

Meeting Minutes – WQPMT Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2019 9:30 am – 3:45 pm
Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State Street
Building C – Clatsop Room

Attendees:

Kirk Cook	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Rose Kachadoorian	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Brenda Sanchez	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Mark De Guzman	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Ted Bunch	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) & PARC ¹
Kevin Masterson	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
Colin Donald	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
Audrey Hatch	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
Thomas Whittington	Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Absent:

Paul Measeles	Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Todd Hudson	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
Aaron Borisenko	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)

Guests:

Jonathan Sandau	Oregon Farm Bureau
Josh Seeds	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)
Lisa Arkin	Beyond Toxics
Krystal Abrams	Beyond Toxics
Robert Lefebvre	Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Stakeholder Advisory Group

During the June 27th meeting of the WQPMT it was decided to begin the process of forming the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG). The purpose of this body will be to provide advice to the Water Quality Pesticide Management Team (WQPMT) regarding elements of the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership program. Agency management has been in contact with perspective members of the SAG and it appears that the first meeting of this body will be on November 15, 2019 the exact location has not yet been decided. Member of the WQPMT discusses several topics related to the formation of this group. Among the issues discussed were:

¹ Pesticide Analytical and Response Center

- Number of meetings per year
- Agency membership
- Charter development
- Expectations
- Scope creep for topics (keeping issues PSP focused)
- Avoiding majority vs minority recommendations

After discussion it was decided the (at least for the first year) that the SAG would meet four times a year. A proposal was made to then reduce the number of WQPMT meetings to quarterly. After much discussion between team members it was decided to continue with the current schedule for the WQPMT (once every other month). There were some concerns voiced by some members as to the extent of the SAG involvement on such topics as:

- Environment Justice
- Greater attention to Human Health and Groundwater
- Designating new PSP areas
- Terminating old PSP areas

The majority of the WQPMT felt that these issues would “work themselves out” as the SAG becomes up to speed on the elements of the PSP program during its first year. All members of the WQPMT were encouraged to attend the first meeting of the SAG and be prepared to have fruitful interactions with the members.

Drinking Water/Source Water

Josh Seeds from ODEQ presented WQPMT members an overview of the ODEQ’s Drinking Water Source Areas for Oregon Public Water Systems using surface water. There had been some confusion regarding this type of designation and Source Water Protection Areas (which is not a term used by Oregon state government) or Wellhead Protections Areas (defined under rule by OHA, with required protections in 1 100 ft radius around public supply wells, under the Safe Drinking Act (SDWA)). The Drinking Water Source Area designation is not regulatory in nature and was designed to provide water users an area from which surface water entering their systems originates. Also discussed during this session was the various authorities shared between ODEQ and OHA. ODEQ has responsibility for water quality prior to that water entering a public water system (PWS). OHA’s authority begins after that water enters a PWS intake and during treatment and distribution. Testing of finished drinking water for pesticides is limited in Oregon to only those required by the Environmental Protection Agency under the SDWA. Monitoring only occurs once every three years unless detections equal or are greater than ½ of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) occur (i.e. an alert or violation). PA. Currently it is focused on a limited number of chemical a majority of which are considered legacy pesticides (those no longer in used or have been removed from the market). Currently used pesticides that are monitored in PWS are:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| ○ 2,4-D | Herbicide |
| ○ Atrazine | Herbicide |
| ○ Carbofuran | Insecticide |

○ Dinoseb	Herbicide
○ Glyphosate	Herbicide
○ Oxamyl	Insecticide
○ Picloram	Herbicide
○ Pentachlorophenol	Various
○ Simazine	Herbicide

In regards to the intersection of pesticides and Drinking Water Source Areas, there are many instances where potential overlap can occur. To date PWSs and landowners and/or pesticide applicators are encouraged to coordinate such that herbicide application does not have unintended negative consequences to water used as a drinking water source. Robert Lefebvre (ODF) State Forests, presented a briefing on the agency oversight programs regarding herbicide application in forest areas and an update on interactions with Beyond Toxics in preparation for the afternoons presentation by Beyond Toxics.

