

**AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT
GENERAL PERMIT**

**Addendum to the Fact Sheet
Appendix C: Response to Comments**

August 17, 2016

SUMMARY OF MAJOR PERMIT CHANGES

In finalizing this permit, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) considered all of the public comments received during the public comment period, including comments received during oral testimony at the webinar and public hearing held in Lacey, Washington on June 21, 2016.

This is a summary of the changes made to the Aquatic Invasive Species Management General Permit (permit) in response to the public comments received between May 18, 2016 and July 1, 2016.

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Ecology published a draft Aquatic Invasive Species Management General Permit on May 18, 2016 for public comment. The public comment period ended July 1, 2016 at 5PM. During the comment period, Ecology conducted one webinar, public workshop, and hearing in Lacey, Washington. Ecology also accepted public comments via comment form on the permit website, letter, and email.

Ecology considered all comments in preparing the final permit. The Addendum to the Fact Sheet Appendix C: Response to Comments documents Ecology's response to each commenter and any changes to the permit that resulted from the comment. Ecology received 1 comment during the public comment period. Each comment is numbered. The comment number that corresponds to each commenter is given in Table 1. These numbers allow the commenter to find Ecology's response to their comments. Comments may be summarized; full text of all comments received by Ecology can be found at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/invasive.html>.

The response to comments is broken into two sections:

[Section 1](#) Table of Commenters

[Section 2](#) Comments on the Permit

SECTION 1: TABLE OF COMMENTERS AND COMMENT NUMBERS

Table 1: Commenters

| Commenter Name | Affiliation | Comment Number(s) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Justin Bush | Washington State Invasive Species Council | 1 |

SECTION 2: COMMENTS ON THE PERMIT

Comment #1: The Washington State Invasive Species Council, established by the legislature in 2006, is tasked with providing policy level direction, planning, and coordination for combatting harmful invasive species throughout the state. It is the mission of the council to empower those engaged in the prevention, detection, and eradication of invasive species. As such, the council recognizes the Aquatic Invasive Species Management General Permit as an important tool for management of aquatic invasive animal species and nonnative invasive marine algae. While the Council does not advocate for the use of pesticides for managing invasive species, it understands that it may be the most appropriate control method in some instances. It is critically important that invasive species managers be allowed to treat early infestations and small localized populations of invasive species for the good of the state. The Washington Invasive Species Council has reviewed the draft permit and strongly support the reissuing of this permit.

Response: Thank you for your comment and attention to the issues and risks posed by aquatic invasive species. This permit helps Ecology:

- Ensure that applicators use chemicals that have the lowest risk to human health and the environment, but are still effective against the targeted species.
- Mitigate and condition the use of the chemicals.
- Track pesticide rates and use locations.
- Ensure that public notifications and postings occur when waters are treated.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the management activities.
- Allow a rapid response to early infestations of aquatic invasive species.