

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
02/18/2026
Call Notes – Final

1. Tribal Caucus

2. Welcome/Introductions

Renee Keezer, White Earth Nation, led the roll call.

Tribes (20)

- Adam Rookey, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Andrew Sonnier, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
- April Hathcoat, Cherokee Nation
- Brenda Pusher-Begay, White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Camilo Perez, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Curry Blankenship, Muscogee Nation
- David Lewis, Yavapai-Apache Nation
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe
- Erica Taylor, Cherokee Nation
- Gerald Wagner, Blackfeet Nation
- Jaclyn Listo, Tohono O'odham Nation
- James Williams, Muscogee Nation
- Jasmine Courville, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation
- Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
- Joseph Picotte, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Katlyn Santos, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Nation
- Ted Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community

Tribal Organizations (1)

- Diania Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association

EPA (1)

- Emma Cross, EPA/OECA

Other (1)

- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

Reported in advance as absent (1)

- Jessica Raspitha, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Linsey Walsh, EPA/OPP

3. EPA Updates

- Emma Cross, EPA/OECA shared that there are no major updates on their end. They are preparing for the spring meeting.
- There was a discussion about EPA members getting approval to attend meetings, in particular, the TPPC spring meeting in DC.

4. TPPC Administrator Updates

- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals spoke about the spring meeting and noted that hotel rooms are booked, flights are booked, and the meeting room at the EPA is booked. He mentioned that the agenda is still being finalized.

5. Tribal Caucus Report-out

- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians mentioned that they talked about the risk management program regulations and other consultation items that have come out.

6. Workgroup Report-out

- Pollinator Workgroup: Nina mentioned they recently had Ed Spevak give a presentation on soil invertebrates. They plan to have Amelia from The L.I.G.H.T. Foundation present at the next pollinator meeting. They are focused on setting up presentations and trainings for people because they find that to be the best use of the pollinator group. Presentations and trainings center on soil health and what is going on with pollinators.
- Policy Workgroup: Met recently and discussed submitting a comment letter on new guidelines for registrants on what changes do or do not require notifying EPA. Mark noted they extended the deadline to March 23rd so the comment letter is less urgent and they will have more time. Mark will put together a draft comment letter and send it out for review.

7. NTC Updates

- Gerald Wagner, Blackfeet Nation, mentioned they were set to meet with leadership in DC, but the date has been pushed back to April, so they are still in limbo with negotiations. They have some questions about changes to the definition of Waters of the US (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act and how the changes are going to affect tribes that have water quality standards such as the 401 cert and the 303D.

8. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics

- Nina: She shared that she is now a certified diver and also boat certified. She shared that the Yurok Tribe has been working on a prairie restoration project and they have a lot of before and after photos that might be of interest for Mark's upcoming presentation on monitoring for restoration projects.
- Mark: Noted the training TPPC is putting on in March to talk about restoration of landscapes and native plants and native plant conservation. He updated the group on the TPPC renewal of the grant and noted it is still making its way up the approval chain, but he is hopeful they will get some good news soon.
- Ted Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community: He asked if Jasmine had any updates on the CroPLife meeting she had discussed previously. Jasmine mentioned it was the past week

in DC and she was unable to attend. She mentioned it focused on endangered species and products. She suggested maybe inviting them to a monthly meeting.

9. Next TPPC Conference Call: Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 2:00-4:00 p.m. EST

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