

**Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee Meeting**  
October 4, 2016  
Hosted by Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians ~ Pauma Valley, California  
**Meeting Notes - Draft**

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 PM at the Pala Casino & Resort.

Attendees (18):

Tribes (11)

Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation  
Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs  
Diana Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association  
Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians  
Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation  
Willie Keenan, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes  
Jasmine Courville-Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (sitting in as alternate for the Region 8, Jim Mossett)  
Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
Hilery Spray, Winnebago Tribe  
Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation

EPA (4)

Gabriela Carvalho, U.S. EPA, Region 10  
Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP  
Oscar Morales, U.S. EPA, OCSPP  
Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA

Other (3)

Suzanne Forsyth, UC Davis Extension  
Cary Giguere, SFIREG  
Bob Gruenig, TPPC Consultant

Agenda

1. Review of TPPC Priorities for FY2016
2. Priority setting for FY2017
3. Review of Cooperative Agreement with UCDE
4. Approval of draft budget for FY2017

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| <b>Review of TPPC Priorities from FY2016</b> |
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**A. Bed bugs** – Nina Hapner reflected that we've done a lot of outreach. It's still an issue since the information produced hasn't necessarily been widely distributed. Tribes may not be able to use the information as there's a missing link as to how it can be applied and relevant in each community. The information put together on bed bugs needs to reflect the importance of collaborating with multiple entities. This work should not be regarded as complete until the work is in the hands of those who need them. Offering them the tools will empower them. Not everyone accesses the internet so posting them simply on the EPA or TPPC websites needs to be augmented. Nina wants the outcomes to be more tangible so they can recreate them in communities. There's a need to break the cycle of people leaving mattresses out on the street and others picking them up and using

them and spreading more bed bugs. One member wants to work on a list of WHAT WORKS, something simple, tangible and apt to be applied.

***Consensus is that it's still a priority and to keep on list for FY2017.***

**B. IPM in Public Housing** (this priority deals with bed bugs)

Fred Corey reflected that all of EPA's efforts to date have been in school grades Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Some of the most significant years of potential human exposure to toxicants is well before that when kids are crawling around on the floor, asthma develops due to exposure to irritants. Desire is to spend more time bringing this to EPA's attention.

One member commented that the majority of calls to their Tribal office have been on household spiders in wood piles, and bats. Thought is that EPA takes a leadership role on this and work with HUD (who has the dollars to do implementation) that EPA could be more persuasive to liberate funds. One model program mentioned was a Weatherization Program, which addresses the need for weather-stripping, plastic over windows and other structural fixes can be achieved through this strategy.

There is a national tribal housing director association. The Northeastern IPM Center's focus is on IPM in Public Housing and they launched the stoppest.org website. It's believed they have funding to take the show on the road to work with the housing maintenance crew and tenants. Such a free training opportunity could possibly be brought to tribal communities.

There was a HUD presentation at the June meeting and it mostly addressed funding opportunities and block grants. But what is HUD doing with regard to IPM? Nina would like to know more. ***Consensus is that more information is needed and this is still a priority.*** The next time we are in Indian Country we should invite HUD, someone from a tribal epidemiology center.

With all of the social issues these days, this is perhaps why it's difficult to get the ear of Tribal court officials when there are more pressing issues afoot than pesticides.

**C. Pollinators**

***Consensus is that it's still a priority and to keep on list for FY2017.***

We know that EPA Region 9 and Sonam Gill are working on a draft template for Region 9 tribes. And in 2015 there was a pollinator training hosted by the Cour d'Alene Tribe.

Mary Clock-Rust with EPA has planned the first workgroup meeting for 10/21 from 1-2:30 PM. The goals for first meeting are to determine how the working group will operate and what the TPPC needs produced. Date/time still being confirmed and then she will share.

It was mentioned that the ability of a Tribe's to measure impacts to native pollinators is a key to success of a pollinator plan. A measure could be the abundance of sacred plants and have this included as measure for Tribal pollinator protection plans.

The working group will need to clarify roles and decide who coordinates speakers, administers the calls, who take notes, etc.? From what other Tribes have seen in working with Mary, she promises to be a great resource. She's shared global distribution models and has so much to offer.

## D. Status of Pesticides in Indian Country Report

### ***Consensus is that it's still a priority and to keep on list for FY2017.***

Attendees reflected on the day's breakout group at the Full Council Meeting. The interaction and group work was appreciated. An alternate format for next time is to rotate groups so they all get to move through each topic and add to each. There was discussion about a goal for a completion date. The session work performed here will result in several drafted report sections. More could be completed in March 2017. So it would take a better part of a year to get this first chunk rolled out. Once we get sections built then we can provide these on the TPPC website with tabs on current work and those sections under construction and what's next.

Cary Giguere mentioned there's a possibility that SFIREG could review drafts and offer an endorsement so that report/sections are more persuasive for leveraging support. SFIREG is now a mature organization and it's the interpersonal relationships which help tribes to understand issues and move them forward. This kind of relationship building is what's made SFIREG so successful.

There's another aspect of working with SFIREG that the TPPC talked about in June. Now that the economy is starting to rebound it's no longer a hot topic for many states. But the same is not true for tribes who don't have the same tax basis that states do. Tribal funding is flat in this regard. TPPC was hoping there could be some assistance in partnering with SFIREG. Cary advises that funding from EPA is too low an aim and that it should be higher and to look at congressional liaisons.

