

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
1/18/17
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
Irv Provost, Oglala Sioux Tribe
Willie Keenan, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Jasmine Courville-Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Indians
Kevin Greenleaf, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Susan Fluharty, Yurok Tribe
Tony McCandless Gila River
Frank Venegas, Cocopah
Lorinda Antone, Ak-Chin

Tribal Organizations

Africa Dorame-Avalos, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona

EPA

Carol Galloway, U.S. EPA, OECA
Emily Ryan, U.S. EPA, OPP
Mary Clock-Rust, U.S. EPA, OPP
Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA, OPP
Barbara Pualani, U.S. EPA, Region 2
Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP

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 12 member tribes and tribal organization representatives.

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

A. Status of EPA's tribal pesticide sub-lead position (Cindy)

Cindy has been working with the lead region coordinator to identify another tribal pesticide sub-lead since that position is now vacant. This position has traditionally been done by a western region, however the decision is left up to management in a region Fred suggests that Rob Koethe in Region 1 really enjoys working with the tribes and might be interested in the position. The position

does not come with any additional resources to take on the extra duties, and several regional pesticide staff are new which is part of the challenge.

UPDATE: Nick Hurwit, a new employee in Region 10, will fill the tribal pesticides sub-lead role in a slightly reduced capacity. Nick looks forward to meeting everyone in February during the monthly TPPC call.

Cindy announced that Lorry Frigerio has taken another position in the Agency so won't be working with TPPC any longer. Lorry was a strong supporter of TPPC and her contributions have been deeply appreciated. She will be missed. Emily Ryan with OPP has agreed to take over what Lorry was working on. Emily has been working for OPP for 6 months, and spent time in Nicaragua as a peace corps volunteer prior to going to work for EPA. She is really interested in the bed bug project and furthering the TPPC's work in this area, as well as learning about the TPPC.

B. Bed Bug Strategy (Emily)

Working on getting three things out: 1) web page with references; 2) outreach plan with what the workgroup plans to accomplish in the coming months; and 3) a core package of documents (10 or so), which are succinct and are the best and most targeted information documents regarding bed bugs. Plan is to get these out to TPPC volunteers (tribal workgroup members) to review and get feedback from them.

C. Pollinator Protection (Mary)

EPA's Acute Risk Mitigation Policy developed to protect pollinators went out last week for pollinator protection. The final policy targets managed bees but the hope is that there would be a benefit to other pollinators such as ground nesting bees. They tried to develop the policy to be as broadly protective as possible. EPA is pulling together a webinar for states and tribes interested on going over what the final policy says. No date set yet but it will be announced soon.

D. Tribal PIRT Funding (Carol)

Funding for the next tribal PIRT is on EPA's radar screen. Not much information is known about what will happen after this next continuing resolution but Carol will keep asking about it so they can secure the funding going forward.

A Tribal member asked if the money could be sent a cooperative agreement tribe and they do an agreement with a non-cooperative agreement tribe to do the hosting. Carol's response was affirmative, but often the costs to do this are a challenge and the final funding would be diluted a bit. \$35K is predicted to be available for FY18 but would be awarded in FY2017.

E. WPS Inspection Manual

The new manual is out and is on the EPA compliance website. Part of this is a series of inspection checklists. Standalone versions of the checklists is available for modifiable versions. Contact Carol Galloway with any questions. It has information on how to monitor compliance with the new regulations on WPS. If folks would like a webinar on this then she would be happy to provide that.

3. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne)

- a. Website updated with new calendar events and pollinator resources.
- b. TPPC Spring 2017 meeting – registration closes March 1 and all attendees/speakers must register. More information on the meeting location and needed ID and building security to follow in January/February. All airline tickets are now booked for funded travelers and if members asked us to pre-pay their lodging then this has been completed.
- c. AAPCO agenda – Instead of a tribal presentation. AAPCO is holding a tribal spot on a WPS panel along with Pat Jones from NC, an EPA-OPP person (likely Richard Pont), Dudley Hoskins from

NASDA, and an OECA representative. The incoming AAPCO president, Bonnie Rabe, has already contacted a Tribal panelist directly about serving on the panel.

