

**Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call**

5/15/19

Call Notes – Final

Call in number: 202-991-0477, Pass Code 6135015

Roll call:

Tribes

- Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
- Jasmine Courville Brown, Confederate Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Ryan Evans, Confederate Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Tony McCandless, Gila River Indian Community
- Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Frank Venegas, Cocopah Indian Tribe
- James Jackson, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians

EPA

- Peter Earley, EPA/Region 9
- Allen Demorest, EPA/Region 9
- Jonathan Binder, EPA/OECA
- Amanda Hauff, EPA/ OCSPP
- Carol Galloway, EPA/OECA

Other

- Suzanne Forsyth, University of California Davis Extension
- Bob Gruenig, TPPC

Reported in advance as absent:

- Emily Ryan, EPA/OPP
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation

1. Welcome/Introductions (00:00 - 00:10)

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

2. EPA Updates (Emily, Carol, Peter, Amanda, et. al.) (00:10 - 00:25)

- Amanda, EPA/OCSPP
 - Emily wasn't able to attend today. Working trying to reach out to every RTOC to talk about the C&T rule and have informational sessions with folks. Peter Earley will focus on something else for a few months. Norman Calero will fill in for Peter during this time. Contact info: Calero.Norman@epa.gov; phone (415) 972-3793). Norman will serve until August and Peter will return to TPPC after that.
 - For folks who joined on the NPM guidance consultation – thanks. EPA is looking at the feedback received for that.
 - EPA is working with NTTC on a tribal lead curriculum to educate folks about health and environmental impacts about lead exposures and preventative actions. They have developed four modules. The first one will be presented July 9-10 with Tohono O'odham Nation.
- Carol, EPA/OECA

- For the next tribal PIRT in 2020, they are working with Muscogee Creek Nation to host. There will be a basic PIRT course in August in Georgia and Carol will let us know when the announcement go out. Suzanne offered free PERC WPS materials to Muscogee Creek for the tribal PIRT.
- Peter, EPA/Region 9 – no new updates other than the reporting change mentioned above.
- Jonathan Binder, EPA,OECA – no new updates outside of Carl’s input.

3. Updates on the TPPC Risk Assessment (RA) and Direct Implementation (DI) Workgroups (Amanda)

A. RA workgroup – working with NTTC to finalize a chemical case study in June. OPPT took a portion of the case study to add into the chemical evaluation. This should come out in a month or two. She has been working with OPP to scope out starting a case study for pesticide exposures. One of the topics in the RA workgroup in March 2019 was exposure through consumption of moose meat. Amanda will set up a TPPC workgroup call in the next couple of weeks to continue this work.

Amanda was able to recruit the EPA/ORD folks to be on this team. She is using the same approach as her TSCA work in how the team is formed and the division of tasks. She will review the logistics and items later.

The workgroup needs to follow up with the California Indian Basketweavers Association for participation in the October 2019 agenda. And we need to organize a call for case studies.

B. DI - Emily, Bob and Fred have been working on the Status report updates. When EPA had conversations with their Assistant Administrator and others, and they talked about funding and outreach issues and how to plan. One of the interim ideas was to create 1-pagers on how GAP funds could be used for various programs. Amanda sent Fred a letter outlining requests and Fred will send it forward to start the conversation. EPA is hoping to have initial feedback about lessons learned about using GAP funds for pesticides, thoughts to include in the 1-pagers. Need to use the 1-pagers for tribes to get started. Fred to share this week with TPPC; feedback needed by 5/31. Amanda said that EPA will do presentations on the RTOC conference calls and C&T and attend in-person meetings if possible. AIEO is on board to help them build out the 1-pagers for the GAP.

3. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne) (00:25 - 00:40)

- a) Fall 2019 meeting planning

The Yakama Nation will host the fall 2019 meeting. Dates are Tuesday-Friday, October 8-11, 2019. We are revising our agreement with the hotel for rooms, meeting space, and catering.

- Full Council Meeting: Tues-Wed, October 8-9, 2019
- Executive Committee Meeting: Tues or Wed eve October 8 or 9, 2019.
- Risk Communication training with National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC): Thurs, October 10, 2019.
- Half-day tour of Yakama Nation (optional): Fri, October 11, 2019.
- This meeting will have a TPPC election associated with it so we cannot hold the Executive Committee meeting for the end of the week. That is because those folks are planning travel well in advance of the election.

Action item: UCDE to verify outbound times for return on 10/11 and ability of attendees to attend half-day tour and also fly out that day.

Timeline:

- Early June – send out announcement

- Aug. 5, 2019: Deadline for travel funding requests via registration portal
- Aug. 12, 2019: UCDE to notify travelers if funding request can be accommodated
- Aug. 30, 2019: Deadline to book airfare (funded travelers only)
- Mid Sept. 2019: Deadline to reserve hotel room in block (all attendees)
- Sept. 20, 2018: Deadline to register to attend

b) TPPC Exec Committee Elections for 2019-2020

Timeline:

- Early August – UCDE sends out Key points for upcoming election and things to think about (e.g., eligibility to serve, how many votes each tribe gets to cast, voting methods)
- Early Sept 2019 – UCDE sends out a call for nominations, due 2 weeks later; reminder sent 3 days prior
- UCDE contacts the nominees getting a confirmation of their willingness to appear on the ballot.
- Late September – UCDE emails ballot with voting rules; emailed ballots due just before Oct meeting
- In person meeting – collect any ballots not yet cast; tally.

