

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
4/19/17
Call Notes – Final
Call information: 1-866-299-3188; code: 415-947-4242#

Roll call:

Tribes

Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
Kevin Greenleaf, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
Irv Provost, Oglala Sioux Tribe
Tony McCandless, Gila River Indian Community
Lorinda Antone Ak-Chin Indian Community
Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Idaho

Reported in advance as absent:

Les Benedict, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

EPA

Carol Galloway, U.S. EPA, OECA
Emily Ryan, U.S. EPA, OPP
Zoe Emdur, U.S. EPA, OPP
Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA, OPP
Barbara Pualani, U.S. EPA, Region 2
Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP
Nick Hurwit, U.S. EPA, Region 10
Sonam Gill, U.S. EPA, Region 9

Other

Suzanne Forsyth, University of California Davis Extension

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Introductions (Fred)

Fred Corey, TPPC Chair, facilitated the roll call. Attendance was logged throughout the call for 9 member tribes and tribal organization representatives.

2. EPA Updates (Sonam, Cindy, Emily, Carol, Nick, Amanda, et. al.)

- a) Sonam Gill, MP3 Template – worked with tribes in Region 9 and the template is almost ready to share. She appreciates the feedback on the Pollinator Protection workgroup and the feedback shared. The template straight forward, color-coded and easy to follow. The template has several components including funding sources, an appendix with examples and other information. Nina said that the draft could be used at any time and the draft could be posted to the TPPC website. Sonam will work with Fred and Cindy on how to post this to the web.
- b) Update on PREP funding for tribes. Cindy Wire explained that OPP regrettably had to pull back the balance of tribal PREP funding so they could apply the funds to tribal cooperative

agreements for FY2017 instead. The impact is that 3 tribes would not be able to attend the Public Health PREP. To offset this impact, EPA is willing to offer a webinar with 1-2 speakers on topics from that course which would be most beneficial to tribes. Cindy will remain apprised of the course agenda once it's developed and will discuss next steps with the TPPC at that time.

- c) There has been some discussion about what would happen with the FY18 NPM Guidance. There are some changes at the EPA Administrator level with respect to priorities, which will most likely change the draft version reviewed by the TPPC last fall. These will happen in the May timeframe. OPP will discuss any changes with states and tribes before the document becomes final. It will be a one-year guidance as opposed to two-year guidance.

One member reinforced the need to have workplans negotiated between tribes and the regions. That's not happening in Region 8. The acting manager in Region 8 is Melanie Wood. Cindy Wire suggests that the Strategic Planning Session will be a good place to address this. A follow up conversation could be planned, if needed, to discuss. EPA's Project Officer Training was created with the goal to standardize how the Regions interact with grantees.

- d) Amanda Hauff reported that Evaristo Cruz and Gerald Wagner with the national Tribal Caucus (NTC) met with Administrator Pruitt to provide crucial input. Focused on tribal environmental issue that were nationwide across agencies and media. Took the time to talk about urgent issues in Indian Country. He is looking forward to continuing the work in Indian Country. Fred was able to participate in the NTC call last week and heard a report out on the conversation. Superfund cleanup, GAP funding were areas of the conversation between the Administrator and NTC and recognized that activities under the GAP workplan under the GAP guidance and focused on EPA's core regulatory programs. Consensus is that the Administrator understands the importance of the concerns in Indian Country. Pruitt is interested in visiting Indian Country and it is NTC's hope that they can plan their next meeting in Indian Country. Fred and Amanda will share any updates with the TPPC.
- e) OECA is still looking for a host for the Tribal PIRT for 2018. Historically EPA had to award funds to tribes who held a cooperative agreement with cooperative enforcement agreements. But now that decision has changed and it opens up the funding to other tribes. OECA is hoping to have volunteers come forward in the next month.

Action item: Carol Galloway to send an email to the TPPC letting them know this is available.

3. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne)

- a) TPPC Spring 2017 meeting is now behind us. Many thanks to all who attended and participated. Website is updated with the agenda, meeting notes, evaluation, attendee list and most of the PPTs (linked inside the agenda). This week the missing PPTs/handouts and photos will be posted. Feedback from the evaluations:
- Response rate is 66% and the same as last time
 - Support to trim down the number of topics so we can stay on time better
 - Keep breakout work for October and beyond
 - Appreciation for risk communication training, strategic planning, bed bugs and other topics
 - Appreciation for EPA faculty attendance and that of other federal staff (AIEO)
 - Several comments about travel funding and that it should be linked to attendance for future meetings. This needs to be addressed soon to help guide travel approvals for the October meeting.

In reflecting on the March meeting, Fred appreciated that folks were respectful of everyone else, keeping comments on point and being mindful of time efficiency. Some speakers were not aware of how much time they were allotted even though it was listed on the agenda. Tony said there were a lot of sections where folks did not get to go through all of their presentations. Questions throughout presentations derailed the time. Could questions be held to the end? Some of the Qs asked were

actually included in the presentation. This is usually left to the presenter. Another remedy is to confirm with speakers in advance how much time they have.

- b) TPPC Fall 2017 meeting. Dates are October 3-4, 2017 with the EC meeting the eve of Oct. 3. Many thanks to the Winnebago tribe for hosting. The location will be the Winnavegas Casino Resort in Sloan, Iowa.

