

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
2/15/17
Call Notes – Final

Call information: 1-866-299-3188; code: 415-947-4242#

Roll call:

Tribes

Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
Jasmine Courville-Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Kevin Greenleaf, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Les Benedict, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
Neil Abbott, Ak-Chin Indian Community
Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
Kathy Nabee, Alaska
Irv Provost, Oglala Sioux Tribe
Kelcey Stricker, Pechanga
Tony McCandless, Gila River Indian Community
Willie Keenan, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Tribal Organizations

Africa Dorame-Avalos, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
Delia Rodriguez, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona

EPA

Carol Galloway, U.S. EPA, OECA
Emily Ryan, U.S. EPA, OPP
Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA, OPP
Barbara Pualani, U.S. EPA, Region 2
Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP
Lance Wormell, U.S. EPA, OPP
Nick Hurwit, U.S. EPA, Region 10

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 14 member tribes and tribal organization representatives.

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

a) Nick Hurwit formerly with Oregon State University (OSU) and the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), served the Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) along with Suzanne Forsyth. Working with Eric Gjevre and Joe Herrera in Region 10.

b) Brief bed bug update – Emily & Barbara. More info on the efforts will be delivered in March. They finished rough drafts of outreach package, having calls with IHS and HUD, working to get feedback from workgroup on amending materials, bed bugs and IPM webinar in the works.

c) The updated FY2018-2021 FIFRA Cooperative Agreement Guidance went out today to EPA regions who will send it out to states and tribes. It will be used this spring to negotiate cooperative agreements beginning in 2018.

d) EPA held a risk assessment 101 webinar for TPPC members on 2/14/17. The webinar was recorded for those tribes that could not attend. The presentation provided a basic understanding of how EPA's risk assessment process, and allows TPPC members to build on this discuss and ask specific questions during the March meeting. Questions posed in the chat box were sent to the speakers, and will be addressed in March. The link to the recorded webinar will be shared next week.

d) OECA - Don Lott from EPA/OCE is still planning to distribute the paper on FIFRA and warrants. Will be at the TPPC meeting in March so he can address questions then. OECA is close to having a host confirmed for next tribal PIRT. Yakama Nation would like to do this. The group expressed their appreciation to Joe Herrera and Yakama Nation for doing this.

e) Amanda sent a suggested outline for the EPA strategic plan session. Reached out to OCFO to do an overview of the strategic plan, what it is and how it influences the Agency. She invited AIEO to deliver a brief overview of how they work with tribes.

Action item: Amanda to set a call with TPPC for session-planning. Suzanne to assist with Doodle poll and the eventual calendar appointment with TPPC members once a date and time is determined between now and 3/3/17.

Africa suggests we use some of the feedback from the WPS survey as part of the letter to the Administrators.

3. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne)

- a. Website access interrupted today due to server attacks. It should be 100% by tomorrow. There is a new look and feel for the Pollinator Protection resources. Many thanks Mary Clock-Rust and the workgroup for guiding this revision. <http://tppcwebsite.org/pollinators/>
- b. TPPC Spring 2017 meeting – working to finalize the agenda and speakers. Registration closes 3/1/17 and all attendees/speakers must register. Currently have 22 tribes, 14 EPA folks registered.
- c. UCDE will be sending out more information on building access and the Real-ID Act. The list of affected states has decreased since we started planning. We believe only MN and NY need to provide something beyond a driver's license. Tim Hutchens with OPP is looking into this and we will be reaching out to attendees to confirm this in the next 2 weeks.

Jim Mossett asked, what is the cost to EPA to implementing the federal certification plan in Indian Country and new C&T plan for states? \$25 million is a figure he heard. Lance Wormell indicated EPA's willingness to have additional dialogue regarding EPA implementing the federal certification plan in Indian Country and new C&T plan as it relates to TPPC's priorities. He also encouraged participants to continue to focus resources on existing priorities and activities, and where possible to minimize time spent on speculations from non-EPA sources on future activities.

Comment added by Jim Mossett: "I never did get an answer to my question about the money spent, but I did mention that the Administration seemed not to approve actions of the EPA, that they are overstepping their authority with some of their initiatives and said they are looking to trim the EPA to make them a leaner and more effective organization. The EPA is either being sued by many States or being taken to Courts by states and organizations to have their actions reviewed. Since I support the EPA

in their mission of protecting the Environment and Human Health I am concerned how the EPA proceeds in the near future and thought it was a good question as a U.S. citizen and an employee who enforces FIFRA. I guess I was more or less told to keep working, which I am doing and mind my own business. I feel I did not get an answer to that question either. I feel some of these initiatives have a negative effect to Tribes and threaten our Sovereignty. I spoke about my concerns and was weakly supported by the TPPC.”

Jasmine Brown wanted to know about the list of shared action items and if she can provide an update via email. This is a great idea and enables members to see progress before we can circle back to have the discussion as a group on a call. All are encouraged to report via email in advance so the list can be updated.

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

We resumed this conversation with item #5.

- #5 Inconsistent issuance of federal inspector credentials to Tribal inspectors
Carol will follow up with one TPPC member as to delay in issuance of their federal credentials. Some of the training that needs to be completed is subject training and not through a classroom and are online, via NETI, CD-ROM. EPA tried to make some easy way to satisfy these since the trainings that happened so long ago no longer have the information so they came up with some alternatives.
- #6 Concern about jurisdictional authority for Treaty-based usual and accustomed locations.
A little more work is needed here.
- #7 Pesticide Enforcement Q &A Document. No momentum gained on this and this fizzled. A way to address this is to address anything on these calls.
- #8 Funding inadequacies and inspection quotas. 25 inspection was set as the minimum.
Irving Provost said he’s not seeing where this has been put into place. Discussion ensued about best way to proceed – a roundtable discussion proposed in a way to get more resources for an efficient mechanism to protect the environment and tribal sovereignty. The TPPC can more fully flesh this out at the March meeting as part of the Status of Pesticides in Indian Country report.
Action item: Carol to circle back on the April monthly call with unresolved issues on this 2011 issues paper and others may be discussed earlier.

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

No updates available this month. Les Benedict and Larry Scrapper were on the last call and they are trying to generate a list of folks who would be interested in collaborated with Diana Cox-Foster’s lab. One of the questions which came up with regard to the next meeting is if there could be a report out on the working group. Discussion about status of the report template with Sonam Gill, Region 9. Will be talked about on March 1 call. Mary Clock Rust will give an update of the TPPC workgroup activities at AAPCO on March 6-8.

6. March Meeting Agenda Planning (All)

We’ve trimmed and streamlined as much as possible in order to 1) make sure as many of the priority items appear as possible and 2) ample discussion time is offered for sharing. Discussions with Fred and Nina as to how to balanced sharing but also asking folks to be mindful of sessions times. Fred invited NTC to join us but has not heard back.

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.)

Jeff Biakeddy represents the C&T assessment group and he does not normally join this call so we would need to invite him. No other members representing a workgroup were present beyond Fred so Fred will reach out to folks in advance to have a report for the next monthly call.

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

Updates were recorded to the current list and a revised one will be shared before the March call.

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

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