

**Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee**  
**Monthly Conference Call**  
08/18/21  
Call Notes – Final

**Join by Zoom: <https://nau.zoom.us/j/89303644703>**  
**or phone: 312-626-6799 or 888-788-0099 (toll free)**  
**Meeting ID: 893 0364 4703**  
**Password: 186136**

Roll call:

**Tribes (17)**

- Jasmine Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Les Benedict, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
- Ryan Evans, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
- Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Tony McCandless, Gila River Indian Community
- Carol Kriebs, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
- Dana Adkins, Chickahominy Indian Tribe
- Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Shylah James, Navajo Nation
- Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
- Ted Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Andrea Mitchell, Cocopah Indian Tribe
- James Jackson, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Camilo Perez, Quechan Indian Tribe
- Jeremy Phillips, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Julie Simpson, Nez Perce Tribe
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Nation

**Tribal Organizations (0)**

**EPA (10)**

- Rachel Ricciardi, EPA/OCSP
- Emily Ryan, EPA/OCSP
- Loren LaPointe, EPA/OCSP
- Amanda Hauff, EPA/OCSP
- Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA
- Blake Huff, EPA/Region 8
- Sasha Mizenin, EPA Intern
- Peter Earley, EPA/Region 9
- Felicia Wright, EPA/AIEO
- Daniel Vaught, EPA/AIEO

## **Other (2)**

- Mehrdad Khatibi, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Jennifer Glennon, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

## **Reported in advance as absent (1)**

- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe

### **1. Welcome/Introductions**

Jasmine Brown from Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes facilitated the roll call. Attendance was logged throughout the call for the 21 tribal representatives from 17 Tribes.

Jasmine is going to reach out to a Tribal Representative from the TLEF Conference to present his Wild Food Series (includes realistic health advisories based on specific contaminants) at a future TPPC meeting.

### **2. Meet & Greet, JoAnn Chase, New Director of American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO)**

JoAnn is glad to be back with AIEO and looking forward to re-establishing effective working relationships with tribes and consulting in a meaningful way. The current administration's White House Council on Native American Affairs is committed and incredibly grateful to tribes for helping make decisions. Her priorities are the GAP program and Direct Implementation.

Jasmine is appreciative of the work of the EPA and AIEO in keeping communication open outside of consultations. This is often challenging as there are 10 times more tribes than states.

Amanda Hauff, EPA/OCSP asked about the agency's (AIEO) thoughts on Environmental Justice. JoAnn said she is committed to tribal sovereignty. Felicia Wright, AIEO mentioned that 1.6 million dollars has been set aside for a competitive tribal grant program for air and water programs through the American Rescue Plan. The Office of Air is also looking at additional grants, the DERA program and Brownfields Program.

Jasmine mentioned the recent Status of Pesticides in Indian Country Report as a good resource for issues that are important for tribes. The report can be downloaded from <https://tppcwebsite.org/>

Jasmine asked how TPPC and AIEO can align goals for the next 3-4 years. Amanda offered that TPPC can provide a presentation for AIEO outlining priorities also clarifying treaty rights. She also mentioned that having grant writing assistance funding would be a huge help for Indian country. Felicia said that they are making changes and there will be news soon of certain funding that can be used for grant writing. Carol Kriebs, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho added that this is a good time to get comments to the workgroup so they can address issues.

Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians emphasized the Report and mentioned indicators that tribes can use for seeking funding for Pesticide Programs that may seem overwhelming.

### 3. EPA Updates

Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA provided an update on the tribal consultation on a guidance document that pertains to the FIFRA Circuit Rider Program. The next consultation opportunity is September 14 at 3:30-4:30 Eastern time.

Emily Ryan, EPA/OCSPP reported that last week they held the Certification training for Private Applicators of restricted use pesticides (RUP's) in Indian Country, there were 17 people that joined. The next training will be November 17 and 18 and you can sign up on the EPA website:

[EPA Offers Virtual Training for Pesticide Applicators in Indian Country | US EPA](#)

Questions and suggestions on ways to improve the training are welcomed and will be included for the next training in November.

Shylah James, Navajo Nation noted that through HAZWOPER training, she learned about the app WISER. You can use it to look up a known substance and it will show you how to clean it up.

Loren LaPointe, EPA/OCSPP invited a few TPPC members to attend the EPA-USDA State of Science Workshop on September 13 and 14. It will be held virtually from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM Pacific time. This is a forward-thinking discussion on research priorities, outreach efforts and opportunities to support the health of pollinators and their role in agriculture. The five themes this year are 1. forage and nutrition, 2. pests and disease, 3. environmental stressors, 4. status and trends and 5. genetics and bee biology. They plan to hold a later meeting to discuss outcomes and specific topics of interest to tribes. She will follow up with an email to the whole group.

The September meeting for the Pollinator workgroup is cancelled.

Emily said the agency just announced that they will be banning the use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos on all food crops. It will go into effect in 6 months and more information will be coming.

### 4. TPPC Administrator Updates

- Mark Daniels and Ted Puetz lead a discussion at the TLEF Conference last week with 25-28 participants from the TPPC and other tribes. There were a lot of good questions about how to start a Pesticide Program and Co-op Agreements. They hope to have reached some new people that would like to be involved with TPPC.
- Mark presented an overview of the TPPC at the Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO) meeting including issues we are working on. It was very productive and made good connections with people.
- Consultation on National Allocation for the IGAP Program: comments are due Nov. 13
- TPPC Website Visit Statistics: July had 375 views from 79 users, YTD is 2394 views/713 users.
- ITEP Performance Evaluation Coming Up in September
- Training Needs Questionnaire: Does anyone have ideas for trainings to add to the list? Domestic Use of pesticides and understanding IPM specifically for tribes. Also, we should provide Direct Implementation training and Pollinator Protection that encompasses non-agriculture and diseases native pollinators face.
- Jasmine mentioned that they get a lot more interest if they do a 'Food Sovereignty' event vs. a 'Pollinator' event.
- Fall Meeting Considerations: The previous survey was inconclusive. The poll conducted during this meeting showed most people are in favor of a virtual meeting this fall considering travel restrictions and spread of the Delta variant. Up for consideration is having the spring meeting at a tribal location instead of D.C.

Mark will send out an email to see if anyone would like bound copies of the EPA Indoor Air Quality report for schools.

**5. TPPC Members Discuss Their Tribes' Hemp Plans (Joseph Owle, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, invited)**

*(Due to time constraints this will be discussed at the next meeting in September)*

**6. Workgroup Report-out/Hot Topics/COVID Check-in**

Jasmine provided a PFAS Workgroup update which focused on the development of a national map of where PFAS have been detected and areas with an absence of contamination. The 6 priority states with specific counties are OK, CA, LA, AK, WA and AZ. There are 669 identified PFAS and this list needs to be narrowed down to which ones are problematic. The 20 highest priority areas were identified by taking into account the presence and number of landfills, sewage, number of airports, industries, manufacturing and military sewage. Several tribes requested more information on lands outside of the 5-mile radius where harvesting of plants, waterfowl and big game occur. **Jasmine will share more info. with the group.**

They are also working on a media chart with researchers who are sampling water and fish tissue.

Rene Keezer, White Earth Nation requested an effort to amend the wording in the FIFRA bill so as to increase tribal sovereignty.

**7. Next TPPC Conference Call: Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 2:00-4:00 p.m. EST**

\*(**Yellow highlighting** in the notes above indicates action items)