Deadlines

- Aug 1, 2017: Deadline for travel funding requests via registration portal
- Aug 10, 2017: UCDE to notify travelers if funding request can be accommodated
- Aug 24, 2016: Deadline to book airfare (funded travelers only)
- Sept 18, 2017: Deadline to register to attend
- Sept 30, 2017: Deadline to reserve hotel room in block (all attendees)

A rooming block has been secured. The hotel has been very accommodating and is offering excellent lodging and catering rates. Kristy was able to negotiate daily AM coffee/ continental breakfast, catered luncheon and a PM coffee/snack and all within our budget. The rationale is due to the limited dining options in the hotel, the affordable costs the hotel is offering for these services, the time savings in convening on time after lunch, and the cost savings for processing travel reimbursements. So attendees won't need to purchase meals other than dinner on the meeting dates. More information will be shared on the May call. Watch your email for the meeting announcement to be sent in the next couple of weeks.

- c) TPPC Spring 2018 Meeting will held in Arlington, VA March 7-9 and in conjunction with the AAPCO meeting in Alexandria, VA on March 5-7, 2018.

4. Pollinator Protection Workgroup Update (Jasmine, et. al.)

Nick Hurwit reported on a webinar the TPPC Pollinator Protection Workgroup with Dr. Ed Spevak with the St. Louis Zoo. Focused on native pollinator and role in pollinating native food with a lot of examples provided on importance in local ecosystems. Areas covered included ag practices and misuse, diseases and parasites and other factors affecting pollinator health. He's worked with tribes directly on habitat, food security, and other topics. Include this as a possible meeting topic for October agenda depending on current TPPC priorities.

5. Rozol Labelling Issue (Irv)

Irv Provost said that there's been a concern with Rozol which has been used for years on the Great Plains for control of rodents and prairie dogs. It's resulted in Bald Eagle deaths, a tribally sacred animal. Rozol is not labelled for use on prairie dogs. At one time, TPPC asked EPA to have label wording to check with tribes in area if you are going to use certain products, especially RUPs. The product is now being permitted for use on house mice. The active ingredient is effective but has a high secondary effect where it can cause poisonings to other animals which eat it. Encourages EPA's Registration Division (RD) to reconsider the registrations of these products to consider the safety of the environment. Irv would like to get the labelling wording put out on these products being used in Indian Country. In Montana Amy Bamber once worked to get a label approved that a product could not be used in the State of Montana – so this is one possible approach.

Action item: Cindy to look into current label language, access to SLITS and if an overview can be provided on the May call.

6. EPA Strategic Plan Discussion (Fred)

Fred explained the ongoing effort on the strategic planning process and its important to the TPPC. Getting some strategic objectives into the 5 year plan is important because it drives other planning efforts where funding is allocated to make this work happen. One of the things we talked about was going to the NTC to see if they would be interested in working with us to submit strategic objectives on

behalf of various partner groups. Fred joined the NTC call last week with the idea of getting strategic objectives out before EPA priorities were in place. They were really interested in the timeline and Fred explained as it was explained to TPPC. Once the process starts, it will happen very quickly. NTC is interested in what TPPC is doing. One drawback is that it's not a coordinated effort at NTC to work with their partnership groups to do this kind of work. They have not yet had this conversation with other partner groups so Fred is not confident we would get this all coordinated with NTC/partner groups in a prompt manner. Fred suggests that the TPPC to get its comments in place, share with NTC, but also be prepared to submit comments to the Administrator directly.

Fred has drafted a letter to the Administrator and has sent out for comments with the smaller team who was on the planning call. Once it's revised then it will be shared with the Executive Committee and would turn around quickly to send to the Administrator. Fred wants to establish a working relationship with NASDA, who has been proactive in communicating their concerns in pesticide program funding to EPA. They have provided talking points which states may be able to use when they meet with other stakeholders and the need to support programs. NTC has started to work with ECOS, which would be the equivalent of states working with NASDA as far as representation of constituencies is concerned.

Suggestion from one member is to draft some MOUs with partner groups then to work on strategic plans. Look at compliance monitoring concerns as well (C&T, record keeping, others.) Get tribal needs prioritized into the strategic plan based on the environmental concerns which arise.

Next steps and follow-up: Amanda and Fred will get a couple of dates together to poll others as to best date and time. Goal is to set up weekly calls. This is an important things that TPPC gets it foot in the door to affect the strategic plan.

7. Action Item Follow-up (see attachment) (Nina)

We ran out of time and did not get to this item.

8. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics (All)

The most recently edited TPPC Policies & Procedures document was shared based on revisions received in June and October 2016.

Action item: Suzanne to share the document with the TPPC in April and ask for concurrence on approving the 2016 revisions; not asking for feedback.

9. Next TPPC Conference Call (Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 2-4 p.m. EST)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TPPC Fall 2017 Meeting: October 3-4, 2017, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska (Sloan, IA)
- Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) Spring 2018 Meeting: March 5-7, 2018, Alexandria, VA
- TPPC Spring 2018 Meeting: March 7-9, 2018, Arlington, VA