- d. Tribal WPS Implementation Needs Survey. An outcome from the October meeting, Tony McCandless and Africa Dorame Avalos sent this out to TPPC in November asking about tribes' needs or ideas, timeliness, outreach issues or challenges they've encountered, and constructive solutions to share with other tribes. They didn't receive any replies and the EC asked if it could be sent out again. It went out this week with responses due in February. Amanda asked if this could be shared with her tribal contacts and if Tony/Africa could write a more substantive cover letter. Nina asked if they could call a few tribes who do worker protection and that perhaps this would be a better way to get feedback. Tony has already received one reply and is optimistic they will get others. Amanda has networks from regional program manager and the tribes they work with, tribal partnership group. WPS is a big issue in Indian Country.

What will they do with information from the survey? Depending on what the needs are, Tribes may be able to fill some of those needs themselves. The feedback will be sent to PERC for. For ITCA will be to help them identify challenges and offer more info during the trainings they develop. The more input the better so the TPPC is not opposed to having Amanda Hauff share. She will help prepare an overview of the purpose, comment on a follow up process, and how the results of the survey would be used.

Action item: Amanda to work with Tony and Africa to draft a new cover letter to accompany the survey Amanda forwards to her tribal contacts before January 31.

Africa presented some ITCA activity updates: 1) the Inter-Tribal Association of Arizona (ITAA) an association of 21 tribal governments in Arizona, provides a forum for tribal governments to advocate for national, regional and specific tribal concerns and to join in united action to address these issues or matters that directly affect member Tribes. Their annual congressional week will be held March 27-31. If TPPC has any policy priorities that Tribal Leaders could be advocating for during this week, you may submit your issue paper, infographics or other challenges to identify through ITAA, they can provide the issue papers through this forum once policy priorities are identified. This is a great opportunity to push forward issue papers. 2) ITCA Pesticide Program received funding through their cooperative agreement to provide a National IPM Workshop that will focus on bed bugs in Indian Country. ITCA is wanting to identify dates to hold the workshop in the spring. ITCA also received funding through their cooperative agreement to provide a Tribal Pesticide Inspector Training (focus TBD but will likely not be on WPS but perhaps on structural issues or termiticides.) Africa will develop a survey to get feedback from TPPC and Tribes with cooperative agreements on the training and what they would like to see. Travel reimbursement is available for to tribes with or without cooperative agreements that will benefit from attending either of these trainings. 3) Africa and Nina will present at the RTOC next week about bed bug summit they attended in Indiana. They will obtain feedback on special projects folks have in mind to address bed bugs in Indian Country. This is a project Africa is working on with Region 9. Africa would like to get feedback on the best timing to offer a training and let her know dates that would work best for this.

4. TPPC OECA Issues Review\Discussion (Carol Galloway) – see HO

We ran out of time and could not address this on this call. Pick this up again with item #5.

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

We ran out of time and could not address this on this call.

6. March Meeting Agenda Planning (All)

There was much discussion about retaining a few of the agenda sessions. The consensus was that the EPA sub-lead region session can be postponed until fall 2017 as there will not be a new person in this

role and one who is up to speed by March 2017. The consensus was to combine the EPA Strategic Plan and AIEO sessions and turn them into a single 90-minute working session where the TPPC members will breakout and consider elements of the current Strategic Plan and how they would like to see the new plan amended. Fred Corey offered to facilitate this working session. A synopsis of the conversation follows.

