

Pollinator Protection Working Group
Monthly Zoom Call
7/12/21
Call Notes

<https://zoom.us/j/91804937970?pwd=aDBLNWtNN0hwZitOb3lFbVAXUzFUQT09>

Meeting ID: 918 0493 7970

Passcode: pollinator

Pollinator Protection Working Group Members Present:

- Loren LaPointe
- Amanda Hauff
- Ed Spevak
- Larry Scrapper
- Marvin Bouknight
- Jim Mossett
- Brittani Clairmont
- James Jackson

1. NFNP Survey – Ed Spevak

Ed shared a bit more information on the Native Foods, Native Peoples, Native Pollinators survey conducted by his initiative in 2020. The survey intends to capture people's background on bees: are they able to identify different types of bees? Do they have any fears that would deter them from working with bees? The first round of the survey concluded with 30 respondents. The survey found that almost no one had fears of bees and everyone could identify a few species. The goals of the survey was to identify wants and needs of tribes that could turn into an outreach or workshop, and to find out what would get tribes more involved with planting (money, lack of tools, seeds, etc.). Most respondents stated that they could use seeds and plants along with instructions on how to plant them and what to do with them. Ed also explained that the survey question asking for stories is incredibly important to learn about the cultural connection to native pollinators.

Next steps: Loren will work with Brittani to put a link to the survey on the TPPC website.

2. NRCS Collaboration – Loren LaPointe

Loren has had some informal conversation with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) which has worked with the previous iteration of the TPPC Pollinator Working Group (WG). The main goal of making this connection is to see if the WG could utilize USDA tools once we gauge interest in the tribes' needs and priorities. WG members shared that Mace Vaughn from NRCS has spoken to the previous iteration of the WG with a very informative presentation. Mace also offered to help update the TPPC website section on pollinators. Loren will continue pursuing these conversations for potential collaboration with the WG.

3. NAPPC Conference

Final call for TPPC members to attend the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign's [Annual Conference](#) *virtually* on October 19 (9am-12pm PDT), October 20 and 21 (8am-2pm PDT). Topics include climate change reduces the abundance and diversity of wild bees; The intersection of sustainable food systems and pollinator health; Rewarding agricultural landowners for the collective benefits of installing pollinator habitat; Documenting native bee populations: past efforts, future endeavors, and a place for citizen science; and Honoring indigenous land practices to improve food systems and pollinator health. Please send an email to LaPointe.Loren@epa.gov; Jasmine.brown@cslt.org; and nina@stewartspoint.org by Friday July 23 if you are interested!