

**TRIBAL PESTICIDE PROGRAM COUNCIL (TPPC)  
TRIBAL POLLINATOR PROTECTION WORKGROUP  
MEETING NOTES**

TPPC website on pollinators: <http://tppcwebsite.org/pollinators/>

**Date:** January 11, 2017; 1-2:30 PM EDT

**Webinar URL:** <http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/r4g82y0faz2/>

**Call in information:** 1-866-299-3188; Code: 703-308-2718#

The call and webinar were recorded.

Access the audio recording **until February 10** at:

<http://www2.teleconferencingcenter.com/moderator/presentation/Playback?id=643cab39-473c-410e-8c06-60eabe2628bd.rpm>

The presentation and other materials and links from the meeting will be available on the TPPC website for the group.

**Attendees (27):**

Jasmine Brown, CSKT

Mary Clock-Rust (EPA)

Wayne Samphier

Larry Scrapper, Cherokee nation

Amanda Hauff (EPA)

Amy Mysz (EPA)

Carol Galloway (EPA)

David Newman

Dustin Roy, White Earth Nation

Frank Venegas

Holly Raguza (EPA)

Eric Nystrom

Jane Kloeckner

Graton Rancheria

Joseph Miller

Justin Mullinix

Kelly Schott

Kurt (?)

Margaret Jones (EPA)

Randy Dominy

Simeon Matthews, Sakopee

Sonam Gill, EPA

Stougas (?)

Victoria Ranua

Whisper Means, CSKT

Hilary Spray, Winnebago Tribe

Wilhelmina Keenan, CSKT

David Correll, Chickasaw nation

## Agenda:

- **Welcome Mace Vaughan**

Mace Vaughan serves as The Xerces Society's Pollinator Conservation Program Co-Director and also as a partner biologist and Pollinator Conservation Specialist with the USDA NRCS West National Technology Support Center in Portland, Oregon. Mace has led Xerces' Pollinator Conservation Program since 2003. During his tenure at the Xerces Society, the pollinator program has grown from a small pilot project on California farms to a national, multi-million dollar program, implementing pollinator conservation projects across the US. Supervising fourteen pollinator conservation specialists and several consultants across the U.S., Mace now helps to manage the largest pollinator conservation team in the country.

During the presentation, Mace took some questions on:

- Floral resources for monarch butterflies? Xerces has a monarch plant list for people to use to focus on planting to help monarchs. He will share it with us following the webinar.
- The differences between emergence times for native bees and bloom times for flowers that provide food and habitat which are changing with climate change. Mace indicated that it is an area of lots of research. More being learned in this area.
- What are some strategies for discussing milk weed with local groups that are stuck with the idea that milkweed is bad for cattle and it is to be sprayed and killed. Milk weed is on our local county weed control list of plants to spray.
  - How do we change this? (unknown where is the questioner based) Some milkweed species can be sometimes a problem. Example-Showy milkweed did not cause problems after being consumed by cattle. Whorled milkweed can be more problematic. Sheep and goats-will eat anything. Cattle-really focus on grasses. (related: many cranberry growers hate goldenrod but it is an important species for bees.)
- USDA/NRCS's mix contains: Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) which is a highly invasive species and is currently not something that is controllable.
  - Mace: In the past year, the seed mixes were accidentally contaminated with PA. Within the first year of planting sites with pollinator habitat, it is important to mow and not let unwanted weeds flower. The seed mixes will not happen next year. If you can nip PA in the bud right away, it can be controlled.
- Would Xerces Society perform bee surveys for Tribal governments? With the listing of the rusty patched bumble bee being listing, and tribal governments being subject to federal overview for various projects, knowing whether or not the rusty patch is present is relevant. The "need to know" can be a benefit in just learning about bees on tribal lands.
  - Mace: yes. His group does survey work but funding must be available to do the work. He wants to help out. Important part of our heritage
- Simeon Matthews/ Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community: To the milkweed question earlier, are there any broad strategies you'd recommend for working with local agencies that still include these on their spray lists?
  - Mace: The reason that milkweed is on the list is from concerns from 30 years ago (before Round-up ready). We need to communicate that agricultural landscapes no longer need to list milk weed on their weed lists. People should petition in person and through letters and other ways to have milkweed removed from their weed lists.

Mace shared the various guides available from Xerces and USDA: <http://www.xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/habitat-assessment-guides/>

...including the Habitat Assessment Guide which he focused on in the second part of his talk: <http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/PollinatorHabitatAssessment.pdf>

Helpful Links:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/>

<https://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/NRCSdocuments.html>

<http://www.xerces.org/monarch-nectar-plants/>

- **Next Meeting is February 8, 2017.**

Mary Clock-Rust

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