Amanda provided during the January call an overview of the AIEO and what they are working on. Amanda suggested that if TPPC had further questions that they would summarize that and fashion a session for this. Nina commented that there have been changes in the AIEO and it's unclear how tribes are to work with them. Tribes want to know what they do and how they benefit TPPC and how to make that more secure. The document Amanda shared shows the new staff and the things they are working on. Amanda wants to make sure TPPC is building a partnership with NTC and other groups and to make sure these groups understand what TPPC issues are. In June the Chief Financial Officers meets with the NTC on budget issues and Amanda wants to make sure she has a TPPC member present to build the synergy and collaboration as well.

OCSPP is doing a Consultation package about the TSCA reform and the grandfathered chemicals. They are talking about Tribal members being a part of workgroups and what the Agency needs to move forward. Tribes would need to apply to be on these committees. Amanda will share this information next week. They will extend the deadline for the Federal Register notice to work with EPA on decisions for organic substances. These memos will come out next week. No funding is available to be a part of the Council but Amanda is looking to see if there is funding for tribes to travel to be part of three planned DC meetings.

Amanda suggested doing a working session on the last strategic plan to help advise on the next plan. There is still a lot more time on this and we could still look at this at the October meeting. Fred wants TPPC to be on the ground floor of the next plan and the eventual plan was a watered down one without many tribal specifics. So Fred is concerned that we will miss an opportunity and this will affect potential funding decisions that affect TPPC and Tribes. Cindy says they have OPP has worked very closely with the strategic plan and she is operating on the assumption that this will be the same as with the new plan. She agrees that Tribes need to be at the table to help influence this. EPA is interested as well to figure this out. It looks like they are not going to be in a position to have someone talk about this the first week of March but they might be able to talk about this later. Proposal that AIEO and strategic Plan come off the agenda with the caveat that the strategic plan is something EPA has to work on and keep track of. The moment we know we have something to work with or partner with the NTC (who has more of a voice than TPPC) to partner with them to see how they are preparing, more power to sit with NTC at the table and strategize with them. Agree it's important to be in on this process but timing isn't good.

Amanda plans to invite folks to attend and listen to what the Council does. Amanda already gave an overview of what they did but we can invite them to the next call to see what they do. Fred said they are interested in the development of the direct implementation. Amanda can speak to this. They are doing an assessment of areas of need to make progress and they are doing this across the board. Amanda will be looking for feedback from tribes as part of her assessment. Consensus is that strategic plan conversation might be premature and we don't have a solid topic to discuss with AIEO and maybe we can postpone this to October.

Amanda is working to facilitate partnerships with NTC. Suggests in February we invite the NTC chair to introduce themselves and start building the synergy and letting them know what the TPPC does
Action: Amanda to outline an invitation for Fred and Nina to send to the NTC and outline an intro session for the February call.

Fred said Billy Maines is no longer the chair. Amanda said they could not fund NTC chair travel. If new chair is not available then Amanda could invite AIEO senior staff to attend.

Nina suggests that we don't get through items on the EC calls. If we cannot get speakers then we do a working session where TPPC talks about the optic they want to talk to AIEO about, talk about key points they want to get covered in the strategic plan.

Action item: Before the February call, Amanda to prepare a 1-2 page overview of all the EPA offices and how they work together and also a description of the NPM guidance, EPA strategic Plan, and outline where they are similar and different.

Action item: Suzanne to revise the draft agenda by next week and send to Fred and Nina for approval before it is sent to the TPPC.

7. Report out from SFIREG Meeting, National Pesticide Managers Meeting, Global Bed Bug Summit, Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee, Certification and Training Assessment Group (Fred, Nina, Eric, Jeff, et. al.)

We ran out of time and could not address this on this call.

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

We ran out of time and could not address this on this call.

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

The Yurok Tribe mentioned that there are still marijuana issues and the need to be addressed in Indian Country. Non-tribal growers are coming onto Indian lands and are establishing grow operations without permission. Fred has a contact in OECA he can share with them but also encourage Tribes should continue to work through their Regions and local law enforcement for guidance and remedies.

10. Next TPPC Conference Call (Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 2-4 p.m. EST)