In Region 9 the tribes had a presentation from the National Institute of Health about certain health threats (Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Zika, etc.) There are some funding sources there and perhaps a means to partner and work with them.

### **Priority Setting for FY2017**

Consensus is that the above topics are still priorities for 2017 and there was discussion about what else to add.

- A suggestion was made by EPA to add the National Program Manager's (NPM) Guidance. EPA did not receive input from TPPC on the draft and it's important for the Tribes to remain engaged with this. The National Tribal Toxic Council gave them feedback on it. EPA is working on compiling the feedback to develop first draft. That document is being crafted this month and it's on a fast track for EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) and the draft language needs to be done by 12/31/16. Cindy Wire will be sending out around Thanksgiving time and apologized for the timing with the holidays.
- Risk assessments – the National Tribal Toxics Council (NTTC) has made this a priority and Fred suggests we align this now that the TPPC has its feet under them and have some momentum. NTTC is meeting in a few weeks and would like to express if there is interest in collaborating on this issue. Office of Research and Development is where the exposure information is generated. There was a report from 2007 with recommendations on things needing to be done to consider for Tribes in RAs and no work has been done on this since then. Amanda and another colleague are creating their own agency-wide team to help build more synergy, look to see where they want to go and make progress then invite other councils to get involved, Amanda wants to make sure that goals are decided so progress can be made.

One of the challenges of risk assessments is that the exposures are only looked at up to 2 years. Comment was that it was not realistic and more reasonable exposures are 3-5 years. Fred reflects there also needs to be a policy shift and that only general U.S. American is goal for protection and not sensitive/vulnerable populations are considered.

In order to get this back on track maybe we could have a Risk Assessment 101 presentation at the March meeting. Pesticide risk assessments are different from a toxics one. Amanda reflected on the different EPA handbooks on how to look at exposures and risk assessments. Amanda feel EPA is making progress in this area. Venus Eagle with EPA's Registration Division has done a nice job with this kind of presentation in the past when addressing SFIREG. Amanda suggests a full day of risk assessment training and breaking it down to help. Suzanne suggested that a shorter more palatable version could be done instead and perhaps include some risk mitigation in the scope. It can be a highly technical topic and overwhelming for a lay audience.

Amanda asked about Tribal Lifeways. Dr. Christine Schaeffer is believed to have developed the exposure model.

### **Cooperative Agreement with UCDE**

The Executive Committee met during their tribal caucus to see how they might be able to best leverage the services UCDE can offer given their scope of work. UCDE provides technical support to the TPPC view the following Coordinator Objectives and project scope:

- Help strengthen tribal networks by meeting twice annually in person and once monthly via phone
- Support the TPPC in their analysis of EPA pesticide initiatives with the potential to impact tribes, and assist them as they develop a plan to address these
- Communicate via the web and email with tribal, state and federal co-regulators about TPPC meetings, trainings, and its online repository of tribal references and resources

Suzanne reviewed the draft FY2017 budget and responded to questions. The Executive Committee approved the draft FY2017 budget with a modifications noted below.

TPPC members are looking for QAPPs, templates for QAPPs, ordinances for tribes, and the Regions may also have copies of these. UCDE does not have a repository of these documents.

The TPPC would like a regulatory forecast from EPA – a list of things getting kicked around. TPPC needs to make sure it has resources on board to make certain there are resources for Bob to work on these. Amanda is working on something related to this.

Amanda reported that Tribal consultation on every reregistration label is not feasible but OCSPP is working on tribal consultation and making it a higher priority.

TPPC would like to use more of Bob's time in FY2017. Proposal that Bob would help narrow out things and let TPPC know it's something they should be paying attention to. UCDE to assist with convening the forums. Interest to continue to get continue to receive message and updates.

Tribal caucus feedback was they don't perceive the same sense of tribal advocacy received from former grantees. Lillian Wilmore, Bob Gruenig, Brian Davidson - part of their organization's mission statement was to support tribes. This is not an element in UCDE's mission as it's an institution of higher learning. Relationship is more from the opposite direction – Suzanne working with EPA in trying to address their issues. Instead of Suzanne working with tribes on how to best leverage what tribal needs are and how to approach EPA. The group acknowledged that the paradigm has changed, and that advocacy is occurring in new ways. Fred feels cooperative agreement is working very effectively.

Amanda reflected that we have made leaps and bounds in building relationships, breaking down barriers. Acknowledgement that UCDE not being a tribal entity is a fact but it doesn't need to be a

concern. EPA hears the concerns and recognizes the opportunity to coach and work together. Cultural values are a concern for other tribal members and how universities don't always bring that. The TPPC is well served by the EPA tribal and UCDE Coordinator teams and is receiving more support from these areas than in years past.

The TPPC would like Suzanne to join the tribal caucus. Her perception was that she was not allowed to attend because she had never been invited in the past. The group realized there has been a miscommunication on this. The Executive Committee recognizes that UCDE has potential for input on some items and welcomes her participation. UCDE has skills in the area of training and she would like to be able to provide that at the in-person meetings.

**Action items:**

1. Suzanne to include in the meeting materials for March a list of commonly used acronyms during TPPC meetings.
2. Suzanne to provide list of EPA tribal team contacts and contact information.

Discussion came up briefly of the FY2016 carryover funds and where to place them in the FY2017 budget. The Executive Committee is interested in having more time/resources allocated for Bob to assist with Tribal issues characterization. And a suggestion was made to Kristy's time to assist with note taking in the future, if that's possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.