



Washington State Department of Agriculture

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Gypsy moth environmental documents for Clark County ready for review *Comments due April 9 for proposed eradication project near Yacolt*

OLYMPIA – The [Washington State Department of Agriculture](#) (WSDA) is accepting public comments on a proposed plan to eradicate an infestation of gypsy moth on a 220-acre site near Yacolt, Clark County. The town is about 20 miles northeast of Vancouver.

When a proposed treatment is being considered, state and federal law requires WSDA to prepare two environmental documents assessing the impact of the treatment on the environment, then make the documents available to the public for review and comment.

These documents, a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist approved by WSDA, and a draft environmental assessment prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), are now available for review.

Visit the agency's gypsy moth web page at www.agr.wa.gov/PlantsInsects/InsectPests/GypsyMoth to review the documents.

Copies may also be reviewed at the Washington State Library, Point Plaza East, 6880 Capital Blvd., Tumwater and at two local libraries: the Yacolt Express Library, Old Yacolt Town Hall, 105 E. Yacolt Rd., Yacolt, and at the Battle Ground Community Library, 1207 SE 8th Way, Battle Ground.

Of the 27 gypsy moths caught in WSDA's annual trapping efforts last summer, 16 were found in the Yacolt area. Gypsy moth is a destructive forest pest and can also affect urban landscapes when the caterpillars feed on host trees, plants and shrubs. Gypsy moth has defoliated millions of acres of forest across states in the Northeast and Midwest.

If the WSDA project is approved, treatments will begin in April or early May. Three to five applications of a biological insecticide would be applied during aerial operations in the early morning, three to 14 days apart.

For more information, call the WSDA toll-free hotline at 1-800-443-6684.

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