Presentation by Beyond Toxics

Lisa Arkin from Beyond Toxics gave a presentation focused on Drinking Water Source Areas and spraying of herbicides on forestlands. Several of the elements presented were the differences between the Oregon Forest Practices Act and those of Washington State. A key point of discussion was the apparent differences in the buffers for varying stream and soil conditions. Knowledgeable members of the team discussed where those differences may exist and where those difference may not by pointing out several locations in current rule that addressed her concerns and significantly reduced those perceived differences. Beyond Toxics remains concerned regarding the potential impact that herbicide spraying may have on watersheds used for drinking water supplies. The team discussed many of the provisions of various existing laws and statues including those contained in FIFRA and the OFPA regarding limitations on pesticide use given certain conditions.

Columbia River Basin Toxics

Kevin Masterson (ODEQ) briefly discussed the 2016 Columbia River Restoration Act passed by Congress to address toxics in the Columbia Basin. This Act authorized EPA to establish a grant program to assess and reduce toxics in the Basin (the Basin encompasses all but two PSP areas). The first two years of funding allocated by Congress will be approximately \$1M each year, although the legislation provides authorization of up to \$10M. He noted that the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership was specifically referenced in the announcement as an example of a collaborative effort that uses data to help reduce toxics in water. The initial \$1M grant program will include a 25% match. There likely will be numerous applicants for these funds from 4 states and some PSP projects could qualify for funding especially those that are focused on pesticide reductions or may be looking at engineered solutions to reduce run-off. Also, projects that support PSP goals (e.g., BMP demonstration projects) would also be eligible. States, non-profits, and other non-federal entities can apply for the funds. The Request for Applications (RFA) will be released by EPA at the end of September and applications will be due in December 20. More information and the RFA can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river->

[basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program](#) Kevin will continue to follow and report back to the team regarding developments.

Budget Status

Kirk Cook reviewed the budget with the WQPMT for the upcoming biennium. Several developments will impact the allocation of funds over the next two years. First, the development of Strategic Plans will be undertaken by three PSP areas Walla Walla, Clackamas, Amazon. In order to accomplish this a relatively sizable amount of funds will have to be channeled to partners and away from competitive technical assistance grants. In light of this the WQPMT agreed to suspend competitive grants for this biennium and instead focus efforts on Strategic Plan development and bolstering the capabilities of our partner PSP's. Funding for the OSU Education/Outreach project (development of online WQ/pesticide module and speaker presentation resources) will move forward. Funding for Waste Pesticide Collection will remain the same as last biennium. Two collections have now been scheduled, October 26th in Clackamas and November 22nd in Tangent.

Region 10 Water Quality Meeting

On September 17-19th the State Lead Agencies will meet in Coeur d'Alene, ID to discuss numerous pesticide and water quality issues. Kirk Cook and Kevin Masterson will attend. The WQPMT was briefed as to the agenda for the meeting and some of the accomplishments that are hoped to be achieved. Chief among these are the regionwide adoption of the pesticides of high concern/ moderate concern methodology spearheaded by Oregon. Representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service and EPA will also be in attendance to hear discussions on the Strategic Plan initiative currently underway in Oregon.

Chlorpyrifos and Formation of Advisory Group

Rose Kachadoorian presented a general plan by ODA to begin engaging stakeholders as to potential modifications to the application of the insecticide chlorpyrifos. Plans are still in the initial phases to form an advisory group that will look into all aspects of application via sprayer, and potential pathways that would lead to undesirable exposure to workers and the environment. Rose will keep that WQPMT apprised of developments and give a heads up if ODA and/or the advisory group wish and any water quality data related to the this effort.

Topics for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the WQPMT will be on November 7th at the DEQ headquarters in Portland. Ideas for meeting topics will be:

- Preparation and WQPMT expectations for first SAG meeting
- Presentation by Clean Waters Coalition on an urban public behavior change campaign on reducing insecticide and herbicide impacts
- Presentation of Middle Rogue Strategic Plan
- Discussion of PSP and SIA areas what are linkages?

Other suggestions by members are welcome.