

PARC Meeting Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
07/21/2021	Virtual meeting	9 AM	Noon

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Rose Kachadoorian	PARC@oda.state.or.us	503.986.6470

PARC Member Agencies Present

Rose Kachadoorian- PARC Board Administrator, Program Manager (ODA)

Curtis Cude- PARC Board Co-Chair, Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Anne Hayden-Lesmeister- Water Quality, Quantity Program, Ore. Dept of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Charisse Pizarro-Osilla- Poison Center Director, Oregon, Alaska, Guam

Garnet Cooke- Pesticide Coordinator, Oregon Occupational Safety and Health (OR-OSHA)

Kate Jackson- Western Regional Liaison, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Jamie Kometz- Special Operations Unit, Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

Jay Walters- Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) (Stepping in for Nathan Agalzoff)

PARC Consultants Present

Fred Berman- Co-Investigator, NPIC, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU)

Other Persons Present

Helmuth Rogg- Dir. Of Plant Protection, Conservation Area, ODA

Crystal Weston- Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

Katie Murray- Executive Director, Oregonians for Food and Shelter (OFS)

Kirstin Yeomans - OHA

Michael Babbitt, ODA Pesticides enforcement

Andrea Sonnen- Lead Pesticide Coordinator, ODA

Introductions and Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with housekeeping and review of the agenda. May's PARC Board minutes were reviewed, and subsequently accepted with a few corrections.

Agency Updates

Jamie Kometz

Special Operations Unit, *OSFM*

- 1) Legislative Session
 - a. House Bill 2927
 - i. Renames Office of State Fire Marshal as Department of the State Fire Marshal and establishes department as an independent state agency operative July 1, 2023
 - ii. Establishes task force to make recommendations as to whether State Fire Marshal should be made an independent state agency or housed within existing state agency, operative immediately
Directs task force to report recommendations by February 1, 2022
 - b. Senate Bill 762 Passed
 - i. Directs our agency to establish defensible space requirements
 - ii. Administering a community risk reduction program
 - iii. Establishes a Community Risk Reduction Fund in State Treasury
 - iv. In addition, this legislation supports initiatives for the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Fire Adapted Oregon, and Response Ready Oregon. These initiatives will facilitate the creation of fire adapted communities, reduce community risk, modernize response through Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System, and strengthen training capacity.
 - c. Budget Bill
 - i. We received funding for the Oregon Safety Assessment Program which covers funding and staff to help evaluate the conditions of buildings after an emergency to determine whether people may safely occupy the building. We will soon be hiring staff to fill those positions. Additionally, the legislation provided funding for OSFM to conduct a one-time study to develop recommendations on ways Rural Fire Protection Districts can use assets to facilitate community development efforts following natural disasters.
- 2) Fires
 - a. We have had six conflagrations
 - i. OSFM has been mobilizing statewide resources as well as neighboring states to support response, Utah, California, and Washington The Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System has been on these fires for a couple weeks now
 - b. There are two teams currently out at the Bootleg Fire and the Elbow Creek Fire

Jay Walters

Forester, *ODF*

- 1) Fires
 - a. All three ODF incident management teams have been dispatched
 - i. One team on the Grand View Fire, another on the Elbow Fire, and a third on the Bootleg Fire
- 2) Senate Bill 1602
 - a. Increases buffers on streams, around homes, and schools
 - b. Adds robust functionality to FERNS
 - i. This begins communication between ODF and operators concerning protective resources
 - ii. 1602 Charges us to build communication functionality within the FERNS system
 - iii. Scheduled to go into effect December 15, 2021
 - c. Individuals who are interested in learning more concerning helicopter Application with pesticides near homes or water intakes can sign up to receive notifications starting December 15.

Andrea Sonnen

Lead Pesticide Investigator, *ODA*

1) Complaints

- a. Our investigators are very busy at this time dealing with various complaints that will most likely be discussed at the next PARC board meeting

Curtis Cude

PARC Board Co-Chair, *OHA*

1) Wild Fires

- a. So far there have not been any spikes in emergency room visits associated with the fires
 - i. No major population areas have been impacted by fire
 - ii. We also believe that most people are much more prepared than they were last year
 - 1. There have been more measures put in place to avoid smoke exposure

2) Drought

- a. Central Oregon (Klamath Falls) through Prineville
 - i. Experiencing second year of extensive drought
 - ii. We are trying to develop health indicators we can track to determine impacts
- b. Annual Climate Change Reports
 - i. Currently being prepared for the governor
 - ii. We are studying the links between insect infestations and climate change
 - 1. Grasshoppers in southcentral Oregon
 - 2. Mormon Crickets
 - 3. Studying potential impacts to the public from pesticide use
 - 4. I will be gathering this data today
 - iii. Algae Blooms
 - 1. There have been dog deaths associated with the blooms
 - 2. Fern Ridge Reservoir and Hagg Lake in Washington County have experienced blooms.
 - a. So far investigation has shown no cyanotoxins in the water
 - 3. We are still attempting to contact veterinarians. Some are transporting specimen down to UC Davis to see if there is anything that we can find there.
 - 4. As ODA studies sudden animal death, always take into consideration the potential for cyanotoxin exposure and other natural environmental exposures as well

