

**Tribal Pesticide Program Council Executive Committee
Monthly Conference Call**

07/12/23

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 (12)

- Brenda Pusher-Begay, White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Brittani Clairmont, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Camilo Perez, Quechan Indian Tribe
- Dorla Tartsah, Kiowa Tribe
- Eric Gjevre, Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe
- Jasmine Brown, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
- Jim Mossett, Three Affiliated Tribes
- Larry Scrapper, Cherokee Nation
- LaShawnia Tso, Tohono O'odham Nation
- Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians
- Renee Keezer, White Earth Reservation
- Ted Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community

Tribal Organizations (1)

- Robert Shimek, White Earth Community College

EPA (2)

- Linsey Walsh, EPA/OCSP
- Emily Ryan, EPA/OCSP

Other (3)

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

Reported in advance as absent (2)

- Jessica Raspitha, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Helene Ambrosino, EPA/OECA

1. Tribal Caucus

2. Welcome/Introductions

Jasmine Courville, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Facilitated roll call

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

a. Training for private applicators of RUPs in Indian Country

The training will be held August 9 & 10 at 10:30am-4:30pm Eastern Time. The training is specifically for private applicators (not commercial) who plan to supervise or use RUPs in areas of Indian country covered by the EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Pesticide Applicators within Indian Country. Register by August 7, email EPACertplan@epa.gov with your full name and preferred training dates. The training is offered quarterly and the next training cycle will be held on November 8 & 9 2023. For more information on the EPA plan and private applicator training visit <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country>.

Jasmine noted she knows of a few applicators who are interested in private training, she will email them with registration information.

b. EPA Training Updates

EPA is in the early stages of working out the logistics of an update to the private applicator training. When the time comes to make content updates Emily will make sure to consult with TPPC and tribal partners to ensure culturally relevant updates. Theodore Puetz, Ak-Chin Indian Community made the suggestion that applicator trainings and awareness of ordinances and permits needed on tribal lands could be part of continuing education units (CEUs) for applicators, Emily stated she would share this with the group working on the training. Mark will send Teds comment to Emily, others may submit comments to Mark to be submitted for consideration in training updates.

c. Bilingual Labeling for Pesticide Application

Pesticide Re-evaluation Division (PRD) is asking for input on bilingual labeling for pesticide application to make it more accessible to farm workers. The docket is open until August 21 and **individuals can submit comments** at this link <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0270/document>

4. TPPC Administrator Updates

a. Fall meeting

We are currently trying to decide on a host tribe. Mark sent out a survey and asked that folks **respond by the end of 7/12**.

b. TPPC election this Fall for Executive Committee Members

Mark sent out an email about this recently. Status as an authorized member is required to vote or to run, which requires a letter from tribal leadership. **Mark has a letter template to be filled out and submitted to him by early September to participate in the election.**

c. Website stats:

June: 359 views from 139 users

Year to Date: 2,249 views from 799 users

Mark is wondering if people want to keep hearing these reports. Jasmine is interested in hearing about the stats possibly just every 6 months. **Mark will look into presenting 6 month stats.**

5. Tribal Caucus Report Out

Skipped due to lack of time

6. Working group Report Out

Skipped due to lack of time

7. NTC Updates

Skipped due to lack of time

8. Other Issues/Concerns/Hot Topics

a. Travel Reimbursements

Reimbursements went out from the last meeting about one month ago. NAU's system is not functioning as smoothly as it should, but Mark will continue to push to get reimbursements out sooner for future meetings.

b. National Core Pesticide Manual

Jasmine commented that revisions to the manual should include that a federal license is required for pesticides in Indian Country. Emily said she would follow up with the worker protection group and share this feedback. Emily asked if members have any other suggestions to submit them to her.

c. Aerial Applications

Droplet size is a concern and challenging to include in an inspection, it was suggested that this topic be covered in a training and Linsey said she would note this insight. Handlers and loaders are covered in risk assessments and if risks are present they use PPE, mechanical controls and other protections. Enforcement of these regulations may be lacking but is technically required. Linsey will follow up with drone law updates and updates on aerial application especially regarding power lines.

d. Vulnerability assessment for plants affected by climate change.

Linsey will follow up with Chrissy Mogren.

9. Next TPPC Conference Call: Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m. EST

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