

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
7/18/18
Call Notes – Draft
Call information: 1-866-299-3188; code: 415-947-4242#

Call in number: 1-202-991-0477; Code: 7902730#

Roll call:

Tribes

- Fred Corey, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
- Joe Herrera, Yakama Nation
- Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jasmine Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Les Benedict, St. Regis Mohawk
- Carol Creed, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
- Lorinda Antone, Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Richard Ashley, Shoalwater Bay

Tribal Organizations

- Amity Furr, Eight Northern Pueblos Council

Reported in advance as absent:

- Diania Caudell, California Indian Basketweavers Association
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
- Africa Avalos, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Idaho
- Cindy Wire, U.S. EPA, OPP
- Amanda Hauff, U.S. EPA, OCSPP

EPA

- Carol Galloway, U.S. EPA, OC
- Monica Rodia, U.S. EPA, ORD
- Jose? U.S. EPA, Tribal Science Council
- John Kenneke, U.S. EPA, ORD
- Rachel Riccardi

Other

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

AGENDA

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

Fred Corey, TPPC Chairperson, facilitated the roll call. Attendance was logged throughout the call for 10 member tribes and tribal organization representatives.

2. EPA ORD Chemical Safety for Sustainability (CSS) Research Program (Monica Rodia/John Kenneke) (see attachment) (00:10-00:50)

[Refer to the PowerPoint presentation for more detail]

ORD is reaching out to all the partnerships groups to see what their science needs are.

John Kenneke is from the National Exposure Research Laboratory, a part of ORD. He’s here to talk about the Chemical Safety for Sustainability (CSS) Research Program, and to learn about chemically related issues the TPPC deals with so they can consider as they engage in the process. There will be multiple opportunities for tribes to engage with EPA throughout this process. The drivers influencing the CSS development are:

- Agency priorities and focus are changing
 - EPA 2018-2022 Strategic Plan
 - Administrator’s priorities
- Revised Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Increasing pressure for new assessment methodologies (better, cheaper, faster) – includes moving away from animal testing
- Advancements in the chemical sciences – it brings more novel types of technology into the program
- Increased commitment to hear from Agency stakeholders

CSS is really focused on chemicals. They bring together the chemical and exposure to evaluate risk. They need to translate the findings to the partners so they fully understand the outcomes of their analysis.

- CSS provides methods, data, information, and tools to Agency partners and stakeholders enabling more informed, timely decisions about chemicals, many of which have not been thoroughly evaluated for potential risks to human or ecological health.
- CSS is developing tools for chemical evaluation, advancing understanding of complex systems, providing information translation and delivering a chemical knowledge infrastructure.

CSS has a new proposed structure:

Topic	Research Area
Chemical Evaluation	High-throughput Toxicology (HTT)
	Rapid Exposure, Dosimetry and Modeling (REDM)
	*Emerging Materials and Technologies (EM)
Complex Systems Science	Adverse Outcome Pathways (AOP)
	Virtual Tissue Modeling (VTM)
	*Ecological Modeling (EcoMod)
Solutions Based Translation and Knowledge Delivery	*Chemical Safety Analytics (CSA)
	*Life Cycle Applications (LCA)
	Integration, Synthesis and Informatics (ISI)

* Reorganized research areas.

The Ecological Risk Assessment Example was created in response to NAS 2013 endangered species document they put out. Pushing to go from individual type risk assessment versus population type assessments.

Driver:

- Improve Agency's approach to evaluating risks to endangered species, particularly from pesticide exposure
- Push modeling from the organismal to the molecular and population levels

California Endangered Species Case Study

- Species: Chinook salmon, green sturgeon, fairy shrimp, red-legged frog, steelhead, delta smelt, tadpole shrimp, garter snake, tidewater goby, longfin smelt and freshwater shrimp
- Pesticides: five total including: carbaryl, methomyl and bifenthrin
- Environments: row crops, orchards, vernal pools, urban, flooded areas, etc.

Fred said that in the National Tribal Toxics Council (NTTC) there is a lot of concern about pesticide exposures and the tribal pathways are not adequately characterized by risk assessments. He asked about the ecological risk assessment and if that modeling is ever used to inform the human health risk assessment process. John said that referred to this broadly in his slides. He says that EPA needs to do more tribal specific exposure studies due to tribes' unique consumption patterns. If there is any information on the kinds of activities that go on, EPA has higher level models they can use to account for this and can simulate what happens to folks over a day or a year with acute and chronic exposure scenarios. John is happy to take any data the TPPC can provide him but there will be more opportunities to provide this as they proceed.

