

From: [Pastor Mark](#)
To: [Jennings, Jonathan \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Mosquito Control Regulations
Date: Sunday, March 07, 2010 8:56:37 PM

I would like to comment on the proposed mosquito control regulations, being considered to better protect our waterways.

I am a dedicated environmentalist and ordinarily would applaud the proposed regulations.

However, I am also very concerned about the continuing spread of West Nile virus, a vicious and sometimes deadly disease which has not yet peaked in the far western areas of the U.S. The pattern has been for the disease to increase in number of cases and then diminish; it is predicted this will happen here in one to three years.

Mosquitoes are rife in eastern Washington and eastern Oregon in the spring and summer, and are a stronger force to be reckoned with here than on the west side (I speak from experience, having lived in both places). I do not very much mind the insects as an irritant. However, it creates a serious risk to public health to restrict mosquito spraying here until West Nile virus has lost some of its impetus. The mosquito threat is also expected to be worse this year (indeed, they have already started to hatch) because of the unusually mild winter. I am very worried about what this will mean for the spread of the virus to both humans and animals.

Please postpone the enforcement of the new mosquito control regulations, in light of the above, for at least a year or two.

Ethel Bertermann
Richland, WA