From: Ed Chadd
To: Jennings, Jonathan (ECY);
Subject: Mosquito Control Permit Comments
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2010 2:25:19 PM

I urge Ecology not to permit more liberal application of pesticides in or near our nation's waters in order to control mosquitoes, presumably to control the spread of West Nile virus. This would be a classic example of our dealing with a short-term problem with a "solution" that causes even more long-term problems:

1. Adult and larval mosquitoes are a key food web component for fish, birds and bats
2. If a pesticide can kill a mosquito, it can kill other critters. We have enough pollutants entering state waters – we don't need to add to them. Amphibian populations are imperiled enough already without adding to their woes.

There are better alternatives to the application of poison:

1. Public education about practices to minimize standing water that breeds mosquitoes near homes and businesses. I know about the effectiveness of these practices from experience in my own neighborhood.
2. Public education about self-protection from mosquito bites, including avoiding places and times where mosquitoes congregate, wearing long sleeves, and appropriate use of repellents.

Sincerely,
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