Jasmine asked if there is a way the TPPC can see how exposure routes are already built into the model and then forward their questions based on that. John said they use the high-throughput models and he said it would be better if the tribes could let him know what the unique exposures are then he can let them know if they are accounted for in that model. These would take into the account the magnitude and frequency and he's glad to provide the TPPC with added info if there's a specific need they could couch this in.

TPPC is now working with NTTC and EPA trying to improve the risk assessment process for susceptible sub-populations. Jose said that the Tribal Science Council will be taking these topics up this year.

3. EPA Updates (Emily, Carol, Peter, et. al.) (00:50 - 01:05)

OECA updates – at end of June EPA signed a memo addressing the timeliness of inspection reports. It does not apply to states and tribes at this point but EPA is working on if and when it might at some point. It sets some goals for inspection report: finish report 60 days after the inspection; standards for opening conferences; closing conference at end of inspection; goal to share with the facility; share with the general public. This is an interim policy and is in a pilot period until the end of December. Phase 1 is testing and Phase 2 would be implementation. At Phase 2 then OECA will see how it's working and how it may or may not apply to states and tribes with federal credentials. Carol shared the memo with members following the call.

4. Kaci Buhl (NPIC) (Collaboration with TPPC) (see attachment) (01:05 – 01:20)

Kaci Buhl, Oregon State University (OSU) joined the call with a request on behalf of OSU to kindly consider submitting a letter of support for their application for the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) funding opportunity to the U.S. EPA. Fred reflected what a great resource NPIC is and how helpful it's been to hear from Kaci about tribal risk issues. The need for effective risk communication will come up once you know where those risks are. Suzanne suggests that a half-day or full-day risk communication training would be an excellent addition to future meetings.

Action item: Fred will sign the letter of support on behalf of TPPC to support the great work that NPIC is doing for tribes and other stakeholders.

5. TPPC Tribal Administrator Update (Suzanne) (01:20 - 01:30)

a) Administrative

- Kristy LeClair has accepted another position on campus serving the UC Davis Medical School. Thank you to those who reached out to her with well wishes. UCDE is undergoing moderate restructuring and will recruit her vacancy in early fall.
- Finalized monthly TPPC Executive meeting call notes for May.
- Updated the TPPC web calendar with additional training events.
- Working on the Quarter 2 report for EPA as well as the FY19 funding request.
- The TPPC finalized their adoption of the *P&P* and UCDE sent out a notice July 2 with the updated document and links to the PDF on the website.
- Ak-Chin notified us that Neil Abbott is no longer with their tribe, so we now have a Region 9 vacancy on the EC. In August I will begin the process to replace him and it would entail a nomination and voting process among the Region 9 tribes with authorization letters on file.
- Brittani with CSKT updated the TPPC membership brochure and UCDE emailed it to the EC for review. UCDE printed 200 copies and sent 170 to Jasmine Brown to bring to the Tribal Environmental Lands Forum. UCDE mailed 20 copies to Diania Caudell so she could take to an upcoming CIBA event, and UCDE retained 10 copies. It was printed before we knew about the Region 9 vacancy so this would need to be addressed in the next revision.

- b) Fall meeting planning – Oct 10-12 (noon), 2018 at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel in Chandler, AZ. Gila River Indian Community will host. The meeting is 2.5 days and represents a half-day expansion of the October 2017 meeting. On recent agenda planning calls TPPC members felt they wanted to set aside the half day on Friday for the Executive Committee meeting. The current draft agenda is attached. We have 6 TPPC members registered currently. UCDE will send out a reminder of the registration deadline after today's call.

Upcoming deadlines:

- Aug. 2, 2018: Last day to request TPPC travel funding
- Aug 10, 2018: UCDE to notify travelers if funding request can be accommodated
- Aug 31, 2018: Last day to book airfare (funded travelers only)
- Sept. 17, 2018: Last day to reserve hotel room at reduced rate
- Sept. 21, 2018: Last day to register for meeting

Ideas: Priority setting for FY19, etc. Idea to have Amanda or another facilitator to help facilitate the meeting as was done in Washington in March, 2018.

Action item: Suzanne to solicit ideas for the Executive Committee meeting and suggest some as well. Send out in August. Also ask how it should be facilitated.

