



Public Comments Needed – Contact State Officials Today!

Say No to Aerial Spraying of Toxic Pesticides THREATENED: Human Health, Salmon, Clean Water

Comment Now! Oppose Klukwan Corporation Permit

Under the guise of Long Island Trust, Klukwan Corporation, a Ketchikan-based timber company has applied for a permit to the State of Alaska's Pesticide Program to aerially apply (by helicopter) **2,000 acres** of Long Island during prime fishing and berry picking season, July through late August.

Klukwan has requested the aerial spraying permit to treat red alder and salmonberry with **750 gallons of the chemical Glyphosate** (in the pesticide product Accord) and 25 gallons of the chemical Imanzapyr (in the product Arsenal), with 15 gallons of the adjuvant R-11. Klukwan also proposes pulling hundreds of gallons of fresh water for the formulation from "water holes" in the region. Kaigani Strait, Shoe Inlet, Dova Bay and Coning Inlet are marine water bodies that are potentially within 200 feet of treatment areas according to Klukwan's permit.

Salmon habitat not protected by aerial spraying! Kristin Ryan, Director of the State's Environmental Health Division, told participants about the state's new aerial spraying for forestry regulations at a State Board of Forestry meeting last month: *"Our intent is to protect water quality, NOT the riparian area ... I can't guarantee protection of the riparian zone."* Herbicides such as glyphosate destroy riparian habitat, leaving juvenile salmon without protective covering necessary to maintain coldwater temperatures.

The State must prohibit aerial spraying of toxic herbicides.

Background:

Last year the State received over 300 public comments opposing the decision by the Murkowski Administration to endorse aerial spraying of pesticides for forestry practices. When asked if there would be public hearings, Commissioner Ernesta Ballard refused. Concerned state legislators held one instead. Alaskans testified from numerous communities around the state.

Resolutions and comments opposing aerial spraying included many local governments and Native Councils, including the City of Hydaburg and Hydaburg Cooperative Association Long Island, and the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Southeast Alaska; public health organizations, federal and state agencies, conservation organizations, fishing groups, elected officials, and others who strongly opposed the State's regulatory endorsement of aerial spraying for forestry (especially in salmon habitat areas), and called for improved public notification of pesticide use.

Alaska Community Action on Toxics is a statewide non-profit serving Alaska's communities.

"We believe everyone has the right to clean air, clean water, and toxic-free food."

505 W. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 205 Anchorage, AK 99503 **(907)222-7714** www.akaction.net



Send Your Comments Today:

**Urge the Alaska Dept of Environmental Conservation to DENY Klukwan's permit to spray toxic herbicides from helicopters throughout Long Island.
Request multiple public hearings on this permit.**

E-mail Comments: Rosemarie_Lombardi@dec.state.ak.us (Subject: Klukwan Aerial Permit)

Fax Your Comments: (907) 745-8125

Postal Address:

Rosemarie Lombardi
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Pesticide Program
500 S. Alaska Street
Palmer, AK 00645

Attn: Klukwan Aerial Permit

False Advertising: 'Pesticide-free zones'

Scientific studies provided to ADEC show that pesticide drift from planes and helicopters can drift from 100 meters to 50 miles. However, the state's regulations established so-called 'pesticide-free zones' of only 35 feet from marine waters, lakes, and salmon streams and minimal buffer zones of only 200 feet around known drinking water sources. ADEC official Kristin Ryan told foresters "Our intent is to protect water quality, NOT the riparian area ... I can't guarantee protection of the riparian zone." (Board of Forestry, 2/04)

Spray Drift is Inevitable and Notoriously Inaccurate

The only way to prevent pesticide contamination is to prohibit inherently harmful aerial applications of pesticides and herbicides, and to require sustainable non-toxic, non-chemical management practices, such as mechanical removal of unwanted vegetation. This manual labor would provide jobs and not run the risk of contamination from toxic ingredients in herbicides. ADEC regulations make no restrictions for aerial applications in hilly conditions that may exacerbate the problem of pesticide contamination from drift. The regulations do not provide adequate wind speed restrictions to reduce problems associated with drift.

Pesticides are Serious Threats to Human Health

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in one of the herbicides that the Klukwan timber corporation proposes to aerially spray. A 1999 study, *A Case-Control Study of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and Exposure to Pesticides*, (American Cancer Society, 1999), found that people exposed to glyphosate, are 2.7 times more likely to contract non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (non-Hodgkin's lymphomas includes a large, diverse group of cancers of immune system cells). The most recent data (1998) from California's Department of Pesticide Regulation finds that **glyphosate ranks first among herbicides as the highest causes of pesticide-induced illness or injury to people in California**. (CA Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program Report – 1998. Table 4. <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/dprdocs/pisp/1998pisp.htm>). Glyphosate is the main ingredient in the common household weed killer, Roundup, manufactured by Monsanto.

Salmon and Riparian Habitat Threatened

Allowing aerial spraying of pesticides for forestry management will wreck havoc on the Alaskan salmon industry by diminishing salmon stocks and survivorship, and by reducing market demand for wild Alaska salmon. By allowing pesticides to get into our salmon streams, the State's proposed pesticide regulations will counteract the millions of dollars Alaskans have spent to market our wild salmon as pure and chemical-free. A huge body of scientific evidence shows that pesticides have a variety of detrimental effects on salmon and other aquatic life. Much of this evidence comes from research and field studies by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and Environmental Protection Agency.

As Thomas Pope, Seafood Producers Cooperative board member, wrote to the State, the Marine Stewardship Council certification "is of paramount importance to the worldwide marketing of this fish... Were pesticides to be found in these fish, this certification would be void, causing tremendous market damage."

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