. The DOE tried to play this down as a mistake. They will now try to portray it as being attended by a few discontented radicals from Eastern Washington, but that was not the case. It was attended by only a fraction of the people who wanted to be there. We are the people who will be affected by this absurdity and we recognize a dirty deal when we see it.

P.S. Every bureaucrat should be required to read George Orwell's "Animal Farm" and "1984", because it has come to pass.



Moses Lake, WA

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