

**TRIBAL PESTICIDE PROGRAM COUNCIL
MONTHLY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

FINAL notes



Roll call:

Tribes (13)

- Camilo Perez, Quechan Indian Tribe
- Curry Blankenship, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Daniel Hoyt, Gila River Indian Community
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe
- James Jackson, Cherokee Nation
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation
- Jeremy Phillips, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Jon Weeden, Cherokee Nation
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Nation
- Steve Anderson, Choctaw Nation
- Tacy Jensen, Gila River Indian Community
- Ted Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community

Tribal Organizations (3)

- Diania Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association
- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Robert Shimek, White Earth Tribal College

EPA (1)

- Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA

Reported in advance as absent (5)

- Jessica Raspitha, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
- Linsey Walsh, EPA/OCSP
- McKenna King, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians

1. Tribal Caucus

2. Welcome/Introductions

Jasmine Courville, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, facilitated roll call.

3. EPA Updates

Cooperative Agreement Guidance Revisions

Jasmine inquired if the cooperative agreement guidance revisions were finalized. Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA, responded that the draft is being routed for finalization and should be complete by February. Jasmine asked if past high incident cases could be sent in under appendix 11 of the new guidance using the contact information provided in the new guidance. Helene responded that these would be sent to an identified contact within the grantee's region. This may be their project officer and suggested starting here, she also noted that the current cooperative agreement guidance is in effect now and this instructs to send these issues to the project officer. This EPA staff would then send this to headquarters. The contact information in the new guidance is for the EPA point of contact. Jasmine asked how to proceed if the regional point of contact has changed or if their point of contact has not passed the information along. Helene stated that providing this information to the point of contact would meet the reporter's obligations.

Helene shared that she is working on organizing a speaker for the TPPC Spring Meeting on the use of drones for compliance monitoring.

4. TPPC Administrator Updates

a. Spring Meeting Update

Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, shared that the hotel contract for the same hotel as the previous spring meeting is underway. Mark sent out the registration link for those who plan to come in person and would like travel support. **Mark will send a reminder out about registration next week.** Mark will register those who wish to attend the AAPCO meeting. Within the TPPC Spring meeting registration page there is a section to select that you wish to attend the AAPCO meeting. Jasmine shared she will be attending and presenting at AAPCO, she noted others are welcome to join her in presenting.

Mark reminded those who are traveling for the meeting to utilize Uber, Lyft, or another rideshare app in order to receive a detailed electronic receipt for reimbursement purposes, since taxis rarely provide a complete receipt. The travel agent will be booking flights starting next week.

b. TPPC 2025 Priorities Document Update

The TPPC will provide a priorities document as part of the January TPPC newsletter detailing 5 priorities the TPPC will focus on this year. This will be sent out for review prior to the release of the newsletter.

c. TPPC Project Funding

Jasmine asked if ITEP or TPPC is able to reallocate funding for projects such as to support sample analysis for the risk assessment pilot project with White Earth.

Mark will check in about this. Mark believes this would need to be integrated into the annual budget and be planned in advance.

Mark has not heard about updates on the next 5 year cooperative agreement grant for the TPPC. The grant for the first year of the next 5 year cycle is \$195,000 and the remaining years funding has increased by \$25,000 to \$220,000.

5. Tribal Caucus Report-out

No updates noted as there were no federal partners on the call at this point in the meeting.

6. Workgroup Report-out

Pollinator Protection Workgroup

The group recently discussed ideas for future projects and needs. Jasmine shared there is a survey out now to communities to determine pollinator needs. Robert Shimek, White Earth Tribal College, recently watched a webinar on pollinator trees. He will send this to Renee for her to pass on for members to view. Jasmine suggested adding this link to the TPPC website.

Tribal PFAS working group

Jasmine shared a new research brief regarding PFAS buildup in wildlife has been added to the TPPC website.

Mark said that he heard back from the company that operates a mobile PFAS destruction unit, and they are open to present at the TPPC's Spring Meeting.

Risk Assessment Workgroup

This group will be meeting next week to discuss items the group can work on outside of the pilot project, as it has been on hold for a while. Mark is planning on inviting some contacts who have worked on integrating tribal perspectives into other types of risk assessments.

Policy Workgroup

They have been meeting monthly and are continuing to work on comment papers. They are currently working on a comment paper on cumulative impacts, and Mark welcomes members to contribute to this.

7. NTC Updates

Jasmine shared that EPA determined they would not reorganize the NTC as a FACA due to various concerns that were submitted via comments. Mark shared that the NTC has new executive committee members. Jasmine suggested inviting these new members to attend a TPPC EC meeting but will wait for Gerald Wagner (TPPC member and former NTC Chair) to determine if he would like to have a new member replace him at TPPC meetings.

8. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics

Robert shared that they were awarded a grant for a project focused on climate change and how this impacts mobilization of pesticides. Jasmine would like to stay up to date on this project and post information on the TPPC website as it moves forward.

9. Next TPPC Conference Call: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 2:00-4:00 p.m. EST

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