



Prosser Chamber of Commerce

Jon Jennings
Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Water Quality Program
P.O. Box 47600

March 4, 2010

Dear Jon,

On behalf of the Prosser Chamber of Commerce and its 240 business members, I strongly urge you to reconsider any reduction of Mosquito Control spraying planned in the future. To be specific we ask that you alter the permit to read **“The Permittee is authorized to discharge incidental amounts of adulticides and the residues to waters of the state for nuisance and vector mosquito control.”**

Over the past 20 years, residents in Prosser, Washington have seen the positive affects of the Benton County Mosquito Control District’s work in our community. Now with the West Nile virus present, mosquito control takes on a more serious meaning. Our community counts on Tourism for the survival of many of its businesses. Many evening, outdoor events attract thousands of visitors to Prosser. A change in the mosquito climate could be devastating to our lives as well as livelihood if the control of these pests goes unchecked. Not spraying for these mosquitoes will have a significant negative impact on tourism, businesses, and the quality of life for our residents.

Once again we strong urge you to change the language to allow the control of adult mosquitoes and the use of incidental amounts of adulticides and the residuals to waters of the state.

Sincerely,

Jim Milne
Executive Director