4. TPPC Pollinator Workgroup Expanded Discussion (Jasmine, et. al.) (00:40 – 00:50)

Has not had a call for the last two months due to a lack of presenter. Mary and Jasmine working on a Survey Monkey vehicle to get input / documentation what tribes are currently doing in the a way of a pollinator plan. It will serve as a starting point. The perception is that the eastern and western parts of the US are further along than the Midwest but they would like more data on this which the survey can assist with. Folks can contact Mary Rust to get a copy of a pollinator poster: rust.mary@epa.gov

5. PPDC Update (Eric) (00:50 – 01:00)

Eric attended the recent PPDC meeting in Arlington, VA. The most pivotal presentation was on UAVs. The other presentation of interest was the Farm Bill and hemp – these garnered a lot of attend from folks in attendance. Something to think about: since a new TPPC members will now need to attend because Eric's time is coming to an end, suggestion to set up a Q/A at the October meeting.

6. TPPC Representative to PPDC (Fred) (01:00 – 01:10)

It used to be the tradition of the TPPC vice chair to attend PPDC, as it is a high level group and we the need is to send someone there who is well embedded in tribal pesticide issues. Jasmine's supervisor approved this, as the PPDC covers the travel expense. Fred mentioned the TPPC would need to send a letter to PPDC nominating their tribal representative. ***Consensus reached to nominate Jasmine Brown to represent the TPPC on PPDC.***

7. Potential TPPC Presentation at Tribal Environmental Lands Forum (01:10 – 01:25) (Fred, Amanda)

Proposals are due this Friday. Event to be held in August, 2019 in Palm Springs, CA. Fred and Amanda talked about doing outreach for tribal pesticide programs. Funding should not be a barrier. Fred and Amanda have talked about doing a proposal for what they would cover during the session.

Amanda explained it would be joint presentation with them both. In addition to this, they could do a combined booth with the NTTC as they have done in the past. Will present the bed bug packet, look for some of the great things and highlighted during the pollinator workgroup, plus EPA outreach materials. Pesticide use assessment and how tribes could get started there using GAP funds, highlight bed bug work, risk assessment items, and to see what makes sense for outreach and messaging. Need feedback from this group to and to the proposal to submit. Will also want to highlight the TPPC and the resource for tribes that have questions about tribal pesticide issues. Talked about doing an overview of the C&T rule.

Jasmine promised Fred a pollinator update by then. Jasmine said there was a lot of talk about Brownfield and site clean-up last year. Amanda asked if there were any best practices for things they do. Example: bed bug card from last year and what to look for. If anyone has any specific examples for pesticide spills and dumps and the challenges for tribes then this could be useful to talk about as well. Pesticide container disposal is another related item.

Action item: Amanda to draft a proposal and to share with the TPPC. TPPC members to send items to include to Fred or Amanda.

Fred and Amanda to report back if the proposal is accepted by the firm hosts.

8. Certification of Pesticide Applicators Rule Comments (Emily) (01:25 – 01:35)

EPA staff was not able to provide an update on this from the last call. Will include for next month's call.

9. Status of Pesticides in Indian Country Report Update (Bob) (01:35 – 01:45)

Bob acknowledged that everyone is busy and the report is another thing on their plate. But TPPC workgroup member participation has been disappointingly low. We are very far behind in the timeline we all agreed to in March. One option mentioned on yesterday's call was to place things in an email and get workgroup input via email. Ultimately, Bob said that the deadline of publishing it by September 1, 2019 is no longer feasible. There is data needed on the EPA side of the house that's integral to the report. He has some of it but not all of what's needed. Bob said if a workgroup member is no longer able to participate on the call then please let him know and he will take you off. But he cannot create this report in a vacuum and needs everyone's attendance and energy and positive contributions to complete this report. We cannot print comments which are unfounded without data/facts. Stating a perception that something is happening or has happened is not helpful. It must be substantiated or it cannot be printed. It is not efficient to chase anecdotes and it takes away from the team's time in drafting the report. There are many such items in the current draft and it is difficult to know how to treat these.

Nina regrets that the timing of the calls doesn't work for her. She will try and review content emailed to her. Bob is grateful for her assistance.

Fred stated that we want to have a strong credible document that EPA can get behind as a resource. But if it doesn't quite flow or has inaccuracies then it won't have the effectiveness we are looking for. Fred had made an offer on reorganizing the document. Fred will ask Amanda and Emily. If there's a list of issues, concerns, other then we need to overcome this hurdle.

Fred said that EPA has done little to no outreach on pesticide activities. His theory was that because there is not enough money to fund additional tribes, that they saw this as a barrier to being at the Tribal Environmental Lands Forum last year. Bob said that we need to feature this question on the next call when EPA is in attendance about the perception of a desire to have additional cooperative agreements.

10. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics (All) (01:45 – 02:00)

11. Next TPPC Conference Call (Wednesday, June 19, 2019, 2-4 p.m. EDT)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Full SFIREG Meeting, Arlington, VA, June 4-6, 2019
- National Industrial Hemp Regulatory Conference, hosted by MN Dept of Ag, ND Dept of Ag and Wisconsin DATCP, June 17-20, 2019

- National Integrated Pest Management Training for Tribal Communities, hosted by ITCA, June 26-28, 2019, San Diego, CA
- PREP Comprehensive Combo, Milwaukee, WI, July 29 – August 1, 2019
- PREP Risk Communication Course, Vancouver, WA, September 9-12, 2019
- TPPC Fall Meeting, Yakama Nation, October 8-11, 2019, Toppenish, WA
- Region 8 Manager's Meeting, October 16-17, 2019