6. Proposal to Consider Changes to the TPPC Spring 2019 Meeting (Suzanne) (01:30 – 01:40)

In April 2018, UCDE met with Fred, Jasmine, and Cindy to talk about a proposal to expand the length of the spring 2019 meeting so that the TPPC could have more face-to-face time to conduct business and consider more training topics.

Current: There is interest in possibly adding up to one full meeting day to the 2019 spring Full Council / Executive Committee meetings. There are several questions and options to consider highlighted in the table below.

Options include:

	Details	Pros / Cons / Challenge
Option 1	No change; keep the meeting Wed-Fri (half day) on the AAPCO week, March 6-8, 2019.	Pro: Members can attend 2 of 2.5 days of AAPCO meeting Con: TPPC members miss a half-day of AAPCO on Wednesday morning Con: Limited on time at TPPC for discussions and training topics
Option 2	Change the dates; keep the meeting length the same at 2.5 days.	Pro: No conflict with AAPCO week Pro: Can begin on any day of the week Con: Less interaction with states/EPA at AAPCO Con: Limited on time at TPPC for discussions and training topics Challenge: need to find a new set of dates
Option 3	Change the dates; expand the meeting length to 3 or 3.5 days.	Pro: No conflict with AAPCO week Pro: More time allotted for discussions and adding training topics Con: Less interaction with states/EPA at AAPCO Challenge: need to find a new set of dates
Other?		

Discussion:

Les Benedict feels the TPPC would benefit from having more time for its in-person meetings – perhaps another half-day or full day. Training is one possibility but he is not aware of a universal training topic that everyone might be interested in and suggests that this could be an optional session.

Joe Herrera said he is new to the pesticide world and is interested in more training time. Fred commented that we will need to glean additional feedback to make in order to make a decision.

Bob recalled when NTEC offer training up front at a multi-day meeting, an IPM conference in Memphis.

Suzanne added that training topic(s) don't need to be done separately from the meeting. They can be 1-2 hour vignettes as we've been doing for the past couple of years. But we can try whatever model the group would like.

Joe likes having the AAPCO speakers to come and sit and discuss their hot topics. He got to meet with the Oregon and Washington inspectors and then hear from all the EPA folks. He likes the smaller training topic session idea instead of a half-day for TPPC as opposed to a full half-day.

Fred reflected that the TPPC agenda does not always reflect the hot topics at AAPCO because those are traditionally state/federal based. But their agenda topics always infuses the conversations at TPPC.

The TPPC will continue the dialogue into September at the latest so we can get the meeting space and hotel space secured.

7. Comment Opportunity on NMFS's Assessment on Chlorpyrifos, Diazinon, and Malathion (see: <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0141-0001>) (Fred) (01:40 – 01:45)

The TPPC had intended to get briefed on this topic last month but had to cancel the call. When Fred was in Washington, DC last month for a meeting with the NTTC he got to meet with Earth Justice. Habitat levels for various species are at risk. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has identified options for reducing the jeopardy for these species involving Chlorpyrifos, Diazinon, and Malathion. Label changes and risk reduction measures are discussed. Earth Justice provided Fred with materials for an organization to support their findings of NMFS with their findings. It's a template folks could use to write a letter of support of the biological opinion and proposed actions on controlling the above pesticides. Some tribes from the Pacific Northwest are planning to submit a letter. The Deadline is July 23 so there is little time to react and Fred was not sure they could complete a consensus-based comment letter in time. But an individual tribe could submit a letter and this would be helpful as well.

Action item: Fred will share the template letter from Earth Justice in support of the biological opinion in the event individual tribes want to submit one.

8. TPPC Workgroups Update (Fred) (01:45 – 1:50)

The workgroups have had a little hiatus due to schedules but they will pick up the pace and re-engage in the weeks ahead.

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

10. Next TPPC Conference Call (Wednesday, August 22, 2018, 2-4 p.m. EDT)

Because the August monthly call conflicts with the Tribal Lands & Environment Forum August 13-16, the group proposed to move the monthly call to August 22. Fred will confirm after checking with the EPA tribal team if this also works for them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2018 Tribal Pesticide Inspector Training: August 7-9, 2018, Colorado River Indian Tribes (Inter Tribal Council of Arizona) (Parker, AZ)
- 2018 Tribal PIRT: September 17-21, 2018, Fort Peck Tribes (Poplar, MT)
- TPPC Fall 2018 Meeting: October 10-12, 2018, Gila River Indian Community (Chandler, AZ)