

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
1/24/18
Call Notes – Final
Call information: 1-866-299-3188; code: 415-947-4242#

Roll call:

Tribes

- Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
- Les Benedict, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Tony McCandless, Gila River Indian Community
- Jasmine Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Willie Keenan, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Ryan Evans, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
- Suzanne Fluharty, Yurok Tribe
- Neil Abbott, Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Larissa Rickman, Shoalwater Bay Tribe
- Lorinda Antone, Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Dustin Roy, White Earth Nation
- Kevin Greenleaf, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Amity Furr, Eight Northern Tribes

Tribal Organizations

- Africa Avalos, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona
- Diania Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association

Reported in advance as absent:

Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation

EPA

- Emily Ryan, U.S. EPA, OPP
- Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA, OPP
- Carol Galloway, U.S. OECA
- Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP
- Melanie Wood, U.S. EPA, Region 8
- Blake Huff, U.S. EPA, Region 8
- David Cobb, U.S. EPA, Region 8
- Nick Hurwit, U.S. EPA, Region 10
- Donna Harris, American Indian Environmental Office

Other

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

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Introductions (Fred)

Fred Corey, TPPC Chairperson, facilitated the roll call. Attendance was logged throughout the call for 18 member tribes and tribal organization representatives.

2. EPA Region 8 Direct Implementation Program Presentation (David Cobb, Melanie Wood) (00:05 - 01:00)

Region 8 is the only region in the country which doesn't have the authority to run their pesticide programs. Region 8 is here to explain how this works in Wyoming.

Carol Galloway reported that through a joint effort, OPP and OECA have sent a list of questions to all the Regions asking how they conduct direct implementation of the pesticide program in Indian Country, outside of the areas covered by tribes with cooperative agreements. Responses are expected by the end of February. Once the results are compiled then they will share with TPPC. OPP and the Office of Compliance are looking forward to having a better understanding of what the Regions are doing in the hope that they can find ways to improve their direct implementation, in coordination and with input from the TPPC.

Blake Huff explained there are 27 tribes in Region 8 and has many of the large land base reservations with a large agricultural base. FIFRA grants: 5 stand alone and 2 circuit ride which serve 17 different reservations. Grants managed jointly by Region 8 pesticide program and others. David said they do an implementation plan with Wyoming to outlay rules about what each does and what's in the plan. The plan has 4 parts.

1. Outreach
2. C&T
3. NPM guidance
4. Regional priorities (tips/complaints, marketplace inspections, RUPs, others)

Region 8 tries to engage with Wyoming staff as much as they can. Region 8 staff went up for a training to assist with Q/A. Region 8 does direct implementation in Colorado for producer establishments. They use a targeting scheme that considers other priorities. Inspection frequency and violation history will reprioritize activity under targeted activity. Region 8 develops it and send to Wyoming who comments on it and it's refined. The implementation plan explains the roles and responsibilities of EPA and lays out a plan for inspections.

Africa asked if circuit riders are identified in this plan. David explained that circuit riders aren't involved in the Wyoming implementation plan. Fred offered that this model would be a good fit for an EPA Tribal Environmental Plan. It would identify what EPA's roles in providing assistance to achieve tribal environmental goals. Amanda said that EPA senior leadership will be meeting soon to talk about ETAP.

Melanie added in addition to the questionnaire, they have an RTOC meeting where tribes attend who don't have a circuit rider and it's an opportunity for outreach to these tribes about the services Region 8 provides.

Suzanne Fluharty stated that Yurok does not have a certified inspector. Would that make a difference in their services? There are three scenarios:

- Tribes w/cooper agreement
- Tribes w/circuit rider
- Tribes with none of the above

How does the inspection to cover these differ? The latter group is covered by the enforcement group as Direct Implementation. Region 8 hasn't done many in the latter because they didn't have a lot of activity in agriculture back at the time this was established. The follow up is Region 8 staff is researching if anything has changed in the Region's ag profile to see if more inspections are warranted. It's not just related to RUPs but other applications as well (non-ag use, etc.) Region 8 covers WY and Indian Country. But if there is a tribe that has their own plan or is served by a circuit rider then Region 8 works with them so there's not duplication of effort.

Jasmine suggests that TPPC could help develop a strategy with EPA. A concern is that it's a complaint-driven system and that people don't know who to call so she's glad that some outreach is forthcoming. Eric Gjevre said he's heard the same concern from state inspectors as well.