3) Heat and Smoke

- a. Worker Protection Standards
 - i. We have been working closely with OR-OSHA and Ted Bunch to develop these standards for outdoor workers and exposer to wildfire smoke
- b. Recently emergency rules were promulgated for heat. We expect to see something similar for wildfire smoke coming in the very near future
- c. We will continue to work towards more permanent rules

4) Program Staffing

- a. Crystal now works for the Oregon State Fire Marshal
- b. Thanks to ODA for assisting with getting a new budget for the biennium. I am confident we will not have issues maintaining that budget
- c. We are currently left with no program staff
 - i. Fortunately, Crystal was able to get our surveillance system to a place where it is very easy to do the work
 - ii. So far, I have been able to respond to PARC referral
 - 1. There have only been three since Crystal left
- d. IT
 - i. No longer supports our e-fax software
 - 1. Fax is the only way to communicate to get medical records from healthcare providers
 - 2. Currently developing a strategy to address this
- e. We are considering having the local public health staff take over cases. Our staff would coordinate that work doing the case classification, handling the PARC Referrals, and things of that nature

- 5) Occupational Public Health Program
 - a. Received CDC funding for the next five years
 - b. Although my side of the budget did receive a 35% cut from what we proposed. Therefore, we will be cutting staff from that program
 - c. We will still be able to participate thanks to funding from the ODA Pesticides Program
- 6) IPM
 - a. There is a new head of IPM for OSU from Umatilla County
 - i. She has years of experience in IPM

Kate Jackson

Western Regional Liaison, *DEQ*

- 1) SB 762
 - a. There is a lot of infrastructure funding aimed at communities impacted by fire
 - i. Water and Sewer systems
 - ii. One specific carve out was for DEQ
 - 1. Additional \$15 million for private septic system repair or replacement. We typically only see about \$2 million
 - 2. The legislation it was associated with refers to fire recovery areas, although the allocation actually does not seem to. We are evaluating how broadly we can go
- 2) Drought and Fire
 - a. Rural areas, such as Jackson County, are becoming increasingly concerned. Our irrigation districts are already shutting down.
 - i. Jackson County Irrigation district is shut down
 - ii. The Talent Irrigation District will shut down for the year on Monday (July 19th, 2021) after having a gap in June
 - iii. Medford Irrigation District is shutting down August 1st
 - iv. Rogue River Valley Irrigation District has not specified but is not far behind
 - v. This has caused increased risk for areas that were once fire resistant
 - vi. Have yet to see the impact on some small and large growers. There are, in fact, some vineyards that may not make it through the season
 - b. We issued an air quality advisory
 - i. The number of monitors keeps expanding due to legislation giving us the money and ability to purchase more. We are now able to place them in more locations

Garnet Cooke

Pesticide Coordinator, Oregon *OSHA*

- 1) Temporary Emergency Heat Rules
 - a. We had a fatality in an agricultural setting a few weeks ago which spurred on the need for this
 - b. The specifics of the rule are listed on our website
 - c. There were a couple of heat stress investigations in the past that involved energy drinks. We still do not know if they played a role in the most recent fatality. This could lead to a potential public health notice
- 2) COVID-19
 - a. The rules are ebbing and flowing given the situation. Though it is permanent, it is not static

Charisse Pizarro-Osilla

Oregon Poison Center (OPC) Director

- 1) Educational courses
 - a. Lind Reel has asked the OPC for training on pesticide treatments to healthcare providers in Josephine County and Jackson County
 - i. These are areas that have high concentrations of migrant workers who have had lots of

pesticide exposure

- ii. Health care providers in those areas who treat affected migrant workers have requested education on pesticide management
- iii. The training is set for Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 0900. Dr. Rob Hendrickson, the poison center Medical Director, will provide the lecture
- iv. The OPC would also like to provide pesticide exposure prevention and other poison prevention literature/materials to the migrant workers and the clinicians

PARC Updates

Rose Kachadoorian

PARC Board Administrator, Pesticide Program Manager, ODA

1) Personnel

- a. Jeff Jenkins has announced retirement; therefore, he will now be absent from the group. We all wish him well. He wanted everyone to know that he enjoyed working with you
- b. PARC Board Coordinator position
 - i. Ted Bunch's Rotation has been extended with OR-OSHA
 - ii. Michael Babbitt has announced his retirement
 - iii. We have reached out to all state employees and made the position Limited Duration as opposed to rotational
 1. So far, we do not have any viable candidates
- c. We are also looking for candidates for the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership. This is a permanent full-time position

PARC Board Special Presentation

Helmuth Rogg- Dir. Of Plant Protection, Conservation Area, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

Helmuth Rogg provided information on the Grass Hopper Control Program with a follow up Q&A

PARC Case Discussion

PARC Board discusses two PARC cases

- 1) On March 5th 2021 a municipal pool worker was exposed to Ammonium Chloride in Toledo Oregon. The employee received chemical burns that resulted in a joint response from ODA and OR-OSHA
- 2) The other incident took place in Milton Freewater on November 7, 2019. An agricultural pesticide applicator applied zinc phosphide to some orchards (primarily apple). They used a hopper and spreader suspended from a helicopter. They spread some of the material beyond the apple orchard onto neighboring properties. Complaints flowed from a variety of entities.

Public Comment

None.