

Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call
05/17/23
Call Notes – Final

Join by Zoom: <https://nau.zoom.us/j/89303644703>
or phone: 312-626-6799 or 888-788-0099 (toll free)
Meeting ID: 893 0364 4703
Password: 186136

Roll call:

Tribes (20)

- Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Camilo Perez, Quechan Indian Tribe
- Dorla Tartsah, Kiowa Tribe
- Dwight Carlston, Gila River Indian Community
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe
- Gerald Wagner, Blackfoot Tribe
- James Jackson, Muscogee Creek Nation
- James Williams, Muscogee Creek Nation
- Jasmine Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jefferson Biakeddy, Navajo Nation
- Jeremy Phillips, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Jessica Raspitha, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Katie Russell, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
- Phil Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Reservation
- Ron Workman, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Sheldon Jones, Navajo Nation

EPA (2)

- Linsey Walsh, EPA/OCSP
- Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA

Other (2)

- Mehrdad Khatibi, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Mark Daniels, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

Reported in advance as absent (1)

- Forrest Funmaker, HoChunk Nation

1. Tribal Caucus

2. Welcome/Introductions

Jasmine Courville, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes facilitated the roll call.

3. EPA Updates (Linsey, Emily, Vanessa, Helene)

No updates, but Jessica Raspitha, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, asked if there was any news concerning Emily's offer last month to contact state agencies about disposal of expired sanitizer products from the pandemic. **Linsey said she would ask Emily when she returns to the office next week.**

4. TPPC Administrator Updates (Mark, Mehrdad)

- a. Mark reminded the group that the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF) conference will be held August 14-17 in Syracuse, NY. Mark staffed a table last year to do outreach for the TPPC, and will probably do so again this year. If anyone is interested in attending please see the link below, and note that the call for proposals deadline is May 19th.
 - i. TLEF website: <https://sites.google.com/view/tlef2023/home>
- b. TPPC website statistics
 - i. April: 312 views from 154 users
 - ii. Year-to-Date: 1,552 views from 565 users

5. Tribal Caucus Report-out

Jasmine brought up a question that came up in the tribal caucus about whether the EPA's consultation and treaty rights guidance documents are going to be consolidated into one or kept as two documents. Neither Linsey nor Helene knew the answer, but **Linsey said she'd look into it.**

Jasmine also asked if it would be possible to put a statement into the revised version of these documents that data provided during consultation could not be accessed through Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, or otherwise protected somehow? Linsey answered that she doesn't know what can and can't go into the documents, but she knows that the question of tribal data security is front-of-mind, and Amanda Hauff is working on it somehow. **Linsey will let Amanda know that the issue came up again, and also see if there are other avenues where she can raise the concern.**

Following up on that concern, Jasmine noted that some of the Tribes have international treaties with other countries, which can include data privacy protections. She was wondering whether TPPC might be able to create an international tribal consortium as a sub-organization to help provide data protection for Tribes? **Linsey said she would add it to her list of things to check with Amanda about.**

Jasmine brought up a final point from the Tribal Caucus session regarding the 7(d) Endangered Species Act (ESA) exemption, which she had heard can allow a pesticide to be registered while it's still going through ESA consultation. **Linsey wasn't aware of this, but will look into it.**

6. Workgroup Report-out

Renee gave a brief update on the risk assessment workgroup, noting that the group didn't meet this month due to both Mark and Emily being out of town. But White Earth is moving ahead with the risk assessment pilot project, and she's getting some community input on the foods list used in EPA risk assessments.

Jasmine noted that pollinator protection workgroup has a special speaker coming up for their June 5th meeting, Dr. Olivia Carril. She's a bee expert who has written books on bee identification and was recommended by Melanie Kirby.

Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes also talked about a new project Melanie Kirby is involved with called the Four Directions Projections (<https://iaia.edu/the-4-directions-projections/>). They are looking for people to do presentations on interesting projects they're working on (Brittani noted that the Gila River Indian Tribe's new app for pesticide application notifications could be a good fit).

7. NTC Updates (Meyo Marrufo)

Gerald mentioned that the NTC is finalizing its budget and priorities document for the year.

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

Renee mentioned that we discussed in the Tribal Caucus possibly having the TPPC comment on the open consultation on EPA's Consultation Policy and Treaty Rights Guidance documents. Jasmine noted that for now we're going to schedule a meeting in the next couple weeks to discuss the TPPC's concerns further, and prepare a comment letter.

Jasmine mentioned that their Tribe is doing a pollinator event for the public this week with the Endangered Species Coalition.

Jasmine also said she got a call from a new employee from CRIT who wants to do a presentation at the National Intertribal Agriculture Conference, and is looking for someone to present with. If anyone wants to help, or has more information about the conference, please forward it on to her.

*(Yellow highlighting in the notes above indicates action items)