3. EPA Updates (Cindy, Emily, Carol, Nick, Amanda, et. al.) (01:00 - 01:15)

EPA's new conference lines are enacted and operational. There were no other updates for this month.

4. Pollinator Protection Workgroup Update (Mary, Jasmine, Les, et. al.) (01:15 – 01:30)

The workgroup attendance waned during the holidays. In January 2018 they solicited more participation. The workgroup changed strategy from what was formerly each tribe doing a plan to what's now a combined/workgroup plan and send out on behalf of the TPPC work group. Les Benedict added that Feb 14 is the next workgroup meeting. Kelly Gill from Xerxes Society will be talking about the assistance they may be able to provide tribes upon request. He will get in touch with Jeremy Pinto with the US Forest Service and he's interested in joining a pollinator protection workgroup to talk about native plants. Date TBD. The workgroup feels they will be an excellent resource. Fred reported that Xerxes is planning to come to Aroostook to do a pollinator habitat assessment this year.

5. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne) (01:30 - 01:50)

a) Administrative

- Shared the bed bug educational package 12/19.
- Finalized monthly TPPC Executive meeting call notes for December
- Working on additional resources to be added to the pollinator protection area
- Completed web updates for various calendar items in 2018
- Sent out numerous membership inquiries and received positive responses
- Confirmed new appointees from the Catawba Indian Nation: Tiffany Hyatt and Scott Hansen; their authorization letters are forthcoming
- Sent updates to Fred for the TPPC mailing list (additions and deletions)

b) March meeting agenda review

- The group reviewed revisions to the Day 1 agenda as they pertain to Tribal-FERST and the 2 tribal caucus session
- The group decided not to hold an extra EC meeting during one of the evenings
- Feb 6, 2018: Deadline to reserve hotel room in block (all attendees)
- Feb 12, 2018: Deadline to register to attend

Action item: Suzanne to send out email reminder about the meeting deadlines and include revised announcement.

Fred requested time to plan the TPPC presentation to discuss with senior leadership on March 7. Suzanne will send out an invite for special call to talk about a strategy for focusing the presentation. Amanda will participate to help structure it to be the most efficient based on lessons learned with NTC. Goal is to set up call week of Feb 14. Monday. Amanda will send out the reminder.

Action item: Suzanne to send out calendar appt for Feb 14.

Action item: Fred to send out an announcement for TPPC conference call to get feedback on proposed changes to P&P on 2/28 2 PM Mountain time. The goal is to finalize changes and bring them to the March meeting for approval.

- c) Fall meeting location planning – we are looking for a host for the fall 2018 meeting in Indian Country. ITCA and Gila River have graciously offered to host in the Phoenix area. UCDE is happy to know of others who would be interested as well. They should contact Suzanne via email by 1/31. Second week in October is a possibility even given Columbus Day. Region 6 pre-SFIREG. EPA Region 9 tribal conference is also in October.

d) Action item list revisions

Suzanne provided a comprehensive list of the action items along with a list of proposed tiers based on TPPC's FY18 priorities. The list seems to grow and not get smaller and folks are having a hard time completing the items assigned to them. It's really more of a to-do list than one that focuses people's efforts. How would the TPPC like to use this list moving ahead? Fred asked if it would it make sense to spend time on the next call as to how they want to regard the action item list. Les says it makes more sense to try and tackle them more often.

Africa is launching a series of webinars. Next week Apache and IPM. She wants to take some of the info from the bed bug educational package and use this as well.

Les Benedict reported that he consulted with NPIC and they were very helpful with an Emerald Ash Borer issue and it resulted in a success story.

6. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics (All) (01:50 – 02:00)

None were noted.

7. Next TPPC Conference Call (Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 2-4 p.m. EST)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Webinar: Implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Bed Bug Biology and Control, hosted by ITCA, Tuesday, January 30, 2018 from 11:00AM-12:00PM (AZ/MT time zone)
- Grantsmanship Training Program hosted by ITCA. Feb 5-9, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ
- Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) Spring 2018 Meeting: March 5-7, 2018, Alexandria, VA
- TPPC Spring 2018 Meeting: March 7-9, 2018, Arlington, VA
- SFIREG Joint POM and EQI Working Committee Meeting: April 9-10, Crystal City, VA
- ASPCRO Mid-Year Board Meeting: April 16-17, 2018, Franklin, TN