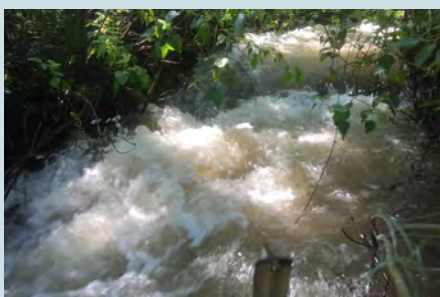


Stemilt Creek

Summary of 2017 Surface Water Monitoring Program Results | November 2018



The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) has monitored pesticide concentrations in surface water throughout the state since 2003. WSDA staff take surface water samples during the typical pesticide use season (March - September). In 2017, WSDA monitored 16 sites in Washington, 4 of which were in the Wenatchee River watershed. State and federal agencies use this data to evaluate water quality and make exposure assessments for pesticides registered for use in Washington State.



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources Assessment Section

Watershed and site information

Sampling history: 2013 - present

Watershed area: 21,200 acres (~33 square miles)

Area in agricultural use: 1,900 acres (~9% of total watershed acreage)

Main crops: Cherries, apples, pears, and fallow fields

Fish habitat: Spring Chinook salmon and summer steelhead (Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife SalmonScape: apps.wdfw.wa.gov/salmonscape/)

Sampling dates: 15 sampling events, April 4th - July 25th

Water testing:

- 144 chemicals (current and legacy insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, pesticide degradates, and other pesticide products)
- Streamflow and total suspended solids
- Air and water temperature measured every 30 minutes
- Sample analysis at Manchester Environmental Lab, Port Orchard, Washington

Notes:

- Stemilt Creek drains directly into the Columbia River.
- It has been documented by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife that the inlet of Stemilt Creek contains rearing salmon.

Results and Conclusions

- There were 27 pesticide detections in Stemilt Creek. Of these, 7 were above WSDA's assessment criteria.
- Out of all the chemicals tested for, there were 5 types of insecticides, 2 herbicides, 1 fungicide, and 2 degradates detected.
- WSDA identifies a pesticide as a Pesticide of Concern (POC) when it has been found somewhere in the state above WSDA's assessment criteria in recent years. Chlorpyrifos, diazinon, imidacloprid, and malathion are POCs that were detected in Stemilt Creek.
- All detections of these POCs at this site except 1 detection of chlorpyrifos were higher than WSDA's assessment criteria.
- Chlorpyrifos, diazinon, and malathion were only detected during the first few weeks of April.
- Chlorpyrifos and malathion have also been detected in Stemilt Creek in previous years at concentrations known to negatively affect aquatic life.

Recommendations

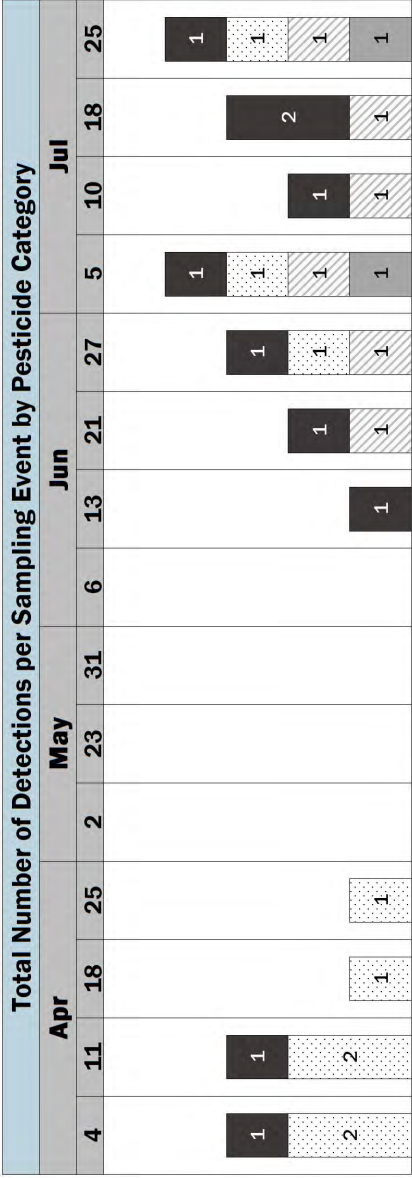
- **Make use of natural protections**
 - Use buffers, filter strips, sediment basins, ground cover, and setbacks.
- **Be informed**
 - Read and follow pesticide label directions, and be familiar with active ingredients.
 - Plan applications using the weather forecast to reduce the chances of drift or runoff.
 - Review WSDA's POCs and choose less-toxic pesticides when possible.
 - Become familiar with the active ingredients in your product names.
- **Care for your equipment and products**
 - Calibrate, maintain, and inspect application equipment regularly.
 - Properly dispose of all unneeded pesticides. Visit agr.wa.gov/wastepesticide to learn about waste pesticide collection events.

The calendar to the right shows the concentration in µg/L and date sampled of each WSDA Pesticide of Concern detected. This calendar does not include all the pesticides WSDA found during the growing season. The colors correspond to the risk each pesticide's detected concentration represents to an aquatic ecosystem. Detected concentrations that exceed WSDA's assessment criteria have a higher potential to cause harm to aquatic ecosystems. These assessment criteria are specific to each individual pesticide and are determined by applying a safety factor to state and federal water quality standards and criteria. The “-” signifies a sample or measurement that was not collected.

Washington State's Pesticides of Concern Detected and their Corresponding Sampling Dates and Concentrations																
Month		Apr				May			Jun				Jul			
Day of the Month	Use*	4	11	18	25	2	23	31	6	13	21	27	5	10	18	25
Chlorpyrifos	I-OP	0.036	0.043	0.049	0.019											
Diazinon	I-OP		0.120													
Imidacloprid	I-N											0.084	0.060			
Malathion	I-OP	0.047														
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)		21.0	21.0	19.0	13.5	9.0	46.0	16.0	13.0	11.0	7.0	6.0	4.0	5.0	48.0	2.0
Streamflow (cubic ft./sec.)		27.9	35.5	43.8	45.1	35.0	-	-	35.4	11.3	6.7	1.2	0.7	0.5	1.8	0.1
Precipitation (total in./week)		0.18	0.57	1.14	0.29	0	0.05	0	0.06	0.08	0.06	0	0	0	0	0

Exceeds Assessment Criteria Exceeds Assessment Criteria Below Assessment Criteria
(* I: Insecticide, OP: Organophosphate, N: Neonicotinoid)

The graph below shows the total number of detections per sampling event in each pesticide category. The category 'other' includes wood preservatives, an insect repellent, synergists, and antimicrobials.



The triangle to the right shows what pesticides were detected in Stemilt Creek in 2017. Pesticides were categorized based on the highest detected concentration. The total number of detections for each pesticide is in parentheses next to the pesticide name. Detections have been color sorted according to WSDA risk assessment criteria that were surpassed. The risk each pesticide represents to an aquatic ecosystem is based on assessment criteria specific to each individual pesticide, not only on the concentration detected. WSDA's assessment criteria are derived by applying a safety factor to state and federal water quality standards and criteria in order to be proactively protective of aquatic life. Please see agr.wa.gov/PestFert/natresources/SWM for more information.

