



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

GYPSY MOTH INFESTATION

21-06

WHEREAS, there is an imminent danger of an infestation of the non-native plant pests Asian gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar* L) near Silver Lake (roughly 634 acres), in Cowlitz County; and

WHEREAS, this imminent danger of infestation seriously endangers the agricultural and horticultural industries of the state of Washington and seriously threatens the economic well-being and quality of life of state residents; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Department of Agriculture has prepared an Environmental Assessment and issued a determination of non-significance tiered to federal agency environmental reviews for gypsy moth management in the United States; and

WHEREAS, after thorough evaluation of other alternatives and in accordance with RCW 17.24.171, the Director of the Department of Agriculture has requested that I order emergency measures to prevent or abate the infestation; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture proposes as the preferred alternative to use aerial spray applications of the biological insecticide containing the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (*Btk*) (Foray 48B, EPA Reg. No. 73049-427) to kill the gypsy moth in its instar (caterpillar) stage beginning in May 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture proposes to conduct aerial spraying with *Btk* under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit # WA0039047 issued by the Department of Ecology for the purpose of invasive moth control.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested in me under RCW 43.06.010(13), as a result of the above-noted situation, after evaluation of other alternatives and in accordance with RCW 17.24.171, do hereby find that the imminent threat of infestation has created a state of emergency and order the Director of the Department of Agriculture to use emergency measures as necessary in the above-noted area to effect the eradication of the gypsy moth, which may include the use of aerial applications of *Btk*.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 27th day of April, A.D. Two-thousand and Twenty-One at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/

Